

APRIL 2021



SEMINGTON
PARISH MAGAZINE

Minister for Semington:

Rev. John Rees

22 Warren Road

Staverton

BA14 8UZ

Tel. 01225 764365

Where To Go To Stay in The Know

Canalside Benefice

The Canalside Benefice website **canalsidebenefice.org.uk** has a number of useful links on it. It has resources for worship and Messy Church resources for children. In addition there is a link through to YouTube so that you may worship from your own home. Check out the Benefice website for the most up to date link.

Semington Little Marsh and Littleton Support Group

The Support Group is still very active in the community especially during the current Lockdown. The Group has a Facebook page which is the principal source of information, updates, offers of help and requests for help. Search Semington Little Marsh and Littleton Support Group on Facebook to join.

The newsletter is now published to alternate with the Parish Magazine so generally in the middle of each month. Distribution is via the Support Group Facebook page. For anyone who would like a hard copy of an issue of the Support Group Newsletter, including all past issues, the spares are in the Somerset Arms and the Village Hall, which can be accessed when the Post Office is open on Mondays and Thursdays from 9.30am to 12.00pm. There is a fantastic selection of books and jigsaws available to buy when the Village Hall is open.

Village Websites

The village now boasts two websites; **www.semington-village.co.uk** and **www.semington.org.uk** Back issues of both the Parish Magazine and the Support Group Newsletter are available on semington.org.uk

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**

Christians in Semington

Bev Woodward

Christians in Semington - We will be meeting via zoom in our own homes, to pray for our community, on **Wednesday 7th April at 8.00pm**. Please contact Jack Woodward, 870784, for the zoom link, or if there are things you'd like us to pray about.

Housegroup - This continues on alternate Tuesdays via zoom, at 8.00pm. If you'd like to discuss how the Bible helps us to live as God wants us to, please phone Jack/Bev 870784 or David/Pam 870030 for more details and the zoom link.



*To all my friends at Semington,
wishing you a very peaceful and happy
Easter. And may you all stay safe from
the virus. I often think of you all.*

All best wishes, from Edna Jones. xx

Editor's Note

Gillian Airey

Happy Easter everyone! Hopefully by the time you read this we will be onto the rule of six and the data is looking good for the next stage of easing the Lockdown in the middle of the month.

My apologies for omitting my email address last month it is **semparmag@icloud.com** The deadline for submissions for the May Magazine is **Sunday 19th May**, I look forward to hearing from you.

*Cleeve Cats
Boarding Cattery
Seend Cleeve*

We Only Board Cats



www.cleevecats.co.uk
01380 828025

**GOOD QUALITY
HARDWOOD LOGS**

FOR SALE

**CALL JOHN
ON
01380 870264**

**HALL
FOR HIRE**

**Semington Village
Capacity 100**

Phone 07519393668

or

**Gerald 01380
870530**



**LAWN HOUSE
CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC**

**Lawn House, 29 High Street
Steeple Ashton, Wiltshire, BA14 6EU
Tel. 01380 871555
www.lawnhouse.co.uk**

*Treatment of back & neck pain,
shoulder, arm, hand, hip, leg & foot pain,
arthritis, spondylitis, tennis elbow,
slipped disc, pins and needles,
headache & migraine, sports injuries
Children treated*

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

**REGISTERED MEMBER OF THE
BRITISH CHIROPRACTIC
ASSOCIATION**

This Month I'm Spoiled for Choice!

Gilly Airey

The thing about Lockdown is that it makes life really very simple and the choices we have had, are rightly, few and far between. So with the easing of Lockdown on the horizon I have been faced with an array of choices that I need to consider.

I love and hate the 'rule of six' in equal measure. I love it because it means we've all been very good and we have our reward from BoJo and chums by being able to meet with five other people outdoors. Why do I hate it? Well even I have more than five friends – well four really because Gorgeous Hubby is a shoe-in every time. I have even considered resorting to school playground tactics of eeny-meeny-miny-moe, or one-potato, two-potato, or even rock, paper, scissors to help me choose who can partake in a 'rule of six' gathering. But then I realised that the rule of six is with us for a fair amount of time and by way of a rota or shift system I should be able to socialise with everyone at some point before we throw caution to the wind, hopefully, in June.

Another dilemma presents itself in which non-essential shop should I choose to lose a couple of hours of idle browsing. It really would be a toss up between the John Lewis outlet or Neptune outlet both in Swindon as my ultimate favourite shop Black Sheep Wools is in Warrington and that it is way too far even for me.

I suppose that with the easing of Lockdown I shall have to make proper choices over the clothes I wear, not only with the weather getting warmer, I have realised that elasticated waists have a way of making you believe everything is good in your world....

There are more pressing choices to make, to dye or not to dye that is the question, I'm not going to lie my hair is more grey than brunette so surely I have now hit the point of no return? Another conundrum – what should be my first drink at the Somerset Arms, beer or wine or both? Gorgeous Hubby has told me he has booked the 12th and 13th April off as holiday so nothing gets in the way of the Somerset Arms's beer garden. What a fabulous idea I thought then it struck me – he's retired so quite what he is on holiday from I don't know....

There is though just one thing that there is no dithering over and that is going to see my mum in Derby. The latest Lockdown has been so hard for her especially after my dear old Dad passed away late last year. So if you see the K1PCA heading out the village with one happy bunny with very long grey hair behind the wheel it'll be me making the best choice ever to go and see my mum after six very long months.

The Somerset Arms

Your lockdown local!

Become a
Somerset Arms
STAR

Save yourself
some **BUCKS** and
beat the queues!



Saturday &
Sunday

**HOT
DRINKS**

to warm up walks!



Every Wednesday 5pm - 8pm

MIDWEEK MADNESS

A new dish each week for £5.

(Information on FB & Instagram)

Friday 12pm - 3pm & 5pm - 8pm

FISHY FRIDAY £5

Warming drinks served too!



Full menu available 5pm - 8pm.

Saturday from 10am

BREAKFAST

We can deliver locally

Sunday 12pm - 3pm

SUNDAY ROASTS



FULL MENU • £7.50 per meal

Available Wednesday & Friday
See Facebook for menu



www.somersetarms.co.uk

How to order



To order scan the QR code or visit <https://somersetarms.bytable.net>
Orders are placeable 5 days in advance for time slots.

Or call 01380 870067 or 07774 192874 to order.

HIGH STREET | SEMINGTON | BA14 6JR



Down The Local

John, The Landlord, John

Is there light at the end of the tunnel? Let's hope so, all of the signs say we will be able to welcome you back to the pub beer garden from Monday 12th April, Let's hope the data supports the date because we are really looking forward to seeing you all.

We appreciate that it's all a bit weather dependent but we have battened down the hatches, especially the marquee after we nearly lost it to the recent high winds, so it's now a nice, cosy environment come rain or shine. Those of you enjoying our takeaways will be pleased to hear we will be continuing these for the foreseeable future – so why not have a pint or two first then pick up your takeaway and tootle home!

I have to be honest and say that I have been reluctant to plan too much just in case we get disappointed with reopening dates but once we get the green light we will try to organise some more socially distanced music and events. Somerset Arms favourites Sound Affects are standing by so keep an eye out for updates. With limited income over the lockdown period it's been tough to utilise the closed period doing the place up but when we open indoors you should at least be treated to new carpet and curtains!

The team and I are so looking forward to opening the doors again, allowing people to stay longer than 5 minutes picking up food or coffee. Don't forget we are open for morning coffee and breakfast, currently at weekends and once you can sit outside to enjoy we will open further days – keep an eye on Facebook and the website as well as outside the pub. We are working on our new outside 'Spring' as well as 'Summer' menu when we can welcome you back inside and some exciting additions to our menu that we are looking forward to sharing with you all.

It's been unprecedented times but we are still here (just) and a lot of that is down to the fabulous villagers and all the support we have had over the past year. Hopefully we are heading towards getting back to business as usual very soon and we can enjoy the pub as it should be enjoyed. At least after a year of not seeing some we may well have a lot to catch up on! See you very soon hopefully.

Much love, John and his amazing team xx

CAROL'S CABS LTD

PRIVATE HIRE & TAXIS

Airport & Party Runs

8 & 6 Seats Available

N.V.Q. Qualified

M: 0789 4873129

E: 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**

www.stemsfloristwiltshire.co.uk

01225 700020
Local delivery available

Canal Bridge, Semington,
Trowbridge, BA14 6JT



Plumbing Services & Home Improvements

**For a Friendly Reliable &
Local Service**

Kitchen & Bathroom Installations

Showers • Taps • Toilets • Tiling
Ball Valves • Burst Pipes
& All General Plumbing Work

For a free quotation please call

Chris on 07837 589919

Fully Insured & All Work Guaranteed

Parish Council Matters

Peter Smith, Acting Chair of the Parish Council

Local Plans – consultation on these plans has now closed, and it will be autumn, when the next round of consultation is due to happen, before we are likely to see the effect of comments.

Our village sent in at least 58 letters to Wiltshire Council and others stating our concerns and the changes we wanted to see happen. The council also had a helpful meeting with our local councillor, Jonathan Seed, and our local MP, Michelle Donelan, who will be sending a joint letter to Wiltshire Council in support of our concerns. We were not alone in these. Neighbouring parishes and towns also were very unhappy, some going as far as rejecting the plans as not fit for purpose.

Community Meeting on possible development of land off Church Street – this was held on 18th March. About 25 parishioners attended and heard from both the landowners and developer. There are no firm plans beyond an outline concept of how the land (about 4 acres) might be used. A figure of perhaps 25 dwellings was suggested but not fixed.

Landowners and developer were keen to hear views from parishioners, particularly on parish housing needs and what the site could offer the village, so that these could be considered prior to any planning application. It is not certain that an application will go ahead at this time, though we learnt from the landowners that they felt it likely that the land would be developed sometime in the future. The Parish Council will review what it heard when next it meets on **14th April**.

Bulbs and Corms – the work of the Streetscene planting crew back in the autumn has provided us with a riot of spring scene colour, especially around the High Street/St. George's junction. Thanks to all the crew, and to those in the gang who also have refreshed the planters. It is hard to resist the sense of optimism that the spring colour and vaccine rollout are bringing.

EJS Dog Grooming Studio

- Pet grooming services in rural location
- One to one service
- Tailored to individual needs
- Large of small
- Collection available
- City & Guilds qualified

Contact **Jackie 07904 405636**

jackiesimmons2410@gmail.com



Nikki Beech

Decorating Services

19 years experience

All aspects of decorating, both internal and external

Modern builds and restoration

Prompt courteous service

07535 084769

nbeechdecorating@hotmail.com

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

All plans registered with the Funeral Planning Authority



Is your PC feeling sick or misbehaving itself?

Pop it in to us for a FREE health check

At Eagle IT we will give your PC or laptop a 24 point health check and report back to you with our recommendations to restore its sparkle

01225 962102

www.eagleitsupport.com

Eagle IT Support
21A CHURCH STREET
MELKSHAM SN12 6LS
helpdesk@eagleitsupport.com



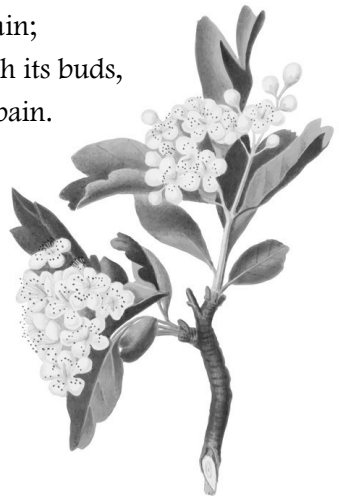
Rupert Brook is best known as a War Poet, but he began writing in 1905 whilst still at school and his reputation was established by 1911. This poem dates from 1912 and, as befits its title, is an established part of song cycles by composers such as John Ireland and Ivor Gurney. Despite its allusion to a broken heart, there's a hopefulness in the last verse which surely chimes with our own thoughts after this menacing winter.

Song

All suddenly the wind comes soft,
And Spring is here again;
And the hawthorn quickens with buds of green,
And my heart with buds of pain.

My heart all Winter lay so numb,
The earth so dead and frore,
That I never thought the Spring would come,
Or my heart wake any more.

But Winter's broken and earth has woken,
And the small birds cry again;
And the hawthorn hedge puts forth its buds,
And my heart puts forth its pain.



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

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
www.newhousefarmwilts.co.uk

N K Plastering

07534129011 01225 2871138

n.kplastering@hotmail.com

www.melkshamplasterer.co.uk

All aspects of internal plastering covered

- Plastering over artex
- Plasterboarding
- Full house replaster
- Patch repairs

Contact for a free no obligation quote

Your Wiltshire Councillor News

Jonathon Seed

The past year has been one that many will wish to forget. However, although the pandemic-dominated year has been horrendous for the world and our country there is much that we can be quietly proud of in our community. The sense of community spirit was once again rekindled and people rallied round to look after our vulnerable residents. That sense of community caring was, to me, the most important aspect of the pandemic - until vaccinations arrived. Our national vaccination effort is a great national success story and let us hope that the rest is history.

There are road map recovery dates which are important to us all but there are also other dates of importance coming up. One such date is **Thursday 6th May** when Police and Crime Commissioner, Wiltshire Council and Parish Council elections take place. Clearly this is against a backdrop of the pandemic and although measures are in place to allow voting in person in a safe way many will want to vote by post. It is estimated that well over half will vote by post and if you want to do so you can still apply for a postal vote provided that your application reaches County Hall by **5pm on 20th April**.

As we move towards Election Day I am once again out campaigning. I am standing for election both as Police and Crime Commissioner for Wiltshire and Swindon and as your local Councillor.

Many other PCCs do the same across the Country and there are many local Councillors who also have full time jobs. Whichever way you vote and whatever the result it has been an honour and a privilege to represent you as your Wiltshire Councillor for the past twelve years. Clearly I hope to be able to do so again. If that is not to be then farewell and thank you for your support over the years. If I am successful I hope to see you again soon.

Parish Council Meeting

Abridged Minutes From Meeting Held Wednesday 10th March 2021

Present: Councillors P Smith (Vice-Chairman and Acting Chairman for the meeting), V Bodman, M Kasasian, R Oglesby, W Scott, C Wade, R Bruges, S Chown and the Clerk Roger Coleman. Wiltshire Council Cllr. J Seed attended (Part-time).

There were no members of the public present.

Declaration of Interests: Cllr. Bodman declared an interest in any matters related to the Wiltshire Council Local Plan Review Consultation. No other interests were declared by councillors.

Wiltshire Council Report. Wiltshire Council, Cllr. J Seed gave feedback on the Wiltshire Council Local Development Plan. At the commencement of the report by Cllr. Seed, the Chairman, on behalf of the Parish Council thanked Cllr. Seed for his support in respect of the comments sent to Wiltshire Council on behalf of Semington and for challenging some of the ideas and views expressed by Wiltshire Council in that Draft Plan. Cllr. Smith also thanked Cllr. Seed for his participation in the recent meeting with Michelle Donelan MP and that he was hopeful that it would result in changes to the Draft Plan that acknowledged the concerns of Semington Parish Council. Cllr. Seed confirmed that he had spoken to both the Leader and Deputy Leader of Wiltshire Council on the matter and that he was confident that his views and those of Semington Parish Council had been noted. He commented that although the proposed housing allocation for Semington might remain unchanged he was optimistic that other concerns may be addressed. Cllr. Scott added that Trowbridge Town Council has expressed very strong views regarding some aspects of the Draft Plan, especially in respect of the relentless march eastwards of the urban settlement of Trowbridge and appears to support some of the views of Semington Parish Council.

Planning and Development: The Council examined the following planning application for 19 Highfield Close; proposal to convert existing double garage to an annexe: *The Parish Council has no objections to this application provided that the annexe remains as an integral part of the main residence and is not severed from it to become an independent and separate dwelling.*

In addition application for Lansdowne No 3 Unit 2 Littleton; Proposed Family Dayroom to approved pitch No.3 and the resulting rearrangement of layouts of the remaining 3 Gypsy/Traveller pitches, consisting of 3 Static Mobile Homes, 1 further future Dayroom, 3 Tourers, parking spaces for 2 vehicles per pitch, the laying of hardstanding and associated ancillary works. *The Council noted that this application had only been received today and it requested the Clerk to request an extension of the time for comments to ensure that it could be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting. Councillors also remarked that there were no related documents available yet on the Wiltshire Council website.*

Wiltshire Council Local Development Plan: The Chairman reported that the Parish Council response(s) to the Wiltshire Council Draft Local Plan Review consultation had been sent to Wiltshire Council and also sent, with covering letters to the Leader of Wiltshire Council and other Council officers, Michelle Donelan MP, Cllr. Seed, and other local Town and Parish Councils. He added that he had been able to contact Great Hinton Parish Council that had also been unaware of the change of HMA (Housing Market Area) from Chippenham to Trowbridge but, rather surprisingly, appeared indifferent to the implications of now being in the Trowbridge HMA, unlike Hilperton Parish Council that shared and had expressed many views similar to those of Semington Parish Council. The Chairman stated that some fifty-eight letters had been sent by parishioners to Wiltshire Council in respect of this consultation in addition to the Parish Council letters. He reported that the MP and Cllr. Seed were to write to Wiltshire Council expressing their views following the meeting (refer to Agenda item 5) and a copy of that letter was to be sent to Semington Parish Council.

Neighbourhood Plans (NP): Cllr. Bodman confirmed that she had undertaken research into the subject and had identified some NPs that had already been written to act as possible templates. Cllr. Oglesby stressed the need for the NP to be supported by the whole community and for the community, and not the Parish Council, to take the lead in its development. He recommended holding an open meeting to judge the support for such a plan and to identify those members of the community who may possess the key skills necessary to contribute to, or to lead, the development of the NP. The Chairman invited members to continue with researching the subject and added that at the next meeting a decision would be made whether to hold such a public meeting. Cllr. Bruges commented that a typical NP is a lengthy and very detailed document and he queried whether a 'slimmed down' version could be developed instead, based on addressing the various Parish Council 'themes' and whether such a document could influence how the village developed. The Chairman confirmed that he will arrange a meeting with Wiltshire Council and Mr Kilmister to discuss the subject of NPs. Cllr. Bodman agreed to also attend that meeting.

Ashford Homes: The Chairman stated that the Agenda for the Community Meeting to be held on **18th March 2021** at which Ashford Homes would be presenting their views for the development of land at Church Street, Semington had been agreed and had now been publicised.

Environment and Streetscene: Cllr. Bruges reported that a very useful meeting of this Group had been held and that he was in the process of drafting a document to capture the many ideas expressed. Cllr. Scott requested that this theme and report should also cover RoWs (Rights of Way). He added that he and the RoW Group had been exploring RoWs to the east of the village and that the route of many of the paths did not correspond to their recorded position on the RoW Definitive Map. He added that a path towards Littleton was impassable.

Recreation and Wellbeing: Cllr. Chown stated that the search for Neighbourhood Watch representatives and a Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator is proving difficult despite an extensive advertising campaign. She commented that one parishioner had stepped forward and she would be contacting her to take this project forward.

Finance: Total Balance in Hand as at 21st March 2021 £36,986.79

Local Elections – 6th May 2021: The Clerk stated that Local Elections – Parish Council, Wiltshire Council, Town Council and Police & Crime Commissioner) – are to take place on **6th May 2021** and although it is currently intended to have Polling Stations open, voters are being encouraged to opt for a Postal Vote. He added that this election for the Parish Council is known as an Ordinary Election. The Clerk explained that full details of the Electoral process can be found on the Wiltshire Council website and that he had sent all councillors details of this and the Electoral Timetable. He stressed the need for all candidates to complete Nomination papers. Cllr. Oglesby observed that a ‘wet’ signature was required on the nomination papers and that the Nomination Form had to be handed in personally to Wiltshire Council and NOT posted to Wiltshire Council. The Clerk added that he is able to provide details of the Polling District and Electoral Roll numbers of the candidates’ witnesses if requested.

There ensued a discussion on how best to attract parishioners to become candidates for the Parish Council election. It was agreed that maximum publicity should be given to this matter, including publicising it on the website and Newsletter and adopting a personal approach by existing councillors to use their own initiative to persuade interested parishioners to become candidates. Councillor Bodman, with support from other councillors, stated that she would make a video of councillors expressing their enthusiasm for the Parish Council and its ability to directly affect the nature of the village to the benefit of the community. Cllr. Oglesby and the Clerk were invited to list the main successes of the Parish Council over the many years of their respective tenures to assist in the publicity campaign.

Website: Cllr. Bodman stated that she had been updating the website and adding the latest information to it including the addition of a Rights of Way page. She added that she intended to ‘rotate’ the Semington photograph every two months or so to retain the ‘freshness’ of the site. Cllr. Bodman also stated that there had not been much interest shown in the competition for a new logo. However, she will work with one designer who provided the most preferred designs to develop the logo and report back.

Date of the next meeting: Wednesday 14th April at 7.30pm via Zoom.

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 or go to www.kavanaghs.co.uk



FORGET ME NOT GARDENING



*General maintenance
supplied by a
professional gardener*

-  Weeding
-  Pruning
-  Planting
-  Mowing

Call Jessica on **07896 627428**
forgetmenot21@hotmail.co.uk



Donna
WILLIAMS

ADI 318571

Registered Approved Driving Instructor

STRUCTURED TRAINING
PATIENT FRIENDLY INSTRUCTOR
COMPETITIVE RATES
ASK ABOUT DISCOUNTS

Tel: 01380 870767
Mob: 07855 708045

Proceeds go to
Ducklings Class

to enhance their
outdoor area

EASTER

FRIDAY 2ND
TIL MONDAY 5TH

BUNNY HUNT



AROUND
SEMINGTON VILLAGE

Trail Sheets

£2

Available from
St Georges School
during school times
and
The Somerset Arms
over the weekend

Please observe social
distancing guidance whilst
enjoying the trail.

Made with PosterMyWall.com

CARE AND SUPPORT AT HOME



You love your home and feel safe there. The need for additional care and support shouldn't change that.

At Bluebird Care we offer a range of services including: Personal Care, Domestic Help, Medication Support, Companionship, Complex and Live-in Care.

Call our friendly team today

01225 863565

wiltshirenorth@bluebirdcare.co.uk



Inspected and rated
Good



Kieren Bourne Garden Maintenance

Regular or one-off service

Lawn mowing, pruning, wedding, hedge trimming, planting, edging, digging

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

Bourne Gardening

01225 705782

kowhai45@hotmail.com

ACORN STAIRLIFTS ACCREDITED PARTNER

NEXT DAY STAIRLIFTS



LIFTS MADE IN THE UK ~ 24/7 EMERGENCY COVER
LOCAL WILTSHIRE SURVEYOR

FOR A FREE BROCHURE PLEASE CALL

0800 016 9276

www.nextdaystairlifts.com

Wiltshire Council Road Map to Lockdown Easing



- 'Rule of Six' or two households reintroduced for outdoor gatherings in private gardens.
- Wiltshire CC (WCC) aim to introduce a Community Collect rapid testing service where rapid tests can be collected and administered at home.
- WCC will reopen outdoor courts and pitches at their leisure centres and you will be allowed to take part in formally organised outdoor sports.
- The stay at home order will be lifted but domestic and foreign holidays will still be banned.

- Shielding may end on this date, but the Government will confirm the advice and next steps nearer the time to keep clinically extremely vulnerable people safe.



- Non-essential retail and personal care premises to reopen.
- Hospitality venues can open outdoor areas – including the Somerset Arms.
- Domestic holidays for single households allowed to resume.
- WCC libraries will reopen with COVID-secure measures in place.
- WCC Leisure centres will be open for pre-bookings only, while swim schools and gymnastics schools can resume.

- By this date you will be allowed to decide on the appropriate level of risk for your circumstances. This means that most legal restrictions on meeting others outdoors will be lifted – although gatherings of over 30 people will remain illegal. Indoors, the Rule of 6 or 2 households will apply.
- Indoor adult group sports and exercise classes will resume in Wiltshire Council leisure centres.
- Indoor hospitality venues may reopen with table service.
- Hotels, cinemas, B&Bs and indoor children's play areas reopen.



- We hope to be in position where all legal limits on social contact are removed, WCC will continue to guide you on the latest local advice.
- Nightclubs due to reopen.

This month was our AGM and like every other meeting had to be conducted on Zoom. At least last year we were one of the lucky WIs that had our AGM meeting before the March Lockdown started. This year's was not a long meeting, the annual report did not take long to read. The committee stays the same as do the officers. President, Deb Hurn, Secretary, Sue Connor, and Treasurer, Cassandra Reynolds. Hopefully sometime this year we will be able to get back together and meet face to face instead of relying on email, WhatsApp etc.

Once again another event Mothers Day has passed and I know a lot of you may not have been able to see family. I hope that you were all still able to get in touch with one another. Fingers crossed for next year.

We have set a new challenge for Easter. Make a lamb, a chicken or a bunny or all three out of anything. It could be a cake, some knitting, made out of paper, whatever is to hand. Entries should be submitted in the same way as before by **1st April** in time for Easter.

Our next meeting will be **Thursday April 8th** once again via Zoom.

Take care. Stay safe.

Paws for Thought



'I prayed to the LORD, and he answered me. He freed me from all my fears'

It's in the Bible; Psalm 34 Verse 4

Semington Camera Club

There has been some fascinating daily challenges for the Camera Club in March – in week 3 one day it was all about stairs.



Credits: Clockwise from top left;

Steps to Whitby Abbey, (199) – Milena Sorlini

Wat Arun Temple Bangkok Caroline Christopher

The stairs to my office – Jacqui Hailey

News From St George's School

Sue Cook

What a great month it has been at St Georges. Hearing the children in the classroom and playground laughing together has got to be one of my favourite sounds.



All the children at St Georges were gifted a Superhero Teddy bear from the Friends of St Georges School to help them with their transition back to school after a strange start to the year, but also there was a lovely notepad and pencil for each child so they were able to write to their superhero about what they have been doing, how they are feeling, or anything else to make them feel happier about their return to school.

Friday 19th March saw all the children and staff come into school dressed in red, to raise funds for Red Nose Day. On the opposite page are the lovely children in Ducklings & Herons class enjoying the day.

Finally, Ducklings class (Reception) are trying to raise some funds to enhance our outdoor learning area. One of the ways we are raising funds is that we are running an Easter Bunny Hunt around Semington over the Easter weekend. The Ducklings children have been busy decorating Easter Bunnies that will be displayed in windows around the village from 9.00am on Friday 2nd – until 6.00pm on Monday 5th April. Trail maps are only £2.00, and they are available from the school, or from John, the Landlord, John at The Somerset Arms. The pub will also be open over the Easter weekend for takeaway drinks and snacks, so it could be an ideal stop off whilst taking part in the trail.

All completed trails who have found the hidden message are then to be put in a sealed box outside the School and will be entered into a prize draw to win various Easter goodies.

We hope that you will enjoy taking part over the Easter weekend and ask they you please ensure you are following Government guidelines and observe social distancing whilst having some fun.

Many thanks for your continued support.



Catholic News

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

Weekly Timings: Please check newsletter for changes

St John the Baptist – Trowbridge Sunday & Weekday Masses:

For the duration of the Corona Virus Mass times are:

Saturdays 12.00pm and 6.00pm (Vigil Mass), Sundays 10.30am & 12.00pm

Monday/Wednesday.00/Friday 9.00am, Tuesday 6pm

St Bernadette's – Westbury Mass times are:

Sunday 9.00am and Thursday 10.00am

Easter Triduum Services

Holy Thursday 7.00 pm – Mass of The Lord's Supper

Good Friday 3pm - The Lord's Solemn Passion

Holy Saturday 8.00 pm – Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday Mass; Morning Mass St. Bernadette's Westbury 9.00am, Morning Mass

St. John's 10.30am & 12.00pm

Masses will be live streamed each day and are recorded for later viewing. For social distancing & safety protocols will be followed, and face masks are required to be worn whilst in church.

Live Streaming Details: All masses are streamed live on www.churchservices.tv or on YouTube 'Mass in Trowbridge'

Parish Newsletter: This is available weekly on the Parish website:

www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk Should you wish to have an emailed copy please contact Francis Geraghty – details as below.

The Bible in a Year with Fr Mike Schmitz: Ascension's Bible in a Year Podcast, hosted by Fr. Mike Schmitz and featuring Jeff Cavins, guides Catholics through the Bible in 365 daily episodes. Each 20-25 minute episode includes: two to three scripture readings, a reflection from Fr. Mike Schmitz and guided prayer to help you hear God's voice in his Word. <https://ascensionpress/pages/biy-registration>

THE NEW 300 CLUB 2021: The monthly draws Subscriptions: £50 annually - £13 quarterly - £4.33 monthly. New members are most welcome to join at any time. Monthly Prizes are: £200-£70-£50-£10.

For information on any of the above contact **Francis Geraghty tel 01380 871083 and email fgeraghty303@btinternet.com**

Thought From The Rectory

Rev John Rees



When you read this we will be about to celebrate Easter. We are doing so at a time in which nearly all of us have been feeling vulnerable and that life is fragile. Life can seem uncertain, not only because of Covid-19 but because of other health issues and/or the threat of redundancy or making ends meet on part time or even zero hours' contracts.

Our vulnerability makes the message of Easter even more significant. The celebration of Jesus' resurrection comes after he faced the tensions and trials of Holy Week. In the week leading up to his crucifixion, Jesus felt vulnerable and afraid knowing what was about to happen to him.

The Easter season is a time when Christians rejoice in the knowledge that their risen Lord has overcome death and in so doing brought forgiveness to the world. Easter can offer so much more than enjoying chocolate eggs and sensing the beginning of Spring, although both of them are great too.

The Easter message offers hope for everyone. Jesus had to face terrible suffering to enter into a new life. After his death he rose again and thus restored the relationship between God and people. Through this we can know his loving presence, sustaining us in the ups and downs of life and encouraging us and guiding us as we seek to care for other people and the world God created. Jesus also promised that, through his death and resurrection, all who turn to him will know new life in heaven when our time on earth is over.

We are resuming services in our Churches as well as continuing our online services this Easter. Details can be found overleaf in this magazine. Do join us.

Happy Easter to you all!

Best wishes, John



The Canalside Parishes

Church Services

We have uploaded a service to our YouTube channel every Sunday since the end of March 2020, some pre-recorded and some recordings of live services, depending on lockdown status. We plan to continue our online services as we move forward.

Details of services in Canalside Benefice, which includes Semington, are on our website, www.canalsidebenefice.org.uk. Do look at the website for details of services and updates on when activities are restarting. You will also find contact details if you want to get in touch. The Easter services for 2021 will be a mix of live, live Zoom and pre-recorded services and all are welcome to join in the way that suits them best.

Maudy Thursday 1st April 7.30pm Holy Communion via Zoom. See the website or contact Michael Gamble, canalsideoffice@gmail.com for the code.

Good Friday, 2nd April 2.00pm Meditation for the last hour on the cross, via Zoom. See the website or contact Michael Gamble canalsideoffice@gmail.com for the code.

Easter Sunday, 4th April

8.00am Easter Communion in St Michael's, The Knap, Hilperton

10.00am Easter Family Communion in St George's Church Semington

3.00pm Easter Communion (Book of Common Prayer) Whaddon

There will also be a pre-recorded Easter Communion service available on our YouTube Channel from **Saturday 3rd April**. You can find this and all our services at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCS6_E8D47JK0aDFP89UvBrQ/videos or search for 'Churchmouse Canalside Churches Channel' in YouTube.

Our Churches are COVID-secure, so please note that you must book if you wish to attend any of our live services. This can be done by contacting Michael Gamble on **07795 400262** or canalsideoffice@gmail.com