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**Market Lavington & Easterton
Church & Community News**



December 2020



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Our local Anglican Church

Lavingtons, Cheverells and Easterton Sunday Worship

During this period of lockdown, we are holding Sunday services via Zoom at 10am every Sunday.

This short service is followed by a time of small group fellowship.

If you would like to join us, please follow this link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7192406094>

Our local Methodist/United Reformed Church

<http://www.standrewsdevizes.org.uk/>

TRINITY CHURCH

Usually meet in the community hall, Market Lavington, but this has temporarily been transferred to Zoom, due to the coronavirus restrictions. Hopefully by the time this lands on your door mat, we will be out of lockdown and able to meet in person again.....and St

Arbucks café will have re-opened.

Details of services can be found by asking the team member on duty in the café, or contacting the church secretary.

Meanwhile we are busy decorating our windows with christmassy designs, as part of the Christmas Carol Trail. Listen, and look out for, separate adverts about this exciting school holiday fun activity which gives you the chance to win a prize.

We are also supporting the Salvation Army Christmas Toys Appeal.

Although Christmas may be very different for a lot of us in so many ways, we hope it will prove to be special and meaningful, and that you, and those you love, will enjoy a happy, healthy time.

Our local Baptist Church

<https://www.pbc-ebc.org.uk/>

Pastor Guy's Blogs, online services, facebook and Youtube channels and latest News.

Our local Quaker House

We are supporting each other through friendship groups who will check on the wellbeing of members and are trialling an online meeting for worship among local people. If you would like to participate in the online meeting please email jthomson2020@myphone.coop

Our local Roman Catholic Church, meeting in Devizes

Confessions - on Fridays and Saturdays from 5.30 pm to 6.00 pm.

Fr Paul will be available for confession at any time, just call and check availability.

Booking for Masses

Please book your places for the Friday, Saturday & Sunday masses no later than Wednesday preferably by email to the Parish office address

LIVE STREAMING

For Sunday Mass at 11am

please use the link on the website or go directly to our Youtube Channel.

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Adults wishing to enquire about the

Catholic Faith should speak to the Parish Priest.

WEDDINGS: Six months notice would be most helpful

Market Lavington & Easterton Church and Community News

St Mary's & St. Barnabas Church (Anglican)

Rector: Rev. Marion Harrison 816963

Address: The Rectory, 25 White Street, West Lavington, SN10 4LW
lavingtonrector@gmail.com

Benefice Office as above churchlavington@gmail.com

Fridays and the last Thursday of the month are the Rector's days off.

The office is now open twice a week,

Mondays and Thursdays, from 9.00am to 1.00pm.

Church Wardens

Market Lavington

Easterton

Mrs Pat Morrison 812357

More information can be found on our website www.lavingtonchurch.org

Trinity United Church (Methodist/URC)

Minister: Rev. Gary Gotham, 69 Queens Road, Devizes, SN10 5HR Tel: 01380 724264 / gary.gotham@gmail.com

Church Secretary: Mrs Julia Garraway-Jones 01380 818401 jgarrawayjones@gmail.com

Market Lavington Parish Council

Chair Mr Colin Osborn, 01380 812450

Clerk to the Council Mrs Carol Hackett 01225 760372

23 Orchard Close West Ashton BA14 6AU

clerk@marketlavingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

<https://www.marketlavingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

Easterton Parish Council

Chair: Mr Chris Saunders 812317

Clerk to the Council Ms Gillian Tatum 07979866387

clerk.easterton.pc@gmail.com

<http://www.eastertonpc.org.uk/>

This magazine

Edited by Colin Osborn 01380 812450 colinosborn@compuserve.com

Treasurer, Fran Armstrong churchandcommunitynews@gmail.com

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Reflection for December 2020

Like a lot of people, I was brought up firm in the belief that God was male. In all the paintings I had seen as a child on school trips to various art galleries, God was indeed depicted as male. The thought never crossed my mind that He could possibly be anything else. I mean didn't Jesus always refer to his Father in heaven. So, when I began on my true journey of faith, imagine my surprise when I heard people of deeper faith than I at that point, referring to God as She.

My thinking about God started to look for ways to confirm, one way or another, just what gender God was. I prayed hoping that God would in some way reveal to me the truth of God's gender. (You see the problem I have in writing this, I wanted to type – the truth of His gender- but that no longer fits.)

Of course, our God (singular) is Three in One and genderless, even though Jesus was born male. Do you see my confusion? Add to this, that in the Old Testament the Spirit of God was always called Lady Wisdom and my confusion is complete.

These days, even though I know I shouldn't, to me God is male. And why have I come to such a conclusion?

I have looked out of my window and often thought that if God were female, She would have the weather better organised. Every day would be dry so we can hang our washing out without fear of rain. Rain would only happen at night between the hours of two and five so no need to water the plants in the garden and there would always be plenty of good drinking water for our needs. And please do not get me started on childbirth! I mean would you allow your son to be born in a stable with all that muck and straw everywhere

So, have a good Christmas and New Year.
And may God our Father, with His Son and Lady Wisdom grant you Peace, Goodwill and Joy and a better year to come.

Rev Marion Harrison

(This is written with tongue in cheek, I promise).

When this magazine was produced, we were in the middle of a Lock-down and didn't know when it would end.

Our local churches did not know what the rules would be over Christmas, so no planned services may have to change.

Check the Church websites and social media to see what is happening.

Date	Time	Place	Service
Sunday 6 th December Advent 2	10.00 am	West Lavington	Zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7192406094
	11.00 am		Communion
Wednesday 9 th December	10 am	St Barnabas Church Easterton	BCP Holy Communion
Sunday 13 th December Advent 3	10.00 am	St Barnabas Church, Easterton	Zoom
	11.00 am		Communion
Wednesday 16 th	2.30 pm	West Lavington	Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion
Sunday 20 th December	10.00am	St. Peters Church Great Cheverell	Zoom
	4 pm and 6 pm		Carol Service (Limited numbers so please book your preferred time asap.)
Tuesday 22 nd December	7.00 pm	All Saints West Lavington	Nine Lessons and Carols Please book in advance.
Wednesday 23 rd December	6 pm	St Peter's Church Great Cheverell	Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion
Thursday 24 th December Christmas Eve	10 pm	Easterton	Midnight Communion
	11.30 pm	Great Cheverell	Midnight Communion
Friday 25 th December Christmas Day	9.00 am	West Lavington	Christmas Communion
	10.00 am	Zoom	Family Christmas https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7192406094
Sunday 27 th December	No service		

Christingle oranges will be available for collection from St Mary's church on Christmas Eve between 3-5pm. A one way system will be in place and social distancing will be observed. For more information contact Antoinette Fish on 07985 302359 or Diane Delmar on 07795 292373.

* CAROLS ON THE DOORSTEP *

* SUNDAY 20TH DECEMBER
5:30 PM

Join us for a National carol sing on your doorstep with your neighbours.

It's so easy to join in....

- *Download and print the Carol Sheet and invitation from www.premierchristianradio.com. or www.newcastlemethodistdistrict.org
- *Pop them through your neighbours' doors inviting them to join you
- *5:30pm on 20th December tune your radio to Premier Radio or Freeview 725 or download the Premier Radio app on your phone, then sing along to the Carols played. Why not wear your festive jumpers too and even bring out something to shake or rattle?



This Christmas, I'm collecting stamps for RNIB. I'm hoping to make a difference to blind and partially sighted people, a cause very close to my heart.

If you would like to donate your used stamps, tear them off the envelopes with 1cm of envelope around them. I'll happily collect them after Christmas, call 01380 699978 to get them collected, or if you are passing 3 Shires Close, Market Lavington, please post them through the letterbox.



CORONAVIRUS (COVID) VACCINATION

As you are probably aware from recent press releases, a Corona Virus vaccine is on the horizon. This is going to be a huge operation to deliver to all of our patients and we will need your help in doing so.

At the moment all GP practices are preparing plans for delivering vaccination to their patients. We will work in pre-existing groups called Primary Care Networks, where several local GP Surgeries will plan together to provide vaccinations for the whole community from a central point. There will also be national larger sites as well, and you will be able to choose which one is more convenient for you.

It is likely that you will need 2 doses 3 weeks apart, **both doses have to be provided at the same clinic location**. Vaccination may or may not be available on Sundays and Bank Holidays.

All these plans have to be approved by NHS England before they can be used. Advice from NHS England and the Department of Health changes on an almost daily basis as plans are put forward, we are keeping up to date with the information received but please be aware guidance may change.

The vaccines have to be stored at very low temperatures before they are delivered to doctors. Once doctors receive them they will have to be used within five days. The government wants less than 5% of vaccines to be wasted, so it is likely that vaccine appointments will be offered at very short notice, and you may need to rearrange any existing plans to be able to attend your vaccination appointments.

We are awaiting information on the vaccination schedule and the eligible patients will be contacted directly.

The best way you can help your practice deliver the vaccine is to ensure that they have the correct contact details for you, mobile phone, e-mail, and if you are housebound.

Contact

Courtyard surgery by e-mail reception.courtyard@nhs.net,
Market Lavington Surgery reception2.marketlavington@nhs.net

ZOOM TRAINING

Are you interested in learning more about how to use zoom?

Would you like to learn how to host a zoom meeting?

Would you be interested in helping to host the benefice church services on zoom?

If your answer to any of these questions is yes, let me know and I will arrange a tutorial for you.

Anne Wilson

mrsannewilson@gmail.com mobile: 07872444858





CHRISTMAS CAROL TRAIL!



Come and join in with our Christmas Carol Trail around Market Lavington, Littleton Panell and West Lavington!

Saturday 19th December – Friday 25th December

Our 4 local churches have organised a fabulous, sparkling trail to explore the Christmas Story in a new way this year. Volunteers from the churches will be putting up Christmas Carol displays in their windows or gardens for you to come and admire. You can just enjoy the scenes or for a £5 entry, match the Christmas Carol to each display and enter our competition for a festive hamper.

Entry Forms/Trail Maps are available, after Friday 11th December, from: Costcutters, David Coxhead or Market Lavington Post Office

All the money for the trail competition will be going to the Nestling Trust.

This local-started UK charity was established to provide destitute children in Nepal with a secure and loving home, in the Nepalese village

<https://www.nestlingtrust.co.uk>

If you would like to make your own Christmas Carol display and be part of the tour, send your name, email, postal address and phone number to:

Caroline Spindlow on 01380 813445 or cwood772@btinternet.com.

If you need us to deliver a leaflet to your house call Caroline on 01380 813445 and delivery and payment can be arranged.

Ebenezer Baptist Chapel, West Lavington
St Joseph's Catholic Church, Littleton Panell
The Benefice of the Lavingtons, Cheverells & Easterton
Trinity Church, Market Lavington

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After



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Tales from the Town

Celebrating Strength in the Community

In Devizes and the surrounding villages there has been such a strong show of kindness this year between neighbours and through the wider community. What a great opportunity we have now to encourage that kindness to expand and continue.

Help build a kinder community

By listening to each other's stories of receiving help, helping each other or just of the loneliness and fear, we can learn how to include those that have struggled with isolation both before and during lockdown, making sure that we are more connected as we come out of it.

Share your lockdown story...

...however you like; written, oral recording, video chat or artwork. It can be a full account or a short point about what was important to you. To share your story email annabel@wiltshirecil.org.uk or call 07815687545



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Thank you to all our customers from near and far, who have supported us this summer. There are fewer tables, and everyone is asked to sign in with their name and phone number when they arrive and use the hand sanitiser provided. There is a plastic screen between customers, cakes and staff. But it is still the friendly place to visit, sit and chat, or takeaway.

For Remembrance this year you might like to paint a poppy on a pebble and place it somewhere in the village. St.Arbucks will also collect and display them for you in the first week of November.
Rev Gary Gotham and the people at Trinity Church will be happy to bless them and place them at the War Memorial in St Mary's churchyard on Sunday 8th November.

DECEMBER IMPORTANT MASSES

Booking OPEN - we will continue to take these bookings in the hope that Mass will be able to resume

Tuesday 8th December - Feast Day Mass at 5pm
Thursday 24th December - Normal Mass at 9.30am
Thursday 24th December - Christmas Vigil Mass at 6pm
Friday 25th December - Mass at 9.00am
Friday 25th December - Mass at 9am
Friday 25th December - Mass at 11am
Saturday 26th December - Mass at 6pm

IF these Masses become fully booked then we may look to release further Mass times on the above dates.
Please make your bookings as soon as possible, by email to devizes.ourlady@cliftondiocese.com or use the GREEN booking forms located in the Narthex.

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ECO-CORNER

Following the Lavingtons, Cheverells and Easterton Benefice's recent focus on creation care we have written a piece for our local news magazine with ideas about how we can all care for the environment in a better way and would like to share it with our neighbouring communities.

Christmas is a season of Christian celebration, good cheer and good will, but it has also become a season of increased commercialism, consumerism and waste with a negative environmental impact on the well - being of our planet.

Enviro Waste reveals some shocking Christmas waste statistics:

- Royal Mail delivers around 150 million cards and packets during the pre-Christmas period; it is estimated that 1 billion Christmas cards could end up in the bin after December 25th
 - 125,000 tonnes of plastic packaging will be thrown out, rather than recycled
 - six million trees are thrown out after Christmas, creating more than 9,000 tonnes of additional waste
 - around 6,711 tonnes of fresh turkey and 12,472 tonnes of frozen turkey will be cooked - almost 20,000 tonnes of meat - while around 4,200 tonnes of aluminium foil used to cook the turkeys gets thrown away every Christmas in the UK
- Nevertheless, there are ways in which households concerned about the well-being of the planet can look to play their part (even if small) in support of an eco-friendly Christmas. Here are two ideas which you might like to consider.

1. Give gifts that are plastic free and will last

When considering gifts for family and friends, reduce waste by abandoning single use items that are immediately thrown away. Think of gifts that last or can be used again, e.g. good quality toys that can be passed on to friends, family and charity shops, giving them a second or even a third life. Try to avoid eco non-friendly products, such as plastic, and look for brands prepared with re-useable alternatives.

Alternatively you could buy a family gift which will benefit someone else. For example you could twin a toilet or a tap: for a donation of £60 you will fund a project in a poor community that will enable families to build a basic toilet, have access to clean water and learn about basic hygiene. You will receive a certificate with a picture of the toilet or tap that you are twinned with and the GPS coordinates so that you can look up your twin's location. Your donation will help to eradicate poverty and bring better hygiene and health to others. <https://www.toilettwinning.org>

Or you can twin your bin: in the world's poorest countries, someone dies every 30 seconds from diseases caused by plastic pollution and rubbish. For a donation of £45 to twin your bin, you will help fund a community project that is preventing disease, protecting the environment and creating jobs. You will receive a certificate to put on your bin showing a photograph of the rubbish collection or recycling project that you are twinned with overseas. <https://www.bintwinning.org>

Benefice 200 Club Winners and during Covid 19

Congratulations to two Market Lavington neighbours who are the winners of the November draw. They are Sally Lort-Phillips for 1st prize and Margaret Bell for 2nd prize.

Due to Covid19 I do not wish the ticket sellers or buyers to be exposed to any unnecessary risk handling money or knocking on doors. Therefore this year I am adapting the Benefice 200 Club to meet these concerns and to make it much more streamline in the future.

After much thought we are asking ticket buyers to either send a one off payment or set up an annual Standing Order for £12 (or more if you wish!) for the month of December to:

Lloyd's Bank: sort code: 30-92-63: account no: 03298141
"L, C & E Benefice 200 Club"

PLEASE remember to put **YOUR NAME** in the reference.

This is a simple way to go forward. If you are not happy to do this or do not do internet banking then you can drop cash or a cheque through the door of your usual seller or they will collect it from you safely. See below. If by the new year we have collected enough money we will resume drawing prizes each month. It could be that we do not have a 2nd prize of £20 if funds are low. You will not receive a ticket or need to know your number but I will allocate you with a number in my master file from the bank statement. We are trying to minimise risk to our friends.

Thank you so much for your understanding. This has to be the way forward.

Easterton: Sue Allen, 57 High Street 813603
Market Lavington: Liz Thom, 2, Bouverie Drive 818335
West Lavington: Jeannette Giles, The Rockery High Street. 813256
Little Cheverell: Marlis Rawlins The Grey House Low Road 816318
Great Cheverell: Pauline Jenkinson, Bishops House, High Street. Bonnie Matters 722024

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St Barnabas Christmas Raffle Prizes

£100 Cash Prize

Luxury Christmas Hamper – donated by St Barnabas Staff

10lb Christmas Turkey – donated by Poulshot Lodge Farm Shop

Luxury Hair Hamper - Ask For Alice Hair Voucher, GHD Crimpers, Hair Products, Gemini Hair Voucher

Beauty Hamper - Harringtons Manicure Voucher, Margaret Alison Pedicure Voucher, FM Products – donated by Tasha Rodger, Just Pink Perfume

£30 Rangebourne Pets Voucher Bottle of Moët & Chandon Champagne

Douse Butcher Voucher Lego Set

3 Books from Devizes Books Compact Oven

Body Shop Products – donated by Nadine Hickton 2 x Bottles of Wine – donated by The Green Dragon

Blossom Tree Plant Night in Hamper – donated by Janice Charlton

Paper Wreath – donated by Vicki Fox Handmade Leather Clutch Purse

Handmade Gift Cards

Earrings & Necklace Set – donated by SO Blonde Designs Bottle of White & Rose Wine

Telescope Bottle of Prosecco

Lemon Plaiçe Meal Voucher for 4 Younique Makeup

Taylor's Mini Port Selection

2. Be eco-aware with your wrapping paper

Choose recycled wrapping paper, brown paper, tissue or make your own using newspaper or magazines. Use the scrunch test to know if your paper can be recycled – i.e. when scrunched up and let go, if the paper stays scrunched up it can probably be recycled. If it does not stay scrunched up it probably contains non-recyclable elements, like foil, glitter or plastic.

Recyclable wrapping paper can be quite hard to find but one source is the RSPB who are selling eco-recycled wrapping paper: <https://shopping.rspb.org.uk/christmas-gift-wrap/>

According to Enviro Waste, over the Christmas period 83 sq km of wrapping paper will be thrown out or burnt in the UK. Instead of throwing away your wrapping paper, you can save it for future use or shred it to use as protective packaging for future gifts. Gift bags can usually be reused more than once with a new tag. Knot wraps - colourful fabric squares - can be re-used again and again.

These are just a couple of our personal ideas but many more tips for a greener Christmas and ideas on advent calendars, vegetarian celebration meals, food waste, Christmas trees and saving energy can be found at: https://southwark.anglican.org/downloads/environment/green_christmas_tips.pdf

We'd appreciate any ideas about environmental issues that other readers of your local news magazine might like to share which could be included in future community editions.

Anne Wilson mrsannewilson@gmail.com and Sandra Gamble acanadiangamble@gmail.com



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By taking part and encouraging others to do the same, you'll help make sure you and your community get the services you need.

Nearer the time, you'll receive more information. There'll be plenty of help to take part for people who need it.

Find out more at www.census.gov.uk

Follow the census

   @Census2021

Black Dog Crossroads.

Wiltshire Council have commissioned Atkins plc to propose options for making this junction safer. If you have any views on this matter please send them to.

CLlr Bridget Wayman,
Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Waste
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Courier and Banking Fraud Warning After Spate of Incidents In East Wiltshire

We are reminding residents in east Wiltshire to be vigilant after a spate of banking and courier frauds recently.

In November officers were alerted to an incident where a woman in her 80s from Devizes had been targeted by fraudsters who were posing as bank employees. They convinced her to transfer a total of more than £50,000 to two different bank accounts. It follows a series of similar incidents in the Devizes and Marlborough areas recently.

In other crimes, fraudsters have posed as police officers and convinced their victims to withdraw thousands of pounds from their bank accounts and arrange for it to be collected by couriers.

PC Sue Ellway, from the Devizes Area Community Policing Team, said: "Sadly, these scams are very sophisticated and it is very easy for people to be duped by them. "Usually, the criminals pose as either police officers or bank employees and convince their victims that they are at risk of fraud, and that they need to follow their instructions to protect their money. "We are urging people to be cautious, and to speak to elderly or vulnerable family members, friends and neighbours, so that everyone knows the simple steps they can take to keep themselves safe."

Our crime prevention advice includes:

- If you receive a call from anybody purporting to be from the police, bank, or any organisation you did not call, please take a telephone number and then put the phone down.
- Go and make a cup of tea or do something for five minutes (this stops any fraudster from keeping your phone line open) then call a trusted friend, relative or Wiltshire Police on 101 and tell them what has happened.
- Never transfer money or give the caller access to your banking details or cards. The bank or police would never ask you to do this

Further details about courier fraud can be found on the Action Fraud website www.actionfraud.police.uk



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All Easterton except the houses on Eastcott Common and Easterton Sands
Household waste and paid garden waste collection 11th and 28th
Blue top bins and black boxes 1st, 15th and 30th

The Spring, Grove Rd. (and turnings off it), Canada Rise, the north end of Parsonage Lane, Spin Hill, Ledge Hill, Broadway, Drove Lane & The Clays.

The houses on Eastcott Common and Easterton Sands
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The football season was nicely underway until we were hit by Lockdown 2.0. This has resulted in all football stopping including training and matches. Training and matches will start to be re-arranged once we have confirmation of lockdown release by the FA. Updates since last newsletter from teams below:

Badger cubs. (3-6)

Great group growing in numbers all the time. Having fun and learning new skills. After lockdown, training moves indoor at Lavington School on Saturday 9-10am. Please contact Dave Kiddle if your child would like to try for free. First 2 weeks free. U7s

A few more players have joined the squad now, so good numbers for each position. A training session with a Halloween theme where players trained in their costumes was held and raised many laughs.

U8s

League matches going well working on positions and team play. Players putting in lots of practice over lockdown.

U9s & U10s –Playing well although could do with increasing player numbers, please contact Mark Goddard if interested.

U11s – Squad now at good size and some excellent performances before lockdown.

U13's – Entered lockdown joint top in league, remaining unbeaten in the league.

Played 2 friendlies vs Melksham which saw a draw and loss.

U14s – Two wins from two in the league and through to county cup 2nd round after away win to South Newton. Hopefully after lockdown winter training starts at green lane on 3G and indoor futsal.

U15s – Tough start to season but seeing improved performances. Looking for a few more players to create possible second team, if interested contact Aiden Allmark below.

Team Contacts for 2020/21 Season:

Contacts

Badger Cubs– Dave Kiddle - 07843 678781

U8- Dave Kiddle- 07843678781
813160

U11 - Neil Black- 07769 261750

U13 -Mark Goddard- 01380 813160
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U15– Aiden Allmark- 07341 819154
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U7– Pete Huntley- 07974756131

U9/10- Mark Goddard – 01380

U14– Dave Kiddle-

Adults – Pete Drew – 07885

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Anne Blagbrough would like to thank everyone who supported the Zoom coffee morning on October 14th.. We ran a competition and quiz, talked about the health giving properties of the Forever Aloe range and four customers spoke of their experience of our products. The Quiz made £20 and with donations and profit from sales of aloe, I was delighted to send Macmillan our largest cheque ever for £420. If anyone would like me to run a similar event for the charity of their choice, please get in touch with me on 01380 81242€





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references needed

Our school setting reaches new levels of beauty in the Autumn. Our grounds and Forest School are rich in every shade of those autumnal colours and our pupils like nothing more than exploring, foraging and learning amongst nature. Outdoor learning has a wide range of benefits for all pupils, so it's a big part of our curriculum from Early Years up to Year 6.

Half term saw our first ever Halloween trail, organised and run by our dedicated PTA. The trail offered families a Covid safe, fun and exciting walk around our villages, searching for the creative and scary window and garden Halloween displays that had been designed by some of our families and their friends. The Halloween trail app, which was kindly developed by a parent, had the displays mapped for easy location. The puzzle word could be slowly revealed as letters were collected at some of the displays and typed into the app. The event raised £411.00 which was fantastic. What was absolutely lovely though was seeing families out and about, enjoying their local area and supporting their local primary school – fabulous!

Remembrance is always a special and important event on our school calendar; educating our pupils to know why we have remembrance, what the symbols mean and to understand the impact of war. Pre Covid-19, we would have gathered together to sing and show our respects as a school, observe the two minute silence with the Last Post being played. This year, however, we found different ways to include aspects of our usual remembrance assembly, as well as new ways to show our respect. Our classes also made wreathes, which were placed outside for the community to enjoy and are now on display in school.

Hands-on learning is the order of the day and when our pupils are exploring all the science concepts, it's vital that they get to work practically as well as watching and listening to the theory. Our Year 6 class have been learning about the wonders of the human body this term and to secure their understanding of the heart and how it works, they worked in small groups to investigate and dissect pig hearts. Pupils were fascinated by the task and impressed us all with their mature and inquisitive approach.

December is always a busy month for us and preparations are under way for maintaining the magic of Christmas while keeping ourselves safe. A Covid-safe nativity and a Santa run are just two of the things on the list! Our pupils and staff will be completing the Diabetes 1 million step challenge in the lead up to the Santa Dash to raise money for Diabetes.org.uk.

If you would like to see for yourself what happens at DAPS and think that your child would like to attend our school, then please do get in touch. We have spaces in most classes and would welcome the opportunity to share more about our vibrant and unique school. Our website also has information that could help you find out more.
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A Message from Richard Gamble
Wiltshire Councillor for The Lavingtons & Erlestoke Division

“Christmas is coming”, says the nursery rhyme, “The goose is getting fat!”

The goose, of course, is reference to the seasonal feast that, in more recent times, is associated with turkey. The implication is that this is a time of indulgence and consumption.

I hope you will get your share of feasting but, depending on your viewpoint, Christmas has many other meanings – faith, festival, family, etc. I fear, however, that the origins may also have reference to foresight of famine (I have worked hard on the alliteration here!).

In former times, starvation was common during the months of January to April, also known as “the famine months”. The festival now associated with Christmas was the last feast before deep winter began. Most cattle were slaughtered so they would not have to be fed during the winter, and it was thus almost the only time of year when a plentiful supply of fresh meat was available. The wine and beer made during the year was finally fermented and was also ready for drinking at this time.

The festival follows the winter solstice when the days are short. However, you and I know that, whatever we may do, the days will lengthen and spring and summer will come so Christmas may be taken as reminder of better times ahead. As such, this is also a season of celebration and renewal.

But the nursery rhyme goes on to remind us of those in need.
Please to put a penny in the old man's hat.
If you haven't got a penny, a halfpenny will do.
If you haven't got a halfpenny, God bless you.

I hope you are not at risk of famine and are not in need of a penny. If you know anyone who is in need, please help if you can. For those who do face challenges, Wiltshire Council has lots of information which may be useful at this time. Some on-line links are:

- <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/3094/Scheme-to-financially-support-people-on-a-low-income-who-have-to-self-isolate>
- <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/business-advice-support-covid19-grants>
- <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/public-health-coronavirus>

For my part, I can't speak for the goose, but I am concerned about my own girth in lockdown. Somebody said, “I recommend that you take up gardening so I planted myself in front of the television and I have already grown substantially”.

Have a very happy and healthy Christmas!
You may contact me about this or any other matter by email to
richard.gamble@wiltshire.gov.uk or by phone on 07762 018209.

WILTSHIRE LIBRARIES

Following the introduction of the new national COVID-19 restrictions from Thursday 5 November until Wednesday 2 December, we have made some changes to our services. Chippenham, Devizes, Salisbury, Trowbridge, Westbury and Warminster libraries are now operating an order and collect service and bookable computers. Our mobile library service which only got back on the road recently, will unfortunately not be operating but this will be regularly reviewed. All items currently borrowed, that were due back from 9 March onwards, will continue to be automatically renewed. Our online library content has proven to be hugely popular and will continue. Find out more about order and collect, including how to place an order and book a computer.

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/libraries-order-collect>

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Market Lavington

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20/09080/FUL The Malt House 3 Gyes Old Yard, White Street, Reversal of planning permission ref: 13/03814/FUL - demolition of enclosed porch, returning exterior to previous appearance. Addition of a small porch canopy, with timber supporting post. New external oil boiler.

Easterton

20/06447/ Reflections Vicarage Lane, Discharge of Condition 6 of planning permission 17/06367/FUL

Details are available at

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/planninganddevelopment>

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The Elisha Field Closing Times

Sunset times for Market Lavington

November 28	4.05pm GMT
December 5	4.01pm GMT
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<https://sunrisesunset.willyweather.co.uk/sw/wiltshire/market-lavington.html>

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The Children's Society – Christingle 2020

The Christingle is 52 years old this year and has become a familiar and favourite part of Christmas for many.

Donations at Christingle services form the main way that The Children's Society fundraises for the work they do with vulnerable children and young people across the country. Their work this year has been especially important and you can read more here: <https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/>

We are keen to continue to fundraise to support the work they do, through the Christingle services and events we hold, and we've been creative! This year we have put together:

- **'Christingle ingredients in a bag'** for children at the primary schools in our benefice – (Holy Trinity Academy Great Cheverell, DAPS and St Barnabas). More than 170 altogether!
- **Christingle oranges will be available for collection from St Mary's church on Christmas Eve between 3-5pm.**
A one way system will be in place and social distancing will be observed.
For more information contact
Antoinette Fish on 07985 302359 or
Diane Delmar on 07795 292373.
- We hope you will display the Christingle poster in your window – or give it to someone to colour in and pop it into your local church for their display.
- Finally please do donate to our benefice fundraising target by scanning the QR code or bringing your donation to St Mary's on Christmas Eve.



Scan this QR code with the camera on your smartphone to donate to our local fundraising page for the Children's Society or visit:

<https://thyg.uk/CUS041983>

We wish you a merry Christmas and thank you in advance for your support of the work of The Children's Society.

Antoinette Fish, Anne Wilson, Pauline Jenkinson and Nicola Coupe

PS. **On Sunday 13th December** the Church of England's Service at 9am is a Christingle one. You can watch it on their website any time from this date..

Police Appeal

We're appealing for information in relation to reports that a group of men are travelling around the eastern part of Wiltshire attempting to steal pet dogs.

On Wednesday 18 November, a green/silver coloured Suzuki 4x4 - possibly a Vitara model - was seen driving around the Shalbourne, Bedwyn, Bagshot and Hungerford area with the occupants attempting to take dogs from kennels, gardens and back yards of addresses. In some cases a suspect will ring the front door bell while another goes around the back of the property to try and steal the animals.

We are asking people to be vigilant and keep their dogs locked inside the house or ensure their kennels are safe and secure.

Anyone with any information about this vehicle or the occupants should call us on 101 quoting crime reference number 54200115124. Please call 999 if a crime is in progress. Alternatively, you can report anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

The Mothers' Union is marking the 16 Days of Activism Campaign Against Gender Based Violence from 25th November to 10th December 2020.

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

No more 1 in 3

16 Days is an international campaign, taking place each year from 25th November (International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women) until 10th December (International Human Rights Day).

Throughout the campaign, the Mothers' Union movement joins with other organisations from approximately 187 countries who participate in the campaign, to raise awareness of - and call for an end to - gender-based violence in all forms and in all societies.

Here are some facts:

1 in 3 - Around the world, 1 in 3 women has been beaten, coerced into sex, or otherwise abused in her lifetime

1 in 10 - 1 in 10 women has experienced some form of sexual violence since the age of 15

1 in 20 - 1 in 20 women has been raped

2 a week, dead - 2 women are killed in the UK every week by a current or former male partner

Source: www.restored-uk.org

Diocesan President Rosie Stiven (pictured) says:

"As part of our Diocesan campaign this year, and our continuing support of Salisbury Women's Refuge, we will be holding a 'virtual' Service of the Word on Zoom led by our MU Chaplain, Revd Joanna Naish, on Tuesday 1st December at 12 noon.

"All are welcome and if you would like to join in this Service, please email r.stiven.mu@gmail.com."

On Saturday 5th December from 9am, Mothers' Union begins a virtual Global Day of Action. For full details of the day's programme, please go to www.mothersunion.org and search for '16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence: Global'.

Lavington Preschool

We welcomed 3 new children in November, Violet, Thathliya and Elin and Miss Esther has joined our teaching team.

We have been busy looking at Autumn and making Autumn craft. The children helped decorate the classroom making our large Autumn tree by decorating cut out hands and sticking them onto the tree to create leaves. We also made individual pictures using their hands – hand prints for the trees then finger prints for the leaves. The children decorated our salt dough leaves which we had made before the half term. We talked about the colours leaves turn in Autumn and what colours you could mix together to create a new colour – red and yellow to make orange was a popular choice.

On one of the days, the children found Derek the toy dog who was feeling unwell. They soon set about making him better with the use of plasters and bandages. The children used their imagination and role play and worked together to try and make Derek feel better. We have also been playing with our new emergency services vehicles and we dressed up as the police, firefighters and nurses. We talked about the different emergency services and how they helped us.

Week commencing the 9th November the children were invited to come into preschool dressed either in their pyjamas or spotty clothes for Children In Need. We raised an amazing £35.00 this year so a big thank you to all our families who kindly donated.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: Our Annual General Meeting will now take place on Thursday 10th December at 7:30 pm at Lavington Pre-school. We will be inviting parents to join us via ZOOM and an invitation link will be sent out at the beginning of November to those wishing to attend. Please contact lavingtonpreschool@gmail.com should you wish to receive an invitation link.

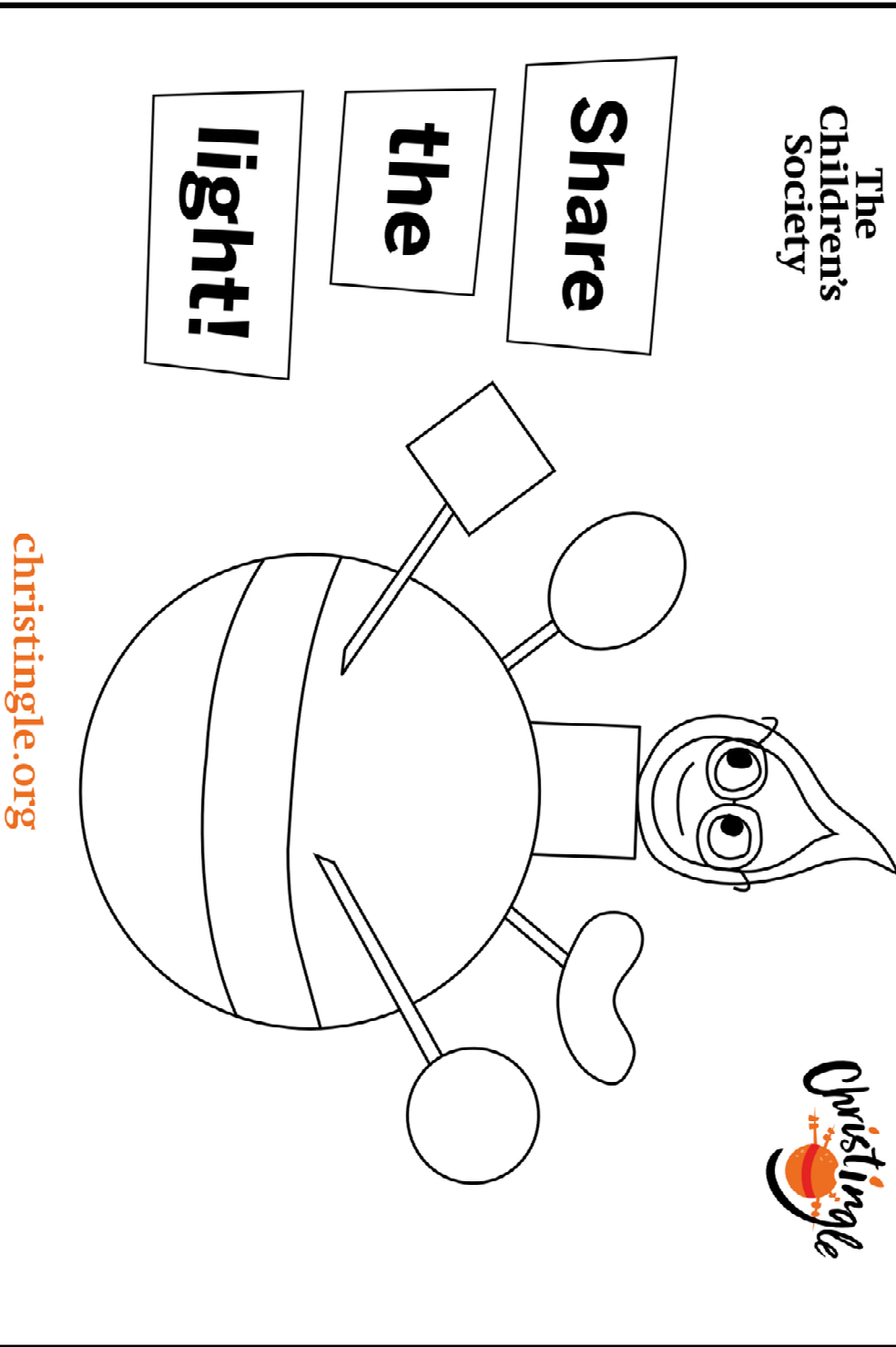
We are currently looking for qualified bank staff to provide cover. If you would be interested please contact Julie Langlands, Manager – managerlavingtonpreschool@gmail.com or telephone 01380 812551.

Julie Langlands
Manager Lavington Preschool

DEREK ASKEY

Just the day before this magazine went to print I was told that Derek Askey, father to Will, Mike and Jane, electrician and college lecturer, museum volunteer and cheerful soul, has died in Salisbury Hospital after a long period of ill health.

Please pass the word to all those who knew him.



A Christingle poster to colour in and put in your window or drop in to church!



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Yoga with Annie via Zoom

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The classes are for anyone over the age of 18 and the first lesson is free. We focus on the breath and developing strength and flexibility in the body to boost physical and mental wellbeing. Classes start on Thursday 10th September and Monday 14th September.

I am planning to start a beginners class. If you are interested please contact me.

07708265752 or email:

annievingoe@hotmail.com

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Most of what you read in this magazine is sent in by local people. Usually items they want publicised, occasionally poems or other items. Last month I was sent an excerpt of jokes from another Parish magazine. I used two of them to fill this space. One person in Market Lavington and Easterton was offended by one of the jokes. He made an incorrect allegation about me relating to my political views, and accused me of being racist. These beliefs were passed to three people without any involvement with the editing or production of this magazine, but not to me. If you have any comments to make about the magazine please contact me at colinosborn@compuserve.com.



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