

Looking to God, Looking to Care, Looking to Grow

About Upper Stour

serving the villages of

Bourton

Kilmington

Stourton

Zeals



February 2021

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***Contributions for the March 2021 issue should reach the Editor
by Friday 19th February 2021 at noon***

Mobile Library Times

Due to the national lockdown that started on 5 Jan the public Mobile Libraries had to close. Some branch libraries have now re-opened offering an 'Order and collect' service during the lockdown. Wiltshire Libraries will continue to review this situation and the latest news on libraries, including opening hours and contact telephone numbers can be found at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/libraries.

Any library books that you currently have on loan from Wiltshire Libraries (including the mobiles) will be automatically renewed during the lockdown. Wiltshire libraries continues to offer all members free access to thousands of free eBooks; eMagazines; and eAudio-books (did I mention they were free?!) – details at the website above.

Message from Rev Ben

A few Christmases ago I was given a wonderful coffee table book called *Lost In Translation* by Ella Frances Sanders. If you have in your mind a great academic tome, don't! This book is a wonderfully small book with pictures – my kind of book! The subtitle of the book is *An Illustrated Compendium of Untranslatable Words from Around the World* and so the book is just that – a book filled with words which are so often bound up within the culture it is born into that it doesn't fit that neatly in English. So my word for us this February is from modern Greek – **meraki**. Sanders describes the word like so; “Pouring yourself wholeheartedly into something such as cooking, and doing so with soul, creativity, and love.” A trio of wonderful words which is vital for any community – soul, creativity and love. Three words that are far from passive or contractual but bursting with God given energy. What else can we feel called to do within our communities but to pour ourselves wholeheartedly into where we live, breath and have our being - showing soul, creativity, and love?

I still delight in being a part of the life of Upper Stour. Both of our schools, our many pubs, our shops, village hall and many other parts of our communities make our villages great places to live in! However of course, at this time, it is hard to pour ourselves wholeheartedly into the life of our communities when we cannot meet! And indeed, when those parts of our communities that make us what we are are struggling at this really difficult time. I still miss the bread and butter of village life like coffee mornings, village lunches, the Bourton Village Panto and all that our four villages have to offer! This is a really hard time to know how to pour ourselves into life with soul, creativity, and love, when so much of what we know has changed.

However of course, the challenge we all face as we go forward, is to find new ways to practice the art or **meraki**. Pouring ourselves wholeheartedly into all we do, but with a particular focus on what we can do, rather than what we can't do. Sanders in her book remarks that “When you're giving your all, the end result is usually a great one. The concept of **meraki** has obviously grown up around the Greek culture, which seems to emphasise a thoughtful kind of passion and an appreciation for the small things”. As a personal confession, I have a tendency to triage, prioritize and to focus on ‘the big stuff’ whatever that might be. At the moment, that is so often about the ‘big stuff’ that we cannot do, rather than perhaps the small but life giving things that we can do. During this strange time however, my challenge is to focus on the smaller things in life – the things that we can do, rather than the things we can't. As cliché as that might sound - will you join me?

Or of course another good word from this book is **Pisan Zapra** – a Malayan word which refers to the time needed to eat a banana! I am sure this could provide helpful insight for a community at this time too, but I'm not sure how yet!

Ben (Rev Ben Rundell-Evans)

St George's 100 Club

Unfortunately the December and January draws have not taken place because of the requirement of an independent witness, and no further draws will be done until we are out of the current lockdown.

As soon as it is safe to continue, all the outstanding draws will be done at the Forge Garage and results published on the website and put on the noticeboard by the Post Office.

Thank you for your understanding.

Ruth Burrows
01747 840371

St Martin's Millennium Club

December winners:

D Byron
J Biss
L Love
L Durrant

January and February draws will take place at the end of February to allow for annual membership fees to be received.

Contact Nigel Blackmore
01747 841110
SDC Lott 842

Bourton Village Hall

Sorry folks but the hall remains closed in accordance with current national lockdown rules. Use of the hall will be reviewed as and when new Government guidelines are announced. In the meantime, the Village Hall Trustees and volunteers have taken this as an opportunity to redecorate and make improvements to the inside of the hall - all socially distanced and mask wearing, of course. It is hoped that the smarter hall will attract new event bookings and regular classes that can then be taken forward to the new hall.

The Trustees and Volunteers look forward to welcoming you all back to the new look hall in the not too distant future.

Heather Ransley 07849 673 670 hransley@btinternet.com

Thank you to a Stranger

I would like to say a big thank you to a Good Samaritan who delivered my parcel, (which had been wrongly left at her address) to Zeals Garage. I was then telephoned by the Garage and was able to collect it. It was a very large and heavy package, so even nicer of her to make the delivery. The package contained a new Hoover, so now I have no excuse...! Thank you very much to whoever you are.

Louise Ives, Zeals

Green Fingers: Notes from a Fairweather Gardener

February

It often seems as though February is one of the most dreary months of the year, but spring is just around the corner and there are signs of it in the garden. Although it might be tempting to curl up by the fire with a good book, there is plenty to be done outside if the weather is good enough.

While you are enjoying your display of snowdrops and winter aconites, think about where else in the garden you would like to see them. Unlike many other spring bulbs, these grow best if they are planted just after they have flowered, or 'in the green'. All varieties of snowdrops, like to grow in dappled shade and can all be divided or planted from new now.

February is also a good time to divide herbaceous perennials as this will give the new plants plenty of time to establish and grow in the spring. Any plants that are looking a bit too big for their allotted space are good candidates for division, as are those which have died off in the middle. If the clumps are really large and woody, you may need to use a couple of forks back to back to prise the roots apart. It can be quite a tough job, but it will certainly keep you warm on a cold, but not frosty, day. As a bonus, you will get some new plants to fill odd spaces in the garden or to share with friends.

If you missed the opportunity to sow sweet peas in the autumn, you can start some off now. You don't need a cold frame or cloches, you can keep them in a cool room in the house and look forward to a wonderful display of flowers for cutting in the summer.

And finally – roasties anyone? Now is the time to buy potato tubers and start them off. You can use old egg boxes for this. Stand your tubers in the egg box with the end with the most nodules uppermost. Keep them like this in a cool light place. They are ready to plant out when the shoots are about 3cm/1" long. Gillingham Potato and Seed Fair is online this year offering a wide variety of potato tubers and many other vegetable seeds whilst raising funds for local charities.

Daphne Knott



Help for domestic abuse victims in Wiltshire is just a phone call away and available 24/7. Swindon Domestic Abuse Support Service (SWA) is now providing support to victims of domestic violence across the whole of Wiltshire on behalf of Wiltshire County Council. Our dedicated helpline – 01793 610610 – is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year covering Swindon and extends to the county of Wiltshire every day 5pm – 9am, every weekend and bank holiday. Our helpline is answered by specialist domestic abuse advisor who can provide advice and support irrespective of the time you call - day or night.

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News from Stourhead

2021 might not have started how we all would have wished but outside the window nature continues to offer its reassuring and reliable presence as the seasons march on. The cheery sight of the first snowdrops in the garden offer some optimism for the year ahead and herald the not too distant arrival of spring.

As was the case in March last year, access to outdoor space has been incredibly important for everyone in this third national lockdown and as a result the wider estate has been busy. We are asking for people to follow government guidance and stay local and continue to ask for local residents to use the car parks on the wider estate to help preserve the verges and to avoid blocking important access points to the estate as essential forestry work continues.

Despite a challenging start to the year there is also reason to celebrate in 2021. On 7 March, we mark 75 years of the National Trust caring for Stourhead and we will share more about our plans to celebrate this important milestone in the months ahead.

In the meantime, we are delighted to introduce Tim Barter who joins the team as the new Estate Manager. Tim is a rural practice chartered surveyor with over 30 years' experience of estate and countryside management across the country – the last 14 for the National Trust in Gloucestershire. A passionate advocate for a sustainable rural economy supporting nature and community, Tim is also a keen walker and lover of mountains, married with two sons and a border collie called Pip.



Tim writes *“In a time where so much change is upon us I hope to work with tenants to sustain the estate as a special place to live and work. I hope we might work together, building on the qualities of the historic environment for which the Trust is guardian, taking every opportunity to achieve long term sustainability and making space for nature to thrive and for people to enjoy.”*

The garden and estate at Stourhead remain open for you to access for exercise and we hope these special spaces offer some respite in the coming months until we return to more normal times.

Louisa Reeves, Marketing and Communications Officer

louisa.reeves@nationaltrust.org.uk

Country Calendar: February

The good thing about February is "Spring is just around the corner"

Spring is just around the corner and we are so looking forward to some warmer weather. Thankfully 2020 is now behind us and, it is official, it has been the wettest year ever. At Home Farm we religiously take the rainfall, the figure for 2020 totted up to a staggering 55.54 inches of rain, coupled with storms and floods. Let us hope 2021 might be a tad drier and calmer. As I write this, we have just started our third lockdown: exceedingly worrying times for us all, but we have to keep battling on. For us it is the normal work load. Normality is a good thing in times like these. Livestock need feeding and the daily routine keeps our minds focused.

Lockdown has given me the chance to catch up on my reading. Many years ago I found in a second-hand book shop "The Diary of a Farmer's Wife 1796 to 1797" a mere 225 years ago. Anne Hughes's first entry on 7th February 1796 reads ***"Today I did my butter maken, leaving Sarah (house help) to cook most of the dinner, as the butter was a long time cummin, indeed not till John (husband) had put in a crown piece and turned did it cum. Sarah did burne the dinner, like she always do, and John was very cross thereby, he mislyking Sarahs cooken, so I do sometimes hav to let him think it is me. Men be verry tiresome sometimes."*** Nothing changes there then!

Reading Anne's diary, you realise how independent they were: illness and ailments are cured by homemade remedies. No vets on call, the recipe for a dose for a cow with a fever: ***"Take of crushed pansie seeds one spoonful, a bigge spoonful of "lads love" chopt up verrie fine, 2 eggs and a measure of cream all beaten up together with some hot water to make warm for the drinking."*** Lads Love also known as Old Man "Artemisia Abrotanum" was also used as a yellow dye and to keep moths away from clothes. I suppose there was a little of 'kill or cure mythology'. The cow apparently recovered to full health. Another potion for black scour in a calf is a drench made ***of crushed pepper cornes and ginger, mixed with pudding flour and gin.*** Not sure the calf survived that delight.

One of Anne's entries related to a fever which went through the village; many succumbed, and even bloodletting by the local doctor did very little to stop the illness. Anne herself became very ill with the fever for several days, and later she writes ***"It be many days since I did rite in my book, bein ill of a fever, and John fearing much that I should die! "***

Here we are 225 years on and we have Covid. Thankfully we now have not one but two vaccines. Self-medication and potions passed down through the ages were vital to their wellbeing and regularly administered. Her husband John on

/continued on page 9...

feeling unwell gets Anne's attention: ***"Today I did give John a dose of fissicke for his good, as I feared I should. I did give him the jouce of a lemmon with a pinch of ginger and blacke pepper and a taste of salt, which I did make him drink, after swallowing some pepper corms he did make a mighty fuss sayen I should kill him with my messes burnin his innards. But it always do him good."***

There you go - we now know what we should be taking to get us through this virus. Perhaps a little lighter on the peppercorns, leave out the gin from the calf drench and add it to the fissicke !!!

Your good health



Jane Parker

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Hartgill Murder Play

Murder Most Foul by David Shirreff

It is planned to stage three performances of an outdoor production of Murder Most Foul in the autumn in Kilmington. This is a period drama of the events leading up to the horrible murders of the Hartgill father and son in Kilmington by Charles Lord Stourton in 1557.

Locals will be welcome and encouraged to take part in acting or support roles. Please let me know if you are interested:

Peter Booth 01985 845379

or email info@murdermostfoul.co (*sic*) for attention of Peter Booth

To all budding or would-be actors: please get in touch and have a go at taking part in this production of a very local dramatic story

Bourton and Silton Charity

The Bourton and Silton Charity makes grants to disadvantaged individuals living in the parishes of Bourton and Silton, and also to deserving organisations operating for the benefit of residents of either parish. The Trustees will be pleased to be informed of any deserving cases within the parishes of either Bourton or Silton which cannot be satisfied by statutory benefits. The Trustees may also be able to provide limited financial assistance for specific projects of organisations based in and/or benefitting the inhabitants of the parishes of Bourton or Silton.

The Trustees will be pleased to hear of any such deserving cases.

Contact: Fiona Toms, White Gates, Fantley Lane, Silton SP8 5AH
fiona.toms@btinternet.com

Kilmington and Stourton Women's Institute

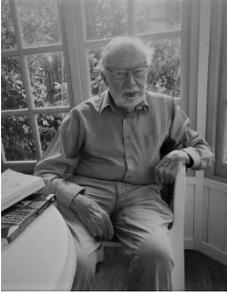
Because of continuing Coronavirus restrictions, the WI is still unable to meet for the present and until further notice. As soon as we are able to resume our meetings members will be notified.

For information contact:

Secretary: Bernie Isted 01985 844933 or Jane Parker 01985 844248

John Rowe

21.06.1929 - 13.01.2021



The parish will be very saddened to learn of the death of John Rowe. John qualified as a teacher and became a head teacher at a young age. He became an education official at the NUT, where he had much contact with foreign educationalists, informing them of the UK system of education. It was a job he really enjoyed and excelled at. He and Val moved to Zeals in 1997, where his friendship and contribution to church and village life was enormous. He will be greatly missed in Zeals and throughout the parish.

In Memory of John Rowe

For over 24 years John has been a faithful worshipper in the parish of Upper Stour. He will be remembered as a quiet, unassuming, charming gentleman with a high sense of humour. The eloquent way he always read the scriptures with clarity and understanding and the sincerity with which he delivered his intercessions added greatly to the quality of our worship.

His wealth of wisdom and his insistence on correct procedures were invaluable contributions to the PCC, where he was Vice Chair for many years, and to Zeals LCC where he served as Churchwarden for 8 years. He loyally supported and encouraged incumbents Chris, Graham and this year Ben, and was a fine example to us all.

Gwyn Jackson

John and the Church Choir

John Rowe sang in Church choirs from boyhood for the rest of his life. He acquired a deep love of the hymns and psalms that he sang each Sunday and his rumbling bass was a crucial cornerstone of the POUS choir. Singing together is a source of joy and it was a privilege to sing with him, sharing the good fellowship of the choir, the harmony of voices and the love of God in worship.

Tom Wheare

A Prayer for John

Lord of the Church, empower by your Spirit all Christian people, and the work of your Church in every land. Great Physician, stretch out your hand to bring comfort, wholeness and peace to Val Rowe and all her friends and family as we pray for John with both sorrow and celebration of a life well-lived. Many knew him much better than me, but I had the privilege of his prayers, his singing and his kindness. We will all miss him.

Rev Mike MacCormack

SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2020

Message from Rev Ben

As a faith which calls people not just to survive, but to live life in all its fullness, I do not feel that any church is called to buck the national push to reduce the virus. While our local pubs are shut, our schools are limited, and people are not allowed to meet outside, it would be irresponsible of the Church of England both nationally and locally to encourage people to flout the government restrictions. It is therefore the decision of the Churchwardens, Mac and me that we would not feel comfortable nor responsible actively to encourage people to gather physically at this time.

Our buildings will therefore be closed for both public worship and private prayer.

Having assessed the overall risks involved, our buildings will however be open for the vital ministry of funerals (within the restrictions provided) in the knowledge that not to provide the ministry of a funeral is devastating and causes permanent harm to grieving families.

We will be producing some pre-recorded worships for feast days so please look at www.upperstour.co.uk/services/ for more details. Please also see below for opportunities to meet or worship over Zoom.

- Morning Prayer -

Zoom Morning Prayer - 9am Every Thursday Morning

You will need a device with a camera and microphone whether that is your phone or computer.

To join Zoom Morning Prayer

please visit www.zoom.us/join and enter the ID and passcode below.

Meeting ID: 983 7843 4987 Passcode: 994345

Or you can ring in by phone on this number, and then use the meeting ID above. 0208 080 6592

- Ways of Being with Others -

Zoom Coffee Morning! 11am Every Monday Morning

Join us for a cup of tea or coffee over Zoom. You will need a device with a camera and microphone whether that is your phone or computer.

To join the Zoom Coffee Morning

please visit www.zoom.us/join and enter the meeting ID and passcode below.

Meeting ID: 926 0725 7588 Passcode: 992199

- Ways of Growing in Faith -

Rev'd Mac's Daily Reflections

Since March, Mac has been offering a thought via email to begin and end the day (9am and 6pm). If you would like to join Mac's mailing list for these daily reflections, then do please get in touch with him on revmikemac@gmail.com

- Ways of Keeping Sunday Holy -

On Feast Days Upper Stour will produce a visual act of worship for people to join in. For opportunities at other times, please see below

TV and Radio

Songs of Praise [BBC 1 every Sunday Afternoon](#)

Sunday Morning Worship

[8.10am BBC Radio 4 every Sunday Morning](#)

Choral Evensong

[3pm BBC Radio 3 every Sunday and 3.30pm every Wednesday](#)

Salisbury Cathedral

Live Stream Schedule

The Eucharist

Sundays: 11:00

Choral Evensong

Sundays: 16.30

From the Registers

Funerals

9th December at Semington Crematorium, **May McCardle** of Zeals

Christmas at St Peter's Church

For 19 days in December St Peter's church was wonderfully decorated by the Kilmington & Stourton Women's Institute, their theme being "*Covid 19 and those most affected by it*". The visiting public following the Stourhead Light Trail, came into the church at the end of the Trail, and spent time looking at the themed decorations and listening to recorded Christmas carols. There was also a produce table selling homemade jams, chutneys, cakes, biscuits etc. This event was in aid of the parish as whole,

The church had to be carefully stewarded throughout, and the stewards and those on the produce stall all remarked on the enthusiastic and generous reaction from the public who visited. The total figure taken in donations and in produce sales was over £6,000 – a wonderful result.

Many thanks and congratulations to Jane Parker who masterminded the whole event and to the WI for their inspired decorations, and to all the team of people who contributed and helped.

The hope and aim of the parish is to repeat this effort at the end of 2021. In light of that, it would be very much appreciated if kind people would make extra pots when making jams and chutneys etc. Homemade produce is always extremely popular so thank you in advance for anything you can donate to our stall later in the year. Empty jam jars (with lids) would also be very welcome.

Bourton Community Support Group

With another lockdown underway, we wanted to reassure anyone in need of support that the Bourton Community Support Group is still active and operational. We will aim to respond as we did previously, so please be reassured that there is no need for anyone to feel anxious about being isolated and without support or assistance. Please use the website www.bourtongroup.org.uk to access the latest information. Or email bourtongroup@outlook.com or call 01747 840487 (and leave a message). Please take care and keep safe.

Neighbourhood Watch

There are Neighbourhood Watch groups in Zeals and Bourton. Neighbourhood Watch helps to support individuals and groups in creating safer, stronger and active communities. We believe in a caring society, focused on trust and respect, where people are safe and enjoy a good quality of life. If you wish to become a member, please visit www.ourwatch.org.uk to find out more.



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Thank you to the NHS

Following three stays in hospital since 12th November - two in Yeovil District Hospital and one in Southmead Hospital Bristol, a total of 28 days under the care of the NHS - I would like to share my experience with you. I had heard that the hospitals were under demand throughout the pandemic but both hospitals were friendly courteous and polite, and at no point did the stress of the pandemic show and affect the care I received. People criticise the NHS but within 7 weeks I was accessed, diagnosed, had surgery and am now on the road to recovery.

Therefore I personally thank all at Yeovil District Hospital and the Urology Department of Southmead Hospital for their prompt and courteous support and attention throughout what seemed to be a whirlwind few weeks. I would also like to thank Macmillan who have been a great support to both me and my daughter in ensuring everything was in place financially for my recovery.

The NHS are under pressure but they met their target in ensuring my health efficiently and effectively in such unprecedented times.

Again, my personal thanks to all involved.

Harry Lawes, Bourton



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Wiltshire Council: Surviving Winter Fund

Wiltshire residents can claim up to £250 (whilst funds last!) to help with their heating and fuel bills over the cold period. This time round we are paying either for top up vouchers for their prepayment meters or credit into their energy account if they pay by direct debit. We can also help with solid fuels such as LPG gas bottles, wood or coal. To be eligible, the client will need be in receipt of a means tested benefit, of pension age, or of working age and receiving a disability benefit (or they/someone in the household has a health condition worsened by the cold). They also need to be struggling with their fuel bills and keeping their home warm. The fund can also help with boiler repairs of up to £300. To apply call our advice line number on **0800 038 5722**

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News from Parish Councils

Kilmington

The Parish Council (PC) held a meeting via Zoom on 25 November, when members discussed the road repairs in The Street and Butts Lane and were extremely dissatisfied at the work.. The Clerk was asked to write to Wiltshire Council (WC) and request the work to be repeated and to enquire as to what measures WC has in place to ensure satisfactory repairs are carried out. WC responded that all works are subject to maintenance checks by the consultants who were responsible for the work to assess its durability and performance. In relation to The Street, WC were expecting to receive the report shortly. If the report suggests any remedial works are required, they will be scheduled accordingly. With regard to Butts Lane we are told that this road does feature in their 5 year plan. The spray injection patching works undertaken in October were adversely affected by the heavy rainfall that coincided with the programme's work.. WC did say that they would have the contractor visit with the road sweeper to tidy up the loose chippings.

A new Kilmington Common sign has been fixed at the junction opposite Cote Lane as the earlier one had disappeared; WC has supplied and installed this without charge. Also, a local resident has repaired and replaced the missing "Kilmington" finger on the post at Yarnfield Gate at a small charge to the PC.

The Brookside parking project is still pending.

The annual inspection report for the Playing Field showed that there were no major issues highlighted. Details are with the Committee and any items which need to be actioned will be undertaken once the better weather is with us. Subsequent to the meeting, the PC agreed for a local resident to undertake extensive repairs to the flooring in the shelter which is going to cost in the region of £700.

The PC considered the likely expenditure over the next financial year in order to determine the precept requirement for 2021-2022. It was agreed to increase the precept by 1.71% to £7119.00 (£7039 current year). The increase will equate to 88p on a Band D house in the village for a year. Full details of the agreed budget can be viewed on our website www.kilmingtonwiltshire.org

WC has revamped their on line reporting and anyone can use this link www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywilts-online-reporting to submit a report on items such as empty homes, fraud, parking, roads, pavements, footpaths, rubbish or recycling, trees, hedges, unauthorised encampments, trading standards to name just some. If you do not want to put your name to a report it can be done anonymously. Your Clerk can of course still continue to submit these reports for you but would ask that precise details and a photograph are provided.

Ruth Burrows, Clerk

Stourton with Gasper

At the December meeting, the annual budget was discussed and agreed following which the precept of £3295.14 was set for the new financial year commencing in April. This figure is an increase on the current year due to an unavoidable increase in general costs, and also includes contingency funding for further expenditure next year. The overall effect is an increase of 27.31% on a Band D property which equates to a £7.13 increase over last year's precept. Details of the budget can be found on the website at www.stourton.org.uk

A reminder that Sunday March 21st 2021 is UK Census Day. The census drives decisions at national and local government level so it is important that we all take part. Further details to follow but there is more on the website www.census.gov.uk. We are currently expecting councillor elections to Wiltshire Council and Parish Councils to go ahead on May 6th 2021. The Annual Parish Meeting will be on 19th May 2021. *[see also page 23]*

Everyone is welcome to attend PC meetings as usual. These have been held online recently due to Covid restrictions.

Fran Hill, Clerk

Zeals

There is a grant facility known as the **Surviving Winter Fund**. Readers within Wiltshire who qualify can claim up to £250 (whilst stocks last) from this fund to help with their heating and fuel bills over the cold period. Public Health at Wiltshire Council are administering this fund and are paying either for top up vouchers for applicants' prepayment meters or credit into their energy accounts if they pay by direct debit. They can also help with solid fuels such as LPG gas bottles, wood or coal. To qualify, the applicant will need to be in receipt of a means tested benefit, of pension age, or of working age and receiving a disability benefit (or they/someone in the household has a health condition worsened by the cold). They also need to be struggling with their fuel bills and keeping their home warm. The fund can also help with boiler repairs for up to £300. Those who qualify for financial help should ring an advice line on **0800 038 5722**. It is working on a first come first served basis, and the deadline is May. If the grant money available in the fund runs out, the organisers have said they will look at other funds that applicants may be eligible for. Please bring this to the attention of as many as possible. *[see also page 16]*

Another very important circular from Wiltshire Council for general distribution: they have set up a consultation system to assist their **Wiltshire Local Plan Review** which will allow residents to have their say on where future development – including housing, infrastructure and land for employment – may be built in the county in the next 15 years. They must allocate sufficient land to satisfy the county's housing and employment needs up to 2036, and residents will be able to give feedback on whether the suggested distribution of housing numbers across the county is correct, and which of the proposed development sites are most suitable. The Local Plan Review also includes consultations on a Gypsies and Travellers Plan which will look to allocate land for travellers in sustainable locations. Altogether there will be 17 online engagement sessions to find out more about potential sites in local areas. Interested residents who wish to be involved should sign up for one of the on-line engagement sessions via www.wiltshire.gov.uk/planning-policy-local-plan-review.

The Parish Council met on site recently when assessing a planning application, and full minutes of that meeting can be viewed on the hugofox.com/communities/zeals website and on the noticeboards. Unfortunately, it is most unlikely under the prevailing conditions that the next public meeting scheduled for 16 March will go ahead.

Graham Edgar, Clerk



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Census

The next Census for England and Wales will take place on 28 March 2021. The census is a survey that happens every 10 years and gives a picture of all the people and households in England and Wales. The census is unique. There's simply nothing else that gives so much detail about us and the society we live in. All kinds of organisations, from local authorities to charities, use the information to help provide the services we all need, including transport, education and healthcare. Without the census, it would be much more difficult to do this.

By taking part, you'll be helping make sure you and your community get the services needed now and in the future.

The Census 2021 will be mainly online. There will be people who will find this challenging and to make sure the census is as accessible and inclusive as possible, there will be a full range of support services, including: :

- comprehensive guidance and support in many languages and formats
- help in local centres with trained staff and online access
- a contact centre to provide help via telephone, web chat and social media
- field staff contacting households that have not yet responded
- accessible census questionnaires, for example in large print
- the option to request paper questionnaires

Paper questionnaires will automatically be issued in areas where it has been identified residents are highly likely to need them. No one from the ONS or working for the census will ever ask for payment to help anyone fill in a questionnaire.

Ruth Burrows, Clerk to Kilmington PC

Jamie Barsby: A Bike-ride through Europe



On 27th February Jamie Barsby of Kilmington will begin a 10 week bicycle journey which will take him across Europe, finishing in Romania on the Black Sea 2500 miles away. From Kilmington, he will cycle to Portsmouth and cross the channel to Cherbourg, and then cycle across France passing through Paris and heading

for Germany. There he will make his way to a small town called Donaueschingen, which is where the Danube starts, and will cycle the entire length of the river (1800 miles). Travelling through Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Croatia, Serbia and along the Bulgarian and Romanian border, he will end up at Constanta, Romania, on the Black Sea.

After suffering from depression and anxiety for many years, this is going to be a big challenge for Jamie, and he asks for donations to the charity MIND, whose work for people with mental health issues is so vital. You can donate via this link: <https://gf.me/u/y9agpa>. As with so many charities, every penny counts.

Jamie is hoping for any form of sponsorship; as this is a lone challenge, he needs to have extra safety measures in place in case of emergency – such as a GPS tracker which you have to subscribe to in order to get help at the flick of a switch. This is of course expensive, but Mind will only back you with full safety in place. For further inf contact Amanda Barsby a.barsby@btconnect.com

Important notice : due to Covid and its complications, Jamie has reluctantly decided he has to postpone this venture until 2022

URGENT: Call to action

Salisbury District Hospital needs extra volunteers

SDH is looking for assistance with two volunteer roles as described below.

Ward Buddies

This role supports ward staff to enable them to concentrate on the clinical tasks. Tasks will include moving equipment, answering the telephones, running errands, maintaining cleanliness of ward kitchen and general tidying up of patient areas, making patient drinks and delivering food. Full PPE will be issued as well as volunteer t-shirts. Enhanced buddy roles with more patient contact such as feeding some patients. These will require enhanced PPE. There will be a fast track deployment so most of the training will be on the job. We're looking for you to ideally commit to a 2 - 4 hour session once a week every week for the foreseeable future. Volunteers need to complete a health questionnaire and health risk assessment as part of the recruitment process in order to ensure a suitable match. Volunteers must be over 17 years of age, fit and able to do a full shift on their feet and feel comfortable working under their own initiative within defined parameters, in an environment that may feel pressured at times. Free parking at the hospital is available when on shift and/or reasonable travel expenses will be paid.

Mass Vaccination Centre Volunteer

There is a new mass vaccination centre opening in the City centre from next week and potentially running through to the Summer. We are looking for volunteers to help marshal to move people through the vaccination hub from beginning to end, keeping orderly queue management and some administrative roles booking people in, etc. This role requires you to be on your feet for potentially long periods of time. We're looking for you ideally to commit to a 4 hour session once a week for at least a month. Surgical masks will be worn. A simple fast track recruitment process will take place including a health risk assessment. There will be on the job training. Free parking in Salisbury city centre will be available when on shift.

If you are interested in either or both roles, please email us on sft.volunteering@nhs.net, and thank you for considering this.

Voluntary Services Team
Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust - Salisbury District Hospital
sft.volunteering@nhs.net

**Contributions for the March 2021 edition by
Friday 19th February 2021 please**