

SEPTEMBER 2015

SEMINGTON

PARISH

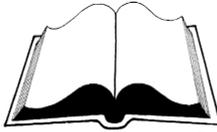


MAGAZINE

Vicar:

**Revd. Stephen Ball
22 Warren Road
Staverton
Trowbridge BA14 8UZ
Tel. 01225 774903
sb54rev@gmail.com**

Semington Diary



SEPTEMBER 2015

6th Sunday	Quiz Night	7.30pm	Villager Hall
10th Thursday	WI	7.30pm	Village Hall
16th Wed	Parish Council Mtg	8pm	Village Hall
19th Saturday	Harvest Supper	7.30pm	Village Hall
20th Sunday	Sponsored Walk	2pm	Gullivers Lane
25th Friday	The Book Club	7.30pm	Somerset Arms

EVERY WEEK IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Bingo	Monday	7.30pm
Post Office	Monday & Thursday	9.30am - 12.30
Stompers	Tuesday	2.30 - 3.30pm
Bridge Club	Tuesday & Friday	9.15 - 1pm
Zumba fitness	Wednesday	6.30 - 7.30pm
Coffee Morning	Thursday	10 - 12noon
Semingtones Choir	Friday	6 - 7.30pm

MAGAZINE DEADLINES & ADVERTISING

Next deadline is Sunday 20th September 2015 for the October issue: email Leon, the Editor, at semparmag1@outlook.com. For all advertising enquiries, please contact Jeremy on 870708 or email jez_tyler@hotmail.com



VILLAGE EVENTS & NEWS

Harvest Supper - Saturday 19th September, 7.30pm in the Village Hall - cold meat salad with a vegetarian option, scrumptious puds, and all for £5 adults, £2.50 under 18's. This year Michael Gamble from Hilperton will be showing a film, set to music, "Wiltshire through the eyes of a Moonraker".

Tickets available from Coffee Morning or Bev Woodward, 870784. The following evening there will be further harvest celebrations, 6pm, in the Church, when we will also be celebrating Mac's 60th harvest playing the organ!

Messy Church - The 'Messy BBQ' at Brook House was great fun - and lovely sunshine for swimming! On **Saturday 3rd October** we have the next Messy Church, 11-1pm in the school hall. There will be more activities, suitable for all ages, and lunch included so that you can forget about cooking for the day. (Suggested donation £1.) Please let us know if you can come so that we'll have enough food! Phone Bev/Jack on 870784 or text 07922 105084. *Please note that Messy Church is for all ages, but children must bring an adult.*

Christians in Semington - Wednesday 2nd September, 7.45 - 9pm, 9 Somerset Way. Join us to pray for our community.

Mac Bennett

Mac has been organist at Semington St George's Church for many, many years and Harvest Festival this year will be his 60th and last. Starting off in a temporary role at Harvest Festival in 1956, he never expected to become so much a part of the fixtures and fittings! Harvest Festival will indeed be a fitting last service for him.

This is an incredible feat and the many families who have attended St George's down the generations will fondly remember Mac playing at their weddings, baptisms and funerals.

We thank you Mac, wholeheartedly, for your great work, good humour and unflinching dedication in your role as organist.

We wish you all the best for your retirement, but you will always be more than welcome to come to St George's and tinkle the ivories.

Thank you Mac, from all in Semington.

*Cleeve Cats
Boarding Cattery
...Seend Cleeve*

01380 828025

We only board cats



HALL FOR HIRE

Semington Village

Capacity 100

Phone



Gerald 01380
870530



For all your

Painting and Decorating



needs call



Pete Milburn

Church Street, Semington

07841 384599

Get a free quote today

No commitment

Competitive rates

Your local **acupuncturist**

Ghislaine Ingman

at

Roundstone Surgery,

Trowbridge.

Please call

07818 517785

with any questions or to
book an appointment

BACc Member
www.acupuncture.org.uk



Semington WI July & August Meetings

July saw all in the WI become florists. Under the expert tutelage of Jeannie Bailey aided by Sylvia Clark (many thanks ladies), we all did a floral display in a teacup and cupcake holder.

Everyone brought flowers and foliage so that we could all mix and match. We all had good fun and a most enjoyable evening. The end result was stunning. The evening was completed by Jeannie's excellent cream tea (wonderful homemade scones) etc. thanks Jeannie.

August saw us dressed in our finery (everyone looked lovely) going to Beachfield House for an afternoon tea. The setting was great and the waiting staff were good. Unfortunately however, the food was a disappointment and did not live up to the setting. The scones were not cooked in the middle and we felt that the whole tea was very poor value for money. The deputy manager was very apologetic and accommodating providing extra sandwiches and charging no more than the deposit. Despite the quality of the food the company was excellent, it gave us something to talk about and in true WI fashion, we certainly made the best of it.

Septembers meeting Thursday 10th at 7.30pm will see a speaker from 'Dementia Friends'. This meeting is open to everyone as it is something which affects many people, so all welcome.

Deb Hurn

Lorna and Stephen Ball

We are sad to write that Stephen & Lorna Ball are moving parishes at the end of August. Stephen started here as curate 10 years ago - one of my first memories was meeting them at the fete at Brook House, and one of the last was seeing Stephen covered in sugar on the candy floss stall at this year's fete, whilst Lorna worked tirelessly with me on teas. On a more serious note, Stephen has been instrumental in helping many villagers through difficult times in their lives, and through happy ones too. As a school governor he has given great support to the team there. We all have special memories of them, and will miss them greatly. We all pray that they will settle in quickly in their new parishes near Basingstoke.

EDITOR'S NOTES:

So, this month, most of you are on holiday or have been on holiday or are just about to go on holiday! Have a great time. You will never guess where I am publishing this magazine from. The internet is a wonderful thing.

The big technology issue this month has been the release of Windows 10 (W10). I have been trialling it prior to the release and it is looking good. Most of you will have reserved your free copy of W10 online. Once it is available to you, it might fail on the upgrade. If it does, make sure you have **uninstalled** any antivirus program that is installed and **remove** any USB attached devices off your computer (except any mouse or keyboard). Then try the upgrade again. And this time it should upgrade!

Stephen Ball, our vicar, is leaving us, sadly. Please see the short article on page 5

WILLIAMS HOME TECH

Need help with your computer?

Call Dave for user-friendly help

For anything to do with home computers, laptops or entertainment equipment...

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

If I can't help I won't charge.

01380 870767 or 07799 337807

e-mail: help@williamshometech.com

www.williamshometech.com

Kieren Bourne



Garden Maintenance

Regular or one-off service

Don't let that overgrown corner get you down anymore!

Special price on your first session!

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

Cottage garden & herb plants available for sale

Can also help with interior and some exterior household painting.

01225 705782



: kowhai45@hotmail.com

I wasn't at the July quiz but I gather it was possibly the Longest Quiz ever, to mark being near (ish) to the Longest Day!



It was set by Pete, Lesley and David, so thanks go to them... I think. ;-)

The half time break was certainly the quietest ever apparently, as people beavered away on the 2 Marathons. The marathons were a round on chocolates and sweets and one on cryptic music, such as A bird of prey with colic (Hawkwind) and Hard of hearing wildcat (Deaf/Deff Leopard)! The chocs marathon was won by The Quizicles and Cryptic Music by the Knees hurt Mr. Brown team.

The main quiz rounds were on Towns, Transport, Wildlife, Sport and 4 General Knowledge rounds. Third place went to Tea for 3 with 59 points, The Quizicles were second with 62 points and Terry's Turnips (the Stockley family) were first with 64.

There were 7 teams playing this time, which is really good, so thank you to everyone for attending. We would love to see more people coming to the quiz, so do give it a go. It doesn't matter if you come on your own, we can put you in a team.

The next quiz will be set by Tony and Lynn. See you there!

NEXT QUIZ: SUNDAY 6th SEPTEMBER, 7.30 for 7.45pm start. Julia Wade

BOOK CLUB

At the last meeting on 23 July the members discussed The Language of Flowers by Vanessa Diffenbaugh. Joy gave us some background information on the American author and everyone enjoyed the book, finding it delightful and easy to read with sad undertones. We meet next on Friday 25 September at 7.30 p.m. in the pub when we will be discussing Summer-time by Vanessa Lafaye. All welcome.

Angela Grodzicka 870756





WILTSHIRE GOOD NEIGHBOURS

Staying connected...

Do you have a computer or tablet but don't feel confident to use it? Or perhaps you would like to do more on the Internet. Although computers aren't for everyone, there are many benefits to using them, especially if you find it difficult to get out and about. You can stay in touch with family and friends and share photos with them. You can use the Internet to research your interests and develop new ones. Computers can make life easier by shopping or paying bills online – it is estimated you can save up to £560 per year this way.

There are local services available to help you develop confidence in using computers. There are several clubs where you can go and get together with others while getting help from a tutor. There are also a number of schemes where someone can help you at home on a one-to-one basis – some of them free of charge.

As your local Good Neighbour Co-ordinator, I can help put you in touch with these services. For this or any other query about issues affecting older people, please contact Lise Griffiths on 07541 353430 or email melkshamgnc@communityfirst.org.uk

DEFIBRILATOR

With the aid of a grant from Wiltshire Council (matched funding) the parish council has procured a defibrillator. This device attempts to restart the heart of someone who has suffered a heart attack – we've all seen the ones used in hospitals on TV, this is similar but smaller and is portable. It is located in a box at the front of the village hall. To use, remove it from the box, take it to the patient and on opening the instrument an audio message tells you how to use it. The parish council is arranging a training evening but in the meantime it is available for use. The box is not locked. For more information contact a parish council member.

P Bowyer

YOUR LOCAL

DECORATOR

30 Yrs experience

- Residential
- Commercial
- Quality Work
- All local towns covered.

JOHN E GREEN

For a free estimate call

01380 871225 or

07801 073800

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
all events

To order by phone or to arrange to visit the
Stems Studio in Semington please contact

Emma Payne on

01225 700020

www.stemsfloristwiltshire.co.uk

Local delivery available

Bridge House, Semington,
Trowbridge, BA14 6JT

Chris Walker

*Plumbing services & Home
Improvements*

**For a Friendly, reliable & local
service**

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

**For a free quotation please call
Chris on: 07837 589919 or
01380 870537**

Based in Semington, Trowbridge



Donna
WILLIAMS

ADI 318571

Registered Approved Driving Instructor

STRUCTURED TRAINING

PATIENT FRIENDLY INSTRUCTOR

COMPETITIVE RATES

ASK ABOUT DISCOUNTS

Tel: 01380 870767
Mob: 07855 708045



Have you always wanted to learn the piano, or do you need a few lessons to get you back in the swing?

If so, Linda is ready if you are a beginner or a returner. All ages are welcome and it is never too late to learn something new or do something different.



Linda Winstock,
DipMus(Open)
Telephone: 07771 721327
Public Liability Insured
CRB Cleared

Can't tune in your new TV?

P.F. HARRIS & SON

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

Repairs, Sales & Tuneins

Call 01225 752197

Mobile 07925 474711

www.tvrepairstrowbridge.co.uk

**Unit 24 Meadows Works
Court St**

Trowbridge BA14 8BR

SHOP LOCAL

**Let us help you with your TV
requirements**

TOM STEEL



Oil Boiler Engineer
(oftec Reg No C10107)



COMMISSIONING

SERVICE

MAINTENANCE

Any problems give me a ring on
01380 727603
07746 063 147

USEFUL PARISH CONTACT NUMBERS

For Funerals

Rev. Hugh Hoskins 01225 781579 mob: 07710514808

Can. Ray Guymer 01225 751063

For Weddings and Baptisms. Benefice Administrator

Emma Holt 01225 774903 or 01225 755676

For Visits or help

Rev. Hugh Hoskins 01225 781579 mob: 07710514808

Rev. Prebendary Ivor Hughes 01225 760275

Can. Ray Guymer 01225 751063

Or an LPA as shown in the magazine.

For any General Help.

Any Church Warden as shown in the magazine.

News from the Friends of St George's

Lots of great events are planned for this next year aiming to raise more funds for the 'Toe Path' Project. During the summer holidays the path was installed around the edge of the field as well as three learning cabins. It all looks amazing but there is still lots to do.

Ladies night in July was very successful and raised over £300, so thank you to all those who helped and came to the evening.

At the AGM in September there will be a change of chair with Andrea Webb stepping down after an amazing two years of fundraising. All the Friends would like to thank Andrea for her hard work and commitment to the school. She will continue to be on the Friends committee. This term we have the Jumble sale, Christmas Disco and Christmas Fair planned.

Easyfundraiser Reminder: If you shop online to purchase items, such as food, clothes, toys or insurance you could be raising money for the school at the same time. Register on the easyfundraising website and you could start raising money too! We have raised over £112 so far!
www.easyfundraising.co.uk

Empty Ink cartridges: The school are also collecting empty ink cartridges which can be turned into money for the school. Therefore, if you have any empty ones please drop them into the school. Thank You.

Kavanaghs

SOLD

01225 706 860
www.kavanaghs.co.uk



Kc

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



Nathan Keegan Plastering

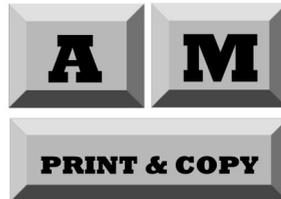
Re-skimming
Skimming over artex
Plasterboarding
Patch repairs



*Specialising in
domestic plastering*

*Every effort made to cause
minimum home disturbance*

Call for free quote
Mobile: 07534 129011
Home: 01225 287138
(Melksham based)



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

Digital Printing & Copying

Business Stationery

Carbonless Invoice Printing

Tel: 01225 776678

Email: sales@amprintcopy.co.uk
www.amprintcopy.co.uk

Paws

For thought



"While the earth remains,
seedtime and harvest, cold
and heat, summer and winter,
and day and night shall not
cease ."

It's in the Bible:

Genesis 8 verse 22

Winifred Amy Griffin

Winifred Amy Griffin - 'Grinny', as Win was affectionately known by many in the village, died peacefully at Mavern Nursing Home on 4th August. Her funeral and burial took place at St George's on 12th August. We pray that family and friends will know God's love and peace at this sad time.

ALLOTMENTS REMINDER??

A survey carried out several years ago revealed 17 individuals who were resident in the village who were interested in having an allotment.

The Parish Council would like to re-establish the demand for allotments and to this end we would like those interested to register their name, phone number and e-mail address with our PC Chairman Mr Robert Oglesby who runs the Post Office on Monday and Thursday morning in the Village Hall.

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL NEWS FROM JONATHON SEED

Like many businesses Wiltshire Council has a down time during August when many staff take leave to be away with their children but the core business of the Council continues and August is a time when many Councillors take time to think, look at strategies within their areas of responsibility and generally take stock of what is happening and where they can help. My Cabinet responsibilities are Housing, Leisure, Libraries and Flooding and in addition I currently Chair the Melksham Area Board.

In our Melksham community area there has recently been a great deal of chatter about the viability of the community campus with a core of doom merchants (including politicians who should know better) claiming that the Campus will not happen. This is errant nonsense. It is true that an exercise is currently taking place to ensure that the campus will be delivered within budget but delivered it will be. There is a budget of £23million and the first part of the £7million development of Woolmore Farm Rugby and Soccer pitches has already started. The rest will commence next year and it even looks like the Melksham Town Council want to redevelop the Assembly Hall as part of the project.

I often find that there are issues which arise and seem to complicate themselves. One of these is waste disposal and in particular household recycling where hours have had to be reduced in order to save money. We asked residents when they wanted to use the sites and so the centres now open 5 days a week instead of 7 and are open from 10am to 4pm. At a number of these sites, residents have encountered longer queues, in part due to others arriving well before the opening times and also due to the compression of days and hours. We are continuing to evaluate these changes but very often arriving later at the centres often results in a very short queue if at all. For information on the open times, please go to:
<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling/household-recycling-centres>

Finally, any resident still wishing to sign up for a green waste collection can still do so and now this will be charged on a pro-rata basis. This can be completed by accessing: <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/gardenwaste> or telephoning 0300 4560102.

You will note from the above how reliant the Council is on using internet technology and I am very aware that not everyone is able to do so. However help is at hand and a new and free Computer Club in Melksham has been formed with Digital Champions giving their time free to help others. These Club sessions will help you to learn the basics of computers, tablets and smart phones. Whether it's turning a computer on, getting to grips with the mouse or touch screen, learning how to search the Web, email, Skype or shop online, the volunteers will do their best to help you but this is not for hardware issues. The Club runs every Thursday 5.30pm – 7pm, starting on 20th August 2015. It is important to register first so someone can be available to help you, please call 0300 456 0100 (quoting Wiltshire online computer support).

In the meantime, if you have an issue, please feel free to make contact either through my email address:

jonathon.seed@wiltshire.gov.uk

or my office telephone of 01380 850696.

Jonathon Seed

Cabinet Member for Housing, Leisure, Libraries and Flooding
Member - Summerham and Seend Division

Wiltshire Council

Tel. 01380 850696 Mob: 07770 774463 www.jonathonseed.com

Semington Village Website

We are running a quick survey on the website getting ideas for what villagers would like to see and be able to do on the village website.

Please visit the following address to complete the survey:

www.semington-village.co.uk/survey

Need to get to the RUH?
Live in west Wiltshire?

2
CONNECT
Wiltshire



**Book Connect2 for work,
appointments or visiting.**

To book call **08456 525255** option **2**

For information **01380 860100**

To contact us from the hospital dial **1444**
from any hospital extension.

Connect2 RUH – a door-to-door service.



Funded by

Wiltshire Council
Where everybody matters

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
- ✓ No more to pay for your funeral director's services
- ✓ Complete flexibility to choose the funeral you want
- ✓ Guaranteed acceptance.

To discuss your choices contact

Jack Woodward

01380 870784

All plans registered with the Funeral Planning Authority



WILTSHIRE FUNERAL SINGER

LORRAINE MAHONEY

CT ABRSM, ATCL

**SOPRANO SOLOIST &
LEAD CONGREGATIONAL SINGER**

www.wiltshirefuneralsinger.co.uk

lorraine@theatresense.co.uk

Tel: 07730 254122

SEMINGTON BASED



RED KITES OVER SEMINGTON

I have loved watching Red Kites, as they wheel around effortlessly on thermals, with their 2m wingspan, for many years. I guess I first saw them at the marvellous Hawk Conservancy, near Andover. One of their aerial displays is a Carousel of Kites; the truly exhilarating sight of magnificent Black Kites chasing meat sent up into the air by a slingshot against a cornflower blue sky. Very memorable!



Red Kites can also be seen regularly around the Reading area and I have also seen them near Pangbourne. The best place to see them, however, was in mid-Wales, going towards Aberystwyth, where someone fed them regularly, and so forty of these incredible creatures could be seen soaring over the lakes and hills. A truly extraordinary sight. It took one of the world's longest running protection programmes to re-establish these birds and bring them back from the threat of extinction in the UK, but it seems to have worked.

I have long wondered how long it would take for them to spread into our part of Wiltshire and so was really delighted to see a pair near the A361 by the roundabout on 3 occasions recently. One had a very narrow escape as it dove down onto the road to try and pick up some road-kill. How it avoided being hit by the oncoming car, I don't know. It must have shocked the driver.

For anyone worried about the local wildlife, these birds generally eat carrion and worms, only occasionally taking small mammals. I do wonder about the impact on the smaller birds of prey, but I suppose they are not in direct competition for food. I have seen fewer Sparrowhawks and Kestrels since the Buzzards have become more common here, but I know others continue to see them so maybe they are OK. It is hard to think of a more wonderful sight than a Red Kite on the wing. Long may we continue to see them around our village.

Julia Wade

Fuelcare

YOUR **NEW LOCAL** SUPPLIER OF
**HOME HEATING OIL,
COMMERCIAL &
FARM FUELS**



**TOP UP SCHEME & BUDGET PAYMENT
AVAILABLE**

Melksham Depot.

01225 704455

Anthony Lovatt

Furniture
Restoration

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

Tel. 01225 764 206
Mob. 07709 687 137

**Collection &
Delivery service**

DUNCAN ELLIOTT

07814 189822



GARDEN MACHINERY REPAIRS & SERVICING

PETROL LAWNMOWER HEDGE CUTTER
CHAINSAW BLADE SHARPENING STRIMMER

WELDING FABRICATION

SECURITY WINDOW BALUSTRADES FENCING
BARS
GATES WROUGHT IRON RAILINGS
HANDRAILS WORK BRACKETS

COLLECTION AND RETURN SERVICE AVAILABLE

WORTON, DEVIZES

DUNK7@HOTMAIL.CO.UK



[Duncan Elliott Garden Machinery
Repairs and Welding Fabrication](#)

T.A.P SERVICES

Gas & Oil

*Rangecooker Servicing
Oil Boiler Servicing*

GASSAFE & OFTEC
Registered

Tel: 01373 463106

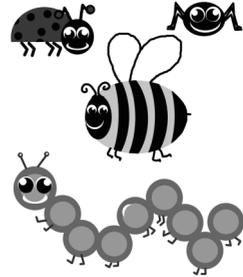
tapservices@btinternet.com

NATURE NOTES

An August Midnight

A shaded lamp and a waving blind,
And the beat of a clock from a distant floor:
On this scene enter – winged, horned, and
spined –

A longlegs, a moth, and a dumbledore;
While 'mid my page there idly stands
A sleepy fly, that rubs its hands ...



Thus meet we five, in this still place,
At this point of time, at this point in space.
My guests parade my new-penned ink,
Or bang at the lamp-glass, whirl, and sink.
"God's humblest, they!" I muse. Yet why?
They know Earth-secrets that know not I.

Thomas Hardy, 1915. Another Hardy poem, but quite different from the last one. I suspect that few of us welcome insects into our homes. We might *just* be more tolerant of bumblebees (Hardy's *dumbledore*) as we tend to view these more positively than we do flies, although we know they are better off outside.

BAPTISM

Freddie Williams on Sunday 26th July 2015 was welcomed into the church family at his baptism. We pray God will bless him and his family, and as he grows he will experience God's love for himself.





mot@kingautoservices.co.uk

MOT £39.99 FOR ALL SEMINGTON RESIDENTS

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

Unit 14 Turnpike Ind. Est, Semington
TEL: 01380 870999 KINGSAUTOSERVICES.CO.UK

LAWN HOUSE CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC

Lawn House, 29 High Street
Steeple Ashton, Wiltshire BA14 6BU
Tel.01380 871555

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

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

Registered Member of the
British Chiropractic Association

GOOD QUALITY

HARDWOOD LOGS

FOR SALE

CALL BILL ON

01380 870237

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Investing If you're considering any type of investment, always remember: if it seems too good to be true, then it is. If you get a call out of the blue, be wary; if in doubt don't be polite, just hang up. Take the time to seek independent legal or financial advice before making a decision to go ahead and always check the credentials of the company you're dealing with. Check for known fraudulent organisations at the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). If you believe that you have been a victim of fraud you can report it online at http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/report_fraud or by telephone 0300 123 2040.



Watch out for these scams

(1) Courier fraudsters have been identifying themselves to victims on the telephone as "Detective Constable Martin Benton of New Scotland Yard Fraud Department". The fraudsters will invent a story regarding fraudulent activity on your card and request your bank/card details. No such person exists at the Metropolitan Police of course. Your bank will never send a courier to your home. Your bank and the police will never collect your bank card. Your bank and the police will never ask for your PIN. If you receive a call like this, terminate it immediately. If you have handed over any details to the fraudster, call your bank and cancel your cards immediately. If you want to call your bank, then do it from another telephone.

(2) Fraudsters are targeting individuals who have recently expressed an interest in an online loan. Unsolicited calls are made by fraudsters who appear to be calling from a genuine company. They state that the recently applied for loan has been agreed, but an "advance fee" is required before the money can be transferred. Once these "fees" have been paid, either directly to the fraudsters' bank accounts or through a money service bureau, they are unrecoverable.

(3) "An online lottery prize of £650,000 and a trip to Brazil to watch the Olympics : the recipient's email address was chosen out of a possible ten million at random". As if!!

(4) "An online lottery prize of £820,000 and a trip to Brazil to watch the Rio Carnival and the Olympics as the recipient's winning numbers 8 17 34 38 42 and 51 were selected". Protect yourself from lottery fraud. Never respond to any such communication. If you have not entered a lottery then you are most unlikely to have won it!

(5) Renting scam: The criminal will find an empty property, change the locks and then advertise it on online platforms, such as Gumtree, as a rental property. He then invites interested people to visit the property for a viewing and those interested in renting the property are requested to pay a deposit. Always check ownership of the property using the Land Registry. The proper landlord will carry out their own checks of you and request all of your details, references and proof that you will be able to afford to rent the property. Make sure that these checks are completed prior to paying a deposit / rent.

Paul Bowyer 870512

Edited Minutes of the Parish Council (PC) meeting held on 29 July 2015

Present: Cllrs Robert Oglesby (Chairman), P Bowyer, K Lockwood, R Robinson, S Rimmer, W Scott, B Smyth, and the Clerk, Roger Coleman. Wiltshire Council Cllr. J Seed attended (Part-time). There were three members of the public present initially.

Apologies for non-attendance: Cllr. C Wade and from PCSO Helen Wilson of the Neighbourhood Policing Team.

Neighbourhood Policing (written report from PCSO Wilson):

Around 04/07/2015 – *Burglary, Semington Football Club -Unknown suspect(s) have overnight entered a portacabin on a sports field by unknown means and have taken a goal post, two football nets and some footballs.*

04/07/2015 – *Criminal Damage, The Strand - Known suspects have pushed large round hay bales into the stream which runs alongside the property. This has damaged the bales TVO £60.*

No Through Road: *risk assessments for the “No through Road” have been carried out. There is still a long way to go. It may be worth putting feelers out to see if we have any volunteers to monitor it.*

Pedal Cycles: *Large number of pedal cycle thefts in Melksham Town, and history tells us that they are being moved from Melksham to Trowbridge via Semington so please make sure that any cycles you may have are secured.*

Wiltshire Council Report: Cllr. Seed gave a report on the topics of Planning application 15/05428/FUL (Lansdowne) and the refusal by Wiltshire Council to approve the proposed development and Settlement Boundaries and the Strategic Housing Allocation Consultation.

Planning:

15/02347/CLE David Cox 33 Littleton Willows Residential Use (Certificate of Lawfulness) PENDING

15/03888/FUL Philip Baker 16 Church Street Single storey extension to front with two storey extension to the rear and detached garage APPROVED

15/04491/FUL Kate Sullivan St Georges Primary School New path around Playing Field APPROVED

15/05428/FUL James Taylor Lansdowne, Littleton Alterations to an approved gypsy and traveller site to form 8 permanent traveller pitches and 4 transit pitches together with associated ancillary development. REFUSED

15/05678/FUL James Taylor Aidans Field Farm, Devizes Road Erection of temporary mobile home PENDING

The PC asked the Clerk to write to Wiltshire Council thus:

Wiltshire Council Highways – To insist upon enforcement action in relation to the illegal entrances to Lansdowne.

Wiltshire Council Spatial Planning – To re-state the comments from the Parish Council in respect of the draft Settlement Boundaries for Semington.

Finance: details available on request.

Highways/Environment: Cllr. Smyth had met with Stuart Renfrew from Streetscene Focal Point to discuss (a) confirming that Semington Parish Council valued the Community Days, and (b) that the weeds at Church Street and Pound Lane required clearing. The PC agreed to set up a Working Party to prune the hedge that runs alongside the Village Hall path to a 'manageable level' of around 5ft, and that this work would take place in September to avoid nesting birds.

The PC discussed a possible tree planting plan for the wide verge opposite the crematorium. The PC agreed that it would not wish to destroy a existing hedge with such diverse and valuable species of flora so a site visit was planned to allow councillors to examine the proposed site more closely before making any decisions.

Cllr. Scott reported that there were the remains of some steel posts near to the roundabout that could be dangerous to walkers because they presented jagged edges and were partly hidden. Cllr. Smyth stated that he would inform Mr Renfrew. Cllr Scott reported that he had taken part in the 'Big Path Watch' organised by the Ramblers Association and that during his walk he had identified one blocked path, two stiles needing repair and blocked access to a further path.

Melksham Community Area Board/Community Area Transport Group Meetings: The Chairman stated that owing to severe financial constraints at Wiltshire Council the local Bus Services were in jeopardy and he encouraged councillors to examine any proposed cutbacks and if concerned to write directly to Wiltshire Council.

New Member: The PC agreed to co-opt a new member and that the co-option would take place at the September PC meeting.

Any Other Business: Cllr. Smyth reported that Stuart Taylor is revamping the Village Website and is encouraging village clubs and organisations to provide him regularly with content for it.

Date of Next Meeting: 16 September 2015 at 8pm.

R Oglesby, Chairman, Semington Parish Council



***An Autumnal Family Event
for Everyone
Young & Not So Young***

Date: Sunday 20th September

Time: From 2.00pm

Steeple Ashton —Rood Ashton—

West Ashton—East Town—Steeple

Ashton. Refreshments on route

***Annual Sponsored Walk
(10km circular route) For
All the Family on Scenic
Country Lanes and
Byways. Fresh Air and
Gentle Exercise***



**Contact: Frank Geraghty 01380 871083 email
f.geraghty303@btinternet.com Collect a
Sponsor Form after all Masses or from the
Presbytery. Non-sponsored walkers welcome.**

Organised by:
Parish Social Group



CATHOLIC NEWS

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST TROWBRIDGE

& ST BERNADETTE'S WESTBURY

PARISH PRIEST CANON LIAM O'DRISCOLL

TELEPHONE 01225 752152 www.stjohnthebaptist.co.uk

St John's Sunday Masses : Saturday (Vigil) 6pm; Sunday 10.30am & 6pm

Weekday Masses: Mon: 9am; Tues: 6pm; Wed: 12.10pm; Fri 6pm

Sat: 10am; 6pm (Vigil)

Rosary: Weekdays before Mass. SVP Fri 6.45pm

Confessions: Sat: 10.30-11.15am and 5-5.45pm

St Bernadette's Sunday Mass - 9am ***Weekday Mass*** -Thursday 11am

Confessions/Reconciliation before Mass and any time on request.

ANNUAL SPONSORED WALK

This annual family event for all ages will take place on Sunday 20th September from 2pm over a 10km circular route. We start from Gulliver's Lane, Steeple Ashton. Refreshments on route. Info & sponsor forms from Francis Geraghty 01380 871083 email f.geraghty303@btinternet.com. Non-sponsored walkers welcome.

THE NEW 300 CLUB 2015

Subscriptions: £50 annually - £13 quarterly - £4.33 monthly. New members are most welcome to join at any time. Prizes are: £200-£70-£50-£10 -£5 monthly. Information and application form from Francis Geraghty – details below.

SICK AND/OR HOUSEBOUND. Any catholic who is sick or housebound should let Canon Liam (01225 752152) know as he would be pleased to arrange a visit and bring Holy Communion, if desired.

For information on any of the above contact:

Francis Geraghty 01380 871083

or email: f.geraghty303@btinternet.com



The Canalside Benefice

St. Michael and All Angels, Hilperton
with St. Mary the Virgin, Whaddon;
St. George's, Semington;

St Paul's, Staverton with St. Mary Magdalen, Hilperton Marsh;
near the Kennet and Avon Canal, within the Dioceses of Salisbury

Letter for September 2015

**Submitted by the Reverend Prebendary Ivor Hughes,
Associate Minister.**

There is in St Michael's Church a large photograph of a man's hands moulding a clay pot. It illustrates an experience the prophet Jeremiah had when he responded to God's instruction to visit the potter's house. Jeremiah heard God saying,

"You are in my hands just like the clay in the potter's hands." (Jeremiah 18:1-6)

I sense we have come to a moulding moment in the Canalside Benefice. Can we picture ourselves – both individually and as a church community – as clay on the potter's wheel being shaped by the Potter?

"You are in my hands," says God.

Dare we place ourselves on the wheel and let God shape and reshape us?
Dare we let God set about smoothing out those rough, torn, cracked, broken pieces of our lives that need the healing and transforming hand of God?

I wonder what God would like to do with us?

I wonder what we would like God to do with us?

In the weeks and months ahead we will have the opportunity to think about these things. We will have time to reflect on where we have come from, where we are and where we might be going.

I remember reading somewhere that the Church is not supposed to be a place of theological purity or rigid conformity to certain beliefs and conventions, but a mishmash of believers, doubters, dissenters and malcontents, each of whom is grappling in his or her own way towards the mystery that is God.

Such was the community that Jesus gathered around him, for were not the disciples such a bunch?

Might that be a description of those of us linked to the Canalside Benefice?

The Anglican Church, as I have known it, has been a Church whose hallmarks have been tolerance, openness and inclusiveness, embracing diversity whilst

maintaining unity ... the Body of Christ walking in unity but not uniformity, reading scripture together, praying together, breaking bread together and discerning God's will together through scripture, reason, tradition and, I might add, spiritual experience.

I am disturbed as I sense in many parts of the Church dogma, judgment and toxic religious rhetoric are replacing these hallmarks ... replacing compassion for the needy, mercy for sinners, and, perhaps, above all, inclusiveness. I sense many are being diverted by fear ... fear of those who are different ... fear of change ... fear of the future.

I sense that if, like Jeremiah, we went down to the potter's house, we would see him shaping a pot *

that could become a place of refuge and hope,

a place of prayer and laughter,

a place of dreams and fresh imagining,

a place of birth and rebirth,

a place of welcome and acceptance,

a place of thought and theology,

a place of baptisms and weddings and funerals,

a place of parties, of celebration, of balloons

a place of bread and wine shared,

a place of affirmation,

a place of new beginnings,

a place of freedom and generosity,

a place of friendship, support and healing,

a place of creativity, of fun

a place of forgiveness and reconciliation,

a place of faith and doubt,

a place where people can belong as they are and for who they are.

**Thanks to vision, wisdom and writing of Brian McLaren and Dave Tomplinson for setting me off on this vision.*

Some task! Some pot! Some challenge for us!

Ivor Hughes

**St. Michael's Hilperton with St. Mary's Whaddon
St. George's, Semington**

St. Paul's Staverton with St. Mary Magdalen, Hilperton Marsh

YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN ANY SERVICE IN THE BENEFICE

September 2015 Sunday Services

St. George's Semington

6th	Sep	9.15am	Parish Communion
13th	Sep	9.15am	Methodist Service
20th	Sep	6pm	Harvest Celebration
27th	Sep	9.15am	Together in Worship

St. Michael's Hilperton

6th	Sep	8am	Holy Communion / 11am Together in Worship
13th	Sep	9.15am	Parish Communion / 11am Methodist Service
20th	Sep	10am	Together in Worship
27th	Sep	9.15am	Parish Communion / 11am Methodist Service

St. Mary Magdalen Hilperton Marsh

6th	Sep	11pm	Parish Communion
13th	Sep	6pm	Evening Worship
27th	Sep	11am	Harvest Celebration

St. Mary's Whaddon

13th	Sep	6.30pm	Harvest Celebration
------	-----	--------	---------------------