

SEPTEMBER 2018

SEMINGTON  
PARISH



MAGAZINE

**Minister for Semington:**

**Revd John Rees**

**22 Warren Road**

**Staverton**

**BA14 8UZ**

**Tel. 01225 764365**

## Semington Diary

### Village Hall



12 <sup>th</sup>	WEDS	Parish Council Meeting	7.45pm
13 <sup>th</sup>	THURS	Semington WI	7.30pm
15 <sup>th</sup>	SAT	Harvest Supper	7.30pm
16 <sup>th</sup>	SUN	Village Quiz	7.30pm
29 <sup>th</sup>	SAT	Phoenix Skittles Evening	7.30pm

### SKITTLES

5 <sup>th</sup>	WEDS	Armstrongs Angels	8.00pm
11 <sup>th</sup>	TUES	Semington B	8.00pm
19 <sup>th</sup>	WEDS	Armstrongs Angels	8.00pm

### **Every Week in The Village Hall & St George's School**

Bingo	Monday	7.30pm
Post Office	Monday & Thursday	9.30am-12.30pm
Baby/Toddler Group	Tuesday	10.00am-11.30am
	St George's School Hall	
Bridge Club	Tuesday & Friday	9.00am-1.00pm
Zumba Fitness	Wednesday	6.30pm
	St George's School Hall	
Coffee Morning	Thursday	10.00am-12 noon
Alzheimer's Support	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month	10.00am-12 noon
Semingtones	Fridays	6.00pm-7.30pm

### Harvest Supper

*Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30pm in the Village Hall*

Cold meat salad with a vegetarian option, scrumptious puds, and all for £5.00 per adult and £2.50 for under 18s.

This year, Michael Gamble from Hilperton is back with another slide presentation - this time 'An A-Z Guide to the South West of England'. If you saw the ones on Wiltshire and the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, you know we're in for a good evening.

Tickets from coffee morning or Bev Woodward - 870784. The following evening there will be further harvest celebrations, 6.00pm, in the Church.



## Christians in Semington

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*Bev Woodward*

**Christians in Semington** - Wednesday 5th September, 7.45pm to 9.00pm, 9 Somerset Way. Join us to pray for our community.

**Housegroup** - join us to drink tea or coffee, chat and have a laugh, and look at things in the Bible. You're very welcome. We meet at 7.45pm on 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> September. Contact Bev/Jack 870784 for further dates and venues.

**Messy Church** - **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September**, 11.00am to 1.00pm in the school hall. There will be more activities, suitable for all ages, and lunch included so that you can forget about cooking for the day. (Suggested donation £1.) Please let us know as soon as possible if you can come, so that we have enough food! Phone Bev/Jack on 870784 or text 07922 105084.

Please note that Messy Church is for all ages, but children must bring an adult.

## Editor's Note

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*Gillian Airey*

Thank you so much to everyone who has contributed this month – it really makes a difference when we share our news across the village community. If you feel you have a voice that needs to be heard – we're listening! Email me at **semparmag@icloud.com** I'm always on the look out for photos to include the magazine, many thanks to Vicky for the great shot of our shiny (new) phone box, it is such a lovely focal point in the village, and not forgetting the hard work of our Parish Council who brought the phone box back to life.

Deadline for the October edition is **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> September**.

For all advertising enquiries please contact Jeremy on 870708 or e-mail **Jez\_tyler@hotmail.com** Apologies to those who have asked for advertising space. As you know the magazine is full, I'm still scratching my head to work how we get more happy advertisers squeezed in!

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*I have an hour glass figure – with a few extra minutes on top - Anon*

## This summer I've been trying to keep my cool

*Gilly Airey*

I am, I regret to say, old enough to vividly remember 'the long hot summer of 1976'. But I was 9 years old and quite frankly at 9 you really don't give a stuff about many things! So my fellow members of Generation X, with a nod to you Baby Boomers – we are veterans of a long hot summer, we should know how to cope with these things.....

First of all we had barbecues for dinner every day, eating outside with a cheeky glass of vino, but there is only so many burgers and sausages you can eat before you crave a Sunday roast. I wept with joy when we caved in and had a curry, it gets really hot in India and they don't barbecue do they? And am I the only person who thinks lettuce is the devil's food? Cucumber gives me the hiccups and as for beetroot it affects me in ways I never imagined.....

I checked out the fashion pages of the papers and it was all about loose, floaty clothes. Wear white to reflect the sun..... that's okay if you're not like me and have a tendency to wear food at any opportunity.... Tracey's boot camp was beginning to look desirable in order to get rid of my bingo wings that were now on show.

Then there's the really sticky problem (pardon the pun) of getting the bedroom cool enough to sleep in. I had read that getting your pillow cold was the absolute key to a good night's sleep in a heatwave. Trouble was after I emptied the fridge to get my pillow in – most of the food went off in a matter of hours and really the cool pillow didn't seem to last that long. I rigged up the fan next to me - 'Not fair' said gorgeous hubby, 'put it at the end of the bed', lovely if you like hot air wafting over you for 8 hours.... Then I hit upon putting it on the window sill so it dragged the 'cooler air' into the bedroom. That was fabulous except when you sleep with curtains and windows open you get to understand that dawn in the summer is really, really early and the traffic on the bypass never sleeps....

We really should have taken heed of how our Mediterranean cousins deal with the heat. Rise early, snooze in the afternoon, and do everything as slooowly as possible, finishing off by dining late. Let's face it we're British and we're built for vaguely disappointing summers where the promise of sun and fun is hinted at but never truly arrives.

As for me, the barbecues can burger off, I am planning curries and roasts.....



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*Some drink deeply from the river of knowledge. Some only gargle – Woody Allen*

## Village Quiz Night

*Julia Wade*



I wasn't able to attend July's quiz, but I am sure it was a good one, if the questions below are anything to go by. Many thanks to Esme and Philip for setting the quiz and to Esme for giving me the information for this report.

Five teams took part, and it was very close with only 1 point between the top three at half-time. Second place in the main quiz were the Immigrants team (Angela, Bill and friends) but the winners, by just 2 points, were Terry's Turnips (Neil, Jacqui and sons).

The Immigrants team got their revenge by winning the Marathon, which was to match places to various waterways, which sounds like an interesting one to try.

The main quiz rounds all had a theme: e.g., Partnerships - Question: 'Torvill and Dean won an Olympic gold medal in 1984 skating to what piece of music and composed by whom?' Or, in the Bridges Round; 'Who directed and starred in the film 'The Bridges of Madison County'?' (The film was good, but the book was better, as is so often the case.) And, in the Solar System Round – What is the only metal to be liquid at room temperature? Answers below.

The next quiz will be on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30pm for a 7.45pm start, at the Village Hall. If you haven't been before, why not give it a try? It's not a serious quiz, and everyone who goes enjoys it. If you come on your own, we can easily put you in a team.

Everyone is very welcome.

Answers: Bolero by Maurice Ravel, Clint Eastwood, Mercury

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## Nature Notes

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**Edward Thomas**, who once visited and wrote about Semington, was 37 when he enlisted in July 1915, having decided he could no longer sit out the war. Much of his poetry, including that about his experience of the conflict, is based on his love of nature and his feeling for the English countryside.

This is his poignant **Gone, Gone Again**, which was published in 1917, the year he was killed.

*Gone, gone again, May, June, July,  
And August gone, again gone by,  
Not memorable save that I saw them go,  
As past the empty quays the rivers flow.*

*And now again, in the harvest rain,  
The Blenheim oranges fall grubby from the trees  
As when I was young and when the lost one was here  
And when the war began to turn young men to dung.*

*Look at the old house, outmoded, dignified,  
Dark and untenanted, with grass growing instead  
Of the footsteps of life, the friendliness, the strife;  
In its beds have lain youth, love, age, and pain:*

*I am something like that; only I am not dead,  
Still breathing and interested in the house that is not dark:-  
I am something like that: not one pane to reflect the sun,  
For the schoolboys to throw at – they have broken every one.*



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## Summer Fete Update

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### *Semington Village Fete Committee*

Phew! what a scorcher! What a summer it has been... sunshine... football.. fetes! Due to unforeseen circumstances, we had a clash between the mighty England v Sweden World Cup game... and the village fete!

Hmmm, what were we to do? The only thing we could do, have a rethink and juggle the start time of the fete to accommodate everyone as best we could. Fortunately, it worked! A huge thank you to everyone who rallied round, set up, took down, donated, contributed, manned a stall and of course our wonderful performers who entertained us throughout the afternoon.



Also a massive thank you to everyone who came along and supported our village event this year. We are delighted to announce that we made £2300 which is to be split between the village school, church and village hall, and our chosen charity this year is Breakthrough Trowbridge, a small, local charity who help disadvantaged local people facing homelessness. A huge thank you again to everyone involved in the making this event great. Never fear - we will keep a check on future football clashes!!





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## Parish News

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Brian Smyth



### Defibrillator Awareness Session - 8th October

Each year 30,000 people suffer cardiac arrests outside of the hospital environment. Defibrillators in local communities make a very real difference in someone being able to survive such a catastrophic health event. If you haven't been to one of our awareness events then please make some time to come along – you could be a life saver!

There will be another Awareness Training session in the **Village Hall at 7.30pm on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October**. It is important that as many people as possible become familiar with how the defibrillator works so that if the need arises it can be used with confidence. I would encourage you all to come and listen to this interesting demonstration. Even those who have been before should attend for a refresher.

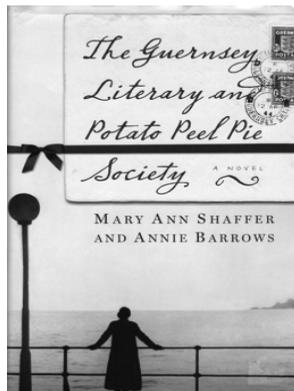
## Book Club

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Angela Grodzicka – 870756

The group met on 3<sup>rd</sup> July to discuss 'The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society' by Mary Ann Shaffer. It had been suggested by Victoria who had done some research on the author and the editor of the book.

The group had all enjoyed the book and had found it well written and very interesting and a book that no-one could put down. Some members had seen the film, which is slightly different to the book, but had still found the book most enjoyable. Before reading the book, or seeing the film, no-one had realised what a dreadful time the inhabitants of the Channel Islands had experienced under the German occupation and the author balanced humour and lightness with the darker side of the occupation.



For more information on the occupation a book entitled 'Channel Islands under the Jackboot' was recommended. The next meeting of the group is on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> August at 8.00pm to discuss Hotel du Lac by Anita Brookner (1984 Booker Prize Winner)

## Parish Council Minutes

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*Abridged minutes from meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2018*

**Present** - Councillors B Smyth (Chairman), P Bowyer, M Kasasian, R Oglesby W Scott R Robinson, S Rimmer, W Scott, P Smith and the Clerk, Roger Coleman. There were three members of the public present.

**Apologies** - Apologies for non-attendance were received from Parish Councillor C Wade, Wiltshire Council Cllr. J Seed and PCSO Ledbury.

**Community Policing** - In the absence of PCSO Ledbury no report was given.

**Wiltshire Council Report.** - In the absence of Cllr. Seed there was no report.

**Planning** - The Council noted the following status of extant planning applications:

The Council examined the following planning application and **resolved** to send comments to Wiltshire Council as shown (in italics):

70 High Street Replace existing prefabricated garage and attached log store with a single storey timber garage. *The Council has no objections to this planning application subject to the proper disposal of any asbestos that may be in the existing prefabricated garage.*

9 High Street Two storey rear extension, new application. *The Council has no comments on this planning application.*

**Finance** – Total balance as at 18<sup>th</sup> July 2018 **£24,293.47** Cllr. Oglesby stated that a realistic estimate of the cost of maintaining the Tennis Court should be obtained, including the possibility of replacing the existing surface, and that the Parish Council needed to allocate a fixed sum each year for this maintenance and for that sum to be transferred to the \*\*\*\*288 Bank Account. The Parish Council **resolved** that this action be taken.

**Highways/Environment** - The Chairman stated that the nettles by the hedge on the pathway leading to the school needed clearing. Cllr. Rimmer reminded the Council that Wiltshire Council was to be asked to undertake a 'Safety Assessment' in respect of school children and carers crossing Pound Lane during in-muster and out-muster times in the absence of a proper path. It was intended that the results of this assessment would influence a decision to install a proper pathway.

Cllr. Smith stated that the refurbishment of the outside of the telephone kiosk had now been completed – except for restoring the 'gold crown' emblem – and that he would now be refurbishing the inside of the kiosk. Councillors suggested that a

possible use of the kiosk would be to display a local map showing significant landmarks and the history, including a timeline, of Semington. Cllr. Robinson stated that he would investigate this proposed use. The Chairman, on behalf of the Parish Council, thanked Cllr. Scott for his work in refurbishing the kiosk.

Cllr. Rimmer presented his plan for planting the commemorative oak trees on the grass verge of the A361 opposite to the crematorium. He commented that all necessary permissions had now been obtained. The Council resolved to adopt his proposed planting plan. Cllr. Rimmer commented that the trees would be purchased in September with a view to completing the planting in October well in time for some form of commemorative service to be held following the planting on Armistice Day – 11<sup>th</sup> November. There followed a discussion on the details of the planting and the need to acquire a water source in order to ensure that the trees flourished. Cllr. Rimmer tabled a poster that he intended would be distributed throughout the village relating to the tree planting.

Cllr. Rimmer expressed a wish that the whole village community, including the travellers, would participate in the Commemorative Tree Planting Project and that he intended to advertise the project accordingly.

**War Memorial** - The Council noted that no further action had been taken in respect of adding two further names – Farmer and Hancock – to the War Memorial. The Parish Council noted that a parishioner was undertaking his own enquiries regarding this topic and the Chairman stated that his report regarding the addition of the two names would be studied when available. A decision whether to purchase a memorial Plaque for a local person who had been killed in the Crimean War was deferred until a subsequent meeting.

**Tennis Court and Wessex Close Play Areas** - Councillors commented that there was a need to clear some weeds from the edge of the playing area of the Tennis Court and that the Wessex Close children's play area was now clear of unwanted vegetation. Councillors noted that they had yet to talk to a parishioner with experience of refurbishing play areas regarding improving/repairing the damaged football pitch at Wessex Close Play Area.

**Any Other Business** - Cllr. Scott – There was still no date arranged for the Village Green Enquiry.

There was no meeting in August, next meeting 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

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## Down the Local

John Adams – Somerset Arms

Seems a while since the England's triumph on the world stage and the "Nothing to do with the World Cup Quiz". Quizmaster Simon Tyler set a harsh but fair quiz which was won by a group of passing holiday boaters who generously donated their cash prize to the Wiltshire Air Ambulance. Hopefully at time of going to press the Bank Holiday Quiz will have been well supported and everyone is looking forward to the next on **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September**, again in aid of our neighbours at Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

On **Friday September 14<sup>th</sup>** we have a night of reggae, cocktails and Caribbean food complimented by the amazing **Antigua Joe**, a treat not to be missed. **Saturday September 29<sup>th</sup>** sees the awesome covers band **Peaky Blinders** gracing the Somerset Arms. Fresh from a headline set at the White Horse Festival the Cold Harbour based Rockabilly themed band are sure to have the place hopping.

Please come along and support our events and don't forget the Village Pantry is now up and running for those little essentials that you don't want to head to the supermarket for. All this plus our new menu. What's not to like ?

## 17

### Bloomin' Marvellous

I've been asked by lots of villagers to say a big thank you to Julie & Sarah for all of their time, effort and planting they do around the village to make it look so very lovely throughout the whole year.



**So Julie & Sarah, you're bloomin' great!**

### Paws for Thought



It's in the bible; Prov. 13 v. 23



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## Semington Sports Club

*Kevin Lockwood – Chairman Semington Sports Club*

For the last 10 years our village football teams have been fortunate to play at Littlemarsh Semington, playing in The Trowbridge and District Football League on Saturdays, and The Chippenham Sunday League.

On behalf of Semington Sports Club, I would like to thank each and everyone who has made this possible and who continues to do so. I would like to thank all the managers over the years, the sponsors and villagers for all their support.

A big thank you to Martin Bray for all the time he spends maintaining the pitch and all the other duties he carries out and Councillor Johnathan Seed for help with the grant to finance the changing rooms.

But my biggest thanks must go to Semington Crematorium Owners; Westerleigh Group and the support from Paul Daffurn it is because of their generosity, we are able to continue playing football in our village and without them Semington Sports Club would not have been possible.

Thank you everyone.

## Neighbourhood Watch

*Paul Bowyer 870512*

Some nasty people have been caught stealing money from Nectar cards – they don't have to have yours because they can clone it remotely, at the other end of the country. Points can be removed (cashed) at several Sainsburys shops on the fake card, and next day all your points have gone. If you spot it in time Nectar will refund you, but check your points on a regular basis to make sure they're still there. Better still, spend them!

Notify police of all crimes. They may not be able to solve all of them, but it helps them to get an overall picture of where the criminals are and what they're doing.

Technically summer is still with us so watch and lock up your valuables, and keep the shed and/or garage locked. If you're playing in the back garden, lock front doors and front windows. Also lock away the memories of summer – you may need them later on!

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## W I Meeting

*Deb Hurn*

Once again July saw us at The Lavender Tea Rooms in Whitehall Garden Centre for Afternoon Tea. We all shared in a beautiful birthday cake made by Jeannie Bailey and decorated by Val Swaine for Barbara Evans. It was a lovely afternoon.



Our August meeting we were playing board games in the Village Hall. Judging by the noise a good time was had by all. On Thursday September 13<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm we are having a talk and a demonstration on "Pets as Therapy" by Sheila and John Saddler; who visit schools, hospitals and care homes etc., with their dogs. Everyone welcome.

## At The School Gates

*Jackie Chalk – Head Teacher*

The school has recently taken delivery of a textile/clothing recycling bank. It is sited in the car park at the school. Feel free to recycle shoes, curtains, sheets and clothing, it can all be placed in the green "bin". All funds raised will go to the school.

We also have had some building work going on this holiday, to open up some adjoining rooms to create a fourth classroom and re-site the head teacher's office. Now that numbers are back on the increase (85 in September) a fourth proper-sized classroom is needed.

Pip Hunt is coming out of the classroom to take on the role of Head of School, I will be supporting overseeing the school's direction, and checking that the final push towards coming out of special measures is maintained.

## From The Church Register

*Victoria Shackleton*

The Wedding of Ebert Coetzer and Kirsty Michele Bray. The marriage of Ebert and Kirsty took place at St George's Church on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2018.

We pray that God will bless this marriage and wish Ebert and Kirsty great happiness.

*Success is simply a matter of luck. Ask any failure – Earl Wilson*

## **Steeple Ashton Films**

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*Alison Wilson*

Thanks to all those who came to the showing of Darkest Hour in July and made it such a success. It was an amazing film and we had our biggest audience of the year so far. We are having a short break over the summer and hope you will all be back with us for the very popular film we are offering in October.

### **THE GUERNSEY LITERARY & POTATO PEEL PIE SOCIETY**

Saturday 27 October 7.30pm



Steeple Ashton Village Hall (doors open 7.00pm for refreshments)

From the producers of *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel* and with an all-star cast including Lily James, Michiel Huisman, Glen Powell, Jessica Brown Findlay, Katherine Parkinson, Matthew Goode, Tom Courtenay and Penelope Wilton, this is a compelling romantic drama with an intriguing mystery at its heart.

Based on the best-selling novel, Lily James (well known from *Downton Abbey*, *Cinderella*, *Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again*, *Baby Driver*) plays the charismatic and free-spirited writer Juliet Ashton. In 1946 Juliet receives a letter from a member of a mysterious literary club in Guernsey. Naturally curious, Juliet decides to visit the island. There she meets the delightfully eccentric members of the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, including Dawsey (Michiel Huisman), the rugged and intriguing farmer who wrote her the letter. She forms a life-changing bond with the eccentric Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society when she decides to write about the book club they formed during the occupation of Guernsey during WWII.

As the secrets from their wartime past unfold, Juliet's growing attachment to the island, and the book club will change the course of her life forever.

Tickets will be available from Steeple Ashton Village Shop from September.

*Nothing is so embarrassing as watching someone do something  
you said can't be done – Sam Ewing*

## **Your Wiltshire Councillor News**

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*Jonathan Seed 07770 774463*

In spite of the exceptionally hot summer and the quiet holiday month of August the business of local government goes on. Wiltshire Council tends not to hold public and committee meetings in August but many Town and Parish Councils do hold an August meeting as local issues need local resolution.

This summer we have all enjoyed the sunny weather but it has had a down side. Farmers have soon got over the excellent hay making weather in June and are now having to feed that hay because of drought conditions and a lack of grass. The scorched “grass” is also very liable to catch fire if a single spark touches it which is why many organisations have placed restrictions on portable outdoor barbecues. Last month Wiltshire Council also voted in a long overdue ban on Sky Lanterns on its land which will help reduce fire risk and risk to animals.

Around our county there is much to enjoy over the summer. Salisbury and Amesbury are moving forward after the tragic nerve gas issue and really trying to take their city and town onwards and upwards with a threat that is officially described as “low”. The more we can all do to help by visiting these areas for shopping or enjoying a meal the better for our local economy.

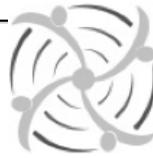
Elsewhere there are the usual summer town parties and village fetes which give local people the chance to get together and enjoy all that is best about English community life and this year’s Semington Fete was outstanding. A special place is reserved for our exceptional carnivals which really gives communities a chance to show themselves off and again boost the local economy.

One administrative issue is that Wiltshire Council have sent out household enquiry forms to around 220,000 households across the county as Wiltshire Electoral Services launches its annual canvass to ensure the electoral register is up to date. Residents are urged to return their responses online if they can – although they are also welcome to return the form by post in the pre-paid envelope provided with the form.

In the meantime, enjoy the summer and who knows by the time you read this we may even be enjoying an “Indian” summer in September!

## Wiltshire Air Ambulance Update

*David Philpott – Chief Executive*



**Wiltshire  
Air Ambulance**  
funded by you, flying for you

It's now just over three months since we moved into our custom-built airbase at Outmarsh and we are settling in well.

Since we moved to Semington, our crews have undertaken more than 200 missions in the helicopter and rapid response cars, providing critical care to people in need.

You may have heard that the airbase was closed and our helicopter grounded temporarily in August for precautionary testing by experts from DSTL, Porton Down.

This was as part of the ongoing operation into the Amesbury poisoning. Our helicopter did not attend the incident but the testing was undertaken to ensure that no onward contamination had taken place by those responders involved in the incident, which included our paramedics.

We were all delighted and reassured that the testing found no contamination of the helicopter and airbase and we resumed operations from the airbase on 15<sup>th</sup> August.

**Great news – from 30 July you'll be able to recycle even more plastics and cartons in your blue lidded bin!**

Sign up online for email updates

[www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk) Please rinse and squash your recycling Wiltshire Council

## Catholic News

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

#### **St John the Baptist Trowbridge :**

Saturday (Vigil) 6.00pm: Sunday 10.30am & 6.00pm

**Weekday Masses:** Monday: 9.00am; Tuesday: 6.00pm; Wednesday: 12.00pm; Friday 6.00pm; Saturday: 9.00am

**Rosary:** Weekdays before Mass.

**Confessions:** Saturday: 9.30am – 10.15am and 5.15pm – 5.30pm and on request.

#### **St Bernadette's Westbury**

**Sunday Mass** – 9.00am

**Holy Day of Obligation** Vigil Mass 6.00pm

**Weekday Mass:** Thursday 10.00am

**Confessions:** Thursday 9.15am – 9.30am and on request

**Noah's Camp:** A Catholic Family Camp in rural Gloucestershire 13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> October. For more information visit [www.noahscamp.co.uk](http://www.noahscamp.co.uk)

**ABC: About Becoming Catholic.** This course is for all those interested in becoming Catholic, knowing more about the Catholic Church or those who were baptised Catholic but missed making their First Holy Communion or Confirmation. The first session takes place on Wednesday September 26<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm in St. John's Church. Ask Fr. Tom for more details if you wish to know more.

**Parish Golf Day:** Calling all golfers. We are holding a Parish Golf Day on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September. The day will be held at Cumberwell Golf Course and will consist of 18 holes of golf followed by a two course dinner. First tee off at 1.30pm. There will be prizes! £25 for the day. To book a place please contact Andy Barlow by e-mail [andy@abarlowfm.co.uk](mailto:andy@abarlowfm.co.uk)

**First Holy Communion 2019:** Application forms for First Holy Communion 2019 are now available. If your child is in Yr 3 or above then please complete a form and return to Fr. Tom. The closing date for application is 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018, the first session of preparation will take place on the 11<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00pm. All parents and children to attend

#### **Mass Times At Nearby Catholic Churches**

Immaculate Conception, Devizes (01380 723572) Mass on Saturday 6.00pm and Sunday 10.30am and 5.00pm

St Anthony Melksham (01225 702128) Mass on Saturday 5.30pm and Sunday 9.30am

Bradford on Avon (01225 862739) Mass on Saturday 6.00pm, Sunday 10.30am

*Nothing takes the taste out of peanut butter quite like unrequited love*  
*Charlie Brown*

## Thoughts From The Rectory

*Rev. John Rees*

I recently became Chaplain of Wiltshire Air Ambulance in addition to my role as Rector of Staverton, Hilperton, Whaddon and Semington. You may well be aware that the Air Ambulance Team recently moved to a new, purpose built building in Semington. My role is to provide an informal listening ear outside the more formal organisational structure for anyone in the air ambulance team who wants it and sometimes to offer support to visitors to the base. It is a privilege to do this.

Even before becoming Chaplain I knew how important the air ambulance is; I had seen an amazing crew in action and I also know people who owe their lives to their work. Since becoming Chaplain I have been even more impressed by the range of expertise within the team and the expert services they provide.

The Bell helicopter is one of the most advanced of its kind, capable of flying up to 19 hours a day every day of the year. It is able to get from Semington to anywhere in Wiltshire in under 11 minutes. The base also has two fast response cars. All of them are equipped with all the equipment found on a normal ambulance, together with equipment normally found in a hospital, such as portable ultrasound machines and equipment to warm blood.

The highly trained critical care paramedics provide first rate care both to accident victims and those who have suffered medical emergencies. Patients may be taken to local hospitals, or if needed, to specialist centres such as Bristol, Oxford or Southampton.

Although the pilots and paramedics are the front line team, they would be the first to say that other members of the team are crucial to their work. For example, without expert fundraisers and communications specialists the air ambulance would not exist, for the service costs £8907 per day to run. Nearly all of this has to be met through voluntary donations.

On 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> October I will do a sponsored walk along the Kennet and Avon Canal. Half of any money received will go to the Air Ambulance. The rest will go to Semington and Hilperton Churches to help fund improvements. For example we want to provide a toilet and small kitchen in St Georges' Semington. Any contribution, however small, would be much appreciated. My contact details are noted on the back page.

## September 2018 Services

*You are welcome to join any of our services*



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

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	9.30am	Holy Communion
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	9.45am	Morning Prayer
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Methodist Service
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Harvest Songs of Praise
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	9.45am	Morning Prayer
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	11.00am	Messy Church at St George's School
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>	9.45am	Morning Prayer

### **St Michael and All Angels, Hilperton**

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Together in Worship
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Communion & Coffee
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Holy Communion & Junior Church
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Communion & Coffee
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	All Age Communion
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer
	10.00am	Communion & Coffee
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer
	10.00am	Communion & Coffee
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Messy Church at Hilperton School
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Benefice Communion & St Michael's Patronal Festival

### **St Mary Magdalen, Hilperton Marsh**

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am	Morning Prayer
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	3.00pm	Pet Service
	4.30pm	Patronal Festival Songs of Praise
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am	Morning Prayer

### **St Mary the Virgin, Whaddon**

Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	6.00pm	Harvest Festival

## Oh Deer!

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Thanks to Joy who snapped her unexpected lunch guest in her garden this year... hopefully venison wasn't on the menu.....

### Contact Details for The Canalside Parishes

Administrator – Michael Gamble, please contact Michael for initial enquiries about baptisms, weddings and general matters on **07795 400262**

E-mail - **canalsidebenefice@gmail.com**

PCC Secretary/Treasurer - Jack Woodward **01380 870784**

Church Warden – Mr David Wildsmith

We have a team of Lay Pastoral Assistants who take on many roles within the benefice and are co-ordinated by Marilyn Stubbs. Please contact Marilyn on **01225 753118** or John if you would like a visit.

Rev John Rees, Rector, Canalside Benefice **01225 764365**

Email: **canalsidebeneficerector@gmail.com** **www.canalsidebenefice.org.uk**