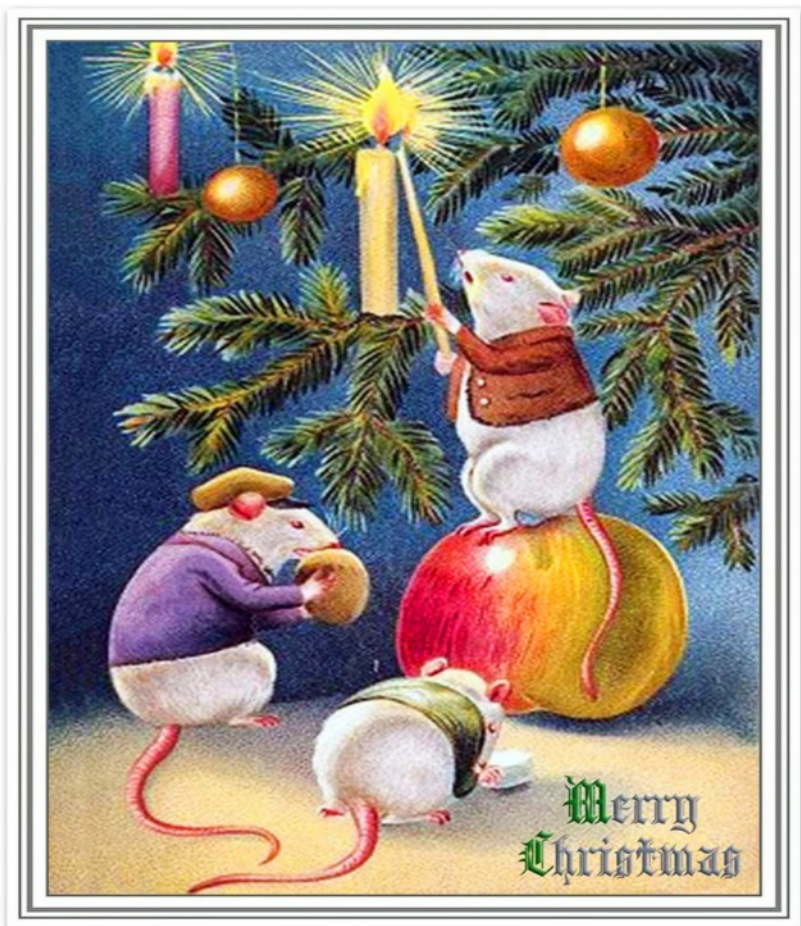


Collingbourne Ducis - Everleigh - Collingbourne Kingston

# COURIER

Volume 29 No 10

Dec - Jan 2023  
30p if sold



December 2022 and January 2023

## THE COURIER

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## COLLINGBOURNE DUCIS PARISH COUNCIL

*Chairman John Wood writes:*

The Council met on 3rd November and there was much to discuss. A long serving member of the council Lucy Gomes has resigned due to work commitments; she has contributed a great deal to the running of the council, particularly as the Planning Representative and will be sadly missed. Cllr Chris Williams reported on his activities with the Wiltshire Council which included the reading of the Proclamation of King Charles at County Hall, meetings on climate change and initiatives regarding the cost of living and a register of Warm Spaces. During the adjournment for public comment a representative of the School Governing Body brought a proposal for a Walking Bus initiative which was agreed in principle by the Council. The Council reviewed all the suggestions raised by the recent survey which were presented by Cllr Kelly Earle and have appointed leads to take forward the proposals and present back the cost and timeline for the next meeting in December.

Cllr Lyons provided another upbeat report on the General Maintenance of the village, particularly the efforts of the new Parish Steward who continues to post before and after pictures of the work he has been conducting in the village. Steve has engaged with the Sparkle Team for the Autumn clear up after the successful litter pick in October which was well attended and removed a considerable amount of rubbish. Steve is planning the next litter pick for the Spring. Cllr Tom Earle briefed on the quotations for the new grass cutting contract which was awarded to Idverde for the next three years.

The next social date for your calendar is the annual Xmas Big Brunch to be held on 11th Dec, with face painting, balloon



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**COURIER**

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Fanny Cradock?

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with the readers of the Courier, so  
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sculptures and the prize draw raffle we look forward to seeing you all at the Village Hall.

On the Speed Watch front it has been a quiet period due to the clock change, weather, and availability of the kit. As always, the Speed Watch team are looking for willing volunteers to swell the ranks and make a difference. Cllr Peter Knowlson reported that the Cadley Road virtual pathway is to be repainted, weather permitting, by the end of the year.

The alarming increase in the amount of vandalism in the village was discussed, particularly the broken window in the new bus shelter and the repeated damage to the shelter on the village recreation ground. As a result of the continuing vandalism to the shelter, which has been targeted and ongoing for some time, the decision was taken to remove the shelter altogether to make the area safe. Please, if you see any acts of vandalism, report them to the appropriate authority. Consideration is being given to siting a Mobile Police Station adjacent to the village recreation ground to provide a presence on the ground.

Our next Parish Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday 12th December 2022 at 7 pm at Collingbourne Village Hall. Parish Council Meetings are open events, which members of the public are more than welcome to attend. If any parishioners wish to get involved in any of the activities, including Speed Watch or just want to contact with the Parish Council, do feel free to email the Parish Clerk, Mr Phil Gill, [parishclerk@collingbourne-ducis.com](mailto:parishclerk@collingbourne-ducis.com).

## **SPTA**

The SPTA newsletter can be found at the following web address:  
[www.gov.uk/government/publications/salisbury-plain-training-area-spta-newsletter](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/salisbury-plain-training-area-spta-newsletter)

## THE VIEW FROM EVERLEIGH

*Denis Bottomley (CD 852731) writes:*

A village litter pick took place on Saturday 22nd October. Many thanks go to the nine volunteers who took part and collected eleven bags of rubbish, which is less than normal (sixteen to eighteen bags on previous litter picks). Everleigh appears to be getting cleaner!



The Everleigh Bonfire Night took place on Saturday 5th November at Jubilee Field. The event had all the ingredients for a great evening: spectacular fireworks, delicious BBQ, lovely mulled wine and a roaring bonfire with a good turnout of about 200.

Many villagers pulled together to produce an excellent community event. Particular thanks go to Henry Waight, Kim Wheeler-Mallows and Graham Martin for organising the bonfire and the fireworks, to Lucinda Wheeler-Mallows for co-ordinating the refreshments, closely supported by Caroline Haywood, Be Goldsmith, Joanna Martin, Tony Campe and Andy and Viv Earle. Thanks also go to Terry Martin, Howard Clark and Tony and Vanessa Bradford for controlling the traffic and car parking and to Peter Jackson, Justin and Ashley Bevan and family, and the Goldsmith boys, for collection of donations. This was a strong Team Everleigh effort!

Financial support for our Bonfire Night was received from the Collingbourne Ducis Beerfest Committee who kindly provided a grant of £400 and from donations of £847 on the night, some of which will be passed on to the Wiltshire Air Ambulance. We are most grateful for this heartfelt generosity.

We will be planting a Christmas tree in Everleigh Centre in early December and a Christmas Carol Service will take place at St Peter's

Church on Saturday 10th December at 5 pm. This is a good opportunity for the village to get together at this festive time of the year, to hear the Christmas story and to sing traditional carols. We will also be laying on mulled wine and mince pies after the Service. We look forward to seeing you there.



There will be some minor changes to waste collection dates over the Christmas and New Year period. Residents can check their waste, recycling and garden waste collection online at

**<https://ilforms.wiltshire.gov.uk/WasteCollectionDays/index>**

Revised Household Recycling Centre (HRC) timings for the Christmas/New Year period are at

**[www.wiltshire.gov.uk/household-recycling-centres](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/household-recycling-centres)**

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Tuesday 13th December at 7 pm at the Collingbourne Ducis Village Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend. The minutes of our last meeting are available on village noticeboards and the Everleigh web site at **[www.everleigh.org](http://www.everleigh.org)**

Finally, we would like to wish all readers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

#### **MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE**

Wiltshire mobile library service is operating a normal schedule in all three villages.

Information about the mobile library service is available online at **<http://services.wiltshire.gov.uk/MobileLibrary/>**

## COLLINGBOURNE KINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL

*Richard Semple, Chairman, writes:*

I was delighted to see so many around the war memorial and at the Church service in

Collingbourne Kingston on Remembrance Sunday; it certainly brings back poignant memories for many of us in the Collingbournes and Everleigh.

The memorial looks stunning now that it has been professionally cleaned and many thanks to the Brownies for their hard work clearing the leaves away from it.

As ever, I want to update on road safety. In conjunction with Wiltshire Council, we are reviewing the state of the speed limit signage through the village as some are looking a bit tired and faded. This will also tie in with the plan to extend the 30mph zone on the A338 to the North by approximately one hundred metres so as to provide a longer lead into the junction with Aughton. Also, we continue to need more volunteers for the Community Speedwatch Team. Even if you can only spare a couple of hours per month, Councillor Tim Keighley would love to hear from you. Please email him at: **[timkeighley@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:timkeighley@tiscali.co.uk)**.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place in the Ruth Fisher Room, Collingbourne Kingston Village Hall, at 18.30 on Tuesday 10th January. Do come along if you have any points that you wish to raise with your Council.

Finally, I hope that you all have an enjoyable and restful festive season.





**THE COLLINGBOURNES AND EVERLEIGH MAGAZINE ASSOCIATION  
NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

*David Puttock, Courier Chairman, writes:*



Notice is given that the Annual  
General Meeting of the

Collingbournes and Everleigh Magazine Association, which produces the Courier, will take place on Friday 20th January 2023 at 8pm in Collingbourne Ducis Village Hall. All residents of the villages of Collingbourne Ducis, Collingbourne Kingston and Everleigh over the age of sixteen may attend (from 7.30 pm) and vote. The meeting will receive reports on the Courier's activities during 2022, consider any motions put forward and elect the Committee and Officers for 2023.

All motions should be sent to the Hon. Secretary, Sandra Fisher, Staddlestones, Aughton, Collingbourne Kingston, by 31st December 2022. Nominations for Officers and the Committee may be submitted in advance, but will also be accepted from the floor.

If you can possibly come along please do. It is your chance to voice an opinion on your magazine.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF  
COLLINGBOURNE DUCIS VILLAGE HALL, 16TH NOVEMBER 2022**

*David Paterson, Chairman, writes:*

This year we have gradually emerged from the shadow of the Pandemic, although bookings and hirings are still somewhat below pre-Covid days. It was great to see large-scale community events starting again; The Beer Fest, Cricket Festivals and Leagues, The Church Fete, Plant Sale, Presentation Evening, the Church Fete, Film Place and the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. We are also looking

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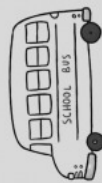
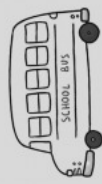
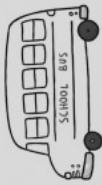
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**Let's talk ...** about you coming to work with our fabulous team and wonderful families. Get in touch with Sue or Alison for a chat - email [admin@sunflowers-grafton.co.uk](mailto:admin@sunflowers-grafton.co.uk) or call 01672 810478



**Sunflowers  
at Grafton**



forward to the Glitter Ball and Village Brunch later in the year. These events bring the village together as a true community.

During this year we, alongside the whole country, have had to accept very large increases in our energy bills and general inflation of services and goods. This has meant asking hirers for an interim payment to cover additional costs running into thousands of pounds. Nevertheless, we have managed to maintain our balances whilst improving the building in a number of ways. I consider this to have been as successful a year as possible, taking into account the circumstances we have encountered. I am very grateful to Jane Crook for continuing to run the Draw and to Humphrey Sheppard for taking over the collection and organisation.

Dragonflies have continued to thrive; the Toddlers group has re-started and the school has returned to using the hall on a full-time basis. We have worked with Dragonflies and the School to ensure safe entry and exit. A new door was recently fitted to the small hall, enabling Dragonfly children to enter from that direction. Additional lighting was installed to facilitate this. The disabled toilet has been re-furbished. Through the fund-raising efforts of Film-Place, we now have an advance mode projector and sound system. This alongside improvements to the roof acoustics have completely changed the audio-visual experience in the Hall. The tennis court has been cleaned and re-marked. Work on the footings for the storage extension is to shortly commence.

Looking to the future, we must plan to make the Hall more sustainable. We have a large south facing roof perfect for solar panels and we continue to seek support for funding. Electric

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**Our Community Support Officers can be contacted on 101**

powered cars are becoming more commonplace, an EV charging point adjacent to the Hall is being investigated. We have discovered this year that running any public building is expensive. We must continue to explore all possible avenues: Grants, social events, etc. to raise funding and keep providing the excellent all-round community facilities that we offer. Finally, I must offer my sincere thanks to Officers and Committee members for their unstinting support throughout this difficult year.

### COLLINGBOURNE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Harriet Phillips writes:*

The children have been busy involved in all sorts of wonderful learning here at Collingbourne School. Kingfishers class were learning all about The Americas and reading Holes by Lois Sachar. Otters class were looking at magical worlds and really enjoyed reading The Strange Worlds Travel Agency by LD Lapinski. Hedgehogs class really enjoyed reading Handa's Surprise and designing Handa a bright new coat, whilst Fox Class' favourite book was We're Going on a Bear Hunt. During the October half term we installed a Playpod in the school playground. This is a play initiative run by Wiltshire Scrapstore and the children are loving being able to play in a creative, imaginary way with the loose parts. To find out more visit <https://www.playpods.co.uk/the-facts>.



Collingbourne Ducis Elf Trail: Following a fantastic response from the local community we are really excited to be running an Elf Trail in the village. There will be forty-plus elves displayed in house windows for people to spot. Maps and entry forms will be available from the school for a suggested contribution of £2. It is a great reason to get out and about in the village. The elves will be

displayed from 1st December -21st December 2022 and all entry forms returned to school will be entered in to the lucky draw to win a family hamper. Thank you to all the community members who have offered their windows!

Volunteers needed: There are a number of ways you could volunteer to help the school and we are currently seeking Governors. Governors play a really important role in the strategic development of the school. If you think this is something that you could offer please ring the school office and speak to Kerry on **01264 850346**. We are also welcoming volunteers to listen to readers on a regular basis so if you could offer some time during the week please get in touch. All volunteers are subject to a DBS check. And, last but not least, from all of us at Collingbourne CE Primary School we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

#### **COLLINGBOURNE DUCIS VILLAGE HALL DRAW**

*Humphrey Sheppard tells us the winners in the November Draw:*

£50	K Reed	41
£25	C Malley	13
£10	Dawn Roff	190
£5	D Dawkins	92

Congratulations to all the winners.

If you want any information on the draw, please call Humphrey Sheppard on **07791 760241** or e-mail on **cdvhdraw@gmail.com**

The draw is open to anyone (over the age of eighteen) who wishes to take part. If you previously had tickets but have not been contacted by anyone in recent weeks, please get in touch with me. If your name is here and you have not received your winnings, please contact me.



# environmentally friendly



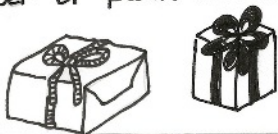
Ten thousand tonnes of plastic packaging is thrown away each year over the Christmas period.

# CHRISTMAS



## GIFT WRAP

Millions of sheets of wrapping paper will be thrown out and much cannot be recycled. So wrap your gifts in a beautiful scarf, a funky tea towel, leftover newspaper or plain brown paper.



## FOOD

Reduce food waste this Christmas. Is a whole turkey required? Perhaps order a turkey crown. Use or freeze any leftovers.



Part-cooking some foods in the microwave first can decrease oven cooking times.

## WREATHS

Avoid wreaths adorned with plastic and glitter.



Make your own wreath. Helpful guides and videos can be found online.

## GIFTS

- Dedicate a tree to someone. For details visit the Woodland Trust website or the National Forest website.



- Adopt a wild animal. Visit the WWF website or The Owls Trust website.

## COLLINGBOURNES AND EVERLEIGH GARDENING CLUB

*Patti Marsh, Secretary, (01264 850319) writes:*

Ray Broughton, a horticulturist and lecturer from Sparsholt College, made a welcome return in late October with an entertaining and very informative talk on Wall Shrubs and Climbers with lots of anecdotes and information as well.



Apparently, we are no longer allowed to use milk, vinegar or salt in the garden to tackle weeds and pests. He listed several old favourites that have been renamed by the RHS – Rosemary is now a Salvia and Montbretia has been named Crocosmia again. All very confusing but we shall continue to use the names we are familiar with!

Among the numerous tips he gave were to always take cuttings from the centre of plants, avoid the prickles on roses as they can cause tetanus (it's not the thorns), and a reminder of his way of avoiding indoor leggy plants with the manure in an almost air-tight pot.

Ian Margetts of Summerdown Mints, Basingstoke, was the November speaker and our next meeting will be on Thursday, 26th January 2023 when Sara Wilman will show us how to create a Spring Wreath. This will follow our annual general meeting, starting at 7.30 pm. Members are reminded that subscriptions are now due - £10 per person.

If you would like to join us, or for more information about the Gardening Club, please call me or our chairman, Jane Crook, **01264 850436** for more information.

## TABLE TENNIS AT DUCIS VILLAGE HALL

*Terry Greenwood writes:*

After a short break, village table tennis will resume at Collingbourne Ducis hall.

Our next session will be on Monday 9th January, commencing at 7 pm and ending at 9 pm. Cost is only £3 per person.

All will be made welcome and beginners may have basic instruction if required. We tend to play doubles as it is more inclusive and we have four tables. The club has bats and balls. Of course, tea and coffee are available.

It is good exercise in a very friendly environment.

Suitable footwear required.

Why not give it try.

For any further information, please contact Terry Greenwood on **01264 852766**

## COLLINGBOURNE KINGSTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE REPORT

*Sandra Fisher (01264 850363) writes:*

The November meeting on Thursday 10th November was very well attended. President, Wendy Brown, welcomed members, new members and visitors. Apologies were given and the minutes of the previous meeting were signed off before she drew attention to forthcoming events. Members were reminded to pay outstanding money for the Christmas Party which is being held on 8th December at The Barleycorn and they were also asked to make their choices from the menu options.

Wendy then introduced Ceri Cryer, the speaker for the evening, who is a cheese maker and had arranged a tempting display of her





cheeses on a table. Ceri and her husband make cheese and other dairy products at Brinkworth Dairies on the family farm and the milk she uses comes from their closed herd of Friesian cattle. She began her talk with a brief history of cheese making and moved into how she herself began making it. Her first cheese was Wiltshire loaf, an 'old' county cheese, and her range gradually expanded until she now has several products, including a blue, a soft white cheese, butter and yogurt, which they now sell at London markets, farm shops and on-line.

As Ceri talked about the different cheeses, she passed tasting samples round and at the end of her talk the members gathered round her table to buy. Ceri has a huge enthusiasm for cheese making and is an entertaining speaker who was warmly thanked by Esnay Burns.

The meeting closed with delicious refreshments and the drawing of the raffle.

**Next Meeting:** Christmas Party Thursday 8th  
December.

**January Meeting:** Thursday 12th January

Speaker: Antique Lace Making

Hostess: M Clifton

Raffle Prize: S Dale-Prince

Tea Hostesses: S Kirby J Crook

Visitors are always welcomed to meetings on the second Thursday of the month at 7.30 pm in Collingbourne Kingston Village Hall. A donation of £4 is suggested.

## THE FILMPLACE – YOUR COMMUNITY CINEMA

*Jim Plenderleith writes:*

Showing at THEFILMPLACE on Friday  
27th January 2023 is **Mrs Harris Goes to**

**THEFILMPLACE**  
YOUR COMMUNITY CINEMA

**Paris** as requested by the audience at the film show in October 2022.

This feelgood fairy-tale is the kind of heart-warming, escapist celebration of the concept of shopping yourself happy that should be prescribed to us all.

The incomparable Lesley Manville stars. She plays Ada Harris, a big-hearted cleaner from Battersea, south London, a character patchworked together from bits of Vera Drake and some jellied eels, who decides to follow her dream of buying a couture gown from Dior's atelier in Paris. There she encounters the frosty Claudine Colbert, played by Isabelle Huppert, the gatekeeper of taste who does her best to keep the hoi polloi at bay. Fortunately, Ada's down-to-earth appeal disarms the rest of Paris. It's unabashed froth, as substantial as a tulle skirt. And perhaps that's exactly what we need right now.

Doors open at THEFILMPLACE in Collingbourne Ducis Village Hall at 7.00 pm for pre-film drinks and refreshments, the film show starts at 7.30 pm. Tickets are still only £6 and are available now from Collingbourne Ducis village shop or by telephoning Jim Plenderleith **07906 593668**. Tickets will also be available on the door, if not previously sold out.

It is your monthly film show. Please keep giving us your feedback personally or by email to the following: **thefilmplacecd@gmail.com**

## **RING FOR THE KING**

*Mike Holt, Tower Captain (01264 850621) writes:*

Have you ever heard the church bells ring out mournfully, half muffled for example, on the day of the funeral of our late Queen Elizabeth II and thought: 'How do they muffle the bells?'

Or attended a church wedding, with the bells ringing joyfully to announce the departure of the happy Bride and Groom on their special day, and thought: 'How difficult is it to ring church bells?'

Are you curious and have you ever thought: 'Could I learn to ring church bells?' Well, the answer is yes. There has never been a better time than the present. We are recruiting right now. What an opportunity and challenge; to learn to ring in time for the King's Coronation on Saturday 6th May 2023. If you would like to join us for a taster session, or simply to come and watch and video us practising the art of campanology, you would be most welcome. Even bring another family member or friend along to observe the ancient art of bell ringing, live. We practise at St. Andrew's, Collingbourne Ducis on the 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings of each month, St. Mary's, Collingbourne Kingston on the 2nd and 4th Thursday evenings of the month. Ringing starts at 7.30 pm and we finish just before 9 pm. Some of us are even known to frequent our local pub after ringing to partake of a beverage, or two!

If you would like to know more, just give me a ring, or simply turn up on any practice night.

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## **COLLINGBOURNE KINGSTON VILLAGE DRAW**

*Val Patrick writes:*

Collingbourne Kingston Village Hall draw will take place on Thursday 15th December during our Christmas Quiz, 7.30 - 9.30 pm. Come and join in an evening of light-hearted fun and enjoy a drink with us. Draw and drinks at about 8.30 pm.

## **ANDOVER CHAMBER CHOIR**

### **CHRISTMAS CONCERT, 17TH DECEMBER, ST MARY'S ANDOVER**

*Veronica Bacon writes:*

Saturday 17th December sees the return of a long-standing Andover tradition – the Christmas Carol Concert! Andover Chamber Choir (formerly known as The Harmonium Singers) have presented a concert at St Mary's Church each Christmas for over thirty years, until the Covid pandemic intervened. The choir returns, this year, for the first time since 2019. Proceeds have always been donated to a local charity and will be given this time to the Andover Foodbank.

The programme features music both well-known and unfamiliar. Carols such as 'Gaudete!' (made famous by Steeleye Span), 'Gabriel's Message' and Handel's 'Joy to the World' rub shoulders with Holst's 'Jesu, thou virgin born' and 'The Time draws near the Birth of Christ', composed for the 50th anniversary of The Harmonium Singers and here receiving its Covid-delayed premiere. Items will be interspersed with poems and with carols for the audience. Tickets can be bought in advance from The Lights and from the Newbury Building Society or choir members. The admission price (£10 in advance, £12 on the door, under 16s free) includes interval refreshments. The concert takes place exactly a week before Christmas Eve and the day before the World Cup Final so there's no excuse to miss it!

## SUNTON FARM

*Val Patrick writes:*

This historic farm, including the farmhouse, the farm buildings and five cottages, was included in the 1929 Ailesbury Sale as a vacant possession. Having failed to reach its reserve, it was sold soon after by private treaty to Mr Charles Fribbence the landlord of the Kingston Hotel, now the Barleycorn, in Collingbourne Kingston.

One of the most elegant buildings in the area, its story goes back several centuries, but the farmhouse we see today, with its south front of seven bays with a central doorway, was built in the early eighteenth century. It still has a fireplace and chimney from an earlier building on the site, and some seventeenth century panelling in the ground floor room at its west end. Mentioned as early as 1199, it descended through several important families until in 1548 it was sold to Edward Seymour, Duke of Somerset, brother of Jane Seymour.

From 1843 when the farm had 925 acres, it was gradually reduced in size and now all that exist together are the farmhouse and seven acres of land. Between 1843 and 1878, the eastern part became a new farm called Herridge, and by 1910 Sunton Farm had only 334 acres. Finally, in 1973, the remaining land was divided between nearby farms and the farmhouse became a private residence. It was in the parish of Collingbourne Kingston until 1934.

Few people will know of a connection between Sunton House and the slave trade. The owner of the house for more than forty years in the middle of the twentieth century may himself not even have known. He was Major General Hugh Brownlow Hibbert DSO, a pillar of the local community throughout his time there. When David Olasogu in his TV programme 'A House Through Time'

mentioned the Hibberts as being chief among the slave owners of the Caribbean, I decided to investigate. There was no suggestion of ill treatment of the slaves.

Hugh's ancestors who were cotton manufacturers in Manchester had indeed owned vast estates in Jamaica from 1710 onwards, and when the time came to end slavery, they had spoken against abolition. The government of the day paid £103,000 to the family in compensation when slavery finally ended.

Since Major General Hibbert there have been at least six owners of Sunton House which has recently changed hands again. It remains an architectural treasure hidden in the valley below the A338.

**JULIA'S HOUSE HOSPICE SEEK VANS & VOLUNTEERS FOR TREE-MENDOUS MISSION!**

*Laura Shack, Communications Officer (07850 928133), writes:*



Julia's House is seeking a team of "elves with wheels" to help with the local charity's big Christmas tree collection in January.

The Wiltshire children's hospice will be collecting and recycling real Christmas trees from homes across the county in the New Year and the charity needs lots of vans and helping hands to make the tree-mendous mission possible.

Claudia Hickin, Julia's House Fundraiser, said, 'Last year we collected around 650 Christmas trees and raised an incredible £9,250 in total across both Wiltshire and Dorset to support our care for seriously ill children and their families. This January we hope to collect even more, and we'd love to hear from any local businesses and individuals with vans who might be able to help us and help their local community at the same time.'

She added, 'We are essentially seeking a team of elves with wheels, who are happy to be helpers and volunteer a few hours of their time for us after the Christmas season.'

The charity is looking for vans of all sizes to help for a minimum of three hours in Wiltshire across their three collection days, between Sunday 8th and Tuesday 10th January. Volunteers are also needed to lift and load Christmas trees onto the vans.

Once collected from local homes, the trees will be taken to Old Potato Yard in Devizes and recycled as chippings for use on local farms and community spaces.

This year's Julia's House Christmas tree collection in Wiltshire will take place in Devizes, Pewsey, Marlborough and other surrounding locations, with bookings opening on the charity's website from Monday 12th December.

All funds raised from the Christmas tree collection will help the Wiltshire children's hospice provide its lifeline of care for the most seriously ill children and their families in the local community.

The promotion of this year's Julia's House Christmas tree collection is kindly sponsored by Rubicon People Partnership. Established in 1982 with a recruitment approach of a consultancy rather than an agency, Rubicon provides permanent recruitment and temporary staffing solutions local to Dorset, Wiltshire and the surrounding areas.

If you would like to donate a van or volunteer your time, please get in touch with the Julia's House team at [treepickup@juliashouse.org](mailto:treepickup@juliashouse.org) or call 01380 562525.



## CINNAMON AND ORANGE ROLLS

*Simon Gilford writes:*

My baking journey continues and whilst I'm not a massive cinnamon fan, for some reason I really do love these. I found a simple recipe online, and just because it's the way I roll (get it?), I had to tweak some of the ingredients, and you should certainly do the same. I added in orange rather than sticking to the vanilla from the original recipe and I significantly cut down on the amount of icing sugar in the topping. You could try lemon or maybe even some chocolate.

*Ingredients (makes 12 rolls)*

### **The Dough:**

600g strong white bread flour (plus extra for dusting)

14g dried active yeast

75g caster sugar

90g unsalted butter

275ml full fat milk

1tsp vanilla extract (if you have some, but not vital)

1 large egg

### **The Filling:**

45g unsalted butter (melted)

175g light brown sugar

1-2tbsps ground cinnamon (depending on your love/hatred of cinnamon)

### **The Topping:**

175g icing sugar

2-3tbsps freshly squeezed orange juice (or try something else!)

orange zest

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## *Method*

Sift the flour into a large bowl and add the caster sugar and yeast. Mix these together so it's all evenly distributed.

Rub the butter into the mixture so it resembles breadcrumbs, like you would when making scones.

Gently heat the milk until warm - but not piping hot. If heating in a pan, you want it to just about start having steam come out of the pan.

Add the milk, vanilla, and egg to the dry ingredients.

Knead the dough together for 7-10 minutes. It will be sticky at first, but it will soon come together. OR ALTERNATIVELY use a food mixer with the Dough Hook to make this easier.

Once kneaded, it will be springy to the touch and not sticky.

Transfer into a lightly oiled bowl and cover the top of the bowl with cling film. Let it rise in a warm spot for 1-2 hours, or until doubled in size.

Whilst the bread is proving, whisk together the light brown sugar and ground cinnamon for the filling. Leave to the side for now.

Once the dough has risen, transfer it to a lightly floured work surface, and roll it out to a large rectangle. Mine ended up being about 40cm x 30cm.

You want it to be as even a rectangle as possible so it's easier to roll up, and the dough can be thin here.

Gently brush the surface with the 45g of melted butter, and then sprinkle over the sugar/cinnamon mix.

Roll the dough from long side to long side, so that a long sausage is formed. Cut this evenly into 12 pieces.

Using a large, greaseproof-lined rectangular baking dish, mine was 30cm x 24cm roughly, put them in. They won't touch yet, but you want three rows of four. Cover the dish with clingfilm and let them rise for another hour or so. By the end, they should all touch.

Towards the end of the dough rising, preheat the oven to 180C/160C Fan so that when it's finished rising, you can put it straight in the oven.

Bake on the middle shelf of the oven for 20-25 minutes, until golden brown and cooked through.

Leave them to cool (I didn't, and it was a mistake), and then make the icing. Simply whisk together the icing sugar, orange juice and zest until a thick icing paste is formed, and then spread over the cooled rolls.

Enjoy!

### **A QUIZ TO GET YOU IN THE MOOD FOR CHRISTMAS (ANSWERS ON PAGE 36)**

*Simon Gilford tests your festive knowledge:*

1. On his first Christmas at Hogwarts, Harry Potter receives a measly gift from the Dursleys: What is it?
2. In the film Elf, what is the first rule of the Code of the Elves?
3. Which former President of the United States makes a cameo in Home Alone 2?
4. What is the Grinch's dog named?
5. What is the highest-grossing Christmas movie of all time? Choose one: Dr Seuss' The Grinch, Home Alone, or Love Actually.
6. If you are born on Christmas Day, what is your star sign?

7. What new tradition for the month of December was invented by American mother and daughter duo Carol Aebersold and Chanda Bell?
8. What colour was Santa Claus' suit before Coca-Cola decided to dress him in a festive red for an advertising campaign?
9. In which US state would you find the town Santa Claus?
10. What festive item was eaten by single women in Tudor times in the hope it would help them find a husband?
11. In which year did Mariah Carey's 'All I Want for Christmas is You' first make the UK Christmas number one?
12. Which Christmas hit originally released in 1984 has been UK Christmas number one three times?
13. A Christmas classic by Cliff Richard was the best-selling song of 1988 in the UK - what was it?
14. What Christmas song of 1962 was originally written about the Cuban Missile Crisis, as a call for peace?
15. In a classic Christmas carol, who is told 'may nothing you dismay'?
16. How tall, approximately, is the Christmas tree at London's Trafalgar Square?
17. How many times does the number 1 appear on an advent calendar with 24 doors?
18. How tall is the record holder for tallest ever snowman?
19. How many calories are in the average Christmas dinner?
20. How many Christmas puddings are sold in the UK on average?

**QUESTIONS FOR OUR YOUNGER READERS: (ANSWERS ON PAGE 37)**

1. According to the song Twelve Days of Christmas, what bird do you find in a pear tree?
2. What is the name of Anna and Elsa's kingdom in Frozen?
3. In what film would you hear the greeting "Merry Christmas, ya filthy animal"?
4. Traditionally, what does Santa put in the stockings of children on the naughty list?
5. What treats do you leave out for Santa and his reindeer on Christmas Eve?

**SAVERNAKE TEAM LETTER: JESUS SAVES!!!!!!**

**IT'S A PITY THAT THE CURRENT INTEREST RATES ARE DIRE!**

*Rev Michael McHugh, Savernake Team Rector, writes:*

This line came out of an early frustration with things Christmas. Everyone seemed to be placing the socialisation and commercialisation of Christmas ahead of the Mystery of the Incarnation.



It felt like people had lost sight of the great message of hope in a small child in a manger. Part of that message can be true whatever your belief. That a small child can start a movement that endures and grows over two thousand years gives hope even to those who wish to dispel that message. It says that 'Such things are possible!'

As a child, attending church at Christmas was the thing that made sense of the celebrations afterwards. That so much is focussed on a small child, homeless and in poverty, gave re-assurance that children are loved regardless of the world's values. For an adult the

event represents our shared humanity from the beginning of history.

Christmas services effectively start with Advent on the 27th of November and continue through December. They are advertised by email, parish magazines, webpages and word of mouth. They cater for all ages in different ways. By paying a little interest it is possible to access or remember both the mystery and the relevance of Christmas for yourselves and your loved ones.

Enjoy the season and invest to make it relevant,

Happy Christmas, *Michael*.

### **ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, COLLINGBOURNE DUCIS**

*Churchwarden Tish Leigh (01264 850867) writes:*

The countdown to Christmas is really underway now. In the Christian church Advent is a time of longing, hoping, waiting and preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day.



On Friday 11th November a Remembrance Service was held at the War Memorial with children from the school and children from Dragonflies. Three children read the names of the men from Everleigh and the Collingbournes, who gave their lives during both World Wars. The children's quiet, respectful behaviour during the two-minute silence was as impressive as ever.

Starting on Monday 28th November and for the following two Mondays, Collingbourne Primary school will have their Advent services in church starting at 9.15 pm. You would be welcome to join us.



## COURIER



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Wiltshire County Council (highways)	☎0300 456 0105
Wiltshire County Council (rubbish & recycling)	☎0300 456 0102

Wessex Water (sewerage & water leaks)	☎0345 600 4 600
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Collingbourne Ducis Parish Council	✉parishclerk@collingbourne-ducis.com
Collingbourne Kingston Parish Council	✉clerk@collingbournekingston.org.uk
Everleigh Parish Council	✉ohilip.gill101@ntlworld.com
Collingbourne Ducis Village Hall bookings	☎07776 465177
Collingbourne Kingston Village Hall bookings	☎07714 740917

Wiltshire County Councillor	✉christopher.williams@wiltshire.gov.uk
Member of Parliament	✉danny.kruger.mp@parliament.uk

St Andrew's Church (CD)/St Mary's Church(CK)	☎01672 550870
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On Thursday 15th December, the Phoenix Brass band will provide music for 'Brass and Carols' at the Tipple Inn, starting at 7.30 pm. Come along and begin your Christmas by singing some favourite carols and enjoy some mulled wine and mince pies. We will be outside, so wrap up warm and bring umbrellas if necessary!

If you would like to join in the preparations for Christmas in the church, please join us on Saturday 17th December from 10 am – 12 noon, when we will be decorating the church with greenery and candles and also decorating our Christmas tree.

We will be holding our Carols by Candlelight service on Monday 19th December starting at 6.30 pm. Join us for this special service and stay afterwards for a chat, mulled wine and mince pies. On Thursday 22nd December from 10 am to 12 noon in the church, we will be making eighty or so Christingles; extra pairs of hands joining the production line would be very welcome! Refreshments will be provided!

Our annual 'Come to Bethlehem' and Christingle service will take place starting at 3 pm on Friday 23rd December. This service has become a traditional part of the Christmas celebrations in the Collingbournes and Everleigh. Whether you are one or one hundred years old, or any age in between, come along and join in the fun! Come dressed as a shepherd, an angel, a wise person, a traveller or inhabitant of Bethlehem, a sheep or even a donkey! Join in to help tell the story of the first Christmas, no previous acting experience or rehearsals necessary, just a sense of fun! This service is also followed by festive refreshments!

On Christmas Eve there will be a 'Midnight' service of Holy Communion at 11.30 pm.

As you can see, there are a lot of events planned for the Advent and Christmas season, so please make sure to take note of all the dates for the various events and services. Pin up the enclosed flyer with details of all the events and services. It will be wonderful to see 'old' and new faces at all or any of our services during the Christmas Season. At this special time of year, let us try to remember why we celebrate this "most wonderful time of the year"! After all Jesus is the reason for the season!!

So please do join us, your church family, at the festive services. We would love to see you there and celebrate with you the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ".

The PCC are already beginning to plan fundraising events to happen during 2023. We are aiming to raise funds to help pay for fairly urgent repairs to the bells and the repainting of the clockface. £5,500 for the repairs to the clock has been raised thanks to fundraising, some generous donations and grants from Collingbourne Ducis Parish Council; Tidworth Area Board and the Church of England clock fund. The PCC are now hoping to raise £2,200 for restoration and repainting of the turret clock face. However, repairs to working parts of some of the church bells has become more urgent. The amount quoted for these repairs is £4030. Once again, we will be applying for grants to help but your support at our fund-raising activities and your generous donations will be much appreciated.

If you would like to donate towards these repairs you can donate on St. Andrew's Just Giving page at:

**<https://www.justgiving.com/standrews-collingbourneducis>**.

Hopefully, by mid-summer we will have raised sufficient funds for the repairs to take place.

As this is the final report of 2022, the PCC and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped out in church during the past year: setting up services, reading a lesson, being a DJ, serving refreshments, arranging flowers, cleaning the church, tidying the churchyard etc. Your help is invaluable and very much appreciated.

Finally, the PCC wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### **ST MARY'S CHURCH, COLLINGBOURNE KINGSTON**

*Services in December:*

Sunday 4th	Holy Communion	11 am
Sunday 11th	Morning Worship	9.30 am
Friday 16th	School Carol Service	2 pm
Sunday 18th	Holy Communion	9.30 am
Tuesday 20th	Carol Service	6.30 pm
Sunday 25th	Holy Communion	11 am

St Mary's PCC wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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### **Addresses for the village websites:**

CD:	<a href="http://www.collingbourne-ducis.com">www.collingbourne-ducis.com</a>
CK:	<a href="http://www.collingbournekingston.org.uk">www.collingbournekingston.org.uk</a>
Everleigh:	<a href="http://www.everleigh.org">www.everleigh.org</a>

**ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, COLLINGBOURNE DUCIS**

*Services in December:*

Sunday 4th	Evensong	6 pm
Sunday 11th	Holy Communion	9 am
Monday 19th	Candlelit Carol Service	6.30 pm
Friday 23rd	Come to Bethlehem	3 pm
Christmas Eve (Saturday)	Holy Communion	11.30 pm

*Services in January:*

Sunday 1st	Evensong	6 pm
Sunday 8th	Holy Communion	9 am
Sunday 15th	Family Service	11 am
Sunday 22nd	Holy Communion	11 am
Sunday 31st	Team Service of Holy Communion at 11 am	

St. Michael's Church, Little Bedwyn

**ST PETER'S CHURCH, EVERLEIGH**

Saturday 10th December	Carol Service	5 pm
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## CHRISTMAS QUIZ ANSWERS:

1. 50p
2. 'Treat every day like Christmas'
3. Donald Trump
4. Max
5. The animated Dr Seuss' The Grinch (2018), raking in \$512 million.
6. Capricorn
7. Elf on the Shelf
8. Green
9. Indiana
10. Gingerbread man
11. 2020 - despite originally being released in 1994!
12. Do They Know It's Christmas by Bob Geldof and Midge Ure
13. Mistletoe and Wine
14. Do You Hear What I Hear? By Bing Crosby
15. Ye Merry Gentlemen (in God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen)
16. 20 metres
17. 13 times, on doors: 1, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21
18. 113 feet - the snowman was built in Maine, America
19. 957
20. 25 million

**YOUNGER READERS CHRISTMAS QUIZ ANSWERS:**

1. A partridge
2. Arendelle
3. Home Alone
4. A lump of coal
5. A carrot, a mince pie and a glass of sherry

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wishes all our readers  
a Merry Christmas and  
a Happy New Year

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- The Barleycorn Inn, Marlborough Rd

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