

# COURIER

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## **THE COURIER**

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**The deadline for December copy is 6.30 pm on 18th November 2021.**

## COLLINGBOURNE KINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL

*Richard Semple, Chairman, writes:*



Marking the traditional end of the harvest and the start of autumn in Collingbourne

Kingston, we thoroughly enjoyed the Village Harvest Supper on 4th October. After eighteen months of Covid restrictions, it was a joy to be able catch up with fellow parishioners as well as meet some new faces in the village. Very many thanks to the Parochial Church Council for organising the event and special mention must go to Wendy Brown and her team of volunteers who prepared the excellent spread of food. Many thanks also to her husband, Philip, for providing the after-dinner entertainment with his engaging and mystifying magic show. Bravo!

The start of autumn also means that it is not long until Remembrance Sunday will be upon us on 14th November. This is always a poignant time for me, as a military veteran, and is, perhaps, even more so as we look back at the loss that many have endured, across the nation, as a result of this dreadful pandemic.

Turning to Parish Council business, we feel that we are making headway in raising concerns over traffic safety on the A338. Highways England has commissioned a strategic study to review connectivity between the M4 and the Dorset Coast. This includes consideration of the A338. Recommendations are expected to become clear next summer and the Parish Council will be doing our utmost to provide input to the review.

We remain keen to identify a suitable location in Aughton to install a defibrillator to complement those already installed in Brunton and on the Barleycorn. Please get in touch with the Parish Clerk if you have a proposed location.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on 9th November 2021, at 7 pm, in the Ruth Fisher Room.

### **COLLINGBOURNE DUCIS PARISH COUNCIL**

*Peter Knowlson (01264 850812), Chairman, writes:*

Whilst I appreciate this is the second edition since the Courier's return to print this is the first update from Collingbourne Ducis Parish Council (CDPC). I thought I'd start by just confirming the names of the Parish Councillors seeing as we have had a couple of changes in the last six months including our most recent councillor appointment of Karin Bell.



Peter Knowlson – Chairman; Dave Dennis – Vice Chair; Paul Hartley; Lucy Gomes; Keith Cockerton; Karin Bell; Steve Lyons; Shaun Batley; John Wood.

You will find details below, but if you would like to join the team, we currently have two vacant councillor positions up for grabs!

**Christmas Brunch** – I'm pleased to confirm that we will be going ahead this year with the Christmas Brunch which is a free event for those people living in Collingbourne Ducis. This is funded now solely by the Parish Council and will be taking place on Sunday 12th December at Collingbourne Ducis Village Hall between 9 am and 12 pm.

For those of you new to the village, this is an annual event (subject to Covid) that brings people from the village together just before Christmas to enjoy a bacon, sausage and egg roll and an endless supply of tea, coffee and juices. There will also be a selection of cereals for those not wanting hot food.

Although food and drink are free, please do bring along some money as there will be a raffle which contains some great prizes for all ages.

Money raised from the raffle goes back into the pot to help run the following year's event. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

**Road Safety Issues and Actions** - A number of recent accidents and tragic incidents in Collingbourne Ducis have placed road safety in sharp focus over recent months. Over recent years, the issue of road safety has been high on the agenda for CDPC, a significant focus of effort, financial resources and liaison being directed towards this important issue. Enclosed with this edition of the Courier is an open letter to highlight past and present actions which we wanted to share.

**Vacancies** - If you would like to get involved, I would invite you to either contact me or the Parish Clerk to find out more details on becoming a Parish Councillor. You do not need any prior experience, just the willingness to get involved in making a difference in the community. Please contact our Parish Clerk, Mr Phil Gill, for more details. Email: [parishclerk@collingbourne-ducis.com](mailto:parishclerk@collingbourne-ducis.com)

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at 7 pm on Wednesday 3rd November at Collingbourne Ducis Village Hall.

### **THE VIEW FROM EVERLEIGH**

*Denis Bottomley (01264 852731), Chairman, writes:*

We have made further progress on our Everleigh Enhancement Project. More work has been done to cultivate the flower bed in Everleigh, opposite the park bench on A342; planting is due to take place early in the Autumn. A new park bench has also been ordered, to be sited by the rear gate of the village playground with views of Sidbury Hill and Baden's Clump. We also intend to position a Christmas tree in the vicinity of the Crown bus shelter in early December.



A Harvest Festival service took place in St Peter's Church on Saturday 9th October. The Church was decorated beautifully by the Ladies of Everleigh, who arranged a stunning floral display. Rev Michael McHugh conducted an excellent service. Readings were delivered with aplomb and hymns were heartily sung. Harvest gifts were gratefully received and donated to the Trussel Trust food bank in Andover.

The Everleigh Christmas Carol Service is scheduled for Saturday 11th December at 5 pm at St Peter's Church, subject to the Covid situation, and will be followed by mulled wine and mince pies. More details will follow in the next edition of the Courier.



The Everleigh Village Emergency Plan has been updated and distributed to each household in the village. The purpose of our plan is to cater for extreme circumstances (for example heavy snowfall) that might prevent the emergency services from reaching the scene immediately. In such cases the initial response may rely entirely on Everleigh residents. If you feel you would be able to assist, then please contact the Parish Council; contact details are in the Village Emergency Plan.

Covid-19 continues to feature prominently in the headlines, with the situation constantly under review. Village Area Co-ordinators remain in place and alert to the needs of parishioners.

Finally, the next Parish Council meeting will take place on Tuesday 11th January 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)

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**OUR LINK COORDINATOR'S NUMBER IS CD 850807**

**Please try to give them at least 48 hours' notice to find a volunteer**

## **COLLINGBOURNE SCHOOL REPORT**

*Headteacher Dan Crossman and Woody the School Dog write:*

The last term at Collingbourne School has been full of fun, learning and adventure! Outside, the Forest School area has seen a further development with the addition of a new purpose-built shelter. The children have also planted their own hedgerow to help separate the Forest School from the main playground. This year's vegetable harvest has been sold and the monies raised utilised to purchase seeds for next year's crop.



Inside classrooms we have enjoyed 'European Languages Day'. Children dressed up as various different countries, sang songs and even sampled cuisine such as madeleines and brockwurst. That's not all the children have been eating. In Hedgehog class they have been reading the book 'Pumpkin Soup' and so they made... pumpkin soup. Most delicious!

Otter Class have had adventures further afield. They recently paid a trip to Devizes Museum where children dressed in Stone Age outfits, used a quern stone and even made stone-age pots. A brilliant time was had by all.

Thoughts now will start to turn towards Nativities and Carol concerts. Whisper it quietly but it's not too long until Christmas.

Dan Crossman

Woody

Headteacher

School Dog



## **COLLINGBOURNE DUCIS VILLAGE HALL**

*David Paterson, Chairman, writes:*

The Summer has passed and Ducis Village Hall re-opened with almost a normal programme of hirings and events. It was great to see the School beginning to use the Hall fully at the beginning of the

Autumn term. Dragonflies Nursery are operating to full capacity and they are also running Before and After School Clubs. A full complement of evening groups and clubs are now taking place: Table Tennis, Yoga, Short Mat Bowls, Tai Chi and Cricket took place throughout the Summer. Family events are now beginning to be planned and happening. The Parish Council is meeting in the Hall. Future events are beginning to appear on the calendar. The first Film Place is in November, the Village Brunch in December, Family Christmas parties, and a Beer Fest is planned for next year.

We are of course still aware of the need to take great care following national and ACRE guidelines. Our capacity in the Main Hall is limited to one hundred; sanitiser is available, social distancing is recommended. Enhanced cleaning is taking place and registers are kept. We are holding an Autumn Clean/Clear-out on 30th October, volunteers are welcome at 10 am.

I am sure you have seen our magnificently re-furbished tennis court. The Court is part of the Village Hall; it is an expensive asset, the work cost over £4,000. Please use this in a sensible way. Tennis, basketball and netball are all provided for. The net is moveable but must be replaced in the correct manner. We are looking at other ways to ensure the court is used in a secure way.

Environmental sustainability is at the forefront of all of our forward thinking. We have provided additional re-cycling bins. These are for Village Hall users only. We are seeking improvements to the toilet facilities. These will include water saving measures. Heating has been enhanced with a new boiler and pumping support, maintaining the efficiency of the system. As solar panel technology improves, we will seek to install these - we have a very large roof area!

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



As you can see, there is a great deal of responsibility placed on the shoulders of the Management Committee and Trustees of the Hall. I am very proud of these people for their hard work and support throughout this unprecedented period. As the expression goes, 'The only way is up'. We are holding our AGM at 8 pm on Wednesday 17th November. Please come along and join us in running our successful village facility.

### **CONVERSION OF HONDA FACTORY INTO A MEGA WAREHOUSE**

*Terry Greenwood informs us:*

The closed-down Honda factory in Swindon has been purchased by Panattoni and will almost certainly become one of the largest warehouses in the south. Potentially this development could result in a massive increase in lorry traffic down the A338 which is the natural East -West Route.

I requested the Collingbourne Ducis Parish Clerk to find out what was happening and with his permission I would like to pass on the reply received.

Clearly, we need to monitor the situation - here is the reply I received:

*Subject: RE: 20210905 - Conversion of Honda Factory into Logistics Centre - 5 Sep 21*

I received the following from the Cabinet member with regard to the Honda site in Swindon. Hope you find it useful.

'Following the end of production at the Honda Plant on the 30th July this year, we understand that Panattoni will take control of the site early next year subject to all necessary consents being received. Amongst these consents will include all necessary planning and environmental permissions, with Panattoni declaring on their website

that they 'will now commence all necessary planning work with Swindon Borough Council, with support from Honda'.

Having corresponded briefly with the Planning Services Manager at Swindon, we understand that progressing those permissions has commenced in earnest and that Swindon will cooperate with Wiltshire Council officers as the proposals emerge.

Because we are at the early stages in the process, we are still unsighted on any transport assessments, including any draft routing plans. However, we are very aware that supply chain implications of Honda's operation, as developed over the last 36 years, are likely to be very different from the impact of a large logistics site. In part this is due to the agglomeration created by Honda's operation and the re-siting and development of associated manufacturing plants (parts, tyres etc) to support the supply chain.

In contrast to this, whilst the logistics site may be rigidly served by some UK manufacturing, it is likely that the predominant logistics chain will connect the site to other distribution plants and transport hubs and these may change sporadically, i.e. the logistics chain will be reciprocal to demand, which may reflect a changing product and a changing distribution. With this in mind, we are very much aware of the differing complexity of the Panattoni logistics supply chain, when compared to the Honda plant, and we will be very mindful of this in our assessment of any planning submission.

Wiltshire Council officers cannot at this stage confirm any proposed routing plans and impact upon Wiltshire's communities, however we will ensure that all formal planning submissions will be posted on our planning website, including all formal recommendations from officers. We will further work with Swindon Borough Council to ensure all potentially affected communities are notified and will ensure that we are available to provide support to local community

groups and parishes where concerns over these planning submissions are made.'

Christopher Williams  
Ludgershall North & Rural Division  
Chairman Tidworth Area Board

### **THANKSGIVING SERVICE FOR NEIL HOSIER – 12TH NOVEMBER 2021**

*Rosemary Hosier writes:*

A service of Thanksgiving for the life of Neil Hosier will be held on Friday 12th November at 2.30 pm at St Mary's Collingbourne Kingston. All are welcome.

### **COLLINGBOURNE'S SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB**

*Humphrey Sheppard (07791 951396 / 01264 850721), Chairman, writes:*

After eighteen months or more since we were last able to meet, we have re-started and are meeting up with many long-lost friends and associates.

We meet every Wednesday until 20th April 2022 at 1845 hrs for a 1900 hrs start with an estimated finishing time of 2115 hrs.

We run an internal league on two mats and a friendly roll up on the third and - if necessary - fourth mats.

We always welcome new members, but unlike most clubs there is no annual membership fee. Turn up with your £2 in cash on the night and play.

The only equipment requirement is CLEAN FLAT SHOES in order to preserve the life of our mats.

The Club has several sets of bowls for use by players and it is a perfect way for new starters to learn how to play a most wonderful game.

## COLLINGBOURNES AND EVERLEIGH GARDENING CLUB

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

In September, for the first time for many months, we held an evening meeting when Victoria Logue came to talk about Extending the Season in Your Garden.



Victoria provided a digital slide presentation showing how to provide colour and shape in the garden by using structures and ornaments among the plants, thus keeping the area interesting throughout the year. She gave advice on feeding plants, pruning, and encouraged us to keep planting tulips up until Christmas. We were advised to dig up and divide sedum if the plants are flopping over, and to feed house plants though the winter. It was a very informative start to our winter meetings.

The November meeting is on Thursday 25th, when Lin Miles will return: her subject is 'For The Love of Snowdrops'. We start at 7.30 pm in Ducis Village Hall and home-made cakes will be served afterwards with a cup of tea or coffee.

New members are always welcome but if you just want an evening out, please come along. If you would like any further information, please call our chairman, Caroline Bouwens **01264 850250** or me **01264 850319**.

## COLLINGBOURNE DUCIS VILLAGE HALL DRAW

*Jane Crook (01264 850436) announces:*

The results of the October village hall draw were

£50 E. Gingell 41

£25 A. Wilkins 51

£10 S. Bamber 252

£5 M. Bailey 48

Congratulations to the winners. If you would like a ticket please contact Jane Crook on **01264 850436**. Continuing to support our village hall.

## CRICKETING COMMENT

*David Malley writes:*

The club enjoyed two presentation evenings this month – The Sapphires ladies' team celebrated in The Barleycorn with a two-course dinner and a few glasses of wine; and the senior side enjoyed a Thai curry in The Tipple the following evening.



Twenty-five awards were handed out over the course of the two evenings with individual successes (and the odd failure) rewarded with the club's familiar set of trophies – some of which have now been in circulation for nearly forty years! Great fun was had by all, and the club would like to thank both pubs for their warm hospitality.

As reported in last month's Courier, we are competing in an indoor league this winter, with matches starting in November. We have entered two teams including a youth-led development team, and a not-so-young team for some of our older hands. Matches will take place on Sunday afternoons at Wellington Academy. The Sapphires will also be using the same facility for some winter training sessions too, and anybody interested in joining in with this, or the indoor league, can contact the club at [info@collingbournecricketclub.co.uk](mailto:info@collingbournecricketclub.co.uk) for further details.

Finally, the club will hold its AGM on Friday 26th November at 7 pm at Ducis Village Hall. The meeting is not just for club members and is open to our friends in the local community who would like to come and hear what we've achieved this year, and what our plans are for next season. As usual we will run a small bar, so if you'd like to learn more about how our club is run then we look forward to seeing you there.

As ever, we're always on the lookout for new recruits regardless of age or ability, and would welcome new players to join our youth, ladies and senior sides. For more information, find us on Facebook or visit [www.collingbournecricketclub.co.uk](http://www.collingbournecricketclub.co.uk)

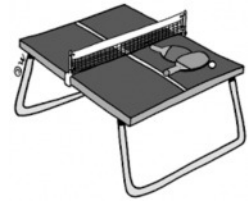
### **MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE**

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

### **TABLE TENNIS ..... A VILLAGE SUCCESS STORY**

*Terry Greenwood writes:*

For over ten years now recreational table tennis has been available for all in both Kingston and Ducis village halls. We started up with a few people playing in a garage and today we have sessions from 7 to 9 pm on Mondays in Ducis Hall where we have four tables and from 10 to 12 am on both Tuesdays and Fridays in Kingston Hall where we have three tables. There are about thirty of us who play either once, twice, or even three times a week. There is no commitment. As we play only doubles we can have up to sixteen people in play at the same time. Our format is to play one game then invite anyone sitting out to join in with a new foursome. We play the old rules, i.e. up to twenty-one points with service change after five. Everyone plays with everyone as our foursomes rotate. We do not play competitively, but it's nice for your team to win!



If needed, players new to table tennis can be shown how to hold the bat and get the ball over the net in about twenty minutes. So new players can join in with a little instruction. Many of our current players had never played before they came along.

We have bats and balls available, so a pair of trainers is all the kit you need. You don't have to stay the full two hours and we have tea, coffee and biscuits on the go.

Table Tennis is for all (from nine to ninety-six). Come along, you'll have a ball (just turn up you will be most welcome).

P.S. It will cost you £2 per session but a taster session is FREE.

P.P.S. Picking up a little white ball from the floor is great exercise!

### THEFILMPLACE - YOUR COMMUNITY CINEMA

*Jim Plenderleith (01264 852734) writes:*



The 19th of November is fast approaching and we are excited to be planning for the first post lockdown showing at THEFILMPLACE. We will have the usual pre-film offer of home-baked cakes, tea and coffee and a bar with drinks to meet most tastes. Choc ices served at the interval. The aim is to have an enjoyable and sociable village evening. Tickets are on sale now at Collingbourne Ducis village shop. Any relevant Covid-19 protocols will be observed.

Showing at THEFILMPLACE on Friday 19th November 2021 is DREAM HORSE starring Damian Lewis, Toni Colette and Owen Teale. Dream Horse is the true story of Dream Alliance, an unlikely racehorse bred by small-town bartender Jan Vokes. With very little money and no experience, Jan convinces her neighbours to chip in from their meagre earnings to help raise Dream and compete with the racing elites. Their investment pays off as Dream rises through the ranks and becomes a beacon of hope for their struggling community.

This movie gets a real gallop on due to the sheer warmth of its performances. Collette, that perennially excellent actor who utterly inhabits every part, gives us a wonderfully approachable Jan; shy, yet tough and determined. Lewis is robust and yet very sympathetic as the rakish Howard who has come very close in the past to losing his

shirt to the sport of kings. It is a treat to see Joanna Page as Howard's wife Angela and a cameo for Siân Phillips as Maureen, a local woman with a passion for Tunnocks Tea Cakes.

Doors open at THEFILMPLACE, Collingbourne Ducis Village Hall, at 7 pm for pre-film drinks and refreshments, the film show starts at 7.30 pm. Tickets are £6 available now from Collingbourne Ducis village shop or by telephoning Jim Plenderleith (Ducis) **01264 852734**, Robert East (Everleigh) **01264 850449** or James Robinson (Kingston) **07788 992588**. 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**

#### **1ST COLLINGBOURNE SCOUT GROUP**

*Natalie Williams, Group Scout Leader (01264 850566), writes:*

Volunteering for scouting is easier than you think. Scouting offers a range of flexibility for adult volunteering opportunities, which help provide adventure and challenges for young people.

We are looking for leaders, managers, executive members and more. Whatever your skills, experience and interests, we can find a role for you. With full support and training, you can experience the fun, friendship and adventure of scouting for yourself, all on a flexible basis. You will be provided with full training and support to do this.

For more information and to get involved at 1st Collingbourne Scout Group please contact us to find out more.

Natalie Williams, Group Scout Leader – 1st Collingbourne Scout Group

email: **natalie.williams@wiltshirescout.org.uk/collingbourne7@yahoo.com**



## **1ST COLLINGBOURNE KINGSTON BROWNIES**

*Natalie Williams, Brown Owl, (01264 850566), writes:*

**Brownies is for all girls aged seven to ten.**



Girls in Brownies have incredible experiences together, make brilliant friends and discover the world around them. Every time they meet up, groups of Brownies learn new skills and take on challenges as they work out what they want to be and do in the future.

**A space to try new things.**

Brownies is about getting together regularly, often each week, to work on badges, play games and see friends. It's about trying adventurous activities and going along to special events, day trips, sleepovers, camps and holidays.

**Brownies go for it!**

Girls in Brownies are part of a small group called a Six, led by a girl called a Sixer. They make their own decisions about what badges and activities to do next. They work together to explore their place within their local community and the world around them.

If you would like to know more out about your local Brownie group then come along on a Tuesday to Collingbourne Kingston Village Hall from 5.45 pm to 7.15 pm.

Why not ask your parent/carer to ring on **07976102650** or email **Collingbourne7@yahoo.com** for more details.

## **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)**

## CHRISTMAS BINGO - FUN FOR ALL

The Brownies would like to invite everyone to come along to the Christmas Bingo being held on 7th December at Kingston Village Hall with doors opening at 7.30 pm. There will be many prizes, a raffle and refreshments. Don't forget to bring your friends to come and join in with the fun.

## THINGS I HAVE FOUND IN THE GARDEN

*Digger (allotment number provided)*

I've found quite a few types of buttons (two holes, four holes, no holes) while digging in the garden, each, in its own individual way, uniquely boring. Terence Seymour (author of 'Common Buttons of North-east Essex') summed it up rather well in a talk he once gave on buttons: 'and though occasionally a button will turn up with some sort of decoration or insignia, the majority, and I mean the vast majority, as you've seen from my slides, are completely featureless'.

I am frequently asked why there are so many buttons in gardens, and I shall tell you why. It's shoddy.

Shoddy was a term for shredded clothing, from which it was too much bother to remove the buttons, and shoddy could be used as a soil improver.

We may have a reference to this in Voltaire's 'Candide', when Pangloss tells Candide 'When man was put into the Garden of Eden, it was with an intent to dress it'.

Some vaguely interesting things about buttons.

The button/buttonhole method for closing clothes appeared in Germany in the thirteenth century. As snugger fitting garments, which better showed off the figure, became popular during the

thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, so the button and buttonhole soon became wide spread.

Legend holds that the Button of Destiny once adorned the cloak of Nostradamus, but it fell off. This button is believed to be a deceitful button with three sides: a front, a back, and another front which is ever changing. Thus, it is as invisible as a button with only one side, if it is sewn on the wrong way round. It portends nothing and predicts nothing. It is not known who has worn it, or when, or where it will turn up next.

Bob Hope, in the 1948 film 'The Paleface', sang a song titled 'Buttons and Bows' to Jane Russell, which is not something many grown men would have thought of doing.

In 1595 Sir Thomas Button, a famous explorer in his day, married Elizabeth Mansell.

Nigel Mansell was Formula 1 champion in 1992.

Jenson Button was Formula 1 champion in 2009.

I do not know what this means.

Not surprisingly, the great writers didn't say much about buttons.

Goethe, the celebrated German playwright, apparently inanely informs us that 'Once you have missed the first buttonhole you'll never mangle to button up'. However, experts on Goethe are almost unanimous in declaring this to be some of his finest writing, ranking alongside the line in Faust in which the Devil tells Faust how to hang

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

CD: [www.collingbourne-ducis.com](http://www.collingbourne-ducis.com)  
CK: [www.collingbournekingston.org.uk](http://www.collingbournekingston.org.uk)  
Everleigh: [www.everleigh.org](http://www.everleigh.org)

his washing on the line: 'Tops from the bottom and bottoms from the tops'.

Shakespeare mentions buttons in Hamlet I III 40 but in his usual careless way he had got his words muddled up and he meant flower buds, so this does not count.

In Romeo and Juliet he's at it again calling a skilled fencer (with swords, not posts and panels) a 'butcher of a silk button'. Now this might paint a pulsatingly vivid word picture if you have just consumed a quantity of curious little mushrooms (not the button mushroom which I believe is so named because of its striking resemblance to a mushroom) but otherwise it is difficult to know what the man was driving at.

Gertrude Stein, the famous (I checked) American poet (who was also afflicted with playwrighting), produced a book of verse titled 'Tender Buttons' which is said to be a 'masterpiece of verbal cubism', and it may well be. The title supposedly 'juxtaposes two familiar concepts to alienate their familiar meanings' but she was probably thinking of something else.

Gertrude is lauded for her declaration 'Rose is a rose is a rose is a rose' which seems unjust to me as I have repeated myself much better than that when I've been drunk and never been given the slightest credit.

The best thing I ever heard about buttons was a limerick my grandmother told me when I was a young boy. Unfortunately she came from Australia and I can't write it down here. (It's the one that starts 'A woman who lived in Darjeeling, would dance with such exquisite feeling.)

## SAVERNAKE TEAM LETTER

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

Written on the Feast of Luke – Doctor and Evangelist



Dear Reader,

When I approached this letter, I was gushing with enthusiasm. A full flow that kept being interrupted by ‘predictive text.’ At a time when time is limited, my life was wasted by an annoying, dumbing down frustration. My focus narrowed and my impatience rocketed. For our own spiritual and psychological well-being, we all have to fight that narrowing of vision.

There is a fundamental difference in a view of the world that involves domination and conquering and that which is at the heart of Christianity. Only during evening prayer did the words come to help me from a song, ‘When I am in a storm, the storm is not in me.’

Colin, my colleague, wrote in the Pewsey Deanery Prayers in response to Gene Rodenberry:

Clear-eyed about their insecure position, Christians know they rely entirely on that which is infinitely greater than themselves. The God who sets his seal upon the stars (Job 9.7) is the same God in whom we live and move and have our being.

Christians strive not to boldly go, but to patiently be, to belong.....

We don’t search out and chart the cosmos, it searches us and knows and loves us. It is closer to us than we are to ourselves. Like autumn, God envelops us, drawing us in, not pushing us out: this allows us to talk with joy. Simple, straightforward, uncomplicated and above all free. Once domination of the cosmos is removed, then we are both healed and we become physicians, curing our world and those around us. We are free to enjoy them. Our belonging is based on

giving rather than receiving. It allows us to embrace our personal crosses with joy, but not without pain. Spiritually it is the self-emptying (kenosis) that gives us power and authority (exousia).

So many of our world's problems are to do with domination, it inhibits, controls and above all narrows vision. By belonging in the world, we engage with it and become at one with it and ourselves. Ultimately, we can be at peace. A peace that is reflected in this the season of Remembrance.

Be at peace with the world and belong in it.

*Michael*

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

*Nigel Worner-Phillips (01264 850070), Churchwarden, writes:*

### **Harvest Supper**

As a result of Covid over the past eighteen months the church has had to close for long periods of time for safety reasons and this impacted on both our usual Sunday services as well as special services and events we hold throughout the year. Therefore, it was extremely good news when lockdown was eased and we were able this year to hold our annual Harvest Supper on Monday 4th October. Nevertheless, the evening would not have been a success without the help of those who gave their time and in doing so, provided what has been repeatedly expressed as a fantastic evening meal. Therefore, we wish to express our sincere thanks to Wendy Brown, Karen Preece, Jacqui Caldwell, Hilary Semple and Stephanie Daubney for their help in preparing and serving a first-class meal.

In addition, we wish to thank Philip Brown for the entertainment in the form of his professional magic act. A big thank you should also be extended to everyone who helped set up the hall, ran the bar and



tombola. There are too many to thank by name, but without everyone's help, the evening would not have been the success it was. Also, after all the expenses, the church received just over £600 which is very much needed due to ongoing expenses, so once again, many thanks to everyone for making the evening such a success and we look forward to next year.

### **Remembrance Service**

You will see from Services in November we are able this year to hold a joint Remembrance Service with Collingbourne Ducis and look forward to seeing everyone to commemorate the contribution of British and Commonwealth military and civilian servicemen and women in the two World Wars and later conflicts.

### **Jersey Ringers**

Collingbourne Kingston welcomed the Jersey Ringers and their mainland friends who rang the bells on Friday 15th October between 11 am and 11.45 am. Mike Holt reported everything went well and our guests were extremely happy with their visit (Thank You card on Church noticeboard). Also, we wish to thank Mike Holt and his team for providing our village and the surrounding area with their bell ringing. We are all too aware of how the village fell silent during lockdown when they were unable to meet, and not forgetting the difference they make during important services throughout the year. So, a big thank you to everyone involved.

### **Craft Fair**

We are looking to hold another Craft Fair in the church this year in December and a final date and time are yet to be finalized, so keep an eye out for flyers and advertising nearer the time. As many of you know the last Craft Fair was a great success and we look forward to another successful event.

## ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, COLLINGBOURNE DUCIS

*Churchwarden Tish Leigh (01264 850867) writes:*

This certainly is the season of 'mists and mellow fruitfulness'! Many recent, early mornings have been very misty and our local countryside is certainly looking glorious in all its rich autumn colours.



As reported in last month's Courier, on Friday 8th October we had our Harvest Supper at Collingbourne Ducis village hall. The final profit for the evening was the fantastic amount of £526.70. This was made while eating delicious food and having a great social evening. The money will go towards funds to repair the church clock.

This month sees the annual service of Remembrance when we remember those from the parishes of the Collingbournes and Everleigh who fell in battle. There will be a short service at the War Memorial in Collingbourne Ducis on Thursday 11th November, starting at 10.45 am when the children from our school will remember those who gave their lives for us. Our church service of Remembrance will be held at St Mary's Church, Collingbourne Kingston on Sunday 14th November, starting at 10.45 am. There will be no service at St Andrew's on that day. Everyone is welcome to join us for either or both of these services.

30th November is St Andrew's Day. Our church has been dedicated to St Andrew since 1786. It is believed that St Andrew was born between the years 5 AD and 10 AD in a place that is now part of Israel. He became one of the twelve disciples of Jesus Christ and was the brother of St Peter. St Andrew is said to have carried out missionary activities around the Black Sea. He is thought to have died around 60-70 AD in Patras, Achaia – now Greece. A fourth-century account reports his death by crucifixion with him being bound to the cross, rather than



nailed. Initially the cross was said to be a Latin cross, similar to cross that Jesus died on, but later accounts described it as a 'crux decussate' – an X-shaped cross, or saltire, which later became known as St Andrew's Cross.

It is said this type of cross was used at his own request as he deemed himself unworthy to be crucified on the same type of cross as Jesus. Look out for St Andrew's flag flying from the church tower on 30th November.

A few advance notices now as Christmas is now less than seven weeks away! The Phoenix Brass band will be providing the brass element of 'Brass and Carols' at the Tipple Inn starting at 7.30 pm on Thursday 16th December. There will also be mulled wine and mince pies. 'Come to Bethlehem' will take place at 3 pm on Christmas Eve, so start sorting out your costumes now.

Will you be a traveller to Bethlehem, an angel, an inn keeper, a wise person, a shepherd, a donkey or a sheep? Please put these dates in your diary now. Details of other services in December will be published in next month's Courier.

Finally, remember St Andrew's Church has its own Facebook page where you can keep up to date with events and comment on them. There are also some super photographs. The link is on our webpage or alternatively on Facebook just search for St Andrews Church, Collingbourne Ducis.

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

*Services in November*

Sunday 7th	Morning Worship at 9.30 am
Sunday 14th	Remembrance Service at 10.45 am
Sunday 21st	Holy Communion at 9.30 am
Sunday 28th	Evensong at 6 pm

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

*Services in November*

Sunday 7th	Evensong at 6 pm
Thursday 11th	Remembrance Service at War Memorial 10.45 am
Sunday 14th	Remembrance Service at St Mary's at 10.45 am
Sunday 21st	Family Worship at 11 am
Sunday 28th	Holy Communion at 11 am

*Cover Picture: Bonfire night in the 1600s.*

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