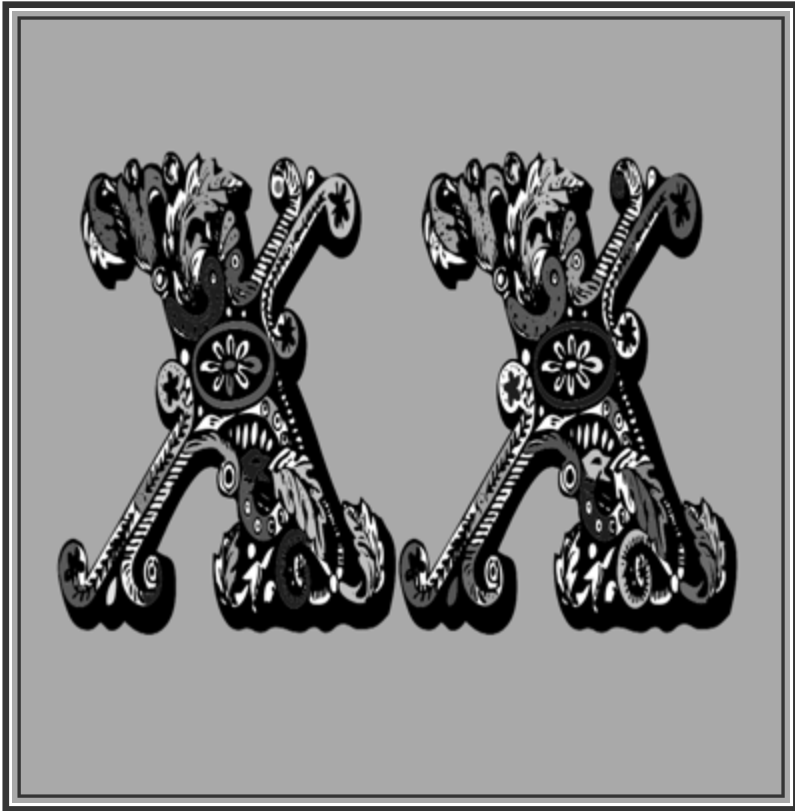


Collingbourne Ducis - Everleigh
Collingbourne Kingston

COURIER

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Our Twentieth Year

A BIT FROM THE EDITOR

The Editor writes:

Welcome to our twentieth year of the Courier, and our sixteenth year of being together as one magazine. Our actual birthday is a bit later on, but we really are in our twentieth year of publishing - how amazing and heartening it is still to see a large team of people all working together for a good purpose after twenty years - and as far as I know, we intend to carry on, at least until the Coming of the Cocqicgrues.



Then, after seaching not very hopefully for a new recipe-of-the-month chef, quite suddenly two brilliant ones have turned up at once , just like the buses, and they have kindly agreed to alternate , Month in, Month out.

And finally, we have had about two magazinesworth of copy in this month. Thank you so very much, kind contributors. It seemed best to try to make sure that all the time-sensitive material was included this month, and we will do our best to fit the very interesting remainder in next month's, which does usually tend to be a bit slimmer. The strange new typeface for the headings is just part of our birthday celebrations - like little lights hung over each article, matching the cover. We shall turn them off next month, so don't worry. The Diamond Jubilee, the Courier's Twentieth Year, AND the Olympics. It's almost too much excitement for a little magazine to bear in one year.

COLLINGBOURNE DUCIS PARISH COUNCIL 5TH JANUARY 2012

Philip Gill, Parish Clerk (01264 398534) writes:

Policing Issues. PC M Bayliss reported on the recorded crimes that had taken place over the last two months, the most significant of which were a hit and run collision in the Village Hall Car Park, a three vehicle road traffic collision and an identified motorcycle rider not wearing a helmet.



Finance - Recreation Ground. Shortly after starting to review the hire fees, Councillor Chandler declared an interest as a member of the Cricket Club. Following further consideration Members agreed that a Working Group be set up to further consider the review of hire fees in detail and that Recreation

Our LINK Co-Ordinator's Number is CD 850807
Please try to give them at least 48 hours notice to find a volunteer

Ground users be invited to present their views. The Working Group is to consist of those Members available to participate and who have no prejudicial interests in Financial Year 2012/2013

Budget and Precept. The Chairman presented the previously circulated draft budget, which, after detailed scrutiny, was accepted. It was then agreed that the Precept for year 2012/2013 be set at £17,254, which is a rise of 1% and over 4% below the Retail Price Index measure for September 2011, the figure normally used in accordance with normal Government practice.

Planning Report. E/2011/1672/FUL Proposed rear extension and alterations, replacement and modified window openings, replacement garage and alterations to external landscaping at 7 Sunnyhill, Collingbourne Ducis. Having considered the application and given the very narrow roads and limited parking areas in the vicinity of the application Members raised a very strong concern regarding the volume of site traffic in the area at any one time, and the possible restriction of free access and egress of residential, emergency and service traffic during both working and non working hours. Members also raised a concern that the application, being of a fairly large scale, might not be in keeping with the surrounding dwellings if not handled carefully.

E/2011/1750/S73 Application for Variation of Condition 8 of planning application E/2011/1113/FUL (plans) to allow minor alterations to approved plans consisting of creation of cellar; extension to dining room area and additional window; revised porch canopy; relocation of first floor window on western elevation, at Herridge Racing Stables, Herridge, Collingbourne Ducis. Having considered the application Members agreed to raise no comment and to defer to the Planning Officers at Wiltshire Council.

Highway Matters. Councillor Haverson reported that he had not been advised of any new issues. He had contacted Graham Axtell of Wiltshire Council Highways regarding the holes left by the removal of the cats eyes on the Ludgershall Road and had received a response that indicated that rules are greater than common sense. However, they will keep an eye on the size and condition of the holes. Councillor Cox noted that the recently installed carriageway markers on the Wexcombe Road at The Shears Inn were the wrong way round – anyone travelling south and keeping red markers on their left would drive into a tree.

Diamond Jubilee. Councillor Cox reported that the bid had been submitted to TAB for consideration at its January meeting. He also reported that although some outline planning had taken place it was not possible to plan further until the success or otherwise of the grant application is known.

Co-option of Councillors. There are now four vacancies as a result of resignations and anyone interested in becoming a Councillor should contact the Parish Clerk for details.

Date of Next Meeting. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 1st March 2012 at 7.30 pm at Collingbourne School

EVERLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE CROWN HOTEL 9TH JANUARY 2012

Philip Gill, Parish Clerk (CD 398534) writes:

Wiltshire Constabulary. PSCSO Royston reported a theft of red diesel from West Hill Farm; two barns broken into but nothing stolen; four reports of hare coursing; two separate reports of suspicious cars and one possible drink drive. She also informed Members that although there would be some changes to the NPT shift patterns there would be no reduction in cover.

County Councillor. Councillor C Howard reported the following: Further patching work on Netheravon Road is due within the next month, and at the same time the repairs to the road surface on the A342 at Tango Crossing will be done, and as he understands it, the Netheravon Road, right through from Everleigh to Haxton, is due to be surface dressed in the spring or early summer, with funding already allocated. The drain on the A342 near the Crown is due to be done in February. The machine that is required to do the job is not available until then.

Waste Sites. There are two types of waste sites: Strategic - these will be large transfer stations where landfill waste will be collected and then sent on for processing elsewhere. Items for recycling will also be collected for onward transmission. Castledown Business Park was on the list of strategic sites, but glad to say that following a very vigorous and effective campaign by the people of Ludgershall, the Tidworth Area Councillors and Claire Perry MP, Castledown Business Park has been deleted from the list of Strategic sites. This is a very good outcome.

Finance. The Clerk presented a bank reconciliation and current liquidity statement which showed a current balance of £3,454.28. Having considered in detail the draft budget for year 2012/2013 members resolved that the budget be accepted as presented and having considered the proposed Precept as set out in the agreed budget and taken into account that no rises were levied in years 2009/2010 and 2010/2011, Members resolved to set the Precept for year 2012/2013 at £3,300, a rise of £200 on year 2010/2011.

Youth Initiatives. Councillor Bottomley explained that a bid had been prepared and submitted to TAB for consideration at its 16th January meeting.



The bid was for a grant of £820 to purchase a Short Skateboard to be installed by self help in the Play Area. Jodie Collinson, supported by Councillor Bottomley, is to give a verbal presentation on the bid to TAB.

Date of Next Meetings. The date of the next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as 7 pm on Monday, 5th March 2012, to be held at the Crown Hotel. The date of the Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council were confirmed as 7 pm on 10th May 2012, to be held at the Crown Hotel.

COLLINGBOURNE KINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING HELD ON 10TH JANUARY 2012



From Catherine Vaughan, Parish Clerk (CD 850230) writes:

Welcome: The meeting was pleased to welcome Mrs Claire Litchfield from the Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Wiltshire Councillor Charles Howard and PC Michael Bayliss.

Police Report: There were two incidents in Collingbourne Kingston recently; one was an attempted burglary at a vacant property, and the other was a more serious burglary in which valuables were stolen. Residents are reminded to be vigilant and to keep their properties secure at all times, even when at home.

Olympic Torch Relay: The Olympic Torch will pass through Ludgershall, Tidworth and Amesbury on 11th July 2012. More specific details regarding the route and the times will be published in The Courier nearer the time for those who are interested in watching the procession.

Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust: Residents are invited to take up membership of the Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust which meets eight times each year. The Foundation Trust provides a forum for formal feedback in respect of services provided by the Trust to the community. Governors of the Trust are elected by the members of the Foundation Trust. Anyone interested should contact the Clerk on **CD 850230** for a copy of the Foundation Trust's magazine *Horizon* and further information on membership and a registration form. Membership is free.

Waste sites: The proposal to site a large waste transfer station on the Castledown Business Park next to Wellington Academy in Ludgershall has been abandoned following vigorous opposition by Ludgershall residents, the Tidworth Area Councillors and Claire Perry MP. The Household Recycling Site at Everleigh will not be closed and another similar household recycling depot will be sited at Pickpit Hill on the south side of the A3026 between Ludgershall and Tidworth.



Spring is soon coming!

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 14th February 2012 at 7.30pm in the Ruth Fisher Room, Collingbourne Kingston Village Hall. Members of the public are most welcome to attend.

VIEW FROM EVERLEIGH

*Sally Matton, Chairman Everleigh Parish Council
(CD 850480) writes:*

The snowdrops and early daffodils are pushing their way up already – always such a welcome sight so early in the New Year. I always feel in need of something pretty to look at especially once all the Christmas decorations have been taken down and packed away.



St. Peter's Church, Everleigh

There are a number of households in Everleigh who are having trouble connecting to the internet – this is an ongoing problem mainly due to old technology at the exchange in Collingbourne Ducis. We have had the advice and expertise of a local resident who has been championing our cause but it looks like we will have to wait until local government money becomes available to update the equipment. This could be quite a while so if anyone finds a way to connect successfully (I watched a programme on 4G dongles recently which was inspiring) please let me know so we can let others know. Many thanks to Mr Tom Crapper for all his efforts on our behalf on this subject.

Hopefully by the time you read this our new Children Playing signs will be up in The Street. These have been funded by the DEV Show and it is hoped that they will remind all motorists to drive slowly up and down The Street which is where often you can find children cycling and walking and playing. This is unavoidable as we have no pavements either side and the Recreation Ground is at the top end of The Street. Even though we have a 30 mph speed limit, it would be lovely to see all cars driving much slower than that.

We are currently seeking permission to plant 150 trees up around the Playground area, which will be funded by the Woodland Trust and planted by us, the Villagers. This will be to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

It has been necessary this financial year to raise the precept (the amount of money the Parish Council receives annually) by £200. This is mainly due to a

Our Community Support Officers can now be contacted on

101

large increase in our insurance premium. We have cut spending elsewhere to help keep this increase as low as possible and we will be fundraising throughout the year so that we can still hold events for the Village to enjoy.

Our first fundraiser will be a Curry Lunch at the Goa on the 25th March - look out for more details through your door soon and help us to make it an afternoon to remember. Keep the date free.

2012 looks promising as we look forward to celebrating both the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the London Olympics in the summer. The Parish Council have plans for a Village Party up at the top of The Street on 4th June, including the lighting of a beacon to mark the Queen's 60 year reign.

The next Parish Council meeting is on 5th March at 7 pm – all welcome.

COLLINGBOURNE KINGSTON VILLAGE HALL

Carel Bouwens, CD 850250) writes:

The Trustees and Management Committee of the Village Hall wish all our users a happy New Year. I would also like to thank all those who assisted in the decoration of the main hall for Christmas; your efforts were much appreciated by all who subsequently used the hall.

It has been a busy two months. On 26th November there was another very successful Cheese and Wine party attended by more than 65 people. This raised a healthy sum for Village Hall funds and due to its popularity we invite you to another such event on Saturday, 25th February from 6 to 8 pm. Tickets (£6) can be purchased in advance from Richard May (CD 850251) or Lyn Wesemael (CD 850911).

On Friday, 16th December a group of volunteers, under the leadership of Sue Vallis, toured the Village entertaining residents with a rendition of traditional Christmas Carols. Although the appalling weather prevented them from completing a full tour of the three hamlets, this intrepid group managed to raise over £140 for Village Hall funds. We are very grateful for your sterling efforts; thank you and well done.

Our AGM was held on Thursday, 5th January, which was attended by the Trustees, the Management Committee and user groups' representatives. The Treasurer reported a sound position for Village Hall funds and consequently for the fourth year in succession we have been able to retain our hiring charges at the same level. Chris Patrick was voted in as Treasurer in succession to Karin Watt, and Penny Moule's position as Bookings' Co-ordinator was confirmed. There were no other changes to personalities on



the Committee or to user group representation. Additionally Chris Patrick has been appointed as one of the Trustees in succession to Shirley Lee.

On Thursday, 12th January the Barleycorn Inn re-established a monthly pub quiz. Brendan and Fiona, the newly appointed landlords, very kindly donated the entry fees from this first event to the Village Hall, for which we are very grateful. We welcome them both into our community and very much hope that their management of the Barleycorn is very successful and that they enjoy living in our lovely Village.

As a final point please note for your diaries that Rural Arts Wiltshire will be staging a performance of 'The Secret Garden' in the Village Hall on Saturday, 9th March. Full details are contained in a separate article in this month's Courier.



COLLINGBOURNES, CHUTE AND EVERLEIGH LINK GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME AGM

Pat Lincoln, Honorary Secretary (01380 729786) writes:

The Collingbournes, Chute and Everleigh Link Good Neighbour Scheme will hold its Annual General Meeting in Collingbourne Kingston Village Hall on Thursday, 1st March 2012 at 7.30 pm. This is a public meeting open to everyone. It is your opportunity to ask questions about how the LINK scheme works and to find out more about its future plans. The current Chairman, Basil Frost, will be standing down at this meeting, so there will be an election for a new Chairman. Please come along on 1st March and let your voice be heard.

Refreshments will be available at the end of the meeting to mark the occasion, so please join us.

RURAL ARTS WILTSHIRE

Jane Crook, (CD 850436) writes:

The next production from Rural Arts Wiltshire will be on Friday, 9th March in Collingbourne Kingston Hall at 7.30 pm. Angel Exit Theatre Company will bring us The Secret Garden. This is a new production which blends storytelling with striking physicality, beautiful puppets, live singing and an original soundtrack. Angel Exit unearths the heart of this classic tale by Frances



During the Twentieth Year issues of the Courier we hope to have several celebratory articles for you.

Hodgson Burnett. Spoilt orphan Mary is plucked from the vibrancy of India and transplanted to an old house on the grey Yorkshire moors, a hidden key unlocks the secret garden.

Rural Arts Wiltshire have brought a great variety of live theatre to Collingbourne for twelve years. Each one is very different but very professionally performed. The Secret Garden is a play written for adults to enjoy and for children six years old and over.

Ticket prices are: Adults £7, Concessions £6, Child £4.50 and a Family ticket (two adults and two children) is £18.50. This event is supported and subsidised by Wiltshire County Council and Arts Council England South West.

Please come and support Collingbourne Kingston Village Hall as they raise money to improve their facilities. There will also be refreshments and a raffle. Book your tickets early so not to be disappointed. Further information and tickets for the play are available from Jane Crook on CD 850436.

DUCIS DIAMOND JUBILEE AND OLYMPIC CELEBRATIONS 2012

Mike Cox, Chairman CD Parish Council (CD 850360) writes:

The Collingbourne Ducis initial proposals for celebrations to mark Queen Elizabeth II's Sixty Years on the throne were presented to Wiltshire Council's Area Board in January, along with ideas for celebrating the start of the Olympics.



These initial Jubilee ideas include a Caribbean Steel band, music from Echo (who played at the Archery Day a couple of years back), licensed bar, BBQ, Street Party on the Rec, bouncy castle and general fun, the venue being the Recreation Ground, on Coronation Day (2nd June) from afternoon until very late. So far the Village Hall Trust, the School PTA, the WI, St Andrew's Church, Dragonflies Pre-School, the Parish Council, Scouts, Brownies and the Tipple Inn have registered an interest in getting involved. The plans for the start of Olympic prelims week include live rock and pop classics from 'Dogs without Collars', food and drink, again on the Recreation Ground on 20th July (no point in trying to compete with the Opening Ceremony the following week!).

The Area Board awarded the Parish Council £1,000 to supplement the Council's own contribution towards the events and getting them successfully off the ground. There is a lot of work to be done and ideas are still needed – but with the funding in place this should be a good 'do'. If you have ideas, want to help or can contribute in any way, let Mike Cox CD 850360 or mike.cox@collingbourne-ducis.com or Lindie Rogers CD 850272 or lindierogers@hotmail.com know. The more hands on the pump the better – let's go for it!

CATS PROTECTION

Martin Bevan writes:

This month we are lucky to have a two week slot at Rotations, the charity shop in Whitchurch, starting Friday, 10th. This is one of our more successful fund raising events of the year but requires a lot of effort on the part of our volunteers, sorting and pricing the goods and transporting them to and from storage. We would welcome donations of clean, good quality books, bric-a-brac and clothing, preferably beforehand though goods will be accepted at the shop.

Rollo is an extremely large, male, tabby cat about 8 years old. He is quite chatty, friendly, likes lots of attention and doesn't mind other cats but when he is feeling anxious he growls, very much like a dog. Although he is gentle he doesn't appear to be used to children so would prefer a quiet, adult home.



COLLINGBOURNE KINGSTON DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATION

Carel Bouwens (CD 850250) writes:

I have been invited by the Parish Council, on behalf of the whole Village, to plan, prepare and run a celebratory event for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. We have selected Saturday, 2nd June as the most suitable day to hold a Fun Day, centred on the Village Hall. Whilst I have ideas of the form for the occasion, I do require others' inspiration and assistance. Already some volunteers have offered to help. As this is a Village event for all the residents of Aughton, Brunton and Collingbourne Kingston, I invite you to offer your services either in the planning, preparation or running of the day's activities. If you are willing to assist please give me (Carel Bouwens) a call on **CD 850250**.

1ST COLLINGBOURNE AIR SCOUTS

Natalie Williams (CD 850566) writes:

Cubs are back in Collingbourne. If you are a girl or boy aged between seven and a half and ten years and enjoy these things why not come along and join Cubs with Collingbourne Scout Group.

Interested? Cub Scouts started again in Collingbourne on 18th January 2012 at 6.30 pm, meeting weekly during the term at Collingbourne Kingston Village Hall. If you want to know more please contact Natalie Williams on **CD 850566** or email on natalie.williams@wiltshirescouts.co.uk or Mike Cox on **CD 850360**.



1st Collingbourne Air Scouts – Beaver Section

Recent term evenings of creating rope swings that have been tied off with some scout knots, making camp with pitching tents and knowing how they are taken down, having paper plane competitions to see whose can go the furthest, not forgetting creating Halloween masks, and also getting ready for Christmas by taking part in the Christmas Tree Festival and creating our own cards for sale online, to name a few.

Good news for the Beavers: the Cubs are back in the village starting this month (Wednesday nights from 6.30 – 8 pm Term time) so if you are aged eight to ten and a half years and interested in the scouting challenge (camping and cooking and climbing) please contact me (details below). This would not be possible if it was not for the three volunteers who have come forward. Many thanks to Donna, Jack and Barry for making this possible.

If you would like to be part of 1st Collingbourne Air Scouts then contact:
Natalie Williams (Ameek) telephone CD 850566 or email
Natalie.Williams@wiltshirescouts.org.uk

COLLINGBOURNE DUCIS VILLAGE HALL DRAW

Lindie Rogers (CD 850272) writes:

Lucky Winners from December and January Draws
were as follows:-

	December 2011	January 2012
£50	R Larcombe 22	K Rogers 116
£25	D Wase 128	L Gomes 206
£10	Mr Thornton 198	C Andrews 14
£5	G Knowles 159, B Andrews 38, D Paterson 86, J Gingell 300, G Heath 176, M Pim 200	K Cockerton 113, JC Wills 90



Congratulations to these winners and many thanks to all our regular volunteer collectors who make the monthly draws possible. The next draw will take place on Monday, 6th February at 8.30 pm at the Tipple Inn. If you would like to be part of this fun fundraising monthly draw please contact Lindie Rogers CD 850272 to find out how to be in it to win it!

1ST COLLINGBOURNE KINGSTON BROWNIES

Natalie Williams (CD 850566) writes:

Last term the Brownies worked on their crafts badge, writing Harvest poems and creating their own prayers. Fun was had at Halloween with apple dunking, doughnut competition and wrapping a brownie up as a mummy. Some great creations of autumn were created from what was found out and around the Hall. The work at the wildlife area at School gave the opportunity for some Brownies to gain their Seasons and Wildlife badges. When it comes time for the Brownies to make their Promise, invitations go out to their families to join them in the special event of getting enrolled.



As well as thinking of others and meeting new friends, Tegan, who joined us after enjoying some time with Brownies in Canada, spoke about what Brownies are like there, including the difference in uniform.

Early in December the Brownies had their Bingo evening which was very well attended and enjoyed by all. Thank you everyone for coming and making it such a successful evening for us. A big thank you also goes to Len

Cross for being our caller and bringing along the entertainment. Christmas Cards were created and were available online for all to order.

At the end of term everyone enjoyed the Christmas party including plenty of games. NB not forgetting the food. This term we are looking at our healthy eating badge with creating posters, looking at what we eat and creating some healthy food.

If you would like to become a Brownie then contact Natalie Williams (Brown Owl) **CD 850566** or email: **Collingbourne7@yahoo.com**

COLLINGBOURNE DUCIS VILLAGE HALL

Lindie Rogers (CD 850272) writes:

At the Annual General Meeting of the Collingbourne Ducis Village Hall Trust held in November 2011 a new Treasurer, Tim Nichols, was appointed to replace John Dowsett. John continues as a Trustee and a very experienced guide to our Hall. The Hall is managed by representatives of the user groups including Collingbourne School, Dragonflies Pre-School, the Toddler group, Zumba, Yoga, Short Mat Bowls, and the Cricket and Football clubs. Volunteer working parties have recently shredded some lower branches at the Chick's Lane side of the Hall and cleared all the gutters. There is always plenty to do to keep the building clean, tidy and safe. The tennis court is available for use throughout the year – please be careful when the weather is icy or wet and always leave the net slackened.



We look forward to seeing you running or helping at the Bluebell Race on Sunday, 29th April this year. Details to follow next month.

To book the facilities for your organisation's fundraising, for a family party or a special occasion call Lindie Rogers, Bookings Manager, on **CD 850272**.

DUCIS AND EVERLEIGH VILLAGE SHOW 2012

Lindie Rogers (CD 850272) writes:

Plans are going ahead to make a success of the Show on Saturday, 15th September 2012.

A first planning meeting of prospective stall-holders, organisers, helpers and participants will be held at 7 pm on Thursday, 15th March 2012. We don't yet have a leader to replace Robert East but the Show will go on with the goodwill of interested groups who will be getting involved to be rewarded. If you can't make the meeting next month please send a representative.

COLLINGBOURNE CRICKET CLUB

Karl Rogers, Secretary (CD 850272) writes:

Collingbourne cricketers are following the crowd and are now shopping online. The Club, in conjunction with KALIBAZAR, a specialist cricket clothing company, have set up a Collingbourne Cricket Club Shop where individuals can purchase a wide range of playing and casual clothing – all with the Club's own motif. It is also possible to request your own personal initials to be added to any item so no problem in the changing rooms identifying with your own items. The casual wear is really exciting including polo shirts, leggings, jumpers, jackets and baseball caps. It is possible to order single or multiple items and can be easily accessed via the Cricket Club website

www.collingbournecricketclub.co.uk



Indoor net practice will get under way at Wellington Academy Sports Centre for colts and adults in mid March, details to follow in March Courier and on our website. Anyone interested in playing is invited to come along to indoor nets. The Club will be very pleased to welcome new playing members.

COLLINGBOURNE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Pauline Marshall-Thomas, School Secretary (CD 850346) writes:

Forthcoming Events.

Celebration Assembly - Please join us on Friday, 9th February at Collingbourne Ducis Village Hall from 2.30 pm to celebrate all the hard work the children have been doing this term. Refreshments will be available.



Easter Fayre - The School will be holding its annual Easter Fayre on Friday, 23rd March from 2 pm until 4 pm at the School. There will be staff stocks, games, bottle stall, refreshments, plant stall, bouncy castle and lots more.

All welcome, we hope to see you at both events.

Don't forget to check out the School website at **www.collingbourne.wilts.sch.uk** for more information and photos of events.

A massive thank you to everyone who donated prizes, bought raffle tickets or attended the Bingo and Nativity Plays. We raised over £400 which will be donated to the School for sporting and playground equipment. In total last term we raised over £1,500.

The PTA is asking local businesses for a small donation towards providing the pupils of Collingbourne Primary School with a specially designed sports kit that they would wear for tournaments and festivals. The children are at present having to wear their PE kit.

For more information and to make a donation please contact Chairman Barry Reed on CD 852706.

Future Events

Easter Family Bingo - We will be holding an Easter Family Bingo on Saturday, 24th March at CD Village Hall from 6 pm to 8.30 pm.

Wii Olympics -The Wii Olympics will be on Saturday, 7th April at the School from 4 pm onwards. This will be a fantastic afternoon of family fun with plenty of medals up for grabs. There will also be a bar, refreshments and BBQ.

COLLINGBOURNES AND EVERLEIGH GARDENING CLUB

Hibiscus writes:

With Christmas and New Year behind us we look forward to an interesting and varied programme from the Gardening Club and a diary of forthcoming events is undernoted. The next meeting will be on Thursday, 23rd February at Kingston, starting at 7.30 pm, on the subject of 'Roses - Old and New' from Dinah Lindon-Critchley, and bare root roses will be available to buy.



Here is a copy of our 2012 programme:

23 Feb-Kingston 7.30 pm	Roses – Old and New
22 March-Ducis 7.30 pm	Pests and Diseases, Soil Management, Lawns, etc
12 April – 6 pm	Evening visit to Sharcott Manor, Pewsey - £4
26 April-Kingston 7.30 pm	Propagation
11 May-depart 8 am	Day Visit to Malvern Spring Show-Coach £25
19 May – starts at 10 am	Plant Sale, Ducis
9 June 2-4 pm	Day visit to Bananas in Action, Basingstoke
28 June 1-4 pm	Afternoon visit to Rooksnest - £7.50
14 July 12-2 pm	Gardeners' Lunch
26 July 7 pm	Evening Visit – Chisenbury Priory
27 Sept-Ducis 7.30 pm	Allotment Growing and Storage for Winter
25 Oct-Kingston 7.30 pm	Open Evening-Autumn Opulence
22 Nov-Ducis 7.30 pm	Wonderful World of Camellias
8 Dec-Kingston 7.30 pm	Christmas Party
24 Jan 2013-Kingston 7.30 pm	AGM

In November we had a tremendous audience for Tony Russell's presentation. A seasoned presenter, Gardening Time contributor and raconteur, he gave a fascinating insight into the National Arboretum at Westonbirt and its history. In the 1800s Robert Holford, who lived in London (his home was then the

Dorchester Hotel) decided he needed a country residence and bought thousands of acres of Gloucestershire, built a house, had a park containing specimen trees planted and that was the beginning of Westonbirt. Neglected for decades between the wars, it was taken over by the Forestry Commission after World War Two and slowly recovered to its splendid state today. Tony Russell's presentation was peppered with amusing anecdotes and information regarding further developments during the winter months, including illuminated walks.

Our Christmas Party in December was also a very well attended evening when members and guests enjoyed a social evening, took part in various quizzes and games, and shared the wonderful variety of food that had been prepared by the members and which was accompanied by wine and soft drinks.

If you are interested in joining the Gardening Club, please call the Chairman, Caroline Bouwens on CD 850250, or Secretary, Wendy Roper on CD 852757, who will be pleased to answer any queries.

SINGING GROUP

Christina Ankin (CD 852766) writes:

A few of us were talking after Carol Singing outside the church on 22nd December. We all agreed that it would be lovely to have a singing group in the villages. So.... anyone interested?



We cannot run it without someone who would be able to lead it, i.e. play the piano, teach harmonies, etc. Do you know of anyone, possibly outside the village, who would be able to help us? We would like it to be informal – no auditions – not to have to read music – maybe some words!

We are not sure yet where or when it would be - we need to know who would be interested first. If you would like to be a part of this group please contact Christina on the number above.

SIDNEY NOBES 05-11-1945 TO 18-11-2011 LATE OF 4 SAXON RISE

Johanne Nobes writes:

Alex and I would like to say thank you to all our dear friends and neighbours in Collingbourne Ducis for the many cards and letters of sympathy we received at the sad loss of Sidney on the 18th November.

It has been a great comfort to us to know how much everyone has really wanted to help and makes us appreciate how lucky we are to live in such a caring village. With many thanks, Johanne Nobes.

COLLINGBOURNE KINGSTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE JANUARY MEETING

Pam Cogdell (CD 850601) writes:

The December meal at the re-named Blue Lion – now The Tipple Inn – was a very happy occasion. Despite dreadful rain, members turned up to enjoy a lovely meal – beautifully cooked and speedily served. After the meal, presents were exchanged and cards given to conclude a very happy evening.

In January subscriptions were collected at the meeting and various events mentioned. Among these Sarah remarked on the Beauty talk by Jill Cockerton which had been very much enjoyed. Several members had put their names down for the talk at the Town Hall, Melksham on 1st March, when Mary Berry, well-known writer, cook and TV presenter of cookery programmes, will be cooking and fashion events taking place.

The Tree Festival at Kingston Church had drawn favourable comments on the WI entry depicting 'While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night'. All the figures had been hand-knitted and were very life-like. Members were asked for suggestions for this year's speakers and Jane read out several speakers already booked by Pauline. These covered most of next year and all would give a varied and interesting programme. Our Speaker for the evening was Mr Laurence McGowan – a local figure – on his trip to Bhutan. A very interesting slide lecture followed with slides of the country, its buildings and people. Bhutan does not encourage tourists and a fee has to be paid to enter the country. Bhutan acts as a buffer state between India and Tibet, and has a monarchy in the form of a young prince, who is very popular and of whom Bhutan is very proud. They are a very artistic people and love colour, which is evident in their beautifully decorated houses and colourful costumes. Mr McGowan showed slides of a noisy and joyous religious procession and slides of the monastery and nuns' dwellings in the country. He was warmly thanked by Margaret Allcorn, hostess for the evening. Delicious refreshments and a raffle concluded the meeting.

Next Meeting - February 9th when Mr T Stratford will talk on 'Bishops, Sex and Money'.

7.30 pm Kingston Village Hall. Teas: S Fisher and Y Oates. Hostess: P Smith.

We would like to invite new members to join us. We meet once a month in Collingbourne Kingston Village Hall on the second Thursday in the month at 7.30 pm. Future talks are:



9th February - 'Bishops, Sex & Money'

8th March - '100 years of Salisbury Operatic Society'

12th April - 'National Trust Coastline'

All our talks are very varied, no two are the same. You are welcome to come three times before you become a member, so please give it a go; it is worth coming just for the refreshments! Further information from Jane Crook CD 850436. It is not all Jam and Jerusalem, any age welcome.

JOIN THE FUN AT COLLINGBOURNE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Laurence McGowan, Governor (CD 850749) writes:

I am writing this in the afterglow of Christmas, a time that celebrates both the arrival of one special child and indeed the specialness of all children. My days at School allowed me the bonus of being swept up in all the preparations, rehearsals and build up of excitement before the children broke up for the holiday. There were the St Andrew's Advent Service readings to practise, the carols to be brushed up and instrument repetition for all those brave enough to play solos for the Carol Service at St Mary's, and of course all the little ones to cajole and coach for their annual re-telling of the story of the Nativity; not to mention the making of decorations and greetings cards to take home. Memories of licking gummed strips to make paper chains came flooding back, along with those Chinese lanterns that we all seemed to make. I'm always astonished just how much all the teachers and their helpers manage to get done in such a short space of time as well as keeping up with the demands of the curriculum, so I welcome this chance to thank them all with a big Well Done for their amazing efforts, which we can be sure will remain with the children forever. Further sincere thanks are also given to all those Mums and Dads and others who helped with the learning of lines, allaying stage fright, costume making, and indeed all those who came along to support and applaud the children and make all their hard work worthwhile and memorable. The Carol Service was almost standing room only as were both performances of the Christmas Concert and Nativity. Those who were not there really did miss a treat, which is a good chance to remind everyone that our lovely little School on the hill belongs as much to our community as to those who study and work there and the doors are always open to all at such times. You don't have to wait until next Christmas for an excuse to come and see what the children are doing. Indeed the School extends an invitation to you all to come to its whole School Celebration Assemblies which it holds periodically in the Ducis Village Hall. The next three are scheduled for:

2 pm on Thursday, 9th February; 2 pm on Friday, 30th March; 2 pm on Friday, 1st June.

While I'm here, I will also take this chance to remind you that the School always welcomes reading volunteers, well not so much reading as listening. I have been doing it myself for several years now and can vouch for just how

rewarding it is. Apart from supporting them in their reading confidence and fluency it provides opportunities for the children to hone their social skills in communicating and talking in a relaxed way with grown-ups other than their teachers and adults at home. You can get in touch with the School directly on **CD 850346**, or if you prefer or would simply like more information about volunteering or any other aspect of the School you are welcome to get in touch with me on **CD 850749**. I will be happy to hear from you.

In the meantime I wish all the staff, parents, pupils and all those who support the School, especially our hard working PTA, a contented and successful 2012.

COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH

Gordon Smith (CD 850699) writes:

Over the last few months a small group of volunteers have been carrying out Community Speed Watch in both Ducis and Kingston. The results of the speed watch have shown that we have in excess of 600 vehicles an hour passing through the villages and of these on average 20% are exceeding the speed limit; some vehicles have been recorded at nearly double the official speed limit. We have four monitoring sites in Ducis and two in Kingston.



We believe we can make a difference by holding regular speed watch sessions but would like more volunteers. So if you are able to give two to three hours per month to monitoring speeds your help would be most appreciated. Full training is given by the Police and if you wish further details or wish to volunteer please contact either Gordon Smith on **CD 850699** for Ducis, or Marie Harris on **CD 850523** for Kingston.

CANCER RESEARCH UK STONEHENGE AND PEWSEY VALE BRANCH



Peggy Carter, Val Patrick, Pauline Merrett, Elizabeth-Ann Reed and Pat Lincoln write:

The Court Jeweller and Canapés - Friday 16th March at the Bouverie Hall, Pewsey Our first event this year offers a wonderful opportunity to hear David Thomas MVO talk about his time as a Court Jeweller. As a former Keeper of the Crown Jewels and State Jewels, he has a wealth of knowledge and information to share with us, along with some interesting anecdotes.

Canapés will be served during the evening and a bar will be available for the purchase of drinks. You should aim to arrive at the Bouverie Hall by 7 pm for a 7.30 pm start.

Tickets are £17.50, available by contacting either **01672 563403** or **01380 729786**. Numbers are limited so be sure to get yours early.

THE BARLEYCORN INN

Fiona Rossiter (CD 850368) writes:

The Barleycorn Inn is back in business with new landlords Brendan and Fiona Rossiter delighted to welcome everyone back to their local pub.

The redecorated inn threw open its doors at the start of December and is now open on a daily basis. Food is all cooked on site, using locally sourced ingredients wherever possible, and is available from 12 noon - 3 pm and 6 - 9 pm on weekdays, 12 noon - 9 pm on Saturdays, and 12 noon - 8 pm on Sundays (when you can enjoy two courses for £9.95 and three courses for £12.95).

We dug out our kilts and enjoyed a special four-course meal with live music on Burns Night (26th January) - now put your knowledge to the test with the next monthly Charity Quiz on 2nd February, in aid of the Air Ambulance.



SALISBURY PLAIN TRAINING AREA

The following information has been extracted from the SPTA News letter for February.

Training. The first two weeks of February will be busy with significant numbers of armoured vehicles on both manoeuvre training and live firing. At the same time contractors will erect Afghan compounds across the Plain which in the interest of safety the public are asked to stay well away from.



6th - 9th February sees two major armoured exercises out of the Land Warfare Centre (Ex SABRES THRUST and Ex BADGERS STRESS) using the West and Centre of the Plain. Preparation for the 12 Mechanised Brigade Afghanistan pre-deployment exercise PASHTUN DAWN will continue with communications and logistic assets deploying onto the training area.

10th - 11th February sees the main body of troops and vehicles arrive in slow-moving convoys. The exercise starts on 12th February and finishes on 11th March. It will use the whole Plain and involve some 8,000 troops and more than 500 tracked and wheeled vehicles, plus fixed wing aircraft and helicopters. Large convoys (of 80 vehicles or more), will operate on the training area. For safety reasons there will be no public access to the Larkhill Artillery Ranges or permissory use of stone tracks or dog walking from rights of way in the Tilshead, Chitterne and Shrewton triangle (Copehill Down area) during the exercise.

Note: Vehicle movement may cause delays at tank crossings and drivers are advised to take care when approaching crossings as mud clearance parties and mechanical sweepers will be at work.

Imber: Difficult terrain and unexploded military debris makes it hazardous to leave the tarmac roads. The public are excluded from Imber Ranges except when the roads are opened to reduce journey times across Imber Ranges. It is planned to open roads through Imber as follows:

6th April to 9th April Easter Bank Holiday
1st June to 3rd June Bank Holiday (limited by Ex Wessex Thunder)
10th November from 10 am to 12 noon for the Remembrance Day Church Service only.

Notes: 1 Even when the roads are open the village remains out of bounds to the public; 2 These dates may change if operational training needs dictate.

Military Flying: Helicopters, Hercules (C130) and fast jets may be active at any time. Fox Covert and Everleigh Dropping Zones will be active throughout.

Complaints about low flying should be made to **0207 218 6020** or e-mail **lowflying@mod.uk**

What You Can Do to Reduce Crime: Please report suspicious activity to PLAINWATCH on **01980 674700**. The more information received the better e.g. time, place, vehicle registration, description of individuals and vehicles. If a crime is taking place call **999** and do not challenge the offenders.

Stop Press: Dog fouling in many areas is becoming particularly heavy. Dog walkers are reminded that soldiers train on the Military Lands and that faeces can remain for up ninety days. Those in charge of a dog or dogs are required to take away their dog faeces for proper disposal.

PEWSEY VALE DECORATIVE AND FINE ARTS SOCIETY

Robert East (CD 850449) writes:

Showcase Exhibition of 'Young Arts' 24th – 29th February 2012

Pewsey Vale DFAS (a member Society of NADFAS) is holding a NADFAS 'Young Arts' Exhibition, showcasing artwork in a variety of media by students from local schools. A prize will be presented for the most outstanding piece of work on show. The participating schools are Marlborough College, Dauntsey's School, Lavington School, St John's School and Pewsey Vale School.



The exhibition is at The Pewsey Gallery, 16 High Street, Pewsey, from 24th to 29th February 2012 and the public are warmly invited to come and see the

exhibition. Opening times are from 10 am to 4 pm, Monday to Saturday. If you are in Pewsey do drop in to see the outstanding work from some of our local schools.

Further information about the event is available from:

PVDFAS Young Arts Organiser: Mrs Helen Lockhart on **01672 870467** or **07760 247783**

PVDFAS Press & PR Officer: Mr Robert East on **CD 850449** or **07730 942420**

WILTSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST

Pam Morgan writes:

Family Events at our Nature Reserves: Spring Delights

Join us as we take a walk around our nature reserves enjoying the delights of spring. We will be using nature to inspire us to create some natural pieces of artwork out on site and to take home. Don't forget to wear your old clothes for this one!

Dates and Venues: (Time: 10 am - 12 noon)

Lower Moor Farm: Wednesday, 15th February

Langford Lakes: Friday, 17th February

Please remember for all our events: all children must be accompanied by an adult. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear. Our activities are specially designed for children under the age of 12 years

For more information and to book a place please call: Lower Moor Farm **01380 725670**; Langford Lakes **01722 790770**

Admission: £3.50, children under 3 free



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Patsy Cornish writes:

I introduce myself as being no more, and indeed no less, than an enthusiastic and reasonably competent home cook, with an O-level in Domestic Science as my principal qualification, and more than a few years of experience of cooking for husband, friends and family.



I need food to please both the eater and the cook and usually to be not too complicated to prepare, for me this is the essence of good cooking; food as a bit more than just fuel? I hope you will agree.

The first recipe I offer is for a lunch dish, easy to prepare and most definitely greater than the sum of its parts. Serve with a green and tomato salad; this really does have a YUM factor.

Mozerella in Carozza – (Italian fried sandwich)

Ingredients: (to serve two)

4 slices of medium sliced white bread

1 ball mozzarella cheese (buffalo is not necessary)

2 slices parma ham (prosciutto)

1 beaten egg Soft butter Plain flour

Toasted breadcrumbs (you can make them or buy prepared from supermarkets)

Sunflower oil & butter for frying

Method:

Sprinkle about 25g of plain flour a shallow bowl, beat the egg into another bowl and 25g of breadcrumbs into third one. You are trying to build a bit of a production line here: flour, egg and breadcrumbs.

Next spread butter on the 4 slices of bread.

Slice the mozzarella ball into six, and each parma ham slice into two.

With one slice of the bread buttered side up, place onto it one half slice of parma ham, top with slices of mozzarella and then another slice of ham.

Place the next slice of buttered bread on top (butter side down) and press down firmly around the edges. Cut the sandwich into a round, cutting off the crusts and pressing into a patty, ensuring the rims are sealed around the ham and cheese. Repeat with the next two slices of bread, ham and cheese.

In a shallow frying pan, heat an ounce of butter and a decent slug of oil (olive, groundnut etc. it is not a problem but keep an eye on it).

When the butter/oil mixture is hot (you can test this by taking a small piece of discarded crust and seeing if it sizzles in the pan); coat each side of one of the sandwiches in flour, then in the beaten egg and finally in the breadcrumbs, trying to ensure an even coating on both sides.

Now put the sandwich into the hot fat and fry until golden brown on both sides. Take care when turning it over in the pan, use a nice large fish slice or similar. If your frying pan is large enough you can do the second sandwich and fry both together; if not simply keep one warm whilst frying the other one. Serve immediately with the salad. Enjoy!

Here are the addresses of the village websites:

Collingbourne Ducis: <http://www.collingbourne-ducis.com>

Collingbourne Kingston: <http://www.collingbournekingston.org.uk>

Everleigh: <http://www.everleigh.org>

DICKIE BRYAN

Frank Hall writes from Upavon:

I did not know Dickie very well but as a young child I remember walking with my mother from Spicey to exchange radio accumulators, often to be told 'Sorry! Not ready yet. Can you come back tomorrow?'

It was a long way, over a mile on rough unmade roads, pushing a pram. My father George was one of his motley crew of Home Guards, and though we had a Lewis gun being stripped down in the kitchen, I think his attendances at parades were a bit sporadic. This may have been legitimate as farm work had a high priority but I suspect a certain lack of enthusiasm. I seem to remember at least one duty up on the downs terminating with 'Oh bugger it. Nothing is going to happen so let's go for a pint.'

Some of the lads found a grenade of some sort up on Fairmile Down and towed it down to the village on the end of a piece of string. Apparently they were having a nice game of football with said object outside the school when Dickie turned up and pointed out the error of their ways. He put it in a shallow trench surrounded by turf where it awaited removal by the army.

Shortly after the war we had the advent of lightweight transport in the form of motorised bicycles rather than the heavier autocycle or the later moped. I was in the shop one day when Dickie regaled us with a little funny: Lady with mini-motor turns up at garage and asks for half a pint of petrol. Proprietor obliges with some difficulty as most pumps of the day would only dispense full gallons. She then asks for a thimbleful of oil. Having satisfied this need the proprietor said 'While I am at it, would you like me to put a couple of farts into your tyres?' Boom! Boom! I thank you!

I remember the name Pam Bryan, though to be honest I always thought it was Bryant (blame it on the Wiltshire accent). I cannot remember a face to go with the name though I have the feeling she would have been about my age (1934 vintage).

Fred Lewis owned an allotment above the shop, (I know because he was always keen for me to come home from apprenticeship in summer to sample his strawberries). When the oil company wanted to develop the garage an agent asked Fred what the land was worth. He thought a moment and said 'About £50'. 'I will write you a cheque straight away,' said the eager beaver. 'But I want £500,' said Fred. And he got it.



Another memory of the shop was the cigarette machine on the forecourt. Empty throughout the war I was always intrigued as to how it could take coins and issue packets of cigarettes.

Being a budding nuclear physicist I decided I needed a two ohm resistor for the voltage regulator on my home made wind generator. Dickie was the man to see. He looked a little quizzical at my request but said I needed a piece of resistant wire. He cut a bit off the element from an old electric fire and carefully measured off the required amount with his multi-meter. No charge. I rushed home to complete my experiments. Needless to say I had got my calculations completely wrong and nothing worked. The only way I could control my generator output was by turning the rotor out of the wind. Not easy at Spicey where a calm day was half a gale! I hope this provides a bit of background for you.

WHITE HORSE OPERA

Dr Barbara Gompels writes:

White Horse Opera's Spring Concert at Devizes Town Hall on Saturday, 24th March at 7.30 pm 'A Taste of Italy' promises to be an evening of wonderful music, all your favourite Italian Opera choruses including the Triumphal Scene from Aida and the Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves from Nabucco. Tickets £8 from Devizes Books on **01380 725944** Please visit **www.WhiteHorseOpera.co.uk** for further details.

CANDLEMASS DAY - 2ND FEBRUARY (TRADITIONAL)

Old Wiltshire Saying (so 'tis told):
If Candlemass Day be bright and clear
Half the winter's to come this year.
If Candlemass Day be cloudy and black
It bears the winter away on its back.

SAVERNAKE TEAM LETTER FEBRUARY 2012

Robert Grist, Assistant Curate writes:

As we enter February, love is in the air once again! Who can fail to notice that the shops are filled with Valentine's cards and roses? It's a time when we're encouraged to buy cards and flowers for our loved ones....although I do my best to resist!

However, the present day retail custom of sending cards and flowers is far removed from the life - in fact lives - of the two Saints Valentine after whom the day is named. The present day custom is said to



have been attributed to John Donne who wrote a marriage song for Princess Elizabeth, daughter of James I, when she married on St Valentine's Day in 1632.

But the Saints we really commemorate are Valentine of Terni, a Bishop, and Valentine of Rome, a priest. Both were martyred in the middle of the 3rd century on the Flaminian Way, the road linking Rome and Terni. We know little about their respective lives and deaths, although there are basilicas dedicated to each of them. But there is enough truth in both stories to remind us that living as Christians was difficult and led to persecution. And it's no different nowadays.

We're fortunate in this country that we still can profess our faith openly and worship freely; but there are so many areas of the world where confessing that you're a Christian is tantamount to the death penalty. How can it be right that families are separated or worshippers massacred for worshipping the God of love? That remains a question which we struggle to answer.

Later in the month, 22nd February is Ash Wednesday when there will be services in some of our churches to mark the start of Lent: the period of forty days reminding us of the time Jesus' spent being tempted in the wilderness. It's traditionally a period of study and penitence during which we begin the focus on Easter and our Lord's passion; ultimately his supreme act of love by sacrifice on the cross. It's also a time when we consider giving things up - only to take them up again immediately following Easter!

But this year I'd like to encourage you all to take something on instead. At Burbage, time has recently been set aside to pray for the world; to remember before God those places where there is violence, persecution, war and intolerance. So perhaps throughout this Lent we can all remember those places and reach out to them in prayer as an act of love for the whole of humanity.

With every blessing, Rob

ST MARY'S CHURCH, COLLINGBOURNE KINGSTON

Charles Howard (CD 850243) and Brian Arnold (CD 850468), Churchwardens, write:

Christmas at Kingston was as busy as usual, with an even more successful Christmas Tree Festival organised by the Stevens family, Jackie Macbeth and many others. The concert on the Friday evening was a wonderful example of all the local musical and other entertainment talent that we have here, and we hope to build on this still further in future years.



Once again, Steve and Pauline Trick from Hillview Garage donated a magnificent Christmas tree for the Church, and attendance at the Carol Service and the Christmas Day Service was higher than usual.

As is generally known, a new Team Rector is being recruited for the Savernake Team, and then a Team Vicar. No appointment has been made so far, and meanwhile the retirement date of Mary Edwards in the late summer approaches. Let us hope that there is some better news about these appointments as soon as possible.

Stephanie Daubney has taken over the rota of flower arrangers for the Church, and we could do with a few new volunteers to join the team. It normally involves being responsible for the Church flowers for two weeks a year, and if anyone would like to help please contact Stephanie on **CD 850870**.

A diary date: the Gallery Choir will be giving a concert in the Church on the evening of Saturday, 21st April, and full details will be in the April edition of the Courier.

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, COLLINGBOURNE DUCIS

*Mike Cox (CD 850360) and Julian Price (CD 850283),
Churchwardens, write:*

There was no Courier in January – so Happy New Year to everyone and many thanks to all those who helped with St Andrew's over the past year – from cleaners, bell ringers and flower arrangers right through to the clock winders and the Vicar. 2012 promises to be an interesting year on many fronts, not least our own clergy changes.

The 2011 Christmas season really started with the Service of Light at St Katharine's in Savernake Forest way back in November. During December we had the School Advents Services, the Christmas Crib Club at the School, our Carol Service, Brass and Carols, and our Come to Bethlehem – culminating for St Andrew's with Midnight Communion, followed by joining with St Mary's congregation for Christmas Day's service. That is all behind us now as we look forward into 2012 and whatever that might bring – but there are pictures from the highlights of Christmas on the website at

www.standrews.savernaketeam.org

(if you want your own copy of a photo, just ask).

Our adult confirmation classes ran until the beginning of January, finishing with a very moving and very personal Cathedral service when Carol, Phyllis, Sarah and Vicky were confirmed by the Bishop of Salisbury in the splendour



of Salisbury Cathedral. The four of them joined us at St Andrew's the next day for their first Holy Communion. Again, there are a few pictures on the website at www.standrews.savernaketeam.org

The long drawn out saga of changes in our team clergy has taken yet another twist – after the November interviews, no appointment was made, so the whole process has to start again. Adverts went out in January with a view to interviews being held later in February or in March. So it's back to the drawing board again! Fingers crossed this time. Once again, please remember that, in the meantime, our own Vicar now has eleven parishes to look after in the Savernake Team alone and she has responsibilities in the rest of the Pewsey Deanery too – so bear with her if she seems a tad overstretched – it's because she is! If the Churchwardens or a Lay Pastoral Assistant can help you, just ask one of us – contact numbers above, or email st.andrews@savernaketeam.com

Easter this year falls at the beginning of April and Lent starts on Ash Wednesday, 22nd February, when there will be a service of Holy Communion in St Andrew's at 9.30 am, shortly before SCAMPS. We will be having Lent lunches in St Andrew's as usual starting on 29th February – join us for a mug or two of soup and some bread at lunchtime. Proceeds will all go to charity – suggestions for this year's charity welcome. This does unfortunately mean there will be no afternoon teas in February or March – why not come a bit earlier to Lent Lunch instead?

There will be no early breakfast during February – but they will be back when the weather warms up a bit, so watch this space.

SCAMPS restarted in January and continues on its fortnightly schedule, with February meetings scheduled on 8th and 22nd (Ash Wednesday again). SCAMPS is a group of mainly young Mums (but Dads, Grandparents and/or Carers are welcome too) who come along with their small children and enjoy a cup of coffee and chat. For those slightly older children we usually have a craft type activity for them to do along with Mum. There are details about the meetings on the website www.standrews.savernaketeam.org

This year celebrates both the Queen's Diamond Jubilee at the beginning of June and the London Olympics towards the end of July. St Andrew's will be contributing to both events – the Diamond Jubilee celebrations on the Recreation Ground on 2nd June and a rock and pop event on the Rec on 20th July to mark the start of Olympic prelims week. All help, ideas and any other contributions welcome. Let's make it a real celebration to remember (not often folk get a Diamond Jubilee and an Olympic Games in the same year. I for one can't remember either of them happening in my lifetime, let alone together). So, put the dates in your diary now.

Some dates for your diaries:

Monday 6th February	Bible Study at the Vicarage at 2 pm, looking at Psalms
Wednesday 8th February	SCAMPS for Small Children and Mums at 10.30 am in St Andrew's
Wednesday 22nd February	SCAMPS for Small Children and Mums at 10.30 am in St Andrew's
Wednesday 29th February	Lent Lunch at 12.30 pm in St Andrew's – soup, bread and social chat
Saturday 2nd June	Diamond Jubilee celebration on the Recreation Ground from afternoon until late
Friday 20th July	Rock and pop classics for the Olympics: 'Dogs without Collars' on the Rec from early evening

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH (DUCIS) SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2012

Sunday 5th February	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) at 8 am
Wednesday 8th February	SCAMPS for Small Children And Mums at 10.30 am
Sunday 12th February	Parish Communion at 9.30 am
Sunday 19th February	Evensong at 6 pm (Book of Common Prayer)
Ash Wednesday (22nd Feb)	Holy Communion 9.30 am
Ash Wednesday (22nd Feb)	SCAMPS for Small Children and Mums at 10.30 am
Sunday 26th February	Family Service at 11 am

ST MARY'S CHURCH (KINGSTON) SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2012

Sunday 5th	Family Service at 9.30 am
Sunday 12th	Holy Communion at Ducis at 9.30 am
Sunday 19th	Holy Communion at 9.30 am
Sunday 26th	Evensong at 6 pm