

# PARISH NEWS

The Deverills & Crockerton



The Old House Longbridge Deverill by Pat Armstrong

## JUNE 2020

Look inside for local news & information

Kingston Deverill



Friday 8th May 2020



Are you self-isolating due to Covid-19? Do you need help with urgent shopping, a prescription or need a friendly chat?

Help is being organised in your local area by

**Churches Together in Warminster and District**

Call the hotline: **07960 221663** between 9.00 am and 6.00 pm

We will take careful precautions to ensure we are not spreading the virus.



## The Deverills, Crockerton & Horningsham 50/50 Club

**May winners: £50 Lisa Stratton and £25 Crispian Beattie**

The valley's 50/50 club raises funds to help run and preserve our four beautiful churches for the benefit of all who are lucky enough to live here and who appreciate the uniqueness and community spirit of village life, now more important than ever. It is not for raising money for the wider church but rather is for the indirect benefit of us all who live in the valley. Each club member pays £24 per year and the proceeds are divided 50/50 with half going to support the churches and half given as prizes, currently £50 and £25 every month, with extra prizes at Christmas. Winners' names are published monthly in the Parish News. Last year over £1000 was raised for the churches and a similar amount given as prizes. To join please complete the enclosed form and return it to Diana Abbott, 29 The Marsh, Longbridge Deverill, BA12 7EA. For further details please ring 840763 or email: decabbott@gmail.com.



## CHURCH CLEANERS FOR JUNE

**Kingston** Alice Stratton & Claire Mounde

**Brixton** Penny Marsh & Mel Wiseman **Longbridge** see rota

## CHURCH FLOWER ARRANGERS FOR JUNE

**Kingston**

**Brixton**

**Longbridge**

7th June Pam Lea  
14th June Edith Dyer  
21st June Edith Dyer  
28th June Dinah Barnes

Pat Allard  
Chrissie Rose  
Chrissie Rose  
Sue Mylne

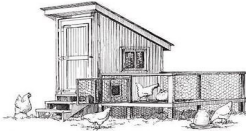
Ann Constable  
Ann Constable  
Diana Abbott  
Diana Abbott



## Dear Friends,

I am writing this letter as the first tentative steps are being made to ease the lockdown restrictions so I don't know where we will have got to by the time you read it. I am enjoying video calling my baby grandchildren, who are now laughing and smiling; it is no substitute for actually holding them but I am trying to remain thankful for small mercies.

I fear I am going to repeat myself a bit, but the view out of my study window compels me to make my letter a kind of ode to the glories of our surroundings. I write on a beautiful day of bright sunshine; the garden and the countryside are an explosion of green loveliness that gladdens the heart and reminds me despite the uncertainty of these worrying times, the natural world is going about its business as usual. The earth continues to gently turn and the seasons come and go as they always have done as spring unfolds into summer. I cannot believe at the end of this month it will be the Summer Solstice, the longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere. Of course, this year there will be no gathering at Stonehenge; for the first time the solstice celebration will be live streamed.



These long light days means that our chickens enjoy a very late bedtime indeed and they are scrabbling to be let out of their house very early in the morning as soon as the sun is up. If I am a bit late getting up they make a terrible racket and fall over one another in their eagerness to get out of their quarters and find their breakfast.

As I said, I feel like I am always going on about the countryside, but I really think when we are anxious and there is no certainty to be found anywhere, consciously focusing our attention on the natural world has a very calming effect. Julian of Norwich, a 14th century anchorite famous for her visions encapsulated in her book 'Revelations of Divine Love' wrote '*All shall be well and all shall be well and all manner of things shall be well.*' When I really give my attention fully to the landscape around me, to the trees and the hedgerows, the wind and the birds, the earth speaks deeply to me of our creator and of his encompassing love and faithfulness, and yes, all shall be well.

At Morning Prayer today we had one of my most favourite psalms:

*'May the pastures of the wilderness flow with goodness and the hills be girded with joy.  
May the meadows be clothed with flocks of sheep and the valleys stand so thick with  
corn that they shall laugh and sing.'*

The psalm paints a wonderful inclusive picture of the whole universe praising God together; virus or no virus, the whole of the created order is held in the beating heart of God. I leave you with a few words from another of my favourite poets T.S Eliot:

*'At the still point of the turning world. Neither flesh nor fleshless;  
Neither from nor towards; at the still point, there the dance is,  
But neither arrest nor movement. And do not call it fixity,  
Where past and future are gathered.  
Neither movement from nor towards,  
Neither ascent nor decline. Except for the point, the still point.'*

May you find your still point in this turning world, and may the peace of God, which passes all understanding, be yours now and always.

With love and prayers,

**Rev Pauline Reid** Tel: 841290 / revpauline@btinternet.com

## Christian Aid



Like many charities the Covid-19 pandemic and the subsequent lockdown has had an extremely damaging effect on the income of Christian Aid; our fundraising Lent Lunches and the church service during the Christian Aid week had to be curtailed. However, we did hold one lunch before the lockdown and raised **£150**. Thank you to all who attended and donated to this life giving charity. Also thank you to those who may have donated direct on line. If you still wish to do so please go to the website ***christianaid.org.uk*** - thank you.

## Communities of Hope

I have appreciated over the last few months having a little extra time to read and one of the books I have been challenged by has been **Accompaniment, Community and Nature\*** by one of our local clergy, the Revd Canon Jonathan Herbert.



It is easy to think of the Christian Community as a rather exclusive thing, with its own rules and rhythms known only to those who belong there. Far from it, writes Jonathan, as he describes some of his own experiences of communities of hope and welcome, including in two in our diocese Pilsdon and Hilfield. As these particular communities, and others, have shaped Jonathan's life it is encouraging to observe how these communities themselves have also been shaped by all those who come into contact with them, bringing about a ministry of healing, fellowship and a generosity of service which transforms life far beyond itself. For Jonathan it has been the ability to accompany individuals that has been informative and transformative, something many of our chaplains also would testify to. To live, sit or stand alongside individuals, to listen, advocate, encourage and give time is itself a precious gift which should not be underestimated or squandered.

Reading this book at this time has caused me to reflect on how a church without walls can be transformative in its own welcome, how we as individual Christians can be alongside others in their own life journeys meeting them, as Christ meets us, just where they are and how going forward we need to take time to stop, listen and engage with those outside our boundaries in new ways. The ministry of chaplaincy can do much to inform the work of the Church in its interaction with the world as we all contemplate a different future.

What Jonathan has shown me is that churches with very definite walls have to decide how to keep the door firmly open, not only to enable the needy, searching and interested to enter, but also, as we are reminded at Pentecost, to welcome God, the Holy Spirit of possibility, surprise, interruption, creativity and discomfort, in too.

***Bishop of Sherborne, Karen Gorham***

\*Accompaniment, Community and Nature by Jonathan Herbert published by Jessica Kingsley

## **Thank you: from Michael and Veronica Aplin**

We are two of the older members of Longbridge Deverill and would like to thank all those who have been delivering our newspapers. When you are locked up receipt of the daily paper is a real boon and we are extremely grateful to everyone involved in this task. We should also like to thank our near neighbours who have offered us help should we be in need and are most grateful for their kindness and thoughtfulness.

## **Audrey Appleby**

Audrey was born on 30th May 1924 and became an international hockey umpire, she died after a short illness following a fall on 19th April 2020, aged 95. She moved to Monkton Deverill in 1967 and soon became a Parish Councillor and before long Chairman. Her meetings were always agreeable, jocular, never long and always effective.



Outside the Deverills Audrey was nationally known in Women's Hockey as one of the finest of umpires. She eventually reached the highest grade. That was the elite panel who umpired international matches. (When my mother-in-law Florence O'Donovan, herself an international player and later an umpire Grade B, came to live in Hill Deverill she was awestruck to find that Audrey lived in the next village but one: a Grade A!) Despite Audrey's diplomatically chosen words it was clear she felt that she had been held back by the 'old guard'. Certainly, the affection in which she was held by the players of her time suggests that she knew the Laws better than most. But she also knew when to apply the letter of the law and when not. Sometimes people thought that she had just not picked up the offence. But Audrey always aimed, if she fairly could, to give 'advantage' and let the game flow. As they came more and more to understand her, players and other umpires appreciated her method, responded to it and enjoyed their hockey the more. She came to umpire many international matches including two at Wembley and at the 1967 Women's World Cup in Germany. For all her work, the swathes of time cheerfully and effectively given both on the pitch and in the committee rooms, Audrey was held in great affection. In 1992 the All England Women's Hockey Association named Audrey its honorary vice-president.

In the middle nineties Audrey insisted that age was beginning to tell, though no-one could see any sign of it. Leaving the Deverill Valley was a wrench for Audrey. "You well know that my years spent in Monkton were very happy...". But she thought it best to move down to an apartment in Poole where the needs of her old age would be more easily met. It was a great and happy honour for Eileen and me to be invited to Audrey's 90th Birthday Party in Bournemouth in 2014, a great occasion where many of her friends from the different aspects of her life met and recalled examples of the warmth of Audrey's personality and her readiness to give of herself. We rejoiced in the affection in which we all held her.

***Bill Knowles***



## Seeking Medical Help during Coronavirus - don't delay



People living in Wiltshire are being advised not to let worries about coronavirus stop them asking for medical help for themselves or their children if they become ill, have a serious accident or have a concern about their health. They are also being warned that not seeking medical help for symptoms which could be the early warning signs of serious conditions such as cancer could be putting lives at risk. The warning comes as new data shows a considerable drop in the number of people asking their GP for help and advice during the coronavirus outbreak.

Recent statistics show that, in Bath alone, the total number of weekly referrals from GPs to the Royal United Hospital has fallen from around 2,000 at the beginning of March to 300 at the end of April. In Swindon, the average number of patients sent by their GP to the Great Western Hospital for further investigations into symptoms that suggest cancer each week dropped by more than 200 to 80.

Dr Ruth Grabham, Medical Director at BaNES, Swindon and Wiltshire CCG, said the statistics made for worrying reading because the drop in numbers “is not because people are not experiencing symptoms. While it may seem that coronavirus has put a stop to most aspects of everyday life, the one thing it has not stopped is what is going on inside our bodies. Now, more than ever, we need to pay attention to anything that is not normal and seek help early on. For example, if you notice blood when going to the toilet, or if you have found a lump that was not there previously, or if you have just noticed something odd that is causing you to worry, you need to speak to your GP. Should the symptom be the early warning sign of something serious like cancer, that delay in seeking help could have serious implications for how successful possible treatments may be.”

Although GP practices across the region have adopted new ways of working, such as establishing isolated clinics for potential coronavirus patients, the practices are still open to offer care, treatment, advice and peace-of-mind.

The same also goes for emergency departments at the three hospitals in Bath, Swindon and Salisbury, all of which continue to be open 24 hours a day for people with a genuine and life-threatening health concern.

Additionally, all healthcare facilities in the region, as well as elsewhere in the country, have put in place stringent infection control measures to ensure that the risk of contracting coronavirus while visiting a hospital or GP surgery remains low.

Details of which services continue to open, as well as how to get in contact, can be found online by visiting **[www.bswccg.nhs.uk](http://www.bswccg.nhs.uk)**.

For information about local hospital services please visit **[www.ruh.nhs.uk](http://www.ruh.nhs.uk)** or **[www.gwh.nhs.uk](http://www.gwh.nhs.uk)** or **[www.salisbury.nhs.uk](http://www.salisbury.nhs.uk)**.

Further information on how to stay well throughout the coronavirus outbreak can be found at **[www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19)**.



## Local Physiotherapist

As a private Chartered Physiotherapist, the beginning of lockdown came as something of a relief. I had been increasingly anxious about infection control and concerned for both my patients and my own health. It was very strange closing the door to my practice in East Knoyle and driving back home to Crockerton, not knowing what the future held.

I have been a musculo-skeletal physiotherapist for 24 years. I love the challenge of assessing people's aches and pains. It has always been a fascinating job, listening to the histories of people's lives. I have learnt how the human body sends its messages: pain, tingling and stiffness become a puzzle to solve. Treatment usually involves hands-on massage, joint movement and acupuncture. But no longer.

For the first few weeks I did not have time to think about how I would and could return to my work. I was too busy being a full-time mum and home-schooler. One minute I was helping with research into trench foot in WW1, the next trying to assist with French translation. I tried to be positive - now was a good time to overcome my tech phobia. And when 'google drive' got too much for me, there was always laundry, preparing lunches, and gardening.

Bodies, like minds, need to be looked after. Sometimes you need to be kind to yourself, allow yourself to rest, sit and do nothing. Let your body tell you what it wants. An achy back needs a walk, a stiff neck needs stretches or rest on a pillow. The technical term for this is interoception: the sensory perception of the signals our body sends us (we in fact have hundreds of senses, not just five). We often ignore aches and pains as our 'to-do lists' take precedence. Maybe that is what my mind had been doing about my career, taking a break. But physiotherapy has taught me that you cannot avoid things forever.

So what is my immediate future without 'hands-on'? The clues came from a friend who asked me for some advice for her shoulder pain. I used my husband to model the stretches and advice I recommended (you can imagine how he enjoyed that!). I sent her videos and links to best practice. I checked up on her regularly and she asked her daughter to do the hands-on treatment I had explained.

It may never be the same as working face-to-face, but maybe it is possible for a physiotherapist to work remotely. At least for a while.

For free advice please phone/email: 07711 256662/ [physio@jesschurch.co.uk](mailto:physio@jesschurch.co.uk). Chartered Society of Physiotherapist's website: [www.csp.org.uk](http://www.csp.org.uk). For NHS conditions page on: [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk). For arthritis (any joint pain/heat/swelling) [www.versusarthritis.org](http://www.versusarthritis.org).

**Jess Church**

## Thank you Parish News Volunteers & Contributors



To everyone who contributes to the Parish News, especially during this lockdown, either with articles, information or delivery, thank you so much. I receive many messages of appreciation throughout the year but especially just now, all your efforts to keep our local community connected are appreciated.

If you have a particular interest in gardening, cooking, craft, local history, or any other hobbies and would like to share them with readers please get in touch with the Editor, I would love to hear from you. Just call or email, see details on the back page.

*Judy Munro*

## Bull Mill (virtual) Open Studio Exhibition



With galleries closed, arts events cancelled and no **'First Saturdays'** open studios at Bull Mill for a while, we are trying not think about how our business will be affected for the rest of the year! Instead, we are keeping busy and making the most of these beautiful spring days. We feel lucky and privileged to be able to continue our creative work in these uncertain times but appreciate how difficult life is becoming for many people. So, while the crisis continues we are donating 40% from sales made in our **online virtual open studio** to the **Trussell Trust**, the Salisbury based charity supporting a network of over 1,200 food bank centres across the country providing emergency food and compassionate, practical support to people in serious need. So far we have donated **£431**. Visit [www.bullmillarts.co.uk/OpenStudio.htm](http://www.bullmillarts.co.uk/OpenStudio.htm) to view the work of Nick Andrew and Tanya Hinton in their Bull Mill Studio and see regular posts and updates at [www.instagram.com/bullmillstudio](https://www.instagram.com/bullmillstudio). You can donate directly to the Trussell Trust at [www.trusselltrust.org](http://www.trusselltrust.org).

## Recipe - Sausage Ragout

### Ingredients:

1lb sausages	Can chopped tomatoes
1tbsp olive oil	Chicken stock (1/2 pint)
1 onion sliced	1tbsp oregano (or dried)
2 peppers - any colour - sliced	1 tsp dark soft brown sugar
2 cloves garlic	Seasoning
2 tsp fennel seeds	Pasta
2 tsp paprika	



### Method:

Heat oil in frying pan and brown sausages. Remove from pan and put to one side. Fry onion till soft and then add peppers and fry for 3-4 mins. Stir in remaining ingredients and season. Bring to boil then reduce heat and simmer uncovered for 15 mins. Slice sausages into bite size pieces then add to sauce and simmer for further 10 mins. Serve with pasta and garnish with oregano and Parmesan.

*Sue Stone*





## Writing for Well-being

The group came about when I was chatting informally to a friend who used to work for the W.C.I.L. about the possibility of running some adult script-writing classes for people in rural settings. Obviously with the arrival of Covid-19, any thoughts and plans had to be postponed, but it was suggested I set up a 'Writing for Well-being' Facebook page aiming to reach people who may be struggling with the isolation. Initially we thought a few people in the Wiltshire area may find it useful, however our membership continues to grow and we now have members from Hampshire, Dorset, West Sussex, The Midlands and even Canada. This includes published authors, people who just like to dabble and those who have never written creatively before.

Each Monday, I post a writing activity and a few tips on how to get started. On Wednesdays I offer a writing tip which may enhance the piece and on Friday, we review the week. There is no pressure to post writing on the site, but if members want to receive feedback, they can share their writing with others. Our aim is simply to encourage people to write as a way of easing the boredom of our current isolation. Once the isolation is over, I will be looking to set up the script-writing classes locally. See [www.facebook.com/groups/625171851597025](https://www.facebook.com/groups/625171851597025)

I am a primary school teacher who moved to Kingston Deverill in January 2019 with the intention of taking a sabbatical to pursue my love of script writing. In November 2016, I won the 'Writeldea' short story competition for my monologue 'Maud', a piece inspired by a painting of Greta Moll by Henri Matisse. In February 2017 I was long-listed for the 'Kenneth Branagh Drama Award' for my duologue 'The Saga of Ken and Sandra' a comedy set in the world of Morris dancing. This was later restructured into a play and ran for ten nights in January 2019 at The Titchfield Festival Theatre. In June 2017 I published a book 'The Field Street Monologues' which was adapted into a stage play and was taken on tour, including two performances at 'The Brighton Fringe' in May 2018 receiving a four-star review. In March 2018, my monologue 'Paddy' was chosen for performance at the 'Green Curtain Theatre Company' in Camden and was performed by Irish stage and screen actor Paul Lavers. I also write for the comedy podcast 'Release the Clowns'.

***Jules Harvey-Welch***

## Book Club recommendations

**The Salt Path by Raynor Winn** - a true story about a couple of 32 years who discover the healing powers of the natural world.

**This is Going to Hurt by Adam Kay** - a former doctor-turned-comic's account of what life was like on the NHS front line – topical at the moment.

**A House in Corfu by Emma Tennant** – Full of colour and contrast, the book shows the huge changes in island life since the time of building the house in the 60's.

**Borrowed Time by Robert Goddard** - a murder mystery which is set in Shropshire, Hampshire and Bristol.

## Lower Pertwood Farm



We have been invited to submit a few concerns we have and which we need to address for the well being of all who enjoy the sights and sounds within the realms of Lower Pertwood Farm. For those who have not had an opportunity to ride your horses or walked your dogs along the lovely routes available you may not be aware of what happens on the farm.

The farm encompasses some 2,600 acres of historic down lands, an old Roman road, remnants indicating farming activities going back over 2,500 years, a Roman long barrow and endless fields of organic crops such as barley, oats, rye beans, buckwheat and flax presently being grown. Complementing the arable crops we are blessed with long strips of wild flowers (sunflower, blaze and cosmos), wooded forest areas and lastly large sections of very thick gorse. Livestock consist of over 500 prize sheep and about 200 cattle. As can be realised, this is a a very busy working farm.

In terms of wildlife, there is an abundance of deer as well as over 100 species of birds, including breeding farmland birds of high conservation concern. The red listed birds include skylark, corn bunting, linnet and yellowhammer. All of the above mentioned blend in beautifully within the AONB which we are all so privileged to live in or close to. We are also very proud of our recent accolade, that being the coveted 'Conservation of the year' 2019 award.

You can therefore appreciate how concerned we have become over a few incidents which have been distressing to witness and difficult to address. Our main concern centred around the flagrant use of our farmlands by three separate groups of motor bikers which they treated as a private 'dirt track'. Sheep are nervous animals and the cattle also react. I managed to intercept two of the groups as they exited Lower Pertwood through a bridleway gate and was aghast at their arrogant and aggressive behaviour when I confronted them. We have also come across dog walkers who, when asked to keep their dogs on a lead, refuse saying they don't feel it is necessary. We ask for their names and where they reside which they ignore.

This draws me to an article published in the April edition of the Farmers Guardian headlined: Farm appeals for respect after 'soul-destroying' dog attack. The article outlines a dog attack on a flock of sheep which killed more than 20 lambs and left a few badly injured. Other incidents included walkers leaving gates open which create havoc as the sheep and cattle are great wanderers when opportunities arise.

We understand only a minority of people behave in this manner and where they reside is unknown. All we are asking is for people to respect that Lower Pertwood is a working farm and the reasonable rulings listed in the Countryside Code that is in place are abided by. We would also be most appreciative if riders and walkers would look out for us and should there be a need for untoward issues to be addressed to phone me. I reside in a cottage on the farm and my mobile is on 24/7.

Take care, may you have pleasant walks and rides through Lower Pertwood Farm.

**David Scales** - Chief Security Officer 07802 726028

## Longbridge Deverill Parish Council

We are currently able to hold meetings online, which the public can observe and take part in as normal. The next meeting will be held on **Monday 1st June** at 6.30 pm. It will take place online using the Zoom platform. The agenda along with instructions for joining and participating will be published on the website by 27th May.

If you need assistance during these challenging times please let us know, our volunteers are here to help. Some ways we can help, but not limited; collecting shopping, prescriptions, posting letters, pet services, a friendly phone call.

Crockerton contact Nikki Spreadbury-Clews 216660 / 07986 880164

Email: Longbridgedeverillpc@gmail.com

Hill & Longbridge Deverill contact Caroline Sawyer 840585

Email: caroline.sawyer585@btinternet.com

Parish Council Website: **[www.crockertonlongbridgeandhilldeverill.co.uk](http://www.crockertonlongbridgeandhilldeverill.co.uk)**



### Crockerton - VE Day 75 years

Crockerton would normally celebrate and commemorate special occasions by holding a street party, but with the current lockdown restrictions we had to re-think. So for VE Day 75 residents had afternoon tea at the



end of their drives or in their gardens, there was a very moving moment at 5.00 pm, with a Clay Street resident playing The Last Post on his trumpet, silence fell momentarily, followed by applause and the chatter and laughter started again. It was a lovely afternoon and good to see neighbours, albeit at a distance.

## Upper Deverills Parish Council

The Community Safeguarding Group has been very active passing up-to-date and relevant information to residents while the Coronavirus restrictions have been in place. The new website **[www.upperdeverills.co.uk](http://www.upperdeverills.co.uk)** is fully up-and-running. Here you can find almost everything you may like to know about the Upper Deverills.



The Parish Plan, written in 2014, will be revised in the coming months. Would you like to have a hand in writing it?

At the Parish Council meeting on 20th May (online) it was decided to make a charity payment to Youth Action Wiltshire to recognise the needs of the county's young carers during the Coronavirus outbreak **[www.communityfirst.org.uk/yaw](http://www.communityfirst.org.uk/yaw)**

The next meetings will be on Wednesdays 8th July, 9th September and 11th November all at 7.00 pm. Full details are on the website. For all enquiries, please contact the acting Parish Clerk, Richard Munro (details on p12)

## Kingston Deverill - a bee keepers tale in



It was one of those amazing sunny days in late April and we decided to have a BBQ in the garden. One gin and tonic had gone down quickly and when I asked for a top up my son found it amusing to reverse the normal ratios of gin to tonic. So when we came back inside and I realised I had missed a message about a swarm in the village, 'perhaps I would I like to come and collect it'; I thought this is going to be interesting!

As a beekeeper, collecting a swarm of bees is a real bonus. That week the forecast had been for warm weather and I had spent some time preparing bait hives hoping to entice a passing swarm. Quite a few 'scout' bees had been seen around one bait hive, from previous experience this means that a swarm could be about to appear. Bees swarm for various reasons, the most common reason being a lack of space. As the weather improves the queen increases the number of eggs she lays and consequently the colony's home becomes too cramped. When this occurs, the queen will lay a successor queen and leave the colony with her older, flying bees to a new home. Before this happens, scout bees will fly over the local area looking for a new home, checking for size and protection from intruders. Once found, the older bees eat as much food as they can (which will last for about 3 days) and then take off to their new home with the queen in tow, guided by the scouts that found it.

Despite the gin and the fact that it was nearly dark, I quickly messaged back with a "Yes please!" Although we could barely see, we quickly gathered our swarm kit together, which I always keep at the ready. Once we had added a few torches to the kit we drove off to find a medium sized swarm, the size of a large football, clustered in a hawthorn bush. Luckily, it was easy to access with the ladder. My usual technique of swarm collection is to gently knock the bees from their perch into my ropey old box, once the queen is safely in the rest follow. Sometimes this involves a little impromptu pruning, if the bees have clustered round a branch. It can be a bit precarious, swaying about on the top of a ladder peering into a bush, juggling a box in one hand and secateurs in the other. Doing this in the dark after a few stiff gins was quite a balancing act! Thankfully, a couple of strong torches made it easy to see the swarm and persuade them into the cardboard box. Once in, I quickly covered them up with an old sheet so they couldn't escape and prepared to take them home.



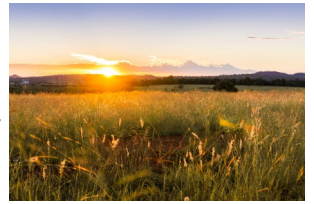
I decided against going back in the car and instead walked home enjoying a lovely moonlit evening carrying a gently buzzing box. Once at home, it was simple to transfer the swarm into a hive. The next morning, I woke early wondering if I had put the hive floor on upside down but all was well and the bees were already flying in and out of their new hive.

There are several beekeepers in the Deverills whom I am sure would be happy to collect a swarm, show you their bees or even sell some honey! If you are interested do call me on 844123 or 07765 708461.

***Sarah Fagan***

## Nature Notes

We still have not had much rain, walking round the field near us here the well-established hedgerows are actually wilting. The strong winds we have had have compounded the problem increasing the rate of transpiration from the leaves. They are cutting the field across the way for silage today, it looks to be a good first crop but we will need the rain before there are any further cuts. We have had to resort to watering parts of the garden, especially the pots, much earlier than normal. Knowing our weather it will probably go completely the other way and rain for the whole summer! It is only 5 weeks to the longest day. With the skies being less polluted there have been some spectacular sunsets and moons and the frosty nights have given us some beautiful clear night skies.



The heron and little egret emptied the pond of fish, we now worry about the moorhen chicks becoming a meal as 7 appeared on the pond on the morning of the 29th April. At the last count, done about 10 minutes ago, there were still 7. Thankfully now there aren't any fish the heron and little egret are not around so much. The moorhen parents are very protective chasing away woodpigeons, mallards and even pheasants. I now see the youngsters copying this behaviour chasing away smaller birds that come to the pond to bathe. I noticed one of the parents taking nesting material into the irises again today probably to strengthen the nest; with 7 growing chicks it must need some maintenance. The irises are just coming into flower and should give a lovely yellow display. The chicks run for cover if there is any danger and will dip down under the water to avoid predation.

On my daily walks I have been lucky to see a few special things. I have been up to the woods on several evenings to see the bluebells, so beautiful and smelt gorgeous. One evening I disturbed some muntjacs; a doe with a youngster, called a kid. I had never seen a young muntjac before, it was stripey like a wild boar. They disappeared rapidly, the adult 'barking' loudly. Other evenings I have walked in the field nearby and watched the ewes lambing and a couple of times even saw newborns. Now the older lambs are almost a month old and it's lovely to watch them playing 'I'm the king of the castle', chasing and bouncing on legs of springs. Most evenings while walking in this field I hear corn buntings, skylarks, yellowhammers and linnets while in the adjoining field/hill I usually see deer and if I am lucky hares; once I saw 4 hares with one pair boxing! In the same field I saw a roe deer with a suckling youngster, also called a kid; the next evening I caught sight of the kid hidden in long grass; it's position given away a little by the doe looking in its direction to check it was alright.

There are house martins in one of the nests on the front of the house and swallows in the stables having adapted to the wire mesh we put up. I have yet to see a swift but then I usually spot them in town and I have not been there much!

**Jane Trollope** (written 15th May)

## **LOCAL COUNCILS, SOCIETIES, GROUPS etc.**

### **Longbridge Deverill Parish Council**

***[www.crockertonlongbridgeandhilldeverill.co.uk](http://www.crockertonlongbridgeandhilldeverill.co.uk)***

Caroline Sawyer 840585 (Chair)	Bob Pitman 212953
Kate Plastow 840975 (Vice Chair)	David Searle 213767
Richard Baxter 212918	Nigel Spreadbury-Clews 216660
Juliet Brathwaite MBE 841338	James Walker
Martin McDermott 216939	
Nikki Spreadbury-Clews (Clerk) 216660 or longbridgedeverillpc@gmail.com	

### **Upper Deverills Parish Council**

***[www.upperdeverills.co.uk](http://www.upperdeverills.co.uk)***

Bridget Beattie 844884 (Chair)	Gillian Flint 844507
David Croot 840944 (Vice Chair)	Louise Stratton 844105
Richard Munro 844385 (acting Clerk) clerk@upperdeverills.co.uk	

**Wiltshire Councillor Fleur de Rhé Philipe 213193**

**Member of Parliament Dr Andrew Murrison 01225 358584**

**Wiltshire Council 0300 456 0100**

**Sir James Thynne Almshouse Sue Jackson 840322 (Trustee)**

### **Longbridge Deverill Parish Hall Committee**

**Anna Mead 212759 (Secretary) Sylvia Titt 214825 (Bookings)**

### **Upper Deverills Village Hall**

**Ted Flint 844507 (Chair) John Lea 844325 (Hall bookings)**

**Crockerton Village Committee Marion Thomas 213739 (Chair)**

**Deverill & Crockerton W I Sue Bohana 215546 (Pres) Julie Wallder 213142 (Sec)**

**Deverills Cricket Club Ed Read 840835 (Captain)**

### **Community Police - Local Officer (Rural)**

**PCSO Candida Jackson – Candida.jackson@Wiltshire.pnn.police.uk or call 101**

**Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator Deverills & Crockerton Dympna Dell 840514**

### **Warminster Link Scheme 211655**

**(Corsley to Boyton, Crockerton, Horningsham, Longbridge, Hill Deverill)**

**Mere Link Scheme (Upper Deverills etc) 01747 860096**

**Post Offices: Lakeside Garden Centre, Crockerton: Mon 9.00 - 5.00, Fri 9.00 - 3.00**

**Maiden Bradley Hall: Tuesday 1.00 - 3.00**

**Bath, Wilts & North Dorset Gliding Club, Kingston Deverill 844095**



## FUTURE EVENTS

- **Longbridge Parish Council Meeting** Monday 1st June See p11/14
- **Upper Deverills Parish Council meeting** Wednesday 8th July See p11/14
- **VE & VJ Day Celebrations** 15th & 16th August (depending on Gov guidelines)
- **Upper Deverills Hall Pub Night** Friday 28th August (depending on Gov guidelines)
- **Jazz Night** Saturday 5th September see p15 (depending on Gov guidelines)
- **Upper Deverills Parish Council meeting** Wednesday 9th September See p11/14
- **Upper Deverills Pub Night** Friday 25th September (depending on Gov guidelines)
- **Upper Deverills Hall Quiz Night** Friday 23rd October
- **Upper Deverills Hall Pub Night** Friday 30th October
- **Upper Deverills Hall Curry Lunch** Sunday 8th November
- **Upper Deverills Parish Council meeting** Wednesday 11th November See p11/14
- **Upper Deverills Hall Pub Night** Friday 27th November
- **Upper Deverills Hall Children's Christmas Party** Saturday 12th December
- **Upper Deverills Village Carol Service** Sunday 20th December

### Upper Deverills Village Hall

As you will all understand, we had to call "last orders" at the Upper Deverills Village Hall in March, as part of the national response to the coronavirus crisis. For the moment we have cancelled all of our events such as Pub Nights, Rounders, Duck Race and the Summer Fete and Flower Show. This is only a temporary measure: the members of the Management Committee have lost none of their enthusiasm! We continually review Government guidelines and the changing situation, and you can be sure once it is safe to do so we will open our doors and welcome you back. For now we wish you good health and the best possible summer in the circumstances.

### **New Orleans Jazz - Saturday 5th September** **Horningsham Village Hall**

**New Orleans Heat** their 6th and final concert.

After 5 happy evenings at Horningsham, they have made a special request to play for us one more time, before they retire!

Please make a note in your diary, we look forward to seeing you at this fantastic evening of New Orleans jazz played by some of the best jazz musicians in the country!

**Any enquiries please contact Richard Abbott on 840763**



# PARISH OF DEVERILLS AND HORNINGSHAM

## Churches

SS Peter & Paul the Apostles, Longbridge Deverill BA12 7DL  
St Michael the Archangel, Brixton Deverill BA12 7EJ  
St Mary the Virgin, Kingston Deverill BA12 7HE  
St John the Baptist, Horningsham BA12 7LW

## Clergy

Rev Pauline Reid, Rectory, 6 Homefields, Longbridge  
Email: revpauline@btinternet.com 841290  
Associate Priest Rev Gay Maynard 01373 832490

**Licenced Lay Ministers** John Budgen 218203  
Robert Shuler 844291

**Church Wardens** Maggi Ratcliffe (Longbridge Deverill) 840405  
Richard Lucas (Brixton Deverill) 841164  
Robert Shuler (Kingston Deverill) 844291  
Tim Moore (Horningsham) 844336

**PCC Treasurer** Robert Steptoe 841396

**PCC Secretary** Nigel Poole 840902

**Church Electoral Roll Officer** Diana Abbott 840763

**Parish News Editor** Judy Munro 844385

**Organist** Mr John Budgen 218203

**Caretaker - Longbridge Church** Sylvia Titt 214825

**Benefice Safeguarding Officer** Rev Pauline Reid 841290

**Benefice Administrator** (Mondays am) Marion Muston 01373 839026

Email: administrator@cleyhillchurches.org

## Contact the Editor and the Website

**Parish News Editor:** Judy Munro 844385

Contributions for the Parish News by post to

Whitepits Lodge, Kingston Deverill, Warminster, BA12 7HD

or by email: [judymunro@btinternet.com](mailto:judymunro@btinternet.com)



**Please remember the deadline is 15th of the month - Thank you**

**Website: Benefice of Cley Hill Villages** [www.cleyhillchurches.org](http://www.cleyhillchurches.org)

Website contents: Parish News, Church services, Parish Register, Events