

Village News

in Swindon Village, Cheltenham

Your local newsletter sponsored by the Parish Council and delivered by volunteers.

June 2023 Edition No.494

Upcoming Events



JUNE

Saturday 3rd Art Club Exhibition 2pm - 4.30pm

Tuesday 6th Village Hall AGM 7.30pm.

Monday 12th Parish Council Meeting

Monday 19th Swindon Village Society. A visit to Westaway, a garden on the side of Cleeve Hill. See the Society article inside for details. Leave Village Hall car park at 6.30pm. Non members welcome if we have space.

Sunday 25th Litter Picking. Meet at the Village Hall at 10:30am

JULY

Monday 10th Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 17th Swindon Village Society. Talk – ‘The History of Brockhampton’ Village Hall 7.30pm. Visitors welcome.

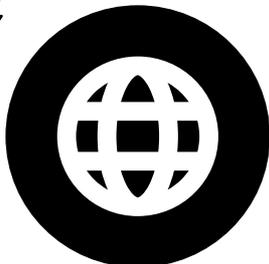
Sunday 30th Litter Picking. Meet at the Cross Hands at 10:30am



A Connected Community!



Using your phone's camera to hover over each QR Code square below for direct link access.



Parish Council Website

For full, detailed information from and about the Parish Council visit www.swindonparish.org.uk



Parish Council Facebook Page

A public page for live information and news updates from the council: www.facebook.com/swindonparish



Swindon Village Facebook Community Group

A private group for the discussion of local issues, sharing and requesting help in the local community.



Anti-Social Behaviour

If you have any concerns about anti-social behaviour do not hesitate to contact the police.



Ring 101 (you may be charged for this phone call) or **email** 101@gloucestershire.police.uk

NB: Get an INCIDENT REPORT NUMBER and let the parish know about it. If the police are not made aware of the problem THERE ISN'T A PROBLEM.



A Note From The Editor

As I mentioned last month, one of my volunteer roles is as co-ordinator of ticket sales at Prescott Bike Festival. I started off just helping counting money, and when, a few years ago the previous ticket manager was unable to carry on, I was asked if I would take over.

Of course I said yes!

Spending the previous two Festivals in a room counting money in no way prepared me for the task ahead. I quickly realised that I knew as much about what went on outside that room as I did about the Motorbikes taking part in the event.

To say that it was a steep learning curve is the underestimation of the century. I was completely out of my comfort zone, but I've never been one to admit defeat (too stubborn!). I managed to get through the preparation and the day with the help of some people who were very generous with their time and knowledge. I am now approaching my third festival in this role and have a fantastic team to work with.

I am so glad that I took the opportunity to join this great charity and develop the skills that were hidden inside me. I will write more about Blood Bikes and what they do next month, but if anyone would like more information, please drop me a line. Or just come along to the Festival. It's a great day out and seeing the motorbikes speeding up the hill climb is something else.

Karren

P.S. I still know nothing about Motorbikes!



Swindon Parish Council

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

The Annual Parish Meeting took place on 26th April and, certainly from the point of view of the Parish Councillors, was a great success. Pizza was on offer, with tea and coffee supplied by Sharon and the team. Lisa chaired the meeting and summarised the successes (and frustrations) of the Parish Council's year. I lulled everyone to sleep talking about our finances before Helen brought the house down describing the significant planning applications that we have been reviewing.

It was great to welcome Flo Clucas, one of our Borough Councillors, to the meeting. Flo emphasised how important it had been that the community had responded to the recent planning applications. The planning application for 180 homes at Home Farm was to be dealt with under delegated powers. “Delegated powers” means that the Borough Council planning officer assigned the planning application is left to make the decision. Thanks to our Borough Councillors, the application has now been referred to the Borough Council planning committee. People have the right to speak at planning committee meetings, whether for or against an application. The Parish Council has registered its desire to be represented at the meeting and to speak in opposition to the current plans. It is likely to be late summer before the application comes before the committee. It is interesting to see that comments on the application from Gloucestershire Highways have been added to the Borough Council planning portal. The comments echo our concerns about the unsuitability of the proposed traffic arrangements, so fingers crossed!



Swindon Parish Council

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council took place on the 15th May. We are required to hold a meeting in May and the meeting must elect a Chair for the year. The meeting unanimously re-elected Cllr. Cornish as Chair and Cllr. Whitaker as Vice Chair. Thank you to them for taking on the roles.

I have started to flesh out our plans for the Amenity Area. In the course of this I discovered that the River Swilgate which runs through the area is classed as a "main river". As such it falls under the jurisdiction of the Environment Agency rather than the Borough Council. Depending on the work we wish to do we may need to apply for a permit. Nobody said it would be easy!

The Boundary Commission has undertaken a review of the Borough Council ward boundaries. They look at how many residents each Borough Councillor represents and try to keep the numbers relatively even. With the new housing that will be built the number of residents in our area will increase. The Boundary Commission has concluded that the best way to resolve this will be to move the part of Swindon parish that is south of the Tewkesbury Road into the Springbank ward. The folk living south of the Tewkesbury Road will still belong to Swindon Parish (the parish boundary will not change) but the parish will be split into two wards; north and south. Prospective parish councillors will stand in one of the wards and the residents of each ward will only be able to vote for candidates standing in their ward. Don't worry, we have until our next local government elections in 2026 to get our heads around this!

Although it is outside our parish I think the cycle path that (ultimately) will join Cheltenham to Bishops Cleeve may be of interest. It is described as an extension of the Honeybourne Line.



Swindon Parish Council

I think that is a misnomer. It is actually a diversion from the Honeybourne Line.



The route goes along Folly Lane, Hudson Street, Marle Hill Road, Wellesley Road and Central Cross Drive before joining the Evesham Road and thence to the Racecourse Roundabout. My (obvious) question is “Why can’t the cycle path continue the Honeybourne Line to Swindon Lane and go up to the Racecourse Roundabout from there?”. It would have been great for residents of Swindon, Prestbury and Wymans Brook to be able to cycle or walk from Swindon Lane into town along a segregated, mainly rural route. There is a consultation in progress (link on our website). I have made my feelings known and would encourage others to do the same.

Lynne, our newest councillor, was “encouraged” to do some checks on our financial records. The members who didn’t want to do it (which was everybody else) thought it would be a good introduction for Lynne. It turns out Lynne is no stranger to accounts and we are grateful to her for examining a sample of my records. Nothing untoward was found!

Shaun Cullimore, Clerk to Swindon Parish Council



Swindon Parish Council

Here are the last of our profiles of the people associated with the Parish Council. Lynne is our newest councillor and Shaun is the Clerk to the Council.



Councillor Lynne Allen

Councillor Lynne Allen has lived in Swindon Village for 36 years and loves living here. Her first employment was at GCHQ for 8 years and then Lynne worked in Education as a School Bursar, finally retiring after 27 years. In 2018 she returned to work part time at a Special Needs School and finished working there at the end of January 2023.

Lynne's hobbies are travelling, singing in a local choir, learning to play the piano (very poorly!) and gardening.

Lynne is our newest councillor and hopes to contribute to the matters that can arise within the Parish, such as the proposed housing development at Elms Park and how this will impact on Swindon Village. She is already rolling up her sleeves and making a valuable contribution!

Clerk to the Council: Shaun Cullimore

Shaun was born in Gloucester and lived in Brockworth. The wonderful girl who became his wife went to the same school and lived just up the road! In 1987 they moved to Swindon Village with a young son. Two more sons followed and all





Swindon Parish Council

were educated at Swindon Village Primary School.

He spent his working life at Smiths Industries, later GE Aviation. Shaun has a degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering and led teams developing software for aeroplanes, helicopters and Armoured Fighting Vehicles. Towards the end of his career he worked on research projects with other European companies.

Although he loved his job he took early retirement to try something different. That led to him becoming the Parish Clerk for Swindon Parish and an internal auditor for other councils. Shaun studied for a Certificate in Local Council Administration so that he would at least know something about what he was supposed to be doing!

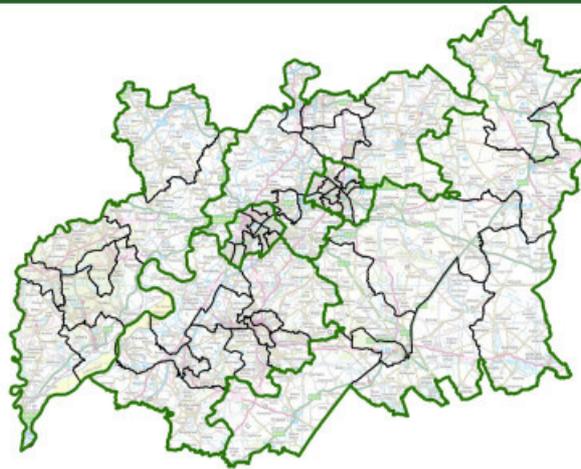
In his spare time he has always been heavily involved in hockey as a player, coach, umpire and administrator. All his sons played to a very high standard. He has been treasurer of Gloucestershire Hockey Association for more years than he cares to remember. Other hobbies include photography, golf and meeting up with old school friends to grumble about how things were better "in our day"!

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Have your say

Gloucestershire Electoral Review



The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is asking for your views on our electoral review of Gloucestershire. The review will agree new division boundaries across the council.

- Do you have suggestions about where your division boundaries should be?
- Where do people in your area go to access local facilities, such as shops and leisure activities?
- Which areas do you identify as your local community?

Consultation closes: 5 June 2023



reviews@lgbce.org.uk



www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk & www.lgbce.org.uk



Review Officer (Gloucestershire),
LGBCE, PO Box 133, Blyth, NE24 9FE





Community Litter Pickers



Sundays 10.30-12pm

25th June- starting from Village Hall

30th July- starting from Cross Hands pub on Tewkesbury Rd

St. Lawrence's Church

Chatterbox



Every Tuesday
10.30am to 12noon



Pop in any time
Coffee/tea and biscuits
and a good old chat about anything and everything.

Everyone's welcome, old or new.

(It's free!)



St. Lawrence's Church

Being endlessly fascinated by peoples' lives can get you into trouble. During my first week as a rector, I asked a quite old man if he had lived here all his life? He gave me a firm stare. "I'm not dead yet" was his quite reasonable reply. Knowing he was from a local family, I asked him about his childhood and school. I wonder if you can remember your first day at school? Did you think: if only I could just run back home and stop it all from happening. The man I was speaking to, he'd be taken each morning down the road to school, only to run home again and be back in front of the fire before his mother put her key in the door. Maybe, we all wish we could just go home again.

When clergy baptise babies, we tend to think of them having no worries, not having to think ahead to what tomorrow might bring. It's a feeling of wishing that we too, had no worries. And that anxiety never quite leaves us. International athletes, medal bedecked Olympic swimmers who every time they line up on track or poolside never think: 'I am going to run or swim well today', but: 'I wish I was home, with my mother and father.'

Do you remember your children's first day at school? Perhaps you would have loved to turn around and protect, insulate and take home each of your children that September day.

There was no way that God could not risk His Son. There was a world to win, a mission to make and the glory of God to be revealed. And lives are lit up, healing hurries to many, God is grafted into people's hearts.

But how might we understand this Father and Son connection? The beautiful thing about us is that we share in God's nature. The great mystic, Julian of Norwich, wrote, 'the place which Jesus takes in our soul is his home of homes – and his greatest delight is to dwell there'. This



St. Lawrence's Church

might seem bewildering, but Julian keeps us grounded, living in a small room on a busy Norwich thoroughfare. Julian grounds this by talking about something everyone would know about: namely knitting, from the Old English, *cnyttan*, meaning to tie in a knot. Adding that ‘your beloved soul was preciousy knitted to God by a knot so subtle and so mighty that it is one in God.’ And here is that ‘oneing’ at work.

One man’s father is in a nursing home. The afternoon sun shines into the room, dancing through outside tree branches like fire on the far bedroom wall. You notice the radiance of the father’s skin as he watches his son. This is a gentle saying goodbye although no words are said. The son’s memory went back to his first day at school, the firm but gentle push of his father’s hand between his shoulder blades to push him towards the life that awaited him. He thought that he could feel Jesus by the school gate, and he was pushing his son towards him. And Jesus said to him: Don’t worry, I will protect you and him always. I am with you, to the end of time.

Revd Nick Bromfield, Team Rector.

From the registers



Marriages

We celebrated the marriage of
Martyn Forryan and Victoria Bailey

6th May



St. Lawrence's Church

Praise in the Park



Sunday 4th June

3.30pm

Swindon Village Park

(near the Village Hall)

Come and sing some of your favourite hymns with a band from

The Salvation Army

Tea and cakes in the Village Hall afterwards

Retiring collection for
The Salvation Army and St. Lawrence's Church

Please bring your own chairs if possible



St. Lawrence's Church

 North Cheltenham
Team Ministry

St. Lawrence's Church
Swindon Village

Regular Services

1st Sunday of the month:

10.30am Together @ Ten Thirty all-age worship
6.30pm Holy Communion

All other Sundays:

9.15am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evening Prayer

Every Wednesday:

10.00am to 12noon Church open for private prayer

(Services are subject to change at short notice;
contact the Churchwardens if you want to check.)

Enquiries about baptisms or weddings

If you would like to enquire about baptism (also called christening) or would like to book a wedding in St Lawrence's church, please contact the Team Office.

The office is not currently staffed regularly but phone calls and emails are being picked up. Contact the Office on 244373 or admin@northchelt.org.uk

You can contact the clergy by email:

Revd. Nick Bromfield, Team Rector nick.bromfield@northchelt.org.uk
or via the office.



St. Lawrence's Church

Cakes & Bakes Sale

**Saturday 1st July at 10.00am
in St. Lawrence's Church**

Proceeds to St. Lawrence's Church

Donations of baked goodies will be gratefully received.

If you can help please phone
May Shurmer 01242 241033
Helen Harris 01242 239239
Liz Attwell 01242 692483





The Swindon Village Society

April saw twenty members off to Painswick for a guided tour led by John Heathcott. I thought I knew Painswick, a pleasant Cotswold Town with not much happening but a good place from which to start a country walk and known mostly for the ninety nine yews in the church yard. Within ten minutes of starting we realised there was quite a bit more. Only a hundred yards off the road I have driven through fifty times, and quite unbeknownst to me, is the oldest bowling green in Britain; first bowled on in 1554. Once away from that and as your eye adjusts you really start to notice the architecture with some very fine houses on the main road and then more and more as you investigate the side roads.

The thing is, Painswick was really big on wool and cloth, and it was from this that the money flowed. The merchants of the seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth centuries prospered and used the money to build fine homes and fine workplaces. In the end, with mechanisation the cloth industry moved away to Stroud and the big mills there but the buildings remain to be admired now. And it is not just the fine housing that intrigue. Sarah's favourite revelation was the Owl Holes. Many buildings in the town were used for the storage of raw materials. Mice like that kind of stuff and were happy to make their homes there. The answer was to provide the buildings with holes in the walls just the right size for an owl to enter and feast on the dear little rodents below. Good planning and you didn't even have to ask permission of the Council or the town cat.

The town also has a plethora of smaller houses and workplaces which since they are mostly of stone are pleasing to the eye and often have those little quirks of architecture that need to be noticed.



The Swindon Village Society

The church is fine and the churchyard with its yews very fine. We did not stop to count yews, but there are very many impressive graves and monuments to commemorate those who once provided the money to build such a fine place. Great visit: thanks John.

And now to the matter of our garden visit in June. We are going to a garden on the hillside below Cleeve Cloud called Westaway. They are not able to accept us on our usual Wednesday date so the visit has been changed to the evening of Monday 19 th June. Tea and buns will be provided after we have looked around. Cost of the visit is £5 including tea. We will leave from the Village Hall car park at 6.30pm and it should take about ten minutes to get there. Numbers are limited to thirty but we are happy to take non members if numbers allow. We will offer lifts if possible. So I would ask those who want to come to make a booking with me either by e-mail at barry_simon@hotmail.com or phone on 01242 521723.

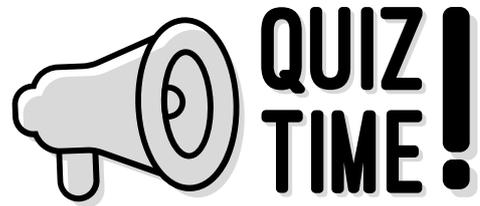
On to July. We have not had a talk scheduled and I have found it difficult to book a speaker. However, finally I have persuaded myself to step forward and repeat a talk I gave in 2006. It is 'The History of Brockhampton'. That is to say our Brockington, as people used to call it when I first arrived here, not the one up in the Cotswolds. The talk also includes quite a bit about Southam, Bishops Cleeve and even Elmstone Hardwick. It also has the great advantage that I am very cheap to book.

As ever, remember that new members are always welcome and visitors are welcome at any meeting for £2. We will be glad to see you

Barry Simon



Quiz #25



June brings with it the start of Summer, as the solstice on the shortest day of the year takes place on the 21st. Just before that, Sunday 18th is Fathers' Day.

Here are 10 questions that all feature famous fathers. Good luck!

1. Inishmore, off the west coast of Galway hosts a festival celebrating which fictional priest, played by Dermot Morgan, each year?
2. Which band had a disco hit with "Daddy Cool" in 1976?
3. At which sporting venue would you find the famous "Father Time" weathervane?
4. In which aquatic species do the fathers become pregnant and carry the young, rather than the mother?
5. Which priest played by Mark Williams solves mysteries in the fictional Cotswold Village of Kempleford?
6. "Papa Don't Preach" was a 1986 hit for which singer?
7. Referred to as the "Father of Modern Medicine" which Greek philosopher gives his name to the oath that doctors swear?
8. Private Pike and Captain Mainwaring are characters in which British sitcom?
9. In the nursery rhyme, whose daddy has "gone a hunting"?
10. What is the shared name of the father and son duo who served as the 41st and 43rd presidents of the USA?

PRESCOTT BIKE FEST 2023

SUNDAY 25 JUNE
TICKETS FROM £15
UNDER 16'S FREE
GATES OPEN:
8.30AM



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ALLEN MILLYARD

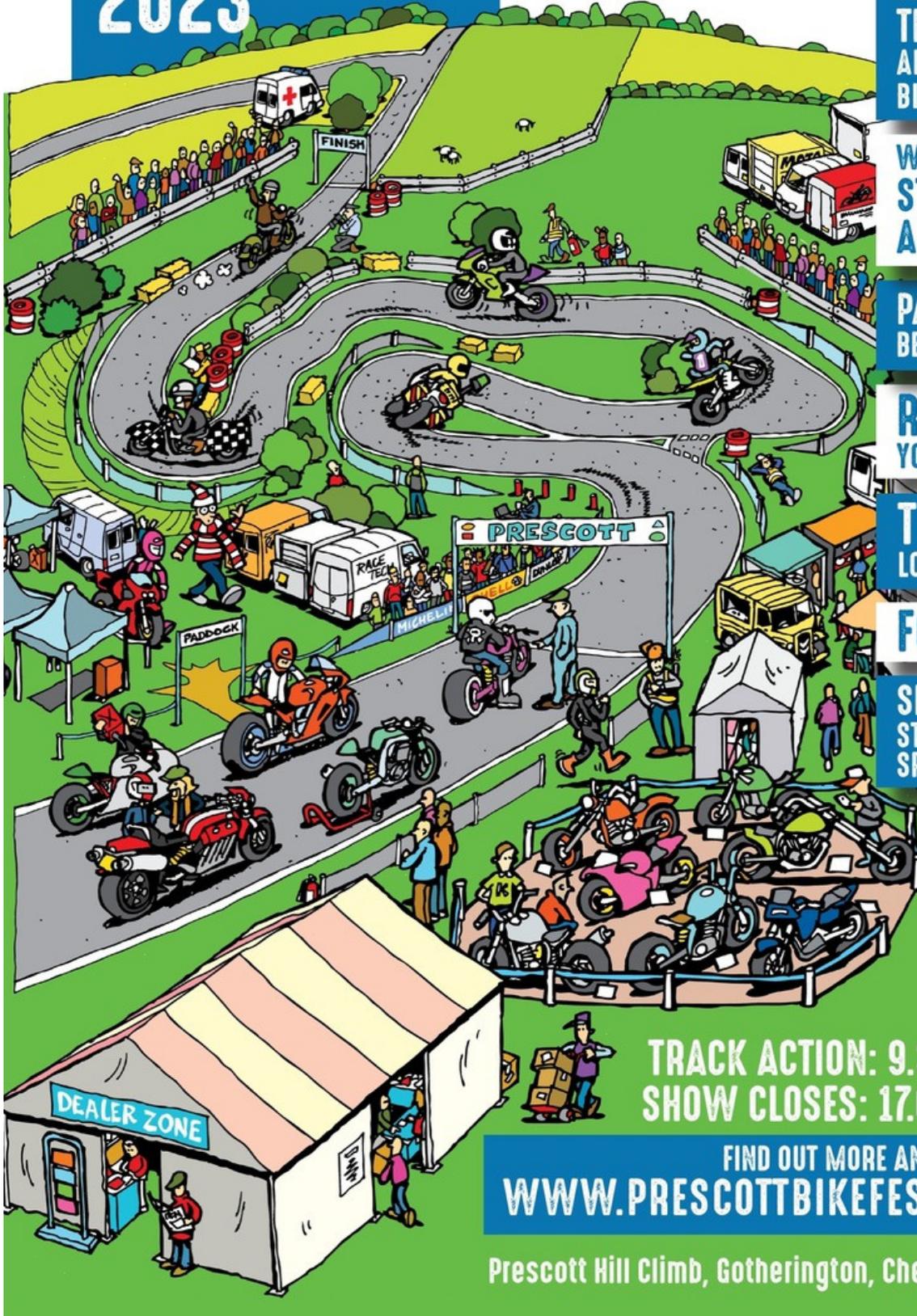
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Art: #WorldofHilly



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SHOW CLOSES: 17.00

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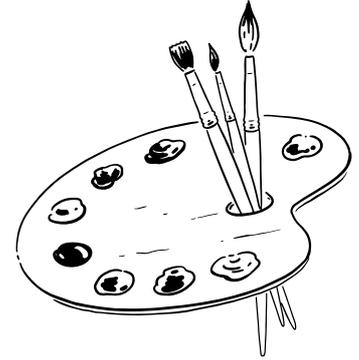
Prescott Hill Climb, Gotherington, Cheltenham GL52 9RD



Swindon Village Arts & Craft Club

Our forthcoming exhibition is approaching!

It will be held in the Village Hall, on Saturday 3rd June with doors open from 2pm-4:30pm. Admission is free and tea and cakes will be available on the day.



This will be a great opportunity to see the great work that has been produced by our members on club nights, and we look forward to welcoming many visitors.



Swindon Village Hall

And finally some sunshine!

I would like to start with Kings Coronations Celebrations. We hope that everybody had a great time as we did. We want to thank all those who got involved, helped or manned the stall for us. We could not do this without you, so please be assured that we really appreciate it.

We would like to do many more events so if you are interested helping in any way shape or form or running the event yourself, please let us know.

Our AGM meeting is set for 6th of June at 7:30 , so if you interested to know about village hall please come and join us. Hopefully we will see you there.

Jana, Chair.



AGM

**TUESDAY 6TH OF JUNE AT 7:30
@ SWINDON VILLAGE HALL**

The village hall committee will be meeting for an annual general meeting to discuss the previous years events, bookings and financial overview.

The committee is run by local volunteers that are all residents of Swindon Village Parish. The AGM is open to public attendance and welcome you to come along to participate and positively contribute in this open meeting.

The village hall is a valuable community asset and additional support for the hall and the committee is welcome as always! **Thank you.**

Get fit dancing to songs from musical shows. You will feel like a Broadway star! Enjoy a fun, high-cardio dance fitness experience that incorporates strength training to give you a full-body workout!

Trust us, you haven't lived until you've worked up a sweat to "Greased Lightnin'" or kicked your way, with glittery gold hats, through the finale of A Chorus Line.

Empowering, fun, theatrical, and fabulous are just a few words to describe ChiChi Fit. It's exercise that doesn't feel like exercise, and a great cardio workout and calorie burner too! If you love show tunes, this unique fitness experience will become your healthiest addiction! Hope to see you there!

Lauren



where **FITNESS**

meets the **STAGE**

FREE
TRIAL
CLASS

SWINDON VILLAGE HALL

WEDNESDAYS @ 6:15PM

ChiChi-Fit is a brilliant way to exercise with a smile on your face! The routines are really varied and just so much fun to do. Lauren is always welcoming and makes each and every class enjoyable. For those who don't normally do this sort of thing (that was me 2 years ago) give it a try, it's addictive!



AMY

LAUREN@CHICHI-FIT.CO.UK



Bekah's Bites

Tarka Dahl

Serves 2 as a full meal/4 as a side.

Ingredients:

- v 200g red lentils**
- v 2 tbsp vegetable oil**
- v 1 onion – finely chopped**
- v 3 cloves garlic – finely chopped**
- v ¼ turmeric**
- v ½ garam masala**



Method:

- 1. Rinse the lentils under the tap under the water runs clear.**
- 2. Simmer the lentils in a pan with 1 litre of water and some salt for 25 minutes, skimming the froth off the top.**
- 3. Heat the oil and cook the onions and garlic for 8 minutes until softened, then add the garam masala and turmeric and mix.**
- 4. Add the spiced onion and garlic into the lentils.**
- 5. Cover the pan with a lid and cook for a further 40 minutes, stirring occasionally until it's a thick soupy consistency – it may take less than 40 minutes.**
- 6. Enjoy – serve with rice or naan bread either as a side with another curry or as a main dish!**

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07873575560

01242 250691

Email: pushpa@pwfootcare.co.uk

Website: pwfootcare.co.uk



Answers to quiz

1. **Father Ted**
2. **Boney M**
3. **Lords**
4. **Seahorses**
5. **Father Brown**
6. **Madonna**
7. **Hippocrates**
8. **Dad's Army**
9. **Baby Bunting**
10. **George Bush**



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Yoga & Relaxation

UCKINGTON VILLAGE HALL Wed 7.00-8.15pm

PRESTBURY WI HALL Thur 9.30-10.45am

Book a Taster session & experience the benefits

Yoga is a great antidote to the demands and pressures of modern life. It helps to release physical and mental tension, develop flexibility and stamina, and promote calm, clarity and well-being, through the practice of yoga postures (asana), breathing (pranayama) and relaxation techniques.

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British Wheel of Yoga Teacher

www.sandralewisoyoga.co.uk



SWINDON PARISH COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

Footpaths John Heathcott 527753
Scouts, Cubs, Beavers info@1sv-scouts.co.uk

Rainbow Guider Hannah Butler 07464 784155

Village Hall Chair Jana Bridger 07913 911930
swindonvillagehall@gmail.com
www.svhall.co.uk

Village Hall Booking Secretary Jana Bridger 07514 594351

Play Group (Playgroup hours) 690479

Winemakers' Secretary Roy Harper 662861

School Headteacher Geraint Mills 690016

Friends of the School Caroline Williams chairfosvps@gmail.com
Sarah Martin

Art & Crafts Club Lynne 07515 461876

Swindon Village Society Barry Simon 521723

Mary Godwin Under 5s (Playgroup hours) mgu5@hotmail.co.uk

Marle Hill W.L. Sara Jefferies 07477894639 / 692500

Save The Countryside Helen Wells 07770 986078

Please inform the editors of any changes to the contact details for village organisations. We have had a request to provide contact details for the classes held at the hall. We are currently compiling this and hope to include it next month.

Deadline for the next issue of the Village News is the 16th April 2023

Please send contributions to the editors via Karren Parsons
at 29 Dark Lane or e-mail village-news@swindonparish.org.uk



Revised waste collection dates for Spring and Summer bank holiday 2023

Normal Collection Day Revised Collection Day

Monday 29 May 2023 Tuesday 30 May 2023

Tuesday 30 May 2023 Wednesday 31 May 2023

Wednesday 31 May 2023 Thursday 1 June 2023

Thursday 1 June 2023 Friday 2 June 2023

Friday 2 June 2023 Saturday 3 June 2023

Normal collections resume Monday 5 June 2023

Monday 28 August 2023

Tuesday 29 August 2023

Tuesday 29 August 2023

Wednesday 30 August 2023

Wednesday 30 August 2023

Thursday 31 August 2023

Thursday 31 August 2023

Friday 1 September 2023

Friday 1 September 2023

Saturday 2 September 2023

Normal collections resume Monday 4 September 2023

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr. James Cornish (Chairman)	07950 196709
Clr. Helen Wells	220875 or 07770 986078
Cllr. Lisa Whitaker	07715 470842
Clr. Sharon Collicutt	07884 184423
Cilr. Natalie Blankley	07725 948935
Clr. Alison Berry	07754 006634
Clr. Lynne Allen	07979 890134

Vacancy 1 (please get in touch if you would be interested in joining)

Vacancy 2 (please get in touch if you would be interested in joining)

Mr Shaun Cullimore (Clerk to the Council) 07833 089435
parish.clerk@swindonparish.org.uk

Cheltenham Borough Councillors

Clr. Flo Clucas	255844
Cllr. Bernard Fisher	07523 421012

County Councillor

Cllr. Bernard Fisher 07523 421012

Allotments Manager

Ian Brown 528683

Swindon Parish and Community Website: <https://swindonparish.org.uk>

ST.LAWRENCE'S CHURCH

Part of the North Cheltenham Team Ministry

Team Rector: Revd. Nick Bromfield,.....nick.bromfield@northchelt.org.uk

Churchwardens: Hugh Evans,241678

May Shurmer..... 241033

Tower Captain: Hugh Evans,.....241678

Organist: John Collins.....511950

North Cheltenham Team Ministry Office

St. Nicolas' Church, Swindon Lane, 244373

Cheltenham GL50 4PA admin@northchelt.org.uk

The office is open on Monday to Friday 9am to 12 noon. Outside these hours please leave a message on the answer phone.

The contents of this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editors or the Parish Council.