

Village News

in Swindon Village

*Your local Newsletter sponsored by the
Parish Council and delivered by volunteers*

No. 405 June 2014

June

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------|--|
| Monday | 2 | Marle Hill WI - St. Nicolas' Hall 7.30pm
Arthur Ball - "Birds, Tigers and The Taj" |
| Wednesday | 4 | Wednesday Club - Village Hall 8.00pm
Jill Ruix and Ladies - "The Lives of Narrowboat Women" |
| Tuesday | 10 | Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall 7.30pm
With Public Session |
| Wednesday | 11 | Wednesday Club Coffee Morning - 17 Quat Goose Lane
10.30am - 12noon |
| Saturday | 14 | Swindon Village School Summer Fair 11.00am |
| Sunday | 15 | Farewell to Rev. Cozens - St. Nicolas' Church 4.00pm |
| Wednesday | 18 | Swindon Village Society Garden Visit in Prestbury.
Meet at Swindon Village Hall at 7.00pm. |

July

- | | | |
|----------------|----------|--|
| Wednesday | 2 | Wednesday Club - Village Hall 8.00pm
George Hook - "World of Mother of Pearl" |
| Saturday | 5 | St. Lawrence Church Fete - Village Hall and playing field
Gates open 1.00pm |
| Monday | 7 | Marle Hill WI - St. Nicolas' Hall 7.30pm
Paul Evans - Humorous Poems, Monologues and Readings |
| Tuesday | 8 | Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall 7.30pm
With Public Session |

(Full minutes of all Parish Council meetings are available on the Parish website www.swindonparish.org.uk. They are also available on request from the Chairman.)

The Annual Parish Meeting took place at the school on 13th May. Sadly we didn't attract a great turnout but many thanks to those who did make the effort. We must make sure we have a controversial topic and/or speaker next time to get people hot and bothered. Often people will only get interested and involved when something fires their enthusiasm. Which brings me nicely to the next topic. As I write elections are due to be held in a few days' time. When you read this the dust will have settled. You will have had the opportunity to vote for people to represent you at the European Parliament and at the Borough Council. Had more people come forward you would have also been voting for Parish Councillors. We all owe a debt to the existing councillors who put up for another term and were elected unopposed. There is still one vacancy on the Council. If you are fed up with hearing me talk about it join the Parish Council! In a Cheltenham pub window I saw an advertisement for new customers. It said "Experience not necessary, full training given." The same applies to the role of councillor; you would be doing good for the community and learning some new things. Many employers value community engagement so it would also look good on your CV.

The Parish Council serves an important role by commenting on applications for planning permission within the parish. The Parish Council receives notices of applications from the Borough Council and must respond within a certain time. The Borough Council publishes a list of applications each week. Looking back over the last couple of months shows what an uneven workload this represents. Two weeks can go by with no applications received while another week may see four come along. The deadline for comments may mean that an application cannot be considered at a meeting of the council. We will be looking to improve our process for dealing with applications. We have to cater for people being away and, despite all this, we need to be sure that key applications don't slip past us. Many applications are innocuous but others will clearly be unpopular. You can speak to one of the councillors if you are concerned about something that is planned (or being done without permission). Remember that everyone has a right to comment on planning applications and can do so via the Borough Council web site.

Speaking of web sites, our Parish Council web site (www.swindonparish.org.uk) is due for an overhaul. I am grateful to Mark Lawrence who has kept it ticking over for a while and been extremely helpful. I am hoping to put some new features in place and make it the "go to" destination for everyone looking for local information. If you have a view on what facilities the site should offer please contact me. I am aware that I am constantly telling people that they can report issues via the County and Borough Council web sites so one of the things I will be looking to do is make our own web site a "one stop shop" with all the links you need in one place.

I recently met with a representative of Gloucestershire County Council to discuss some footpath issues. Things are changing at the County Council with highway and footpath maintenance being subcontracted to Amey. In fact this is an outsourcing operation involving County Council staff becoming Amey employees. It will be interesting to see how this works out. It has clearly been done as a cost saving exercise but, whilst it is up to them how they do it, the County Council retain a duty to maintain our highways and footpaths. Any concerns should be reported to the County Council. For footpath issues specifically we have a volunteer footpaths officer whose details appear later in the Village News.

Fly tipping continues to be a problem periodically. I noticed the following in the minutes of Swindon Parish Council from January 2011. "A door had recently been dumped in the lane. It was agreed to request the installation of a litter bin." That must have been quite a bin we were asking for!

Shaun Cullimore

Clerk to Swindon Parish Council

Plants for sale at council's nursery

Cheltenham's environmental and waste management company Ubico are holding a plant sale at the Arle Nursery.

The sale will be each Friday and Saturday, until all plants are sold off.

The nursery will be open:

Friday 8.30am - 3.00pm

Saturday 8.30am - 1pm

On sale will be all types of bedding including geraniums, begonias, petunias, impatiens, trailing plants for hanging baskets, compost, vegetable plants and perennials.

Rob Bell, managing director at Ubico said: "Last year's plant sales were extremely popular and I am pleased that we can once again open the doors for members of the public."

Arle Nursery is on Hayden Road, Cheltenham GL51 0SW.

Plastics recycling

Plans to recycle more types of plastic at Cheltenham's recycling sites

Cheltenham Borough Council will be conducting a trial over the summer to establish if it can permanently expand the range of plastics that can be recycled at some of its most popular recycling sites around the town.

Because of its light and bulky nature, recycling plastics is more expensive than recycling other types of materials, but the council recognises that there is a clear public demand for this service.

The technical term for the plastic being trialled is 'post consumer plastic'.

This refers to items such as:

- yoghurt pots
- margarine tubs
- ice cream tubs
- ready-meal pots
- plastic fruit punnets

However, this does not include:

- any black-coloured plastic
- plastic bags
- cling film (or any other kind of film)

Plastic bottles have always been part of the core group of materials that are recycled by the council but other 'post consumer plastics' previously went to landfill but, from 2nd June 2014, a three-month trial will begin to determine if these types of plastics can also be recycled at Cheltenham recycling sites in the future.

Residents who are keen to recycle this type of plastic – and help the result of the trial – will be able to take them to recycling sites from 2 June 2014. The nearest for Swindon Village will be

Sainsbury's, Tewkesbury Road and Swindon Road recycling centre.

If the results of the trial are positive and cost effective, then it is likely that this service will be implemented permanently.

In order for collection crews to manage the expanded plastics recycling service, five under-used recycling sites will close, freeing up valuable resources which can then be used on servicing the more well-used sites, especially with the expected increase in demand as a result of the potential expansion of plastics recycling.

Roger Whyborn, cabinet member for sustainability, said: "Every tonne of waste which isn't landfilled saves the taxpayer £80 so we are very pleased to be able to introduce this step forward, especially as it is in response to clear public demand.

“Cheltenham has always striven to be in the forefront of moves to divert recyclable waste away from landfill and so, as well as expanding the range of plastics recycled from ‘bring sites’, we are also researching the possibility of collecting these kinds of mixed plastics from the kerbside. At present, council budgets are limited, so this initiative is something which we hope to be able to implement in the future when it is more financially viable.”

Local resident prosecuted for litter offence

A local resident was prosecuted for a littering offence at a hearing that took place on Monday 28 April 2014 at Cheltenham Magistrates’ Court.

The man failed to pay a fixed penalty notice (FPN) relating to rubbish he had added to a fly-tipped site at Sainsbury's on Tewkesbury Road. In total, Cheltenham Borough Council issued five FPNs relating to offences which took place at this site in September, with the other four all paid on time. The fixed penalty notice was for £80, reduced to £50 if paid promptly. The offender made no attempt to pay the fine or liaise with the public protection team about his actions.

He also failed to attend court and was convicted in his absence. The magistrates imposed a fine of £1,250, a victim surcharge of £120 and costs of £317.

Mike Redman, director of environmental and regulatory services at Cheltenham Borough Council, said: “This case demonstrates the council’s resolve to take action against the minority of people responsible for littering and spoiling the appearance of our beautiful town. The courts take the non-payment of fixed penalties very seriously”.

The Wednesday Club

invites you to their

Jubilee Coffee Morning

on Wednesday 11th June
from 10.30 am until 12 noon
at 17 Quat Goose Lane

Admission £1.00 to include drink and biscuit
Raffle tickets £1.00

Table Top Sale of Cakes, Books and Plants

Please come along; all are welcome (bring a friend)

Services and other events during June

Sunday	1 st	<i>Easter 6</i> 10.30am	Together @ Ten Thirty - Swindon Primary School Hall
		6.30pm	Holy Communion – Village Hall
Monday	2 nd	7.00pm	PCC meeting - Village Hall
Tuesday	3 rd	7.00pm	Tuesday Group
Sunday	8 th	<i>Pentecost</i> 6.30pm	Evensong with the Airborne Services – Village Hall
Tuesday	10 th	7.00pm	Holy Communion (Rivelands Road) followed by Tuesday group
Sunday	15 th	4.00pm	Farewell to Canon Michael Cozens Service followed by Hog Roast at St Nicolas, Swindon Lane No evening services in other churches
Tuesday	17 th	7.00pm	Tuesday Group
Sunday	22 nd	<i>First Sunday after Trinity</i> 6.30pm	Evensong – Village Hall
Tuesday	24 th	7.00pm	Tuesday Group
Sunday	29 th	<i>Peter & Paul, Apostles</i> 6.30pm	Songs of Praise – Village Hall

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 church, please contact the Team Office, which is open Monday to Friday from 9am until 12 noon. The Office is based in St Nicolas' Church in Swindon Lane. Contact the Office on **244373** or **admin@northchelt.org.uk**

You can contact me, the Revd Liz Palin (Assistant Curate) on 575547, liz.palin@northchelt.org.uk. , or the Revd Canon Michael Cozens (Team Rector) on 523177 or michael.cozens@northchelt.org.uk .

The Parish of St Lawrence Swindon Village & Cheltenham St Peter

The church will be temporarily closed during June, July and August whilst building work is being undertaken. The new facilities will include a toilet and kitchenette.

During June, July and August the following arrangements have been made for regular services:

1st Sunday of the month

10.30am Together at Ten Thirty will meet in the hall of Swindon Village Primary School
6.30pm Holy Communion in Swindon Village Hall

All other Sundays

9.30am Holy Communion at St Nicolas, Swindon Lane, Prestbury
10.30am Service at St Mary Magdalene Elmstone Hardwicke
(see North Cheltenham Notice sheet for details)
6.30pm Evensong in Swindon Village Hall

We look forward to welcoming you to these services, and to welcoming you to St Lawrence Church once the work has been completed.

If you have any queries please contact the Churchwardens, Tony Jilbert and Val Smith, or Rev Liz.

From the registers



Baptism

We have welcomed into the church family
Hadley Green 25th May 2014



Weddings

We have celebrated the marriage of
Gar-Yun Wong & Bijal Patel
Ayanda Ndimande & Katie Evans

24th May
24th May



Interrment of ashes

We have given thanks for the lives of
Derrick Price 9th May
Pearl Phelan 22nd May

And so, it's farewell!

We only expected to stay for about 3 years and here we are, after almost 18 years in Cheltenham, preparing to say 'farewell'. Although the decision has been made and I feel sure that it is the right one both for me and also for the North Cheltenham Team Ministry, the actual leaving part is proving very difficult. As I write this, over a month before my final Sunday, the 'last times' have already begun; the last time I will do this here or attend that meeting there. As you will already have read, St Lawrence Church will be closing whilst work is being done to install a toilet and to create some space for social gatherings and meetings and for refreshments to be offered. This means that the last service I will take in the church will be a wedding on Saturday 24th May. The last time I lead a service in Swindon Village will actually be in the Village Hall at 6.30pm on Sunday 8th June when we will be joined by members of the Parachute Regiment for the D-day commemoration.

It has been a real privilege to serve as a priest in this parish since 2008 when Swindon Village and Cheltenham St Peter joined the North Cheltenham Team Ministry and I became Team Rector. I give thanks for all that has been shared in this time, both joys and sorrows; for all that we have achieved together in our service of God; for all the amazing, moving, inspiring, joyful things that I have been involved with and, most importantly, I give thanks for all the people that I have shared all this with.

In my work here I have been very privileged to be able to meet and to minister to many wonderful people, a lot of whom are no longer with us but they have shared part of my Christian journey and have touched my life in very special ways and I also give thanks for them as I remember them with much love and gratitude.

There is so much to give thanks for and Gill, Anna and Simon join me in doing this and thank you for always welcoming them. The process of uprooting and saying goodbye is very hard, but I am convinced that God, who is faithful, has lots of great things in mind for the parish of Swindon Village and Cheltenham St Peter and for all the parishes of North Cheltenham and I am sure that He has someone in mind to come and lead you forward. As I thank God for all that has been over my time with you, I pray that He will pour out His blessings on all of you as you continue on this wonderful journey of faith to which He has called you. I ask you to pray for me as I take up the challenges of a new ministry in Dursley and also to pray for Gill, Anna and Simon as we all move into a new chapter of our family life.

Canon Michael Cozens

*An opportunity to say farewell and thank you to
The Revd Canon Michael Cozens*

Sunday 15th June, St Nicolas' Church, Swindon Lane

Arrival from 4pm onwards

Service of farewell at 4.30pm

A party will begin at approx. 5.30pm

Hog roast (with vegetarian alternative)

Bar Entertainment

Activities for children and young people

It is hoped that people from all our churches and all our congregations will be able to attend some or all of the event which is aimed at all ages, and will be an opportunity to say thank you to Fr Michael, Gill and the family.

Show your support for England
in the FIFA World Cup

Get your ENGLAND flags here

Just call in at 5 Manor Road



Flags 3' x 2' approx Metal eyelets in top corners

Car flags (pack of 2) Each flag measures approx 16" x 12",
mounted on plastic holders for clipping on to cars



Suggested donation £1
to St. Lawrence's Church building fund

Karen Evans (tel. 241678)

A view from the pew

Change

“Change and decay in all around I see, O thou who changest not, abide with me.”

...so goes a much loved hymn about trust in God's providence. I don't want to dwell on the 'decay all around' idea but on the fact that people living today are living at a time like no other. We're experiencing a speed of change like no other generation. A few older folk sometimes find it difficult to cope.

Arthur Mee, who founded the Children's Newspaper I used to read as a boy, also wrote a series of guidebooks in 1938 called '**The King's England**' in an engaging old-fashioned style. Here's his entry about the village in the revised edition of 1966:

“Swindon. A quiet village on the fringe of Cheltenham, it has a squat little gabled church near the small green, and a spacious Elizabethan manor house. But it is for the Norman Tower that we come, a curious structure with no two of its sides alike.” (I don't think I'd agree with “squat” as a description of St Lawrence Church.)

In 2004 Barry Simon, one of our local group of keen village historians, wrote a different description from 'squat' emphasizing the unusual nature of the tower: “It (the church tower) is one of only two six-sided Norman towers in the county. Originally the tower probably acted as the nave of the church with no more than a small chancel to the east.” I often try to imagine what the original building was like. It's wonderful to think for how long the church has been standing on a small mound at the centre of the village stating what is at the heart of the community.

The changes to the building (and what's in it) being enacted at present are nothing new. In a brief outline descriptive leaflet we have: “The nave and aisles were practically rebuilt in 1844” and, “the East end of the south aisle was not rebuilt, and here is to be seen one of the earliest examples of tracery ... over the central mullion.”

In a major change of positioning, our probably 15th century font is being moved and lowered. The font will still be one of the first things you see as you come into the church. As everyone knows fonts are designed for baptizing young children and we enjoy whole families taking part in the little service of baptism when children, and sometimes adults, are welcomed into the Church. Fonts are always placed near the entrance door of a church. The central aisle leading to the altar pictures the Christian life journey (remember John Bunyan's 'Pilgrims Progress') of an individual. The font symbolizes the beginning of life.

Over its history our church has changed much and at the moment it is being 'reordered' or altered, to help in keeping up with the changing needs of God's people who use the building for worship.

The people who make up the 'church' of St Lawrence are continuing the work of our predecessors in making the building a place where young and old can draw near to our Maker in thought and prayer.

Ralph Griffin

St. Lawrence Church

Annual Fete

Saturday 5th July
Gates open 1.00pm

Admission £1 for adults

**Frampton-on-Severn Silver Band
England's Glory Ladies' Morris
Classic cars
Bouncy Castle
Barbecue, teas and other refreshments**

Lots of stalls including
White Elephant, Cakes and Produce,
Plants, Books, Toys Tombola

Other entertainment still to be announced

St. Lawrence Church Fete

We would welcome donations (in good condition, please) for any of the stalls listed above. Home-made cakes and bakes always sell well. If you need items to be collected please phone **Mandy Jilbert on 693639**.

We are still looking for more help with the church fete. Could you help to man a stall for a couple of hours or help setting up tables and chairs in the morning or put them away at the end of the day? The more helpers we have, the more stalls we can run. If you can help in any way please contact **Tony Jilbert by phone - 693639**.

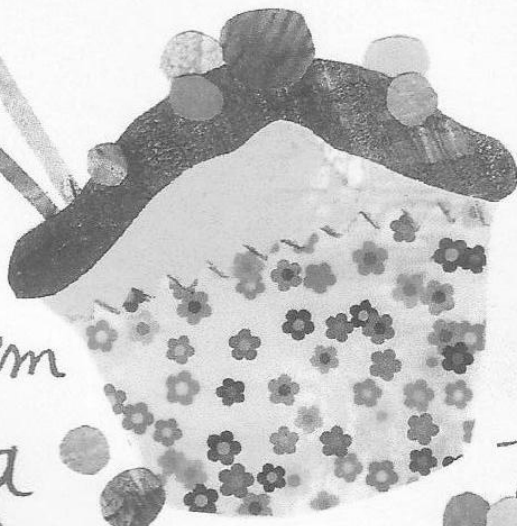
Sat 14th of JUNE 2014
Swindon Village Primary School

SUMMER FAIR

11am - 2pm



Entry:
50 pence
SVPS children free!



Ice-cream

Tombola

Bouncy Castle

Games

BBQ

Toys

Tea & Cakes Auction

Pony ride

Well, at least this time our speaker turned up to give the talk on Church Architecture – just as well since it was me. There was a small but very select audience. Thanks to Val, Colin and Eileen for arranging tea and biscuits. It was an illustrated talk but the best visuals were the church itself. The whole of the central portion of St Lawrence's was rebuilt by the Victorians but there are plenty of signs of much earlier days. Of course the tower is the most obvious. It is one of the only two six-sided towers in the county and possibly in the country. It was built in about 1100AD by the Normans. It is thought that for quite a time there was only the tower and a small wooden chancel. However, by about a hundred years later there must have been a nave and chancel because there are Early English windows in the chancel. Next at the eastern end of the south aisle there is a Decorated window from about a century later and finally there is a Perpendicular window inserted in the western side of the tower probably a century after that. So there we have examples of five styles of church architecture. If I have whetted anyone's appetite I will be repeating the talk in about fifteen years from now. Book early. Alternatively read the write-up on the church's history in the church.

Save the Countryside fights on. As I write we are trying to influence the election but that will be history by the time you read this. Boris Johnson has come out on brown field before green field as has our beloved Chancellor. The local guys just don't want to know. The next stage will be another battle of the statistics when the new Office of National Statistics figures come out. Then another consultation (for which you may read the JCS team will tell you what they are going to do and won't listen if you try to tell them they are wrong) and finally it all goes before the Inspectorate. We are trying to get the government to tell them to get just as interested in over-supply as they are in under-supply, particularly when it means unnecessary incursions in the green belt that the government says it wants to protect.

Our garden visit this month is to Carol Kear who used to be a villager but now lives up the hill at Prestbury. Not a conventional formal garden but it does have a wild flower meadow that we hope will be in bloom and some great views. There should be tea and biscuits. Non-members welcome for a very small donation.

Barry Simon

Wednesday Club

Do you remember where you were when President Kennedy was shot or when Princess Diana died in a car accident or even where you were on 9.11?

Our speaker Susan Marshfield has very clear memories of all those incidents and many more besides. Susan spoke to us at our meeting on the 7th May and the title of her talk was “Oh yes I remember it well” and remember it well she certainly did. Susan is always a very entertaining speaker and her memories were obviously not of such a tragic nature as those above. Susan talked mostly of family events and outings and certainly stirred lots of memories in her audience that night.

On Wednesday 11th June, we will be holding a coffee morning at 17 Quat Goose Lane. Entry will be £1 to include coffee/tea etc., and there will be a raffle and items for sale. Please do come along from 10.30 am. All proceeds will be going towards our funds. Fingers crossed for some nice weather, please.

On Wednesday 18th June, we are going to Abbey House Gardens in Malmesbury. There are still a few seats left and so should anybody wish to come along, please telephone me on 693112. For those that have not paid yet, please pay as soon as possible, the meeting on 4th June at the latest.

On the 4th June, Jill Ruix and Ladies will be coming to tell us about “**The Lives of Narrowboat Women**”. There will also be a cake stall that evening so please get baking.

Please do come along and join us, we always have a lovely evening and, as always, topped off by a great supper. Visitors are always welcome for a fee of £2.50 to include supper so no excuse not to come along.

Looking forward to seeing you in June.

Pauline Wright

Congratulations to Matthew

Matthew Evans has recently been presented with his Queen's Scout Award and his Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award in ceremonies at Berkeley Castle and St. James's Palace, London.

Some elements of the award schemes are common to both and Matthew's leadership roles in Scouting fulfilled the Service requirements of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Matthew's enthusiasm for Scouting and his love of the outdoors were instilled in him by Sos and all the other leaders in the 1st Swindon Village Scout Group where he was a Beaver, Cub and Scout.

As Roy Harper wasn't present at the April club meeting (he was enjoying the delights of Beer in Devon; the place not the beverage!) he has asked me to write this month's Village News report.

Our speaker for this month's meeting was James Randell, who spoke to us about the history of H.H.Martyn. James was extremely knowledgeable on his subject and told us with great passion about how they were a locally based company employing hundreds of people, who specialised in stone masonry, bespoke wood carving and plaster work. Amongst their many commissions were The Speaker's Chair in the House of Commons and fitting out the Titanic. They eventually branched out into the design and manufacture of the frames for aircraft in the first and second World Wars. James also spoke about the Jet Age Museum, which was due to open at Staverton Airport, which includes some of the work that H.H.Martyn undertook. For those members born and brought up in Cheltenham, it brought back many memories, and for those amongst us who were obsessed by planes (Tony) it was a very interesting and enjoyable evening.

The business side of the meeting followed James's talk. Social Event boards going round for members to peruse and sign up to included a River Boat day trip in June and our club BBQ to be held in May, where we invite several other clubs from around the area to join us. We also have several other wine club dances coming up over the next few weeks, before the social scene quietens down for the summer. The evening finished as usual with the raffle organised by Claire Smith.

There won't be a club meeting in June, as we will be going on the Boat trip instead, so our next club meeting will be the annual Interclub Quiz and Wine Competition on Wednesday 23rd July, when it is our turn to play hosts to Reddings, Cheltenham and Twynning Wine Clubs.

Mandy Jilbert

Chairman, Swindon Village Wine Club

He moved up to the Hanging Tree Explorer Scout Unit and also helped as a young leader at Bethesda Scouts. As a student he joined the Leeds University Scouts and Guides Group whilst also helping as a leader with the Roundhay Scouts and, while studying at university in Australia, he helped lead the unit at Indooroopilly, Brisbane. He is now leading the Devil's Chimney Explorer Scout Unit in Leckhampton and is a member of Gloucestershire Network, the county section for the oldest of the young people in Scouting.

Matthew is also a keen competitive runner and is often seen on training runs around Cheltenham.

Our May meeting included discussing and voting on the subject of Organ Donation to be debated at the National Annual Meeting in Leeds this year. Afterwards one of our own members, Jill Malin, told of her experiences as the wife of a magician, running a B&B and of the many cuddly friends (teddy bears) she shares her home with. I never cease to be amazed by the interesting lives other members lead when they are not involved with the WI.

We have had meetings of the Craft Club and newly formed Book Club, meals at Zizzi's and Moran's, a tea afternoon at Jenny's and clay pigeon shooting. The Group Meeting speaker was Cameron Addicott, a retired undercover customs officer specializing in tracking drug gangs and dealers. Some of their exploits and methods were enough to make our hair stand on end! A very brave and dangerous job. A trip to Moreton-in-Marsh Market on the local bus, then home calling in to Stow-on-the-Wold for some further shopping and Moreton-in-Marsh for a cup of tea, proved a successful outing for some of the members. A Social Skittles Evening before we play our first match, where we have been drawn against Sheepscombe. Several members joined other County members for a few days' holiday based in Derbyshire that was much enjoyed.

Looking forward, we are planning another **'Music on a Summer's Evening'** and are selling tickets for the event being held on Saturday 12th July in Swindon Village Hall. If you would like to join us for an entertaining evening of music, with glass of wine and canapés included, tickets are available from Wendy (01242 233883) or myself (01242 692500). Full details are on the poster elsewhere in this magazine. The last such event we held proved to be very popular.

Other activities in June include helping at the Three Counties Show, a Skittles match and a tea afternoon hosted by Gloria. I am looking forward to stewarding at the National Annual Meeting in Leeds. For our next 'bus trip' visit, probably in August, we are planning to go to Cirencester to follow the Hare Trail.

At our meeting on 2nd June Arthur Ball is paying us another visit. This time his subject is 'Birds, Tigers and the Taj'. If you would like to come as a visitor on that day at 7.30pm at St Nicolas Church Hall, Swindon Lane you will be made most welcome.

Sara Jefferies

Still Walking the Greenbelt after 7 years



A lovely afternoon was had on Sunday 18th May by over 80 friends and supporters of Save the Countryside.

Here we all are before we set off in the sunshine to walk the beautiful green belt fields where Cheltenham Council officers working on the controversial Joint Core Strategy (JCS) would like 4800 new homes to be built. It was so lovely to see such great community spirit and determination on our fight to keep this land protected.

We have managed it for the last 7 years. When we started, so many people said, "Why bother? There will be bulldozers there next year." but, despite the odds, with perseverance we got the law changed and the diggers are not upon us. We are doing all we can to make the decision makers see sense and build the right type of housing that we really need in the right sites.

We expect to have revised population figures from the office of national statistics soon and have asked the Council to update their housing projections when they are received. Then the whole Joint Core Strategy will go out to public consultation again for the final time; that's where we will be calling on our supporters again to put in written responses over the summer. At the same time we'll be working on a local green space application for the land in question to ensure we do all we can to protect it. We will put all the info on our website as soon as we hear anything - www.savethecountryside.org.uk

So thanks everyone.
People Power really does work
and we'll keep at it!

Helen Wells





Marle Hill WI

presents



Music on a Summer's Evening

The Lauda Singers
Jennifer Statham (Violin)
The Ukuladies



on
Saturday 12th July 2014 at 7pm
at
Swindon Village Hall, Cheltenham

Tickets - £12

to include a glass of sparkling wine and canapés



Contact Wendy 01242-233883
or Sara 01242-692500

Raffle

Kim and Alex train for half-marathon

Kim Robinson and Alex Tomlinson are running the Cheltenham Half Marathon in aid of Gloucestershire Deaf Association.

We can barely walk to KFC, let alone run 13 miles across mixed terrain and up hills! We are pushing our bodies to the limit in order to support a local charity that provides vital help and support to deaf and hard of hearing people within the community. If you've ever had the displeasure of witnessing us run, you'll know this is the hardest challenge we've ever had to take.

Having a deaf mother has made me realise the everyday challenges that deaf people encounter. She's suffered from hearing loss for over 40 years and I've seen first hand how ignorance and lack of understanding by the general public can impact on the confidence of someone with hearing loss. There are not many provisions for deaf people in the area either. If we want to go to the cinema it's very difficult to find a suitable show at a convenient time. Going out for meals in restaurants is also a challenge as background noise is often very loud and, coupled with other tables chatting and music playing, it ends up being more of a stressful night out than an enjoyable one. With the new telephone triage systems at the doctors, deaf people are now struggling to seek appropriate medical help. I not only want to raise funds for vital support, but also to raise awareness that just because someone is suffering from an invisible disability, it doesn't make social exclusion okay. Mum has recently had a cochlear implant and is doing fantastically well; she's a completely different person! I want her story to inspire those who fear going out to the supermarket or reject party invitations due to their disability, and every penny donated goes towards providing support to the local community.

Alex and I (are trying to) run 3 times a week. We are both amateur runners so have opted for the slowly but surely technique. We've been training for a month now and have gone from "Oh my gosh my legs are killing me" to "We are nearly there, we can do this!" We're following a programme that focuses on time not distance and will hopefully be able to run 5k comfortably by the end of the month, then the serious training starts. After the 5k mark we have to add an extra mile on each week, and probably invest in some deep heat and crutches.

To support us, visit
<http://www.justgiving.com/KimLexMarathon>
or you can text GDAS50 and the amount to 70070
e.g. GDAS50 £3 and it goes straight to GDA from your phone bill.

Kimberley Robinson



As always, the summer months are the busiest time of year for the Scout Group and all the sections have been busy with activities as well as preparing for the events and camps that lie ahead!

St George's Day Celebrations

On the last Sunday in April the annual St George's Day celebrations were held at Cheltenham College in the Bath Road. All the youngsters assembled at the Junior School in Thirlestaine Road and then paraded with their flags into the beautiful College Chapel in Sandford Road where a short service was held and Beaver, Cub and Scout promises were renewed. There were reflections from both youngsters and leaders who had traced family that had fought in the First World War and then a brief history of the College's own Scout Troop that is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. The afternoon was rounded off with refreshments and cakes served after the service in the grand hall next door.

Mountain Activities in the Lake District

Two of our Scouts took part in the County organised Mountain Activities trip to the Lake District over the May bank holiday weekend with other Scouts and Explorer Scouts from around Gloucestershire. They stayed at Great Tower Scout Activity Centre, close to the shore of Lake Windermere and enjoyed two full days of exhilarating mountain walking as well as games, some shopping and the obligatory visit to a local chip shop! The two lads came back full of their adventures and are now well on the way to gaining their Scout Hillwalker Badge.

Cheltenham District Scout Patrol Camp

On the following weekend three of our Scouts together with Sos, Rachel, Ash and Shane took part in the District Scout Patrol camp held at Pike's Pool Scouting Centre, near Bromsgrove. The weather for the majority of the weekend was very windy, with rain at times (but nowhere near as much rain as was forecast)! On camp there were 64 of us consisting of 10 patrols from 6 different Scout Troops around Cheltenham, including 16 leaders and helpers. Activities included rafting, kayaking, air rifles, wide games, crafts, giant zip wires, grass sledging, an obstacle challenge course, orienteering and a cooking competition held on the Saturday evening. Joshua Williams finished as top shot in the Air Rifles outscoring the other 47 Scouts to win his prize. Each patrol camped in a separate area and was responsible for keeping their site organised throughout the camp as well as cooking all their own meals. The leadership team kept a watchful eye on each of the patrols, who were inspected throughout the weekend on how well they camped, how tidy they kept the site, how edible the meals were and how well the washing up was done, with the aim being to improve the camping standards over the weekend. Certificates were then awarded at the end of the camp to those patrols reaching the required standard. Our lads managed to gain over 75% of the marks available and achieved the top award - a **Gold Camping Certificate**. They also managed third place overall in both the

cooking and camping competitions - an excellent achievement. Congratulations and well done, lads. We would also like to thank those parents that helped with menu planning and shopping for this weekend.

Cheltenham District Scouts Fete and Funday

This year's Cheltenham District Scouts Fete and Funday took place at Montpellier Gardens in May. There were stalls and games as well as a large tea tent with refreshments on what was a hot and sunny summer's day. The draw for the Grand Raffle took place during the afternoon, which was raising funds for "Cruse Bereavement Care" and "Insight Gloucestershire" as well as Cheltenham District Scouts. Thank-you to everyone who came along and supported us - we hope you enjoyed the day.

There are camps and activities on many of the upcoming weekends between now and the beginning of August, so plenty for us all to look forward to – all we need is some good weather to make all the camping fun. Fingers Crossed!

Sos



Do you need a Helping Hand?

If you are looking for an **alternative to residential care** or extra support for those everyday tasks that are becoming difficult for you or a loved one – then we're here to help - **from 30 minutes per week to Live-in Care.**

Our **Cheltenham care team** has been providing award winning quality homecare since 1989 and can help with: personal care, housekeeping, help getting around or even to provide a break to an existing family member or care-giver.

To find out how we can help you, call: 01454 643 701 or visit: www.helpinghands.co.uk



Brite Interiors

Quality Interior Painting

General maintenance

Fencing

All work considered

Local & Trustworthy

References and Photo Portfolio

Competitive daily rates

DISCOUNTS FOR SENIORS

Sole Trader

Martin Gautrey

Mobile:- 07980 032 034

Home:- 01242 232570

Gentle Beginners' Yoga with Katie

Fridays at 9.45am

Seasons

Quat Goose Lane, GL51 9RX

£7 for a 75 minute class.

Classes run during term time only.

07581 861 906

**[www.facebook.com/
yogakatiemaughfling](http://www.facebook.com/yogakatiemaughfling)**

ALEXANDER BURN LTD

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

COURTEOUS, EFFICIENT AND RESPECTFUL



Independent family business

24 hour personal service

Private chapels of rest



Winchcombe Office:

11 North Street

Winchcombe

Cheltenham

GL54 5LH

Tel: 01242 604 888

www.alexanderburn.com

Bishops Cleeve Office:

22 Church Road

Bishops Cleeve

Cheltenham

GL52 8LR

Tel: 01242 673 300

Now also at 436 High Street, Cheltenham, GL50 3JA Tel. 01242 245350

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Village & Community Agent	Lesley Wall	07810 630 064 lesleyw@villageagent.grcc.org.uk
Footpaths	John Heathcott	527753
Acting Scout Leader & GSL	Stephen Smith (Sos)	693107
Cub Scout Leader	Rachel Smith (Chil)	693107
Beaver Leader	Charlotte Mitchell (Mole)	701854
Hanging Tree Explorer Scouts	Dave Herbert / Rob Ellis	514825/244708
Rainbow Guider	Jackie Bailey	07871 169308
Village Hall Booking Secretary	Sandy Thornton	232045
Village Hall Secretary	Rose D’Gama	574964
Wednesday Club	Pauline Wright	693112
Play Group	(Playgroup hours)	690479
Winemakers Secretary	Roy Harper	662861
School Headteacher	Jonathan Dyer	690016
Friends of the School	Charlotte Mitchell Mandy Harris	701854 chairfosvps@gmail.com
Art Club	Norman Scott	692394
Swindon Village Society Secretary	Barry Simon	521723
Mary Godwin Under 5s	(Playgroup hours)	263746
Marle Hill W.I.	Sara Jefferies	692500
St. Stephen’s Cricket Club	Tony Jilbert	693639
Echo Correspondent	Elizabeth Heathcott	527753
Save The Countryside	Helen Wells	07770 986078

Advertise your business in the Village News

Monthly rates

Whole page £30 Half page £15 Quarter page £7.50

Contact the Editors

Deadline for the next issue of the Village News is the 16th of this month.
Please send contributions to the editors:
David Iliffe at 16 Stantons Drive or Karen Evans at 5 Manor Road
or e-mail village-news@swindonparish.org.uk

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman	Cllr. Peter Allen	692933
Vice Chairman	Cllr. Glenn Simpson	692845
	Cllr. John Conmee	572060
	Cllr. Frances Hunter	692845
	Cllr. David Iliffe JP	526323
	Cllr. Shannon Kerr	07954 128151
	Cllr. Arran Stibbe	07796 248658
	Cllr. Mrs. Helen Wells	220875 / 07770 986078
Clerk to the Council	Mr Shaun Cullimore	07833 089435
Cheltenham Borough Councillors	Cllr. Flo Clucas	255844
	Cllr. Bernard Fisher	07890 205767
County Councillor	Cllr. Bernard Fisher	07890 205767
Allotments Manager	Ian Brown	528683

Swindon Parish and Community Website: www.swindonparish.org.uk

ST. LAWRENCE CHURCH

Part of the North Cheltenham Team Ministry

Rector	Revd. Canon Michael Cozens	523177
	The Rectory, 66 All Saints' Road	michael.cozens@northchelt.org.uk
Assistant Curate	Revd. Liz Palin	575547
		liz.palin@northchelt.org.uk
Reader	Ralph Griffin	510533
Churchwardens	Tony Jilbert	693639
	Val Smith	522245
Tower Captain	Hugh Evans	241678
Organist	John Collins	511950
North Cheltenham Team Ministry Office		244373
St. Nicolas' Church, Swindon Lane, 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 view of the
Editors or the Parish Council