

Village News

in Swindon Village

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

No. 424 May 2016

May

- | | | |
|-----------|----|---|
| Wednesday | 4 | Wednesday Club - Village Hall 8.00pm
Susan Marshfield - Holidays Afloat |
| Monday | 9 | Marle Hill W.I. - St. Nicolas' Hall 7.30pm - Resolutions |
| Tuesday | 10 | Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall
Beginning with Public Session at 7.30pm |
| Wednesday | 11 | Annual Parish Meeting - Village Hall 7.30pm
Open to all |
| Saturday | 14 | Art Club Exhibition - Village Hall 1pm - 4pm |
| Wednesday | 18 | Swindon Village Society - Village Hall 7.30pm
Dave Walton - The Arts and Crafts Movement |
| Sunday | 22 | Save The Countryside Walk (see inside for details) |

June

- | | | |
|-----------|----|--|
| Wednesday | 1 | Wednesday Club - Village Hall 8.00pm
David Howe - Laughter, the Best Medicine |
| Monday | 6 | Marle Hill W.I. - St. Nicolas' Hall 7.30pm
Elizabeth Reilly - One Woman's Search for the Answer to Chronic Pain |
| Tuesday | 14 | Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall
Beginning with Public Session at 7.30pm |
| Wednesday | 15 | Wednesday Club Coffee Morning - 17 Quat Goose Lane 10am |
| Wednesday | 15 | Swindon Village Society – Garden visit (TBA) |

(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.)

I am delighted to welcome Stuart Deakin to the Parish Council. We always seem to have a vacancy for one parish councillor but recently the departure of one of the members meant that we were two down. Stuart has kindly stepped forward so we are now back to a single vacancy.

The Joint Core Strategy (JCS) has to be our other headline event this month. The independent planning inquiry is moving towards a conclusion. Although the inquiry may not conclude for months it is becoming possible to get some sense of what the likely outcome will be and I believe that an interim conclusion can be expected in May. As ever, the result is likely to be short of what we hoped for but better than we feared it might be. There can be little doubt that many houses are going to be built on the land between Swindon Parish and Elmstone Hardwicke. It is more a question of how many and whether we can defend enough green space to retain the context of the village. To this end former Councillor Arran Stibbe and Councillor Helen Wells have been working very actively on our behalf on both fronts. Hopefully I will be able to bring you more definite news in the next issue.

It is a feature of Local Government that there are officers and members. Members are the councillors elected to office by the electorate or co-opted onto the council if there are insufficient candidates to trigger an election. Officers on the other hand are employees of the council. This applies not just to the County and Borough Councils but also to Parish Councils, the lowest tier of Local Government. We have eight parish councillors (with a vacancy for one more). Our councillors face re-election every four years (if sufficient candidates stand). For our parish the next election will be in 2018.

For those who love a chance to cast a vote there are opportunities this year (aside from the Brexit question). We have two Borough Councillors representing our ward. The ward, by the way, includes all of Swindon Parish but also part of Prestbury Parish. Our two Borough Councillors come up for election in different years, so we have an election for one of the Borough Councillors on 5th May.

I have side tracked myself into talking about elections when I meant to discuss members and officers. I am turning into a (slightly) taller version of Ronnie Corbett.

It is important to understand the distinction between members (councillors) and officers because councillors are essentially volunteers and they are the ones with the responsibility for determining council policy. With something like the JCS the developers have teams of planners, architects and lawyers working full time and generating thousands of pages of documents. Sometimes the volume of documentation does more to hide what is going on than to illuminate it! Councillors

have to wrestle with this material whilst, in many cases, holding down a day job. That was the point I was labouring towards. To round off the picture, as Clerk to the Parish Council I am an officer (and the only employee of the Council). Mine is a job like any other (actually like no other!) so I can be fired rather than fail to get re-elected.

One last election to mention is that of the Police and Crime Commissioner, also taking place on 5th May. Whichever way you feel inclined to cast your vote in these upcoming polls please do have your say. These are important decisions.

If the above discussion hasn't confused you enough I now move on to the matter of annual meetings. The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will take place on the 10th May in the Village Hall bar area. This meeting elects the Parish Council chairman for 2016-2017. The public are welcome to attend but it is a Parish Council meeting so, apart from the public session, the public attend as observers rather than participants. The following evening (also in the Village Hall) we have the Annual Parish Meeting. This is a meeting aimed entirely at our parishioners. Feel free to come along to ask questions, raise issues or complain about my articles in the Village News. Both meetings start at 7:30pm.

A local planning application which may be of interest concerns the corner where Swindon Road joins Kingsditch Lane (at the mini roundabouts). An application has been made to develop the land that is currently a car park serving Topps Tiles and the gym. The application is very generic in that a number of different types of business could utilise the development. The Parish Council has objected to the plans for several reasons. The site provides an important pedestrian link and the plans do not make any provision to replace it. Nor do the plans appear to include any provision for the management of waste that would be generated on the site. Also one of the use classes applied for would allow the use of part of the site as a car showroom. The Parish Council feels this site is unsuited to that type of business and also fears that car parking (including facilities for the disabled) will be inadequate.

Our Area Highways Manager is moving on within Gloucestershire County Council. What was always a very difficult job has probably been made impossible by budget cuts and roads deteriorating due to poor weather. It will be interesting to see how his successor fares and what his priorities are.

The annual accounts for the Parish Council were approved at the April meeting. They are available to the public on our web site if you are interested. I am happy to answer any questions.

I was recently reading the minutes of another parish council (that's nothing; I have also been reading the Local Government Act 1972!). In their minutes it stated that the goalposts on their playing field had been taken away. Not the first time in Local Government the goalposts have been moved.

Shaun Cullimore

Clerk to Swindon Parish Council

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

invites you to the

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Wednesday 11th May 2016
Swindon Village Hall
7.30pm

The Annual Parish Meeting is a free event and open to all from Swindon Parish.

Come along to find out about the work of the Parish Council and the latest information with regard to local planning matters, including the Joint Core Strategy.

We are also hoping to have representatives from local organisations to tell us about their groups and answer any questions you might have.

You can raise any topic relating to life in Swindon Parish.

Be part of the community. Find out what is going on in your area and ask any questions you might have.

Services and events in May

Sunday	1st	10.30am 6.30pm	Together @Ten Thirty Sung Holy Communion
Tuesday	3 rd	10.30am – 12 noon 7.30pm	Chatterbox Coffee drop in Tuesday Group
Thursday	5 th (Ascension Day)	11.00am – 8.00pm	Day of prayer at the cathedral
Sunday	8th	9.15am 6.30pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Evensong
Tuesday	10 th	10.30am – 12 noon 7.00pm	Chatterbox coffee drop in Communion followed by Tuesday group
Sunday	15th	9.15am 3.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Communion Teddy Bears Picnic Evensong
Tuesday	17 th	10.30am – 12 noon 7.30pm	Chatterbox coffee drop in Tuesday Group
Sunday	22nd	9.15am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Evensong
Tuesday	24 th	10.30am – 12 noon 7.30pm	Chatterbox coffee drop in Tuesday group
Sunday	29th	9.15am 1.30pm 6.30pm	Holy Communion Wedding Songs of Praise at Elmstone Hardwicke
Tuesday	31 st	10.30am – 12 noon 7.30pm	Chatterbox coffee drop in Tuesday Group

From the registers



Baptism

We welcomed in to the family of the Church
Woody Johnson 10th April



Wedding

We celebrated the marriage of
Wayne Newman & Emma Taylor 15th April



Funeral

We gave thanks for the life of
William Poulson 1st April

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 visit the Team Surgery at St. Nicolas' Church, Swindon Lane on any Saturday morning between 10.30am and 11.00am. (Enter through the main door and turn right.)

If this is not possible contact the Team Office, which is open Monday to Friday from 9am until 12 noon. The office is based at St Nicolas' Church in Swindon Lane. Contact the Office on **244373** or **admin@northchelt.org.uk**

You can contact me, the Revd Liz Palin (Associate Priest) on 575547, liz.palin@northchelt.org.uk.

A letter from the Team Rector

Dear Friends

After much prayer and discussion, and for a variety of reasons, Angela and I have decided that it is best both for us and for this benefice if I move to a new appointment. Accordingly, I have applied for, and been accepted for, the post of Rector of the Benefice of St Benedict in Norwich Diocese, a benefice comprising five parishes centred on the village of Horning on the North Norfolk Broads. This new appointment is to a benefice which we have known for many years, and indeed where we have worshipped on several occasions, wondering perhaps if it might one day become vacant at an opportune time.

As many of you will know, there remain on-going issues in the wider Church of England regarding the ministry of women and Episcopal oversight, and the resulting arrangements have proved less than straightforward in the context of a team ministry. However, we remain immensely grateful for the help, support, and fellowship we have received in North Cheltenham, from colleagues and parishioners alike. We shall certainly be sad to leave the benefice, and indeed Gloucester Diocese and its cathedral, where we were both ordained, but we are also looking forward to the move to an area we know well.

Arrangements have yet to be finalised, but it is likely that I will be installed in this new post in late July, so that I will relinquish my role as Team Rector in late June or early July. In the meantime, we shall continue to serve the benefice to the best of our ability, and ask for your prayers and support as we prepare for the move.

David Smith
Team Rector

From Revd Liz Palin

'Thy Kingdom Come'. I wonder how many times you have said or heard those words? They do of course come from the Lord's Prayer, a prayer that means so much to many people. Even people who don't come to church have at some point heard or said that prayer.

As I visit people in homes or hospital who have memory problems, I can always guarantee that if I begin saying 'Our Father, who art in heaven' that they will join in.

But what is prayer? I like to think of prayer as our way of communicating with God. Like all communication there are many ways of doing it. We can talk, we can listen, we can use our senses to touch, taste, smell. We can simply be in the same room, and not need to say a word – just being there is enough. It's the same with prayer - it's a way of deepening our relationship with God, and can take many forms.

This month between 5th and 15th May we are being asked to form part of a wave of prayer for this country. Ideas and resources to help you 'just pray' can be found at www.thykingdomcome.org

Bishop Rachel is inviting everyone to come to the cathedral at any time between 11am and 8.00pm on 5th May to pray. There will be a variety of prayer activities, some services, and space to simply 'be'. Please do come along if you are able. Here in this parish, we will be having some special events during this period so please keep an eye on the notice board outside church.

On **15th May** it is Pentecost Sunday (sometimes referred to as the birthday of the church). We are inviting all those who have been baptised in St Lawrence church to come for a **teddy bears' picnic at 3.00pm**. There will be crafts, refreshments and, of course, teddy bears. Do spread the word to those who you think may want to come along.

With my prayers for this community
Revd Liz



Wednesday Club

At our last meeting on the 6th April Lenette Isko came along to tell us about "Fascinating Hats". Lenette is a milliner and she brought lots of hats with her, actually more than enough for each of us to wear one. While Lenette was telling us the history of hat making she walked around placing lovely hats on us all. Lenette had a very good eye for what colour and style suited each individual lady present. There was much oohing and aahing and giggling and a very pleasant evening was had by all of us.

A reminder to villagers that we will be holding our annual **Coffee Morning on Wednesday 15th June at 17 Quat Goose Lane**. Entry will be £1 to include a coffee/tea and biscuit and we will have a raffle and a sale table for books and plants etc. Please do come along and join us from 10am until 12 noon.

We are busy arranging our two day trips at the moment. **On Tuesday 28th June we are going to St. Fagan's near Cardiff** and we will be leaving the Village Hall at 9.30am and leaving St. Fagan's at 3.30pm. This will cost £12 per person and there are seats left and if anyone would like to come along please telephone me on 693112.

On Tuesday 6th September we are going to Waterperry Gardens near Oxford and we will be leaving the Village Hall at 10am and leaving the gardens at 3.30pm. This will cost £15.50 per person and again there are seats left for anyone that would like to come along with us. Please let me know on the above number if you are interested.

Restaurant facilities, shops etc. are at both places but you are welcome to bring your own food and drink if you wish to do so. St. Fagan's is the National Museum of Wales and there is plenty there to see and do and I believe most of it is outdoors. Fingers crossed for good weather on both trips please.

Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday 4th May** and **Susan Marshfield** is coming along to tell us about "**Holidays Afloat**". Please do come along and join us; visitors will be made very welcome for a charge of £3 to include tea/coffee and supper.

Look forward to seeing you all then.

Pauline Wright

Have you lost a watch?

A lady's watch was found recently by a dog-walker. If you think it might be yours phone me and tell me what it looks like.

Karen Evans - tel. 241678

Gloucester Cathedral has just hosted a skate park in the nave. Indeed as I write it has an art exhibition in the cloisters. It has hosted two of the greatest sculpture exhibitions in the country over the past ten years. It is very much a part of the community and has been for almost five hundred years. Before that it was an Abbey which, though a closed Benedictine order, still served the community. For instance it very usefully built the New Inn and The Mitre. The former is still the best preserved coaching inn in the country.

Peter Petrie told us of its long history both as a cathedral and beforehand. To me one of the most interesting facets of its existence is the part played by Edward II. Now as a king Edward was rubbish. He had a toy boy in Piers Gaveston who came to a sticky end and Edward also is famed as coming to an even stickier one, though the actual details of his supposed death at Berkeley Castle are debated. Indeed a few years back Peter Petrie told us of how there was even a body of opinion that Edward was not killed at Berkeley and buried at Gloucester but actually abdicated to a quiet monastery in Italy, letting his much more capable son take over. The best that can be said here is that the tale is possible but not probable. Anyway, despite all his shortcomings Edward did his bit for the Cathedral because after his death the good folk of England suddenly decided he was a saintly figure and they came to the Abbey in numbers as pilgrims. This meant money and between that and the fact that Edward III decided his dad's final resting place needed doing up, it allowed the remodelling of the holy end of the church in the magnificent perpendicular style we see there today. It is also the reason that the abbey built the inns; they were needed to accommodate the pilgrims. More, when Henry VIII was knocking down abbeys in the mid sixteenth century it was the presence of a previous king at Gloucester that persuaded him to let the building stand and create a new diocese. So if it was not for the rather shabby Edward II we would not have one of the greatest Cathedrals in England on our doorstep.

Anyway, suffice to say that Peter's tale was a terrific one very well told.

Our next talk, in May, will be on the Arts and Crafts Movement as illustrated by those firms, many local to the Cotswolds, who made chairs and other furniture. It will be given by Dave Walton who is a considerable expert on the subject. As always non-members are most welcome so if you have an artistic bone in your body or like sitting on chairs you should come along.

With regards to the Joint Core Strategy, well there are signs that the Examiner has taken at least some of our points on board. She seems keen that Gloucester and Tewkesbury take their fair share of new housing rather than dumping the requirement on Cheltenham, with, it must be said, CBC's agreement. She also seems fairly pro the open green space ideas put forward by the Parish Council. However, we do not really know how it will play yet but she has promised to put out her initial thoughts towards the end of May.

Barry Simon

The AGM on the 6th April 2016 was poorly attended. Several affiliated organisations never bothered to send a representative to the meeting and the number of members of the public was nil.

The hall is for the enjoyment and use of all villagers and non-villagers alike. The lack of interest would suggest that many would not worry whether it continued or not.

Perhaps an injection of new blood onto the committee would raise the interest as several long-standing committee members are looking at this year as their final year.

Our monthly meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month, with the exception of January and August, so if you feel you could contribute then please come along.

As I have said on a number of occasions it is your village hall and it's up to you to see it continue to function.

Peter Piff

News from our Village Agent



Well, I'm sitting here writing this listening to the rain lashing down on the roof. Yuck! I thought Spring was supposed to be here? Only a couple of weeks ago I was at the top of a mountain in glorious sunshine, with bright blue skies above me and pristine white snow beneath my skis. More by luck than judgement I managed to get back home without serious injury. However, the thought of such an injury, either while on holiday or at home, got me thinking about the sharing of information letter that recently came through my letterbox.

This initiative is being rolled out through Gloucestershire and you should have received your letter too. It gives you the option to opt out of the scheme if you do not want your medical information shared with local health and social care professionals. If you want to know more about the scheme you can call 0800 015 1548, email mylocal.sharedcareinfo@nhs.net or visit www.mylocalsharedcareinfo.org.

If I can help any of you in any way please don't hesitate to contact me.

Liz Heckford
Village Agent 07810 056770
lheckford@villageagent.grcc.org.uk

Kevin Thomas from Collective Legal Solutions gave a very informative and amusing talk at our April meeting. Estate planning, inheritance tax, remarriage, care fees, wills and Power of Attorney were some of the subjects he covered. All very serious subjects but covered in a light-hearted but memorable way. His closing piece of advice was that a prepaid funeral, with the prices rising as they are, was a better investment than an ISA, where the interest rates are dropping.

The Annual Council Meeting at the Town Hall was well attended with interesting talks by Roger Mortlock of the Gloucestershire Wild Life Trust and Valerie Stevens of the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) to which the WI is affiliated. We support and raise funds for many projects all over the world for women's causes. The third speaker was Mandy Hickson, a retired RAF Tornado pilot having flown with a Front Line Squadron, her call sign being 'Big Bird'. She is now a professional speaker having proved that if you really want something, despite failings, you can still achieve your goals. Her motto is 'Be yourself and celebrate who you are'.

A Skittles and Supper Evening at the Suffolk Arms was well attended and much enjoyed. We won our skittles match with Gretton WI and look forward to hearing who we are to play in the next round. A meal at Bella Pasta, tea at Roz's, a very interesting and informative visit to the Masjid-e-Noor Mosque in Gloucester and a Campaign and Debate Day have been amongst our other activities. Several members have been on a County-organised holiday to Guernsey.

On Saturday 21st May we are organising an "Evening of Indulgence" in Swindon Village Hall. We shall be serving a selection of six puddings, each introduced by an entertaining MC and served by our own Bunny Girls with music, poetry and a raffle. It should be a great evening! If you would like to join in the fun please contact me (01242-692500) or Wendy (01242-233883). We are also planning a trip to Bradford-on-Avon with a canal trip to Courts Garden on Tuesday 7th June and a trip to Aston Pottery with lunch at Friars Court on Monday 20th June. If you would like to join us on either of these outings please let me know. We went to Friars Court last year and enjoyed the gardens and lunch so much that members have requested a return visit.

Also in May Eileen has a tea afternoon, there is a Group Meeting and a talk on 'Contented Dementia'. At our monthly meeting on Monday 9th May we shall be debating the Resolution for the National Annual Meeting being held in Brighton in June and Hazel Pagel (a founder member) will be giving a talk on the history of our WI. We shall have all the old scrapbooks out which should be interesting! If you would like to join us for the evening at 7.30pm at St Nicolas Hall, Swindon Lane you will be made very welcome.

Sara Jefferies

The Bunny Girls of Marle Hill WI present

An EVENING of INDULGENCE



on

Saturday 21st May
at 7pm



at

Swindon Village Hall,
Cheltenham

£12

Raffle

includes 6 puddings & drinks

Music provided by the
Winchcombe Silver Band

Contact:- Wendy 01242-233883
Sara 01242-692500

1st Swindon Village Scout Group

With the Easter break it's been a quiet few weeks for the Scout Group. During the school holidays, one of our Scouts **Ellie Swift** joined others from around Gloucestershire at the County Scout HQ in Cranham where she tackled the Electronics Activity Badge course. Part of the requirements involved some soldering and the construction of three circuits, one of which was based mainly on digital electronics. There were lots of fun activities throughout the weekend as well as games away from the electronics theme. I'm happy to say Ellie achieved the required standard and she was presented with her badge at the end of the weekend.

Four of the Group's leaders recently attended a First Response course to update their First Aid skills. This is always far more enjoyable than you think it is going to be and all present had an entertaining and informative day thanks to Jim Jones of St John Ambulance.

The last few weeks has seen far more planning than doing and we have lots to look forward to, including the Cheltenham District Scouts Fete & Funday at Montpellier Gardens on Saturday 14th May; a joint Beaver and Cub Camp up at Cranham, the Strategy weekend camp over at Cirencester Park and the Essex International Jamboree in the summer holidays.

Finally, we are collecting **Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers** again and we hope to obtain some new equipment at the end of this scheme. If you could please hand your vouchers to any of the leaders, we would be grateful. Thank you.

Sos

Swindon Village Winemakers

On Saturday 5th March we had our annual spring dance attended by other wine clubs, Cheltenham, Gloucester, Newent, The Reddings, Charlton Kings and Stroud. The entertainment was provided by Brian Black and very much enjoyed by everyone.

At our monthly meeting we were given an interesting talk by Manuel Queiroz and his wife who shared the talk on their exciting journey travelling "Overland from Alaska to Argentina".

The May meeting is the Annual Wine competition which is Strawberry, also we have our B.B.Q where we invite other clubs to join us.

Roy Harper



Swindon Village Art & Craft Club

Annual Exhibition

Saturday 14th May, 1pm to 4pm

Village Hall

Free admission

Refreshments (small charge) and a raffle
but most of all some great pictures.

Please come and see for yourselves - it will be worth it.

St. Lawrence's Church Annual Fete

Plans for this year's church fete are progressing well. At the recent committee meeting we came up with lots of ideas for new stalls, games and sideshows which we'd like to run to add fun to the afternoon. However, we have a small problem - **manpower!**

Could you help us by running a small stall or game? Everything will be provided -you just need to run it for a couple of hours, perhaps with a friend. Or perhaps you have your own idea for a stall you'd like to run. Either way please contact me. The more helpers we have, the more fun we can have.

Entertainment on the day will include music from a band, a lively dog display with Flyball and a line-up of classic cars to view; and of course we'll have a wide variety of goods for sale on the usual stalls.

Please consider helping us in whatever way you can. The fete is an important event in village life when we can all get together for some fun and entertainment.

Tony Jilbert
Tel.: 01242 693639

Save the Countryside

Everyone is invited to our 9th Annual Save the Countryside Walk on **Sunday 22nd May at 2pm.**

We would love to have you join us to celebrate our beautiful countryside surrounding Swindon Village for the 9th year since our challenge to save it began.

Since May last year the team have worked as key participants on the Government Inspector's Inquiry on the Joint Core Strategy (JCS) for Cheltenham, Gloucester and Tewkesbury's 20 year development plans. We continue to work in collaboration with the Parish Council and our colleagues across the town in Cheltenham Alliance.

We have written many reports, provided tours of the area, presented evidence at the hearings with the Council's JCS team, the developers and other concerned parties including our partners in Cheltenham Alliance.

So far, as the overall plan has not been agreed, no planning applications have been made by developers. We expect that this inquiry will continue well into this year with no decision being made on our green belt land around Swindon Village until next year. But the inspector is minded to share her views from time to time and has certainly listened and understood our strong arguments and evidence and she agrees with our argument for sequential planning i.e. building on brownfield sites before greenbelt and our Local Green Space application.

I hope on the day to be able to give everyone a clear update of the latest status and indications of the inspector's decisions that will impact our area forever.

How wonderful that so many of us have enjoyed this community event for so many years.

Please do come and join us again if you can.

Helen and the team

Advertise your business in the Village News

Monthly rates

Whole page £30 Half page £15 Quarter page £7.50
One sixth of a page (square) £5

Contact the Editors

Save The Countryside

9th Annual Walk

**Celebrating 9 years of strength in our
community voice and a passion for the
beautiful place in which we live!**

**Starting at Stantons Drive, Swindon
Village**

Sunday 22nd May
2pm

**Everyone welcome including dogs and horses
Refreshments available mid way and at the end.**



***For further details contact 01242 680602 (Anne)
or 07770 986078 (Helen)***



Looking for a better energy offer?

Join the **big community switch**
and you could save ££££s
on your energy bills.

Residents on single and dual tariffs, and with pre-payment meters can register online at:

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/bigcommunityswitch
or phone 01452 42 57 57

Please note line open Monday to Friday, 8:30am - 5:00pm
Register for the Summer auction by Monday 16th May 2016

09001829 418

The Big Community Switch

Residents in Gloucestershire are being invited to take part in the latest Big Community Switch auction. The Big Community Switch scheme is supported by Gloucestershire County Council and could help you to save money on your gas and electricity bills. It is available to residents on dual and single tariffs and those with pre-payment meters. Registration for the next auction ends on 16th May.

The scheme helps households potentially save money on their energy bills by using a reverse auction and a principle of bulk buying energy. Residents can register for the scheme online or over the phone; the more people who register the cheaper the quote will be as the scheme offers the big energy companies the opportunity to compete for the customers. This often results in cheaper energy quotes, and residents will receive a quote once the auction has ended. There is no obligation to accept the quote or switch energy provider.

For more information contact

Lorna Fizer

Gloucestershire County Council

Tel: 01452 328099 Email: lorna.fizer@gloucestershire.gov.uk

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk

The Swindon Village Society

presents

The Arts and Crafts Movement

An illustrated talk by
Dave Walton

Wednesday 18th May 7.30pm
in the Village Hall

Non-members welcome
for £1 each

Next month but put the date in your
diary now!

The Wednesday Club
invites you to a
Coffee Morning

on Wednesday 15th June
10.00am until 12.00noon
at 17 Quat Goose Lane

Admission £1

Raffle
Books, plants etc. for sale

A great walk. A great cause.

What could be nicer than walking on Minchinhampton common on one of the longest days of the year, with stunning views of the Stroud valley below? And what could be better than raising money to support people near the end of their lives, when they need it most? If that sounds like a very attractive combination, then the Solstice Walk is just the thing for you (and for your family, friends and dog!).

The walk starts from Longfield's building in Burleigh Lane from 6pm on Friday June 17th and you can choose a 5km or 10km route. In addition to the joy of walking, there'll also be music, children's entertainment, a barbecue and a licensed bar, so you can make a real night of it. If you choose to walk in memory of a loved one, you will also be able to tie your Solstice Walk ribbon on the memory arch in Longfield's beautiful gardens.

Any money you raise will fund the amazing support that Longfield provides to people living in Gloucestershire with life-limiting illness. They support people with a wide range of illnesses, from diagnosis onwards, and provide much-needed help to their families and carers too. The entry fee is £18 for an adult and £7.50 for each child, but this drops to £15 and £5 if you register before May 6th. And if you can raise £150 or more, your entry fee will be returned, so you walk for free.

So sign up for this delightful occasion today, at www.longfield.org.uk/solstice2016 or, if you want to know more, call 01453 886868 or e-mail events@longfield.org.uk



WORLD WIDE ELECTRICAL LTD



Telephone: **01242 230009**

Email: **worldwideelectrical@blueyonder.co.uk**

Website: **www.worldwideelectrical.com**

World Wide Electrical Ltd is a highly skilled firm of electrical contractors based here in Swindon Village, Cheltenham, with over 30 years of experience in the electrical industry.

We specialise in all aspects of high specification and high quality industrial, commercial and domestic electrical work, providing a comprehensive range of electrical services to cover the complete spectrum of electrical installation, maintenance and testing.

We are happy to undertake the smallest of electrical tasks and are members of the NICEIC which allows us to work within the scope of Part "P" of the building regulations.

Please contact Stuart Deakin by telephone or email if you are interested in using our services.

Brite Interiors

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General maintenance

Fencing

All work considered

Local & Trustworthy

References and Photo Portfolio

Competitive daily rates

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Home:- 01242 232570



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Doors & Windows

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VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Village & Community Agent	Liz Heckford	lheckford@villageagent.grcc.org.uk 07810 056770
Footpaths	John Heathcott	527753
Acting Scout Leader & GSL	Stephen Smith (Sos)	693107
Cub Scout Leader	Rachel Smith (Chil)	693107
Beaver Leader	Hugh Stanford	svbeavers@gmail.com 706020
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	Sarah Vallender Nic Jackson	chairfosvps@gmail.com
Art & Crafts Club	Adrian Skilling	690928 adrian.skilling@gmail.com
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

Please inform the editors of any changes to the contact details for village organisations.

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. Stuart Deakin	230009
	Cllr. Frances Hunter	692845
	Cllr. David Iliffe JP	526323
	Cllr. Shannon Kerr	07954 128151
	Cllr. Mrs. Helen Wells	220875 or 07770 986078
Clerk to the Council	Mr Shaun Cullimore	07833 089435
Cheltenham Borough Councillors	Cllr. 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: www.swindonparish.org.uk

ST. LAWRENCE CHURCH

Part of the North Cheltenham Team Ministry

Team Rector	Revd. David Smith	512348 david.smith@northchelt.org.uk
Associate Priest	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