

Village News

in Swindon Village

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

No. 453 April 2019

April

- | | | |
|----------------|----------|---|
| Monday | 1 | Marle Hill W.I. - St. Nicolas' Hall 7.30pm
Judith Humphries - Holistic Therapy |
| Wednesday | 3 | Wednesday Club - Village Hall 8.00pm
Michael Bottomley - The Life, Love and Times of Katherine Parr |
| Tuesday | 9 | Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall
Beginning with Public Session at 7.30pm |
| Saturday | 13 | St. Lawrence's Cake Day and Coffee Morning
Village Hall - 10.30am - 12noon |
| Wednesday | 17 | Swindon Village Society - Village Hall 7.30pm
Robert Skelt - "Kim Philby - Gentleman, Spy and Traitor" |

May

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------|---|
| Wednesday | 1 | Wednesday Club - Village Hall 8.00pm
Alan Clarke - Forest of Dean and Wye Valley |
| Monday | 13 | Marle Hill W.I. - St. Nicolas' Hall 7.30pm
Resolutions and Social Evening + Plant Stall |
| Tuesday | 14 | Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall
Beginning with Public Session at 7.30pm |
| Saturday | 18 | Swindon Village Society - Visit to Lineover Ancient Woodland
Meet at Village Hall car park at 9.30am |
| Sunday | 19 | Save The Countryside Annual Walk
Start from Stanton's Drive at 2.00pm |

(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 Village Hall AGM was held on 7th March. At that meeting the existing management team retired and a new group of community spirited locals took up office. We wish them well in their endeavours and will do all we can to help. I am sure that if you are interested in lending a hand they would love to hear from you.

The dust has settled on the annual process of councils setting their budgets for the new financial year. Apparently the average council tax increase for 2019-2020 is 4.5%. Councils continue to get squeezed by central government to do more for less. As we have observed this can only go so far before it means more potholes, fewer police officers and generally inferior services. The government wants responsibility for services to be devolved to more local levels but the financial pressures tend to result in councils combining to achieve economies of scale (for example, a county council and borough councils can combine to form a unitary authority). Council services (and employees) are also “out sourced” to companies set up to provide services to a number of councils. Ubico is such a company. It was formed by Cheltenham Borough Council and Cotswold District Council but additionally now deals with waste management for Stroud, the Forest of Dean, Tewkesbury and West Oxfordshire as well as Gloucestershire County Council. The contract for maintaining the county’s roads and footpaths is passing to a new contractor but the staff presently employed by Amey will move across to the new company. I mention all of this not to make any political point, rather to illustrate that the local government environment is always changing. It is always incumbent upon councils at all levels to deliver the best services they can at the lowest cost.

The Parish Council keeps its precept as low as it can. It recoups some money through paid advertisements in the Village News, and we are grateful to our advertisers for their custom and loyalty. This allows us to continue to publish the Village News whilst offsetting some of the cost. We are looking to communicate via Facebook and/or Twitter in the future. There are rumours that there are youngsters in the parish (i.e. people under 50) who prefer to receive news that way. Social media platforms come and go but the Village News is forever (at least for now!).

Last month I reported that we were waiting for the report from the Parish Council’s annual internal auditor. The report has been received and I now

need to look through the auditor's conclusions and make recommendations to the Council. This is a positive process; there are always new things to learn and better ways of doing things. No major issues were identified. I've just been upstairs to check that the Council's money is still safe under my mattress.

Developers rarely bother to engage with the local community. For example, we still have no idea of the intentions of the new owner of the land at the corner of Manor Road and Runnings Road. Presumably the clearance of the trees and vegetation is a prelude to development of some kind. You will also have noticed that hedges around the old Vibixa site have been cut down and a temporary fence erected. The site has been acquired by a company called Chancerygate. Its business is to buy industrial properties, redevelop them and then lease units. It plans to turn the Vibixa site into the Festival Trade Park (imaginative name!). The trade park would include both warehousing and industrial units with associated trade counters and offices. The company was unaware that the fence would require consent (you would hope that it would be good at this kind of thing!), so it is preparing a retrospective planning application. Chancerygate has been reminded that it will need planning consent for the redevelopment so at some point its plans will be open to public scrutiny and comment. The Vibixa site is no oil painting so maybe in the long term this will be a positive development. It all looks a bit bare at the moment though. Just a shame the company didn't engage with us.

Also on planning, another JCS-related bombshell has landed in our midst. There is a separate write up elsewhere in this issue.

As I write we are in the middle of Race Week with the attendant shocking weather (why does that always happen?) and traffic chaos. Remember that information about proposed road closures is publicised on the parish website. There is usually a post-event review of how well the traffic arrangements worked. If you think things could have been handled better, it will be a chance to have your say.

Travellers have again camped in the area. They had moved onto the car park at Albemarle Gate. The police would not take any action so the Borough Council had to engage a team of bailiffs. The group moved out and immediately took up residence on a playing field in Charlton Kings. The poor Borough Surveyor, who sadly carries responsibility for such matters, had to start the legal process of evicting them all over again. A court hearing will have taken place on the 15th March. Who knows where they will be by the time you read this?

Finally, a man from Ashbourne expressed a desire to have his ashes sent skyward in a firework display. Come the day this met with resistance from his district council. His relatives were offered the chance to send his ashes into space, the trip of a lifetime! However, they said that the gentleman had always lived in the Ashbourne area and would have preferred to stay local.

Shaun Cullimore

Clerk to Swindon Parish Council

<https://swindonparish.org.uk>

The Cheltenham Local Plan

The Joint Core Strategy (JCS) rumbled on for over ten years before grinding to an unsatisfactory conclusion. One hard won victory for local campaigners was the inclusion in the JCS of an area of Local Green Space around Swindon Village itself. This would be land protected from development, and a map of this area was included in the JCS. The JCS was declared sound by the government-designated planning inspector.

The next stage in the planning process was to agree a Cheltenham Local Plan. This would sit below the JCS (but be compliant with it) and provide additional detail for the Cheltenham Borough area. Tewkesbury and Gloucester would adopt their equivalent plans for their areas.

Following public consultation the Cheltenham Local Plan entered planning review with a new government-designated planning inspector, Wendy Burden. We were quite relaxed about this, thinking that the heavy lifting had been done in defending our position during the JCS review and inspection. However, the JCS inspector had left the details of the Local Green Spaces to be defined in the Local Plan. To our horror the new inspector has taken this as justification for re-opening the whole issue of Local Green Space. An LGS area to the west of Cheltenham has now been deleted and areas of Local Green Space in Leckhampton and Swindon Village are open for debate yet again. Needless to say the developers are delighted!

Councillor Helen Wells attended the planning enquiry on the 26th February. Helen was wearing two hats (well, it was a cold day), representing the

Parish Council and the Save the Countryside movement. Both these organisations have common interests in protecting the community as best they can against the relentless onset of development.

Helen had to go through the entire argument in respect of the Local Green Space yet again; why it was important, why the area was special and deserving of protection and so on. The developers, meanwhile, argued against the size of the area declared in the JCS. The JCS inspector had seen enough value in our arguments to increase the area of land designated Local Green Space beyond that which was requested. The developers now sensed an opportunity to get the area reduced or deleted. In the context of a development of 4500 houses our Local Green Space is not a significant area. More significant to local people than to the developers one would have thought.

The consultation phases of the JCS and the Cheltenham Local Plan are over. Whilst we were not particularly happy with the outcome there were at least public consultations and a degree of transparency. It appears that the planning inspector has the power to change things forever at the stroke of a pen.

We can do no more. Her decision is awaited.

Shaun Cullimore

Clerk to Swindon Parish Council
<https://swindonparish.org.uk>

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

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

Get an incident number and let the parish council know about it.
If the police are not made aware of a problem **THERE ISN'T A PROBLEM**".

Still fighting for our Local Green Space

It has been quite some time since my last update, but with Government Inspector hearings, real life and my real job, in fact things have been far from quiet. So here is where we are:

Eighteen months ago we had confirmation from the Joint Core Strategy (JCS - the document which agreed development strategies for Cheltenham, Gloucester and Tewkesbury) that our local green space wrapping around the village from north of Dog Bark Lane round to the railway line east of Seasons, that we had fought so hard for, was agreed. The team gave a sigh of relief that all our hard work had paid off.

The Map was included in the policy, known as Swindon Village Fields. (See the map below).



The Government Inspector stated in her final review of the JCS that the final boundary details be determined in the Cheltenham plan. So again, our little team had more than a year's worth of work reviewing, and discussing the details of that plan and other related topics (including the need for improved road infrastructure to support the growth of the whole

town) until the final plan had to undergo another Government Inspector review to ensure that it was sound.

This all seemed fine, until the day in February when I represented Save the Countryside and the Parish Council on the topic of Local Green Spaces. To my horror, instead of following on the decision of the previous JCS inspector, the new Inspector decided to re-open the whole topic again. Luckily all the work we had done over the years proved invaluable once again as I argued our defence for our precious local green space against the protesting legal team representing the various developers. Topics of wildlife, history, wellbeing and beauty were regurgitated once again.

Despite me getting the last word in, it is another waiting game to see the outcome of this Inspector's hearing. I hope that this exhausting process won't hang on for much longer. A big thanks to Arran Stibbe and the Save the Countryside team for all the work that has gone into this.

I hope to be able to share more news when we have our annual walk on Sunday 19th May.

I look forward to seeing our merry crowd of walkers on 19th May for our 12th Annual walk. It is always a lovely community event. Thanks to my new spine hardware, I shall be able to do the walk this year, meaning I'm on the look out for a new tea lady!

Helen Wells

Save The Countryside 12th Anniversary Walk

Celebrating our beautiful countryside
Protecting our local green space
Starting at Stantons Drive, Swindon Village

Sunday 19th 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)*

Services and Events for April

5	Friday	12noon - 2pm	Lent Lunch
7	Sunday	10.30am 6.30pm	Together @ Ten Thirty Holy Communion
8	Monday	7.00pm	Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting
9	Tuesday	10.30am - 12noon 7.00pm	Chatterbox Coffee Drop-In Holy Communion
12	Friday	12noon - 2pm	Lent Lunch
13	Saturday	10.30am - 12noon	Cake Day and Coffee Morning In the Village Hall
14	Sunday	9.15am 6.30pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Evensong
16	Tuesday	10.30am - 12noon	Chatterbox Coffee Drop-In
19	Good Friday	12noon	Good Friday Meditation
21	Easter Sunday	10.30am 6.30pm	Together @ The Table Evensong

Services and Events for April (continued)

23	Tuesday	10.30am - 12noon	Chatterbox Coffee Drop-In
28	Sunday	9.15am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Evensong
30	Tuesday	10.30am - 12noon	Chatterbox Coffee Drop-In

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 the clergy by email:

Revd. George Davis (Team Vicar) fr.georgedavis@hotmail.com

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

From the registers



Funeral

We gave thanks for the life of
Anthony Michael Jones

20th March

The Blame Game

As the finals of many major sports come to their conclusion this month and next, it is interesting how much attention falls on the winners and how swiftly blame is pinned firmly on those who are deemed to have ‘failed’. If you like football you might recall the poor Liverpool goalkeeper Karius whose mistakes against Real Madrid were blamed for Liverpool losing the Champions League Final last May. Or if you like rugby, how last October Freddie Burns was blamed in the Champions Cup for a premature celebration of a try against Toulouse and had the ball knocked from his hand before touchdown by an opposing player. As one sympathetic former player observed, ‘no one died’ but that did not stop the vilification.

Blame is, of course, closely linked with the Easter story. Jesus is blamed. You might know that on the “Day of Atonement” the high priest, Aaron, was instructed symbolically to lay all the sins of the people on one unfortunate goat, and the people would then beat the animal until it fled into the desert. Instead of admitting and owning their faults, this ritual allowed people handily to export them elsewhere, in this case onto an innocent animal.

The image of the scapegoat powerfully mirrors the universal, but largely unconscious, human need to transfer our guilt onto something or someone else by singling that other out for unmerited negative treatment. You may know the tender face of Holman Hunt’s painting called ‘The Scapegoat’ of 1854 (viewable by the way, at the Lady Lever Art Gallery at Port Sunlight), painted during one of Hunt’s crises of faith. The theologian and mystic Richard Rohr observes how the French philosopher and historian René Girard (1923–2015) demonstrated that the scapegoat mechanism is built into the foundations of most social groups and cultures. We need another group to be against to form our group. For example, some scapegoat refugees who are seeking asylum, falsely accusing them of being criminals. This pattern repeats itself in our society and in our private, inner lives.

We humans largely hate or blame almost anything else rather than recognise our own weaknesses and failings. The memories stay with us: ‘Bromfield made me do it’, I recall a former friend telling our form master at school (when I certainly did not!). “He deserves it.” “They are the problem.” “They are evil.” We might not realise that we are scapegoating, it’s ingrained and unconscious. As Jesus said, people literally “do not know what they are doing” (Luke 23:34).

In this way God and religion have often been used to justify our violence and to hide from the darker parts of ourselves that we would rather not admit. Yet Jesus revealed the pattern. “When anyone kills you, they will think they are doing service for God,” he said (John 16:2).

The Bible calls such hatred and killing “sin,” and Jesus came precisely to “take away” (John 1:29) our capacity to commit it by exposing it for all to see. Jesus stood as the totally innocent one who was condemned by the highest authorities of both church and state, an act that should create healthy scepticism about how wrong even the highest powers can be. Often Christianity shames individuals for private sins while praising public figures in spite of their pride, greed, gluttony, lying, killing, or (increasingly) narcissism.

As John puts it, Jesus will show the world how wrong it was about sin, about who was really in the right, and about true judgment (John 16:8). This is what Jesus first exposes and then defeats on the cross. As Richard Rohr notes, Jesus did not come to change God’s mind about us. It did not need changing. Jesus came to change our minds about God, and about ourselves, and about where goodness and evil really lie.

Fr. Nick

The Parish of St. Lawrence, Swindon Village and Cheltenham St. Peter

The two annual church meetings will be held on Monday 8th April at 7.00pm in the church.

The first meeting, the Annual Meeting of Parishioners, is for the election of two churchwardens for the coming year; this meeting is open to everyone resident in the parish. It will be followed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting which elects the Parochial Church Council, the body that is responsible for the day-to-day management of the church; this meeting is only open to those on the Church Electoral Roll.

Easter Lilies for the church

If you would like to donate towards the cost of the traditional lilies for the church this Easter, maybe in memory of a loved one, please contact **Joan Howes on tel. no. 513573**. Alternatively, place your donation in an envelope and hand it to a sidesperson at any service – don’t forget to include the name of the person in whose memory you’re making the donation.

Thank you.



ST LAWRENCE CHURCH



CAKE DAY
&
COFFEE
MORNING

on

SATURDAY 13th APRIL

10.30 am-12 noon

at

Swindon Village Hall

Admission £2.00

(includes tea/coffee & biscuits)

ALL WELCOME

Under new management!

The Swindon Village Hall AGM has been held and the new management committee approved. After many years of sterling service, Peter Piff and his committee have handed over the reins and we sincerely thank them for their dedication and toil over the years to keep the Hall running - it is a tremendous asset to the village and we hope to keep it running for many more years to come.

All of the newcomers are novices at this (so please be patient with us!) but we have boundless enthusiasm to keep the Hall running and hopefully make some improvements over the next few months and years (I'll be catching up with all the regular users to get their input too). To that end, we are looking for both volunteers and suggestions for what you think can be improved. The recent survey (bit.ly/svhallsurvey) has garnered over a hundred responses so far so thank you to everyone that has participated - all the answers have been read and we'll use them to guide our first steps.

If you're interested in helping out in any capacity (bar work, cleaning, decorating, maintenance, IT, anything really!) then please email: **swindonvillagehall@gmail.com** with what you can offer or are prepared to do. In particular, we need a volunteer to write the minutes for our monthly meetings, a bar manager for stocking up and arranging staff plus deputies to all positions to help out on the committee (many hands make light work!).

The introduction of a new committee is an opportunity to rethink what the Hall can offer.

A website is being developed along with an increased social media presence so that we can let everyone know what is happening and when. The website will incorporate a timetable of events, a bar/hall booking procedure with associated costs, a floorplan with photo gallery, committee news and reports plus anything else that we can think of (noticeboards, sales and wants, suggestion box etc?).

On social media, please follow **Twitter: @SwindonVHall**, **Instagram: swindonvillagehall**, **Facebook: SwindonVillageHall** and we can let you know what's happening on a regular basis - a regular email has also been requested so I'll be collecting email addresses over the next few months once we have a GDPR policy in place.

Next month, I'll take the opportunity to introduce myself and the rest of the committee whilst laying out some of our ideas and plans for the future.

To summarise, this is a new beginning for Swindon Village Hall and hopefully you will start to see some material changes to the Hall over the next few months - this is your opportunity to shape where we go from here so please get in touch with your suggestions however outlandish they may be, everything will be considered!

Ben Williams
Chair

Swindon Village Winemakers

In February we had our annual Spring dance which was well-attended by the clubs from Cheltenham, Charlton Kings, Newent, The Reddings, Gloucester and Stroud. The music was performed by a group called "Reminisce".

At the February meeting we had a speaker, Mr John Dixon, who gave a most interesting talk on public houses, mainly in Tewkesbury and the surrounding area, which was also accompanied by a slide show, You would be very surprised how many public houses there were in the two main streets.

The meeting was also the annual Kit Wine competition. The result was third place Mike Attwood, second place John Beardsley, and first place Roy Harper. The March meeting will be a Wine Tasting evening.

Roy Harper

Our February meeting featured a talk about the Battle of Tewkesbury by Richard Goddard. What came over particularly strongly was just how hard things were in those days for anyone who took part in such an event. On the day before the battle the Yorkist Army had marched from Chipping Sodbury to Tredington, a distance of 33 miles. Many were not professional soldiers but rather farmers who had been brought along by their lords to take part on behalf of Edward IV. The Lancastrians had managed a similar distance but alongside the river Severn in probably harder marching conditions. Then they had to fight a hard, often hand to hand, battle led by leaders of very varying ability and knowledge. All the rank and file were probably underfed and in poor condition for a very hard brawl.

Anyway the Yorkists won and many of the Lancastrian leaders were killed either in the battle or afterwards. Richard, Duke of Gloucester was heavily involved on the side of the Yorkists and as a result he later became Richard III. However, the Yorkist cause finally lost out when he died at the Battle of Bosworth Field and the Tudors triumphed in the long run.

Now as a Lancashire lad myself I have always had a tendency to support the Lancastrian faction but in fact few if any of the Lancastrians were from that county and likewise the Yorkists had little actual attachment to Yorkshire. All very complicated – I should have tried harder at O-Level history.

The little Hedgehog event was fairly well attended. There is evidence of hedgehogs within the village but not a lot. Could I ask anyone who has recently seen a hedgehog in their garden or anywhere near the village to let me know at **barry_simon@hotmail.com**. There were always hedgehogs in our garden until seven or eight years ago when they disappeared and I would like to see some back.

For our April talk the duty spy, Robert Skelt, will return to tell us the fascinating tale of Kim Philby – Gentleman, Spy and Traitor. You really can't fault that as a title. Visitors will be welcome at a cost of £1. Better still join on the night – the annual fee is £6 for a single person and £12 for a family.

Note that our May meeting will be on a Saturday morning and will feature a visit to Lineover Wood near Dowdeswell Reservoir to look at the flora and fauna. We will have John Heathcott with us. John has had a very long connection with this piece of true ancient woodland and is always a great guide.

Barry Simon

Our guest at the March meeting was Bill Farnsworth and he told us all about being a Chef at the Savoy Hotel in London. Bill was born in Stilton in Rutland and his parents had a Restaurant and small shop on the main street. When the powers that be built a ring road around Stilton, they sold up and moved to Lincolnshire. They lived with his mother's parents on a small farm and so all his life he was involved with looking after chickens, pigs and growing vegetables. Bill told us he was no academic and his school reports were awful and he left school at fifteen. His father enrolled him at the local technical college in the catering department and he was a star pupil each year for the three years he was there.

He applied for jobs at the Hilton, Dorchester and Savoy hotels in London and was accepted by all three. Bill chose to work at the Savoy because it was an older hotel with more history attached to it. Bill worked twelve hour shifts in the Savoy Grill and loved every minute of it.

There were several slides to accompany his talk and they showed us behind the scenes at the hotel. Bill travelled to us from Solihull and so after a quick supper and cup of tea he set off home.

The committee are in the early stages of planning a coach trip around the Cotswolds in July. We will have the details at our next meeting on 3rd April. The Speaker at our April meeting will be Michael Bottomley and he will be telling us about the Life, Love and Times of Katherine Parr.

Please do come along and join us, we are a friendly lot and will make you very welcome.

Pauline Wright

'The SS Great Britain, from launch to re-launch' was the subject of Ian Caskie's illustrated talk at our March meeting. Built in Bristol in the 1830s, and greatly influenced by the new power of steam, she was commissioned by Cunard for the North Atlantic mail contract. Originally designed to be one of 4 paddle ships, but changed to propeller, the others being the SS Great Western and SS Great Eastern (the fourth was never built). Having proved that, by using wrought iron instead of wood the ships could be bigger, lighter and faster, shipbuilding would never be the same again. The SS Great Britain was declared to be Brunel's masterpiece and could carry 250 passengers to New York in 15 days. Unfortunately she only managed 4 crossings before running aground in thick fog. In 1852 she was used on the Australian run, as there was a great demand during the gold rush there. She carried 700 passengers, 140 crew and many live animals and provisions to last the 2 month trip. In 1870, with the traffic reduced, the service was discontinued. Being totally gutted in 1882, including the engines, she was converted for coal carrying. On the route from Penarth to San Francisco via Cape Horn she ended up scuttled at Port Stanley in the Falkland Islands. In 1967 she was surveyed and a pontoon built to transport her back to Bristol. The delicate task of towing her the 8,000 miles home resulted in her arrival back in Bristol on 19th July 1970. She now lies in the same dry dock in which she was constructed but fully restored and conserved.

We were invited to birthday parties at Prestbury WI, Southam WI and Gotherington, Woolstone and Oxenton WI that were much enjoyed. Lunch at Brasserie Blanc, a coffee morning at Janet's and meetings of the Craft and Book Clubs were amongst the other get-togethers during the month of March. We have not got into the next round of the County Quiz but Brenda was more successful at our day-out at the races. She backed a 66-1 winner! We offered to be her security guard on the way to the bank! A visit to Denman College fabric sale and an evening at Neal's Yard to pamper our hands were also on the calendar. The Walking Netball sessions are proving popular and a fun way to get some exercise. We are improving and now getting higher scores when we play other teams, and even winning one match! There is talk of an inter-county tournament, watch this space.

Looking forward, we have the Annual Council meeting in the Town Hall, a watercolour painting day, a Campaign and Debate day to discuss this year's subjects for the National Annual Meeting in June. Quite a few members are joining other County members for a Spring Holiday in Kent.

Judith Humphries is to speak to us about 'Holistic Therapies' at our meeting on Monday 1st April. If anyone would like to join us for the evening at 7.30pm at St Nicolas' Hall, Swindon Lane, they will be made most welcome

Sara Jefferies



The SS Great Britain

Above - being towed up the River Avon back to Bristol in 1970.

Below - restored and open to the public in her original drydock.



Art & Crafts Club

Just a taste of how we all enjoyed the demonstration this month. Minty who demonstrated does workshops and her website is:
www.aramintafogden.com should anyone wish to book one.

Helen







ALEXANDER BURN FUNERAL DIRECTORS

**Alexander Burn is an independent family business with
four offices covering the Cheltenham and Tewkesbury area.**

COURTEOUS, EFFICIENT AND RESPECTFUL

24 hour personal service | Private chapels of rest

HM Coroner and NHS Funeral Director for Gloucestershire

www.alexanderburn.com

Bishops Cleeve
22 Church Road
01242 673300

Cheltenham
436 High Street
01242 245350

Winchcombe
11 North Street
01242 604888

Tewkesbury
23-24 High Street
01684 276200



SJB Carpentry & Joinery

All Aspects of Carpentry and Home
Maintenance

Handmade Furniture
Bespoke Storage Solutions
Stairs & Bannisters
Doors & Windows
Flooring, Skirtings & Architraves
Floor & Wall Tiling
Gates, Decking & Pergolas

Contact Stu for a free quotation on

Tel: 07729912530

Email: sjb_carpentry@yahoo.co.uk
Website: www.sjbcarpentryjoinery.co.uk

Advertise your business in
Village News

Monthly rates

Whole page £36
Half page £18
Quarter page £9

Contact the Editors

Village News is delivered to
900 homes in Swindon Village

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

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 Chair	Ben Williams	07971 608177
Village Hall Booking Secretary	Jana Bridger	www.svhall.co.uk swindonvillagehall@gmail.com
Wednesday Club	Pauline Wright	693112
Play Group	(Playgroup hours)	690479
Winemakers' Secretary	Roy Harper	662861
School Headteacher	Geraint Mills	690016
Friends of the School	Jodie Courts	chairfosvps@gmail.com
Art & Crafts Club	Lynne	07515 461876
Swindon Village Society	Barry Simon	521723
Mary Godwin Under 5s	(Playgroup hours)	263746
Marle Hill W.I.	Sara Jefferies	692500
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 via
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. John Conmee	572060
	Cllr. Helen Wells	220875 or 07770 986078
	Cllr. Yvonne Pirso	515095
	Cllr. James Cornish	07950 196709
	Vacancy	
	Vacancy	
	Vacancy	
	Vacancy	
Clerk to the Council	Mr Shaun Cullimore	07833 089435 parish.clerk@swindonparish.org.uk
Cheltenham Borough Councillors	Cllr. Flo Clucas Cllr. Bernard Fisher	255844 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 CHURCH

Part of the North Cheltenham Team Ministry

Team Rector	Revd. Nick Bromfield	nick.bromfield@northchelt.org.uk
Team Vicar	Revd. George Davis	fr.georgedavis@hotmail.com 702890
Reader	Ralph Griffin	510533
Churchwardens	Tony Jilbert	693639
	May Shurmer	241033
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 views of the
Editors or the Parish Council