



Volume 19 Issue 1 January 2022

Walk tall, walk straight

There was a pretty awful song in the '60s which for some strange reason my brother used to sing (he has a singing voice resembling mine so it's not a good experience!); "Walk tall, walk straight and look the world right in the eye". I think it was written by Val Doonican.

At that time I had become interested in Grasshoppers and to study them you obviously have to walk along peering down at the ground. That's fine as long as you're not wanting to be a bird



watcher at the same time. That was my problem. I did some work on Lundy in the Bristol Channel and quite a few people commented on the way I walked around looking at the ground. It took a bit of explaining. Sadly grasshoppers have since become very scarce, until the last two years, when suddenly they have made a brilliant comeback. No-one seems to have come up with an explanation but never mind. I'm back to walking along looking at the ground.

During part of my career I found myself being asked to work in some schools which were deemed to be "unsatisfactory". "Satisfactory" as a description is pretty damning so you can imagine how "unsatisfactory" makes you feel. Anyway, the thing that struck me about those schools was the way everyone seemed to walk around looking at the ground. We worked on building up everyone's confidence so that eye contact became the norm again. Very gradually it happened as people realised what a lot they had to be confident about. Laughter reappeared around the place. It wasn't easy and it wasn't immediate and some still struggled but things did get better.

There are a lot of people at the moment who seem to have lost that confidence and smile. The problem with masks is that it's only the eyes that can be seen and they give away an awful lot about how we're feeling. "Our eyes are the windows to our soul." Perhaps we should take up bird watching. I recommend it and a lot of people have become so much more aware of our immediate wildlife in this wonderful part of the world. It really makes you look around. If you don't fancy that, and it's summer time, you could always take up studying grasshoppers but remember to look up and smile now and again.

Walk tall, walk straight and look the world right in the eye. Happy New Year!

Fen Marshall

It's not about standing above anyone. It's about walking as tall as you possibly can.

MMAquotable.com

There's always a reason to smile find it!



St Agnes' Eve - 20th January

To be sure to dream of your future husband tonight, fast strictly and keep silent all day, and on no account allow anyone - even a child - to kiss you. At bedtime, donning the best and cleanest nightdress you have, boil an egg hard: take out the yolk, fill the space with salt, and eat the egg, shell and all. Then walk backwards to bed, saying:

Fair St Agnes, play thy part And send to me my own sweetheart Not in his best or worst array But in the clothes he wears every day.

You will then see your intended in your sleep: but tell nobody of your dream.



...... Or was it a nightmare?



Thank you to Tytherington
Parish Council for their
kind donation to our
costs.

Each 20-page edition costs £425 to print, so we are always grateful for donations as our funding depends on advertising and the generosity of our readers.

Regular donations may be made by standing order; we also accept payments by BACS. For further details please contact our Treasurer, Mr Geoff Crosthwaite

- telephone 01454 294140
- Email: geoffrey.crosthwaite@outlook.com
- or write to him at The Barn, Townwell, Cromhall, Wotton-Under-Edge, GL12 8AQ.

Cheques, payable to **Benefice Newsletter**, may also be sent to our treasurer, Geoff Crosthwaite, The Barn, Townwell, Cromhall, W-U-E, GL12 8AQ or the editor.

Cromhall 100 Club draw

November winners

£30 Mrs Sue Bryant £20 Neil Mounty £10 Mrs M Pick



Alveston Gardens Association

"Lawn Care"
with
Mike Symonds
Monday 7th February 2022
7.30pm in Alveston Jubilee Hall
All welcome - Visitors (£3)



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January at Thornbury Library

Happy New Year Everyone!!!



Does your family love Picture Books?

If you do, then join us for a "Picture Book Family Story time" Saturday 22nd January 9.30am

Pop in or email thornbury.library@southglos.gov.uk to book a family space

Pick up a box of lateral flow test from the library during staffed hours.



Thornbury Orchestra will be holding our first 'proper' concert in in over 2 years on

Sunday 23rd Jan 2022, 4.00pm at Berkeley Church,

Tickets: £8 adults and children free available online at www.thornburyorchestra.org.uk or on the door

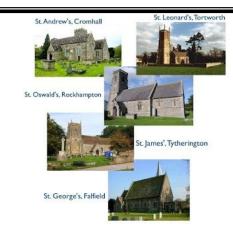
All proceeds will be in aid of the Brain Tumour Support charity

We are really excited to finally be able to get to playing in front of a live audience (subject to latest Omicron restrictions of course, fingers crossed) and will be playing a selection of mostly well-known popular classics ranging from 'Pirates of the Caribbean' to 'Pomp and Circumstance' by way of Mozart's magic flute and Vaughan Williams' 'English Folk Songs'.





'To see Christ in all and to show Christ to the World.'



Jan 2nd 2022

10.30am **Tortworth Holy Communion**



Sunday Jan 9th **EPIPHANY CAROL SERVICE** 5.00pm at Tortworth

Other January services -Holy Communion all at 10:30am

9th Cromhall and Falfield

16th Tytherington 23rd Rockhampton

30th Falfield

BENEFICE PHONE: 01454 260096 E-MAIL ADDRESS: office@croftt.org.uk

ASSOCIATE PRIEST:

Rev Sue: 01454 600674 or revsue@croftt.org.uk

CHAPLAIN:

Rev. Frances: 01453 519099 revfrances@croftt.org.uk

Churchwardens:

Cromhall: Ann Greenhalgh 01454 294200 Rockhampton: Liz Cullimore 01454 412208 Falfield: Headley Pain 01454 269017 Hilary Legg 01454 413234 Tortworth: John Williams 01454 412515 or Tytherington: Phil Coward 01454 281444

Thornbury Jazz Festival 2022

We are delighted to announce that the Thornbury Jazz Festival will be back next spring.

The date: Saturday 19 March 2022.

The place: the Castle School's Assembly Hall. The Festival promises an extended evening of topclass jazz, running from 4.00pm to 9.30pm.

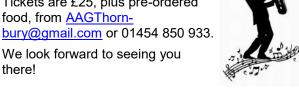
We will be getting off to a swinging start with the fantastic wall of sound from the 18-piece Kris Nock Big Band. Next up are ever-popular bands, the Jenner Jazz Quartet and Sinead and the Sinnermen. Top of the bill is one of the most popular performers in recent years from the Thornbury Arts Festival, virtuoso jazz guitarist Remi Harris, who will be playing with Tom Moore.

Seating will be at well-spaced tables in a jazz café setting and food and a bar will be

available.

Tickets are £25, plus pre-ordered food, from AAGThorn-

We look forward to seeing you there!





ST PETER'S HOSPICE WINTER WARMER LUNCH

St Peter's Hospice Severnside Support Group

Methodist Church Hall, Thornbury Monday 24th January at 1.00pm

Cottage Pie and Crumble followed by tea/ coffee - vegetarian option will be available.

Tickets:£10.00 per person available from St Peter's Hospice Shop, High Street, Thornbury, from 6th January 2022.

Every endeavour will be made to keep you safe, so please do come along and support St Peter's, your local Hospice.



Dementia Support South Gloucestershire

Call our support line for more information: Tel: 0333 150 3456

Monday to Wednesday 9am – 8pm, Thursday and Friday 9am – 5pm Saturday and Sunday 10am – 4pm or see our website: www.alzheimers.org.uk

The Thornbury Memory Café is run by local people, and supports those in Thornbury and the surrounding area with some form of memory loss.

The café meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 10.15am in the Methodist Church Hall. Anyone with a memory problem, together with a carer or friend is welcome. There is time for chatter and meeting with others.

Please contact Sue Rowley 01454 412941.

Rhymetime at Thornbury Library



Every Friday 9.30am-10am

Pop in or email thornbury.library@southglos.gov.uk to book a family space

Rhymes and songs for parents and babies/ toddlers to enjoy together

Pick up a box of lateral flow test from the library during staffed hours

FALFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Expressions of interest invited for

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) grant funding.

Expressions of interest are invited from Community organisations. CIL grant funding is to be used for the benefit of the whole community.

Does your community organisation have a project which would fit this criterion?

If so, the Parish Council would like to hear from you.

In order register an expression of interest go onto the Parish Council website for more information to read the guidance notes set out in the Council's CIL Policy and complete an 'Expression of Interest' Form.

The closing date for receipt of Expression of Interest is **28**th **February 2022**.

Any queries or questions please contact the Parish Clerk via email.

parish.clerk@falfieldparishcouncil.org.uk.

FALFIELD W.I.



What a busy time we have had! Some of our members attended Avon Federation Flower and Craft day at Portishead.

The first speaker Sheila White spoke about colour matching and dyeing, mostly natural fabrics, for costumes for the Royal Opera and Ballet.

The second speaker was Becky Barnes who is a Personal Stylist and as Nic Bailey was sadly ill, the afternoon speaker was Naomi Slade. Naomi spoke about snowdrops and gardens to visit, especially Colesbourne Park (Gloucester).

The competition was to knit a Festival Bear and our member Mary White won second place! All the little bears were then donated to Southmead Hospital.

The wreath making morning took place at Falfield Village Hall with much chatting and excellent finished wreaths.

Our new President Gill Spiller welcomed all members and guests to the December meeting. The speakers for the evening were Whisper and Shout; Dianna Humphries and Fred Ward and their talk was the Christmas Crackers Show. It was full of strange facts, memories, video clips and recordings, mixed with the occasional cracker joke. Did you know that the first Christmas card was in 1843 and sold for a shilling?

Our next meeting is our New Year Party Dinner at The Gables, we are spoiling ourselves this year as we won't have to cook a thing!

5Alive deliveries. Can you help?

Distributor for 5 Alive magazine needed in Falfield - to cover the houses on the Falfield Grange Estate.

Someone is needed with immediate effect. If you can help, please contact <u>5alive.falfield@gmail.com</u>.

Thank you.



Thornbury Library is now fully open for everyone!!!
Activities are returning in a safe bookable way!!!!!

Our computer volunteer is ready to help with your IT and online questions

Pop in or email to book a space thornbury.library@southglos.gov.uk

View 5 Alive online

Remember that 5 Alive is available online at www.falfield.org.uk, https://cromhall.com/cromhall/st-andrewschurch and www.tytherington-pc.gov.uk



South Glos Citizens Advice Bureau Telephone Advice Service:

For advice contact us on 0808 278 7947

We offer free confidential, impartial and independent advice and information on a wide range of subjects.



Alveston Local History Society Weds January 26th 2022 7.30pm

Alveston Methodist Church
Philip Ashford will speak about
'Gloucestershire and the
Berkeley Estate in Virginia'

We are planning 8 presentations for 2022 to take place on the 4th Wednesday of each month in at 7-30pm. There will be a charge of £3 per person to include tea or coffee.

Current covid regulations will apply. Wear a mask to your seat and bring a coat as extra ventilation will be required.

Planning for other meetings is underway and will include 'Memories of working the rivers Wye and Severn by the River Hobbler's Apprentice - Alan Butt. And the History of Leigh Court with William Evans. We hope to see you there.





Let's help others this New Year

Covid-19 has impacted every group and organisation in our local community, leaving many with a shortage of volunteers at a time when their services are in great demand. In the New Year, why not resolve to donate some of your time to helping those less fortunate in your local community?

Volunteering is becoming ever more vital to the health of a community. The past two years have seen an army of people come forward to help relieve the consequences of Covid. Our hope is that they will continue to volunteer and that others will come forward to join them.

By volunteering for just an hour a week you can make a huge difference — it's been proven to improve your own health and happiness too!

The Thornbury Volunteer Centre can provide you with information and support on volunteering opportunities in the local area that best suit your skills and time available while ensuring that you find volunteering an enjoyable and worthwhile experience.

The Centre is contacted regularly by groups and organisations who are seeking to recruit volunteers from all walks of life and with levels of expertise from none to highly skilled.

There is no barrier to volunteering; anyone who can spare an hour a week would be warmly welcomed by someone in the community.

If you would like to find out more, please contact Thornbury Volunteer Centre at mail@volunteer-thornbury.co.uk

Visit our website on volunteer-thornbury.co.uk; follow us on twitter: @thornburyvc or Facebook: thornburyvolunteers.



Thornbury Library

"Sight Support West of England"

Support and advice for people with visual impairments

4th Monday of every month 10am-1.00pm

Next visit: Monday 17th January

You can pick up a box of lateral flow test from the library during staffed hours.

Tytherington Village Hall



Your chance to become involved in Tytherington Village!

The Village Hall Committee would like to invite new people who are willing to join the Hall Committee, to contact the Secretary, for further details.

Email address:

john.lewislewis@btinternet.com

John Lewis - Secretary

FALFIELD WEATHER RECORDS NOVEMBER 2021

	High	Low	Average
Temp	15.9 °C	-2.4 °C	8.5 °C
Dew Point	14.4 °C	-10.5 ⁰ C	5.3 °C
Humidity	99.0 %	39.0 %	82.0 %
Precipitation	13.45 mm		
Wettest Day	2.9 on the 26th Nov. YTD 749.03 mm		
Wind direc- tion	SSW		
Pressure	1037.93 hPa	990.52 hPa	

Go to www.wunderground.com/personal-weather-station/dashboard?ID=IENGLAND1163 for live weather information from the Falfield weather station

BIG Changes for the League of Friends!

The League of Friends in Thornbury has a long history of supporting health needs at Thornbury Hospital. But, back in 2018, the Hospital closed its doors. A rethink was necessary.

Part of the old hospital (Henderson Rehabilitation Ward) was moved to Grace Care Home on Midland Way and continues to be run by Sirona Health Care. However, it was decided that the League needed to broaden their scope and develop a new constitution. So, in March 2020, the new Thornbury & District League of Friends (TADLOF) was launched as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)!

In addition, following 25 years of settling a former patient of Thornbury Hospital's estate, the Trust received a significant legacy. This gave TADLOF financial security and the springboard to establish itself and to focus on reaching out to support the health and wellbeing needs within the wider community.

The Trustees held an event in October launching their new annual grant-giving programme. Several local charities were invited along to hear about TADLOF's exciting plans to help support local health/wellbeing projects. They received 6 grant applications and the Trust are delighted to announce that all those applying have been awarded much-needed funding. These organisations vary widely from those supporting the mental health of our young people to those assisting sufferers from dementia and their carers. These beneficiaries, known to many of you no doubt, are as follows:

Jigsaw; Krunch; Phase; Haven Memory Café; Made a Mark; New Siblands Junior School.

TADLOF's Trustees now look forward to continuing this support of health and wellbeing needs within Thornbury and District over the coming years and sincerely hope that they can make a difference in improving the lives of local people long into the future.

If any organisation would like to apply for funding, please do let TADLOF know and they will consider any applications for grants in the next grant-giving round in late 2022. Anyone interested in becoming a member or Trustee please let them know. Contact: Andrea Bates abates 1101@msn.com or 5 Castle Street, Thornbury, BS351HA.

Tytherington Parish Council

Tytherington Parish Council hope that all residents had a Happy Christmas and would like to wish all residents a Covid-free New Year.

There is no longer Government legislation in place to use Zoom to have Parish Council meetings. Councillors have to meet face to face and unfortunately it was not possible to meet in November, because of possible Covid transmission, which fortunately turned out to be negative.

Due to work commitments Cllr Lipton has stood down as Chair of the Parish Council although he will continue as a Councillor and Cllr Aellen has taken over as Chair. Hopefully the PC will be able to meet on the 10th January but again this will be affected by the current Covid climate.

The PC now has a brand new web site www.tytherington-pc.gov.uk and the clerk a new email address clerk@tytherington-pc.gov.uk, although there is a 'forward' in place in case anyone uses the old email. There is a facility to sign up to receive all new posts and also a calendar to display events taking place in Tytherington, so please use it to your advantage.

During next year the PC hopes to put in place solar panels on the roofs of the Village Hall and Village Shop, erect a swallow tower, plant wild flowers on the green by New Road and complete the Itchington Triangle as part of the remaining CIL and S106 funds. There is also more S106 money available from the Walnut Field development to purchase new play/sport equipment for youngsters on both the Jubilee Field and Hardwicke Field. The PC are looking to possibly place a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) on the Hardwicke Field and also improve the play equipment on the Jubilee Field. Consultations will be going out in the Spring and if anyone has any ideas, please let the clerk know clerk@tytherington-pc.gov.uk.

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Sea Shanties at The Ship!

Storm Force 10 is rolling up at The Ship, Bristol Road, in Alveston on the evening of **February 19th at 7.30pm**. A gathering of shipmates has been convened by the Armstrong Arts Group to keep the music going and the smiles on our faces.



Storm Force 10 is a Bristol based shanty and sea song group and performs predominantly to raise funds for local charities, keeping the tales of old Bristol's seafaring alive, creating new songs and revitalising the old. This year they are donating to two charities, Dementia and Diabetes in Children.



Seating will be at tables and Covid precautions will be taken. A bar will be available in the room.

Tickets will cost £12, with the option of a buffet, eaten beforehand in a separate room and to cost £10 per person. These can be booked by emailing AAGThornbury@gmail.com or ringing 01454 850933.

Alveston Gardens Association "Out and About"



A visit to a Variety of gardens with Roland Harley

7.30pm in Alveston Jubilee Hall Monday 3rd January 2022

All welcome - Visitors (£3)



Thornbury Library is now fully open for everyone!!!
Activities are returning in a safe bookable way!!!!!

Saturday 15th January 10am - 11am Saturday 29th January 10am - 11am

Pop in or email thornbury.library@southglos.gov.uk to book a family space

Come and join us for a story or poems, then create your own LEGO masterpieces and display them in the library for your family and friends to see.

Broccoli or Cauliflower and Stilton Soup

Ingredients:

- 1 large onion
- 1 lb broccoli or cauliflower
- 1 medium courgette (optional)
- 1 large or couple of smaller carrots (optional)
- 1 medium potato
- 1 oz butter
- 2 tbsp olive or vegetable Oil
- 3 pints of water or stock (vegetable)
- 3oz Stilton Cheese (or more to taste)

Method:

- Dice vegetables and add to pot with the butter and oil and a small amount (about 3 or 4 tbsp) of water.
- Heat whilst stirring to avoid burning then
 put the lid onto the pot and cook gently
 for around 15 minutes to soften the vegetables, stirring occasionally and replacing the lid or shaking the pan to avoid
 sticking.
- Next add the water or stock, bring to the boil and then simmer gently for around 25 – 30 minutes, then reserve the liquid and blitz the veggies in a food processor or put through a Mouli.
- Return to the liquid and crumble the Stilton cheese in and season to taste.

Notes:

You may like more Stilton in it than the recipe calls for or you may add the Stilton to the processor along with the rind. Extra cheese does make it a very hearty soup.

You can make it using half the water and freeze the 'concentrated soup' adding water or milk to bulk it back before serving. It will work with a weak chicken stock as well, but this gives a meal that is vegetarian friendly.

If you have discoloured cauliflower it is a good way to use it up as well. You can also use broccoli stems that maybe you would not eat.

For the frugal, freeze your discoloured cauliflower then visit a supermarket a bit after Christmas. You can pick up bargains on Stilton cheese. This can also be frozen and used for the soup when the vegetables are available.

A Grand Piano Launch for MASTRONG Community Performances!

There is to be a concert, presented by the Armstrong Arts Group, to welcome the new community baby grand piano, which is to live at the United Reformed Church in Thornbury.

It is with sincere thanks to generous sponsors that this has been possible and to Michael Lunts, much loved musician, who has made it happen.



Covid considerations will be in place and tickets will cost £5 for adults with no charge for under 16s.

each of thirty minutes or so, followed by re-

These can be booked by emailing AAGThornbury@gmail.com or ringing 01454 850933.

PARKINSON'SUK FIND A CURE. JOIN US.

freshments.

For information and advice on CHANGE ATTITUDES. Parkinson's, or for emotional support, call the Parkinson's UK helpline on **0808 800 0303**

Thornbury support group meets at the Chantry Castle Street, Thornbury BS35 1HB on the last Friday of every month, 10am-12noon.

For more information call Sally Derham on 01454 632910

or email sally.derham@btinternet.com

The Octopus Pantomime is Back!! Oh, yes it is!

Aladdin

Christ the King Church Hall, Castle St., Thornbury

January 11th - 14th 2022 7.30pm and Saturday 15th January at 11am and 3pm



Tickets: £8 adults (over 18s), £6 children available at Thornbury Garden Shop on the High St

Thornbury Radio benefits from Co-op **Local Community Fund**

Thornbury Radio is delighted to have benefited from the Co-op Local Community Fund and want to thank Co-op and its members. The pandemic has drastically affected our fundraising efforts during the past 18 months, so we are grateful to have this partnership with the local Co-op.

David Wrench, Director of Thornbury Radio, receives a cheque from staff at Coop Thornbury



When members buy selected Co-op branded products and services, 1p from every pound spent goes to support local causes like ours. Over £840 has been raised for Thornbury Radio and this will allow the station to continue the process of reaching out to our local community and embracing the process of building identity and pride expressed through participation in the station:

- The promotion of diverse local voluntary organisations
- The provision of local information and news
- Information and education on health issues
- Highlight education, training and employment opportunities for young people
- Encourage self-help in addition to community assistance to the less fortunate members of our area
- Showcase local talent in their artistic and cultural endeavours
- Promote participation in sports and other keep-fit activities
- Working with local organisations such as Thornbury Volunteer Centre and Thornbury Welcomes to encourage involvement in the station
- Provide opportunities to reduce social isolation and make new friends
- Provide uplifting and cheerful programmes to lift the spirits of listeners

The money will be used to cover broadcast licences, transmission costs, broadband, insurance, replace technical equipment, training, etc.



CROMHALL CHAPEL

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Welcomes You!



Tel: Simon Carey (Pastor – Elder) 07824 804305 Email: simoncromhallchapel@gmail.com

All our sermons are available on the website: WWW.CROMHALLCHAPEL.ORG



Sunday Worship Services for January

Join us as we worship the Lord each Sunday, followed by refreshments.

2 nd	(10.30am) Chris Crocker	(6.30pm) Simon Carey
9 th	(10.30am) Simon Carey	(6.30pm) Trevor Doherty
16 th	(10.30am) David Frampton	(6.30pm) Damon Ujvarosy
23 rd	(10.30am) Simon Carey	(6.30pm) Simon Carey
30 th	(10.30am) Simon Carey	(6.30pm) John Bishop

Wednesdays at 7.30pm: 5th Home Groups, 12th Bible Study and Prayer in the chapel hall, 19th Bible Study and Prayer in the chapel hall, 26th Members' Meeting

Tuesday half hour of prayer (on zoom): 11th and 25th at 9.30am, 4th and 18th at 7.30pm

Cromhall Crafters: Tuesday 11th at 7.00pm. Bring your own craft or art-work and meet a group of ladies from the village and around who enjoy crafting.

Men's Breakfast: Saturday 15th January at 9.00am. Join us for a hearty breakfast followed by a talk, *Gospel Magic*, by Jeff Davies

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QUIZ NIGHT FUNDRAISER

Cromhall Village Hall

Saturday 5th February 2022

We are hosting a fun quiz night, raising funds for an Expedition to Borneo in 2023, travelling with Global Action, Charity No.1026148

Team size 2-6 Doors open 7pm

Tickets only £12.50 Ticket includes: Chilli con carne, 1 drink and nibbles. *Tickets available from:* <u>Hazelsrowlands@gmail.com</u> or <u>Lukendaniel@gmail.com</u>

Bar & raffle on the night, all cash only please.

All proceeds from the night will go towards our expedition in the summer of 2023, where we'll be volunteering in the local community to support reforestation, animal rehabilitation programmes and helping in local schools. We are self-funding our trip, please come and join us. Thanks in advance for your support. Luke & Hazel



Pre-booking on or before Thursday 1st Feb is appreciated, please advise of any dietary requirements at time of booking, additional tickets may be available on the night.

** As with everything - dependent upon Covid Restrictions **

World Leprosy Day - Sunday 30 January 2022

World Leprosy Day is a celebration of the leprosy community and an opportunity to raise public awareness of leprosy, also known as Hansen's disease. On the last Sunday of January, the international community advocates for the rights of people affected by leprosy and joins to combat the medical and social implications of leprosy. This year it will be celebrated on 30 January.

World Leprosy Day was established in 1954 by French journalist and activist, Raoul Follereau. Follereau created World Leprosy Day with two goals: to advocate for the equal treatment of persons affected by leprosy and to re-educate the public about leprosy by correcting historical misconceptions surrounding the disease.

This year the Leprosy Mission in England and Wales will be focusing on raising funds to rebuild its research centre at Anandaban hospital in Nepal where pioneering work is taking place to develop an early diagnostic test for leprosy. The lab is at risk of closing because it is too small and was severely damaged in the earthquakes of 2015. It is in danger of failing the forthcoming Ne-

pali Government inspection, which will mean an end to the chance to end leprosy in our lifetime.

The research team needs to develop an early diagnostic test so that leprosy can be diagnosed on the spot and people can be cured as quickly as possible. They are already testing pioneering new treatments to prevent people becoming disabled by the disease.

For further details go to leprosymission.org.uk/greaterheights

TYTHERINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH



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Brian on 0117 9 793104 or e-mail: allenbroncksea@blueyonder.co.uk

2 nd	Joint {Covenant}* Service at Chapel – 'The Magi' [Matt. 2:1 – 12]	Brian
9 th	'Persecution & Sorcery' [Acts 8:1 – 17]	Brian
16 th	'Cana Wedding' [John 2:1 – 11]	Brian
23 rd	'Rejection' [Luke 4:14 – 21]	Brian
30 th	'Love' [1 Corinthians 13:1 – 13]	Brian

*Ongoing Covenant between the two church fellowships in Tytherington

¶ SERVICE WILL INCLUDE HOLY COMMUNION

N.B. ALL SERVICES COMMENCE AT 10:30 A.M. UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

Everyone welcome

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

We are looking for ways in which our church building could be offered for greater community use.

At present we have a small 'Schoolroom' at the rear of the building which can (and is) being used by a number of organisations.

For example, before 'Covid' we ran monthly 'Afternoon Teas' for local people, but now, it is not feasible to accommodate the numbers that attended due to the need for 'social distancing'.

We are considering adapting and modernising the (larger) main church area so as to make it a more flexible space.

This would involve the removal of the existing pews, but before any decisions have been made, we would like to gauge the thoughts of people living in and around Tytherington.

Therefore, we are seeking views as to what sort of activities/groups that such a space would attract. Suggestions could include youth organisations, craft clubs, 'mother & baby' group, 'Messy Church' (fun-based activities for children), 'Café Church' (an informal Christian discussion time).

If you would be interested in any of the above, or using the space for any other activity, please contact me by the end of January.

We would be grateful if you could respond as we really welcome your views. Many thanks in advance,

Brian Allen (Pastor) allenbroncksea@blueyonder.co.uk Tel: 0117 9 793104

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Some years ago, I came across a book called The Countryside Companion, edited by Tom Stephenson and published by Odhams. The illustrations seemed to date from the late 1930s or possibly 1940s and showed a countryside which has been lost to us now. The following is from the section entitled 'A Countryman's Diary' by Hudson Read.

January

Although country folk say that the worst of winter is yet to come, the gorse on the moor has lighted a few golden lamps to greet the New Year. And in the woodlands the hazel has hung grey tassels that tremble in the wind; about the keeper's cottage the jasmine displays points of yellow. On the weathered wall moss has woven a mosaic of green and brown. In the churchyard ancient yews will soon open their curious clustered blossoms.

From a lane-side elm a mistle-thrush utters his wild lay and, on days when an icy wind carries snow in his lap, the "storm-cock" will sing his rattle song in defiance of the weather. But the robin is more cautious, for when storms are near he sings from some hedge or bush; when the weather is good he sings in the open. Thus, country lore gives to him the credit of being a weather prophet.

Down the lane a hedge-sparrow sings "wee, sissy-weeso, wee, sissy-weeso." Another name for this bird is dunnock. From the coppice a great-tit rings his two repeated notes that remind one of a file on the teeth of a saw. From the hedgerow a wren sounds his alarm, for this little brown bird delights to play the sentinel.

Over the wheat-field a skylark plays his pipes of Pan. On an average the lark sings throughout the year, except in August. As a slant of sunshine touches the side of the wood, a green woodpecker becomes a jester with a laugh, and pigeons coo in contentment.

In the air hovers a kestrel, and the small birds vanish into the lattice of the hedges, and starlings deploy over the distant fields. From the osier-beds comes the wail of peewits. Greenfinches, linnets, still keep together in flocks. But the snow-buntings and tufted ducks will begin to depart, as they are winter visitors.

The following birds may be heard in song this month: mistle-thrush, thrush, blackbird, wren, robin, hedge-sparrow, woodlark, chaffinch and nuthatch.

When the winter sunshine gives a genial glow of warmth at the lane corner, one may glimpse the gnats in a crazy dance. They revel in the amber light, and their rapidly vibrating wings reflect the transient gleam of rainbow colours.

The rabbits feed at the edge of the wood, and indulge in a gambol, but the hares seek the shelter of the hedgerow. Dormice, hedgehogs and squirrels are still sleeping. The

hedgehog is not worried by lack of food and sleeps on till the sun is sufficiently warm to lure him forth, but on a fine day the squirrels and dormice may awaken to visit their stores, and an occasional pipistrelle bat may be seen on the wing.

From the wood one can hear felled timber being loaded, and the rattle of wagon wheels and the clip, clop, of the wagon team, as they come down the lane. Rooks and blackheaded gulls keep the ploughman company.

On the upland ridge baby lambs bleat, and are answered by deep-voiced ewes. As the twilight deepens the shepherd lights his pipe, and watches the sunset behind a heavy bank of clouds, which he knows forecasts rain or snow.

Later a pale moon hangs above the hill, and the rugged form of the shepherd is silhouetted on the skyline.

Your magazine: How to send copy or adverts for inclusion in '5 Alive':

NEWS COPY:

Where?

News items should be sent to Kay Rea, The Bungalow, Moorslade, Falfield, GL12 8DJ Tel. 01454 260364
 Email: kay.rea@btinternet.com

When?

Copy date is strictly before midnight on the 19th of each month (but the earlier we receive material the better).

In what form?

- Please submit all copy by e-mail (attachments should be in **Word or Publisher** format, **not** PDF). (We reserve the right of the editor to edit, and you may find that small changes are made for the sake of space etc)
- If you want to submit an advertising poster or similar, black and white is preferable as it reproduces more clearly.
- Charities wishing to publicise events should quote their charity number.

ADVERTISING:

- The deadline for inclusion of advertising in 5 Alive is the 12th of the month preceding publication.
- Enquiries about advertising should be directed to Kay Rea, The Bungalow, Moorslade, Falfield, Nr Wottonunder-Edge, Glos, GL12 8DJ. Tel. 01454 260364 Email: kay.rea@btinternet.com

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Full page:	£56	£40
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Quarter page:	£18	£15
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There is a 10% discount for advertisers paying for a year's advertising in advance and 5% for those paying for 6 months' advertising in advance

Cheques should be made out to 'Benefice Newsletter' and sent to Kay Rea (as above).

