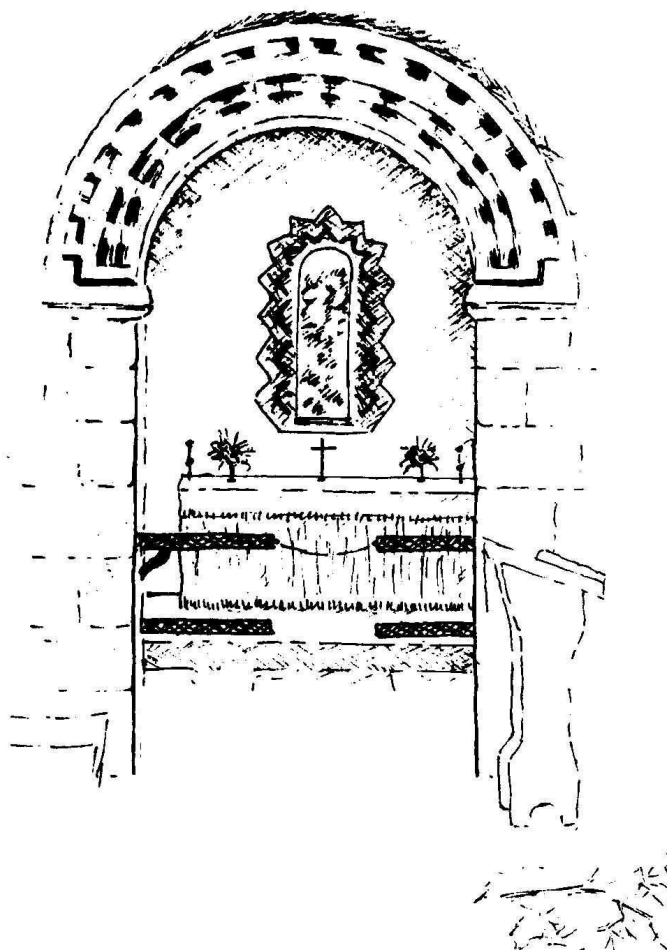


THE WATERSHED MAGAZINE



St Osmund's, Tarlton

September 2024

REV PEPITA WALKER

760211

READER

Liz Collins

770698

SPORTILY MINISTER

Luke Campbell

07949 111509

COATES

Church Warden:

Nigel Pollock

Secretary PCC

Alison Pollock

Treasurer PCC

Dickie Randall

771300

SAPPERTON WITH FRAMPTON MANSELL

Rev Pepita Walker

760211

Church Wardens:

St Luke's

Elizabeth Twinch

762897

John Thorogood

762861

St Kenelm's

Mark Hamer

760715

Rotas

Elizabeth Twinch

762897

Treasurer PCC

Charles Houldsworth

760300

Flowers

Pam Thorogood

762861

RODMARTON AND TARLTON (Chapel of Ease)

Church Wardens

Rodmarton

Jane Marlowe

770401

Simon Biddulph

841462

Tarlton (Chapel Warden)

Jasper Biddulph

770230

Flower Team Leader

Alex Bransby

07981 793251

Secretary PCC

Jane Marlowe

770401

Treasurer PCC

Simon Biddulph

841462

For those with access to the internet the following links will take you to our website pages:

For the calendar: <http://thamesheadchurches.org.uk/calendar/>

For an outline of all our Sunday services: <http://www.thamesheadchurches.org.uk/services/>

The Thameshead Benefice

St. Matthew, Coates: All Saints, Kemble: St. Michael and All Angels, Poole Keynes: St. Kenelm, Sapperton with St. Luke, Frampton Mansell: St. Peter, Rodmarton with St. Osmund, Tarlton: All Saints, Somerford Keynes with All Saints, Shorncliffe

FORTHCOMING SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE

1 September	Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity
10.00 Kemble	Communion (streamed) + Children's Church
10.00 Poole Keynes	Holy Communion
11.00 Somerford Keynes	Holy Communion
11.00 Frampton Mansell	Holy Communion
11.00 Rodmarton	Morning Prayer
18.00 33 West Hay Grove	Evening Source
8 September	Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity
9.30 Coates	Harvest Service
10.00 Kemble	Morning Source – all age (streamed)
11.00 Tarlton	Harvest Holy Communion
15 September	Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity
9.30 Coates	Holy Communion
10.00 Kemble	Morning Prayer
10.00 Poole Keynes	Morning Prayer
11.00 Frampton Mansell	Morning Prayer
11.00 Rodmarton	Morning Prayer
22 September	Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity
8.00 Tarlton	Holy Communion BCP
10.00 Poole Keynes	Benefice Service
11.00 Somerford Keynes	Harvest service
29 September	Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity
10.00 Kemble	Morning Prayer
11.00 Rodmarton	Morning Prayer – Blessing of Animals
6 October	Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity
10.00 Kemble	Communion (streamed) + Children's Church
10.00 Poole Keynes	Holy Communion
11.00 Sapperton	Holy Communion
11.00 Rodmarton	Morning Prayer
11.00 Somerford Keynes	Holy Communion

VIEW FROM WOODSTOCK

It is hard to believe we have passed the halfway mark of the year and are now heading for autumn and winter. As I look from my window it is grey and drizzly – it could be autumn already.

I wonder what you do when feeling glum or insecure. I am sure we all have days when we feel insecure – days when our faith is wavering – days when we don't know which way to turn. Do you seek company, do you seek solitude? No doubt we all react differently.

For me I like to switch off, be on my own – sit and absorb the wonders of nature. “All very well for you” you may say. “What do I do with the children? How am I supposed to switch off when I have meetings to attend?”

The world doesn't make it easy to just switch off, relax and take breath. If you have young children, they keep you on your toes all day and when eventually they are tucked down for the night, you are probably too tired to even think. It doesn't get much better as they get older. And then there are different pressures to occupy you – don't mention the phone!

So how are we to find time for some respite, some 'me' time?

Jesus too, felt these pressures. There are times in his life when he escaped by disappearing into the wilderness. Some people can copy him by going on retreat or having a sabbatical. Most of us don't get the chance.

But we do need to try and get some space. Even five minutes can help. Five minutes with a cuppa gazing at the world outside can make a huge difference. Why not try it!

With my love and prayers.

Pepita

CIRENCESTER EATING DISORDER SUPPORT GROUP

The next meetings in Coates Village Hall are on Wednesday 4 September at 7.30pm.

Meetings are generally on the first Wednesday of the month.

Further details can be obtained from Pat in confidence on 770385 or email ayrescares50@gmail.com





Thursday 26 September 2024

19:30 to 21:30pm

Venue:

Pear Tree Cottage

169 Kemble, Cirencester

GL7 6BT.

Interested? Want to know more?

Contact:

Lucinda Turner 07881 825895

Aileen Shaw 07807 199602

Julie Allen 07704 892029

Thameshead

Ladies

Connection

#TLC

Come & Join our
next get together
ALL WELCOME
Cheese & Wine

Kat

TOPIC:

KATHERINE
CAMPBELL

HOME-START
COTSWOLDS

*IMPACTING
FAMILIES ACROSS
THE COTSWOLDS*

RSVP to Lucinda,
Aileen or Julie

TONY JAMES

It is with sadness we announce the death of Tony James, long time resident of Coates. Tony died on 16 July 2024 aged 98 years and the funeral took place in St Matthew's Church, Coates on Tuesday 13 Auust 2024.

NEWS FROM COATES

Coffee, Cake and Chat



"Delicious sweet & savoury home bakes, gluten-free too, proper coffee, various teas & decaf at this friendly event"



**NEXT: Tuesday 17 September
(always the 3rd Tuesday)**

10.30am to 12 noon Coates Village Hall

Takeaway bakes from 11.45am, they go fast!

£4 Two bakes of your choice + bottomless tea/coffee

£1.50 Bottomless tea/coffee

Well behaved dogs welcome

See our notices on the village hall notice board & Coates parish website or contact us on 770596 / 07794 678 928



Coates Village Hall Cinema Club

**Starting on Thursday 12
September**

A new season of films with screenings every 2nd Thursday of each month. Doors open at 7pm. Additional screenings for Halloween and Christmas.

Annual Membership £40
Guest tickets £5 available on the night. The season will include:

Inside out 2
Fall Guy
Bucket List
Elvis

Paddington in Peru
Additional screenings for Halloween and Christmas

Refreshments available from the kitchen and the bar

Contact: Simon Large 07714220558 or simon.large@sky.com

VILLAGE HALL OPEN NIGHTS – AUTUMN TERM



We will resume meetings in September. Normally talks take place on the last Thursday night of the month. The Hall is open at 7pm with the talk starting at 7.30pm. Tea, coffee and biscuits are available. There is no entrance charge but donations to help cover costs are welcome: any profit will be added to village hall funds. This term there are some minor variations so please make sure you check the poster or notice in the Watershed for details.

Thursday 26 September

Hugh Tarran – Gloucestershire Folk Songs and Stories.

Hugh and a colleague, Caroline, will entertain us by performing local folk songs, some of which were collected in Coates in the early years of last century. In between songs they will tell us about the origins and performance of traditional folk songs and how they were collected.

Thursday 24 October

Simon Gilchrist – Gloucestershire’s Interesting Clocks

Please note that this October has five Thursdays, the last of which falls on 31 October. To avoid a clash with Halloween, Open Night will be held on the fourth Thursday.

Simon is a horologist specialising in heritage and antique clocks. He will tell us about the interesting clocks of Gloucestershire, many of which he cares for. He will also catch us up with his recent refurbishment of our own village clock.

Thursday 28 November

Joint session with the Film Club

This will be a joint Open Night/Film Club venture. We will be seeing a one-hour professional documentary on a pioneering rewilding venture, offering hope in a time of climate change and loss of biodiversity.

Matthew Oates, a local naturalist who has been connected with the project since its early days, will be with us to introduce the film and answer questions afterwards.

On this occasion, entry will be free to film club members; non-members £3. Entry money will go to the film club. Any other donations will go towards covering other expenses, any profit to village hall funds as usual.

Diana Crane

The Village Club

— COATES —

Monthly QUIZ night

Everyone is welcome!

Open 8pm to 11pm, Friday & Saturday evenings

First Friday of the month

Free to enter - no need to book!

Bar opens at 6.30pm with the quiz from 7pm

Saturday special events from 6pm onwards...

- 14 September **Table tennis tournament**
Call Jo to enter 07837 261676
- 12 October **Darts Tournament**
Email Paul Atkinson to enter
paulophotonut@gmail.com
- 9 November **Gin Cocktails!**

Halloween fun for kids!

31 October from 5pm

We need a team of parents to help organise this event.

Please email us if you can help.

Keep an eye on the Village Newsletter and the Coates Village Facebook page for last minute event details...

Please email coatesvillageclub@gmail.com for more information.

NEWS FROM SAPPERTON AND FRAMPTON MANSELL

TALKING TO MYSELF

What a year of sport we have had! No matter what your sporting interest I imagine there must have been something for you to enjoy. We have had cricket – test matches against the West Indies – more to come when Sri Lanka arrive. Tennis – Queens, Eastbourne and, of course, Wimbledon and now, as I write the Olympics – something for everyone, our TV set has been on for hours.

What has been shown is the camaraderie between the competitors. It doesn't matter where they come from, their colour, their religion – they are united through their joy of sport. Of course, not everyone is going to get a medal but, it seems to me, that despite their own failures, they can enjoy each other's successes.

What an example these athletes are to our sad world where there is so much conflict causing misery for millions.

Jesus said "Love one another". Is that how these amazing athletes behave? Seems like it to me.



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COBALT MEDICAL CHARITY

Did you know that we scan over 130,000 people a year and we have 5 different types of diagnostic imaging scans from PET CT to MRI at our Cobalt Imaging Centre in Cheltenham?

Thanks to your donations, Cobalt has been able to fund breast cancer research nurses, a senior research screening radiographer and a research support officer at Thirlestaine Breast Centre

[Here are some ways you can support Cobalt in the forthcoming months.](#)

Christmas Cards – an eco-way to celebrate!

Surprise your friends & family with not only a Cobalt Christmas Card but a card which is good for the environment. Our cards are only £2.50 for 5 available online and at Linton House.

<https://www.cobalthhealth.co.uk/support-us/cards-and-calendars/>

A Classical Music Evening at Parabola Arts Centre 19 October 2024

The Stroud Stragglers Fundraising Society are holding a classical evening of music at Parabola Arts Centre, in support of Cobalt. Come and join a fantastic night of music with Katya Apekisheva accompanied by Capriol Chamber Orchestra conducted by Jonathan Trim. Tickets available on Eventbrite.

Get Crafty with Cobalt

If you are a keen crafter and would like to get involved with our volunteer card making, then do get in touch at fundraising@cobalthhealth.co.uk. To find out more about Cobalt then visit www.cobalthhealth.co.uk or email fundraising@cobalthhealth.co.uk or call 01242 535922.



SERVICE AND COFFEE

We hold a said communion service, followed by coffee on the first Tuesday of the month. The next one will be on **Tuesday 3**



September at Woodstock in Frampton Mansell. The service will start at 11am with coffee and a natter at 11.30am. We would love to see you for either or both. Want to know more?

Need a lift? Phone Pepita or Paul on 760211

Back for 2024 Save the date



AUTUMN CRAFT MARKET

FRAMPTON MANSELL VILLAGE HALL

SAT 16TH NOVEMBER

10:00 - 15:00

FREE ENTRY!

High quality hand crafted locally made items - perfect for gifts!

Plus cafe selling hot drinks and homemade bakes - all proceeds from cafe to charity.



Cirencester History Festival

26 OCTOBER - 3 NOVEMBER 2024

A NEW HISTORY FESTIVAL IS COMING TO TOWN!

EXPLORE THE PAST.
CHALLENGE THE PRESENT.
CRAFT THE FUTURE.

Headline speakers include Jonathan Dimpleby, Natalie Haynes, Janina Ramirez & Ronald Hutton, plus fun for all the family: crafting, storytelling, workshops, dressing up & more...

FULL PROGRAMME & TICKETS ON SALE FROM 6 SEPTEMBER

Join us on socials and at cirencesterhistoryfestival.org

In association with Gloucester History Festival

HISTORY & ARCHAEOLOGY WALK & TALK WITH DR ALISON GRIERSON- BROOKES



Please join us for an insight into the human history of Sapperton on **Sunday afternoon 29 September at 2pm.**

Alison will be discussing the history surrounding Sapperton in conjunction with Sapperton Wilder and how land use has evolved through the ages. Please email us info@sappertonwilder.co.uk if you are keen to join. This will help to give us an idea of numbers.

Meet Point GPS & What 3 Words location:

Fox Central Block West End [///appoints.steeped.written](http://appoints.steeped.written)

(51.7254519, -2.0910367)

All Welcome

Frampton Mansell Village Choir

A fun community choir for all those who just love to sing!



7pm - 8:30pm MONDAYS
at The Village Hall

£5 per week or £20 per month

The first session
is FREE!

No previous experience necessary
Open to ALL ages and voices

Be Part of it... get in touch with Lucy!

W: www.camerondavies.me

E: lucy@camerondavies.me



Adult Beginner Piano Lessons

It really is NEVER too late...
Whatever your age,
if you have ever wanted to learn to
play piano, give it a try,
the first lesson
is FREE!

Coates Christmas Fair In aid of

Save the date - Saturday
23 November 10am-4pm



Cobalt

Diagnosis • Research • Education

Find your perfect Christmas gift with art and craft stalls, children's Christmas activities and a raffle.

Refreshments available throughout the day

Anyone interested in running a stall (£10) or helping organise the event please contact Alison 07941 377383
or amaydom@hotmail.com

Village Craft Groups

10am - 12pm...

2nd Wednesday of the month at Frampton Mansell Village Hall

NEW 4th Wednesday of the month at Sapperton Village Hall *NEW*

Whatever your craft: Knitting - Crochet - Embroidery - Felting - Tapestry - Sewing

Whatever your skill level - From beginners to professional crafters

Do please come along with your crafting project and join us! Share ideas and knowledge, and have a chat and a laugh over a cup of tea or coffee with home-made cakes and biscuits... and hopefully make some new friends and progress on your project too!

Cost: £3 - Includes refreshments

For more information please contact...

Teresa - Frampton Mansell - Email: thowes51@gmail.com

Jill - Sapperton - Email: allawayjill2780@hotmail.com





Entry Schedule

Saturday 7 September
2024

Entries to hall 11am - 12noon

Produce Show from 3pm onwards
with stalls, bar, refreshments,
games, raffle and BBQ

ENTRIES

Entries are free and can be made in writing to Tara, 24 May Tree Close, Coates *or by email to tara@tarajaniceramics.com* stating your name and section numbers you wish to enter.

Please submit your entries by Saturday 31 August.

RULES

1. All exhibits with the exception of flower arranging **must have been made or grown by the exhibitor.**
2. All exhibits are to be put in place between 11am and 12 noon.
3. No exhibitor is allowed more than one entry in any section.
4. Exhibitor's names must not be visible on the exhibits.
5. Children must enter their entire section to be eligible for a prize.
6. In section 8, children's ages and school year must be displayed on all exhibits.
7. If children compete in adult sections 1-7, then ages must not appear on exhibits. (*Points from these entries will not count towards the Family Cup.*)
8. No exhibits to be removed before 4.30pm
9. The judge's decision is final.

TROPHIES

Family Cup	most points in show by one family (parents and children). Please refer to rule 7.
Flower Cup	most points in section 1
Fruit/Veg Cup	most points in section 2
Domestic Cup	most points in section 3
Art/Craft Cup	most points in section 4 - 7
Reception – year 2	most points in section 8a
Years 3-6	most points in section 8b
Years 7-11	most points in section 8c

Section 1 - Flowers

1. One single stemmed rose
2. Vase of 6 dahlias
3. Vase of garden flowers – 6 of one variety
4. Sweet peas - 6 stems in a vase
5. A flowering pot plant, max pot size 10” diameter

Section 2- Fruit/Vegetables

1. 3 carrots
2. 5 tomatoes with stalks
3. 4 potatoes of one variety
4. 6 runner beans
5. Longest runner bean
6. 3 courgettes
7. A plate of 5 different vegetables, one of each.
8. 3 apples of the same variety
9. Soft fruit - single variety displayed on a plate

Section 3 – Domestic

1. A jar of homemade jam
2. A jar of homemade chutney
3. A Coffee & Walnut cake
4. 4 sausage rolls
5. 6 shortbread biscuits
6. Victoria Sandwich cake (MEN only category as per the recipe provided.)
7. 1 bottle of homemade liqueur
8. 1 bottle of homemade beer

Section 4 – Flower arranging

1. An arrangement in a Tea cup or Mug
2. A button-hole arrangement

Section 5 – Crafts

Any item of craft using any method e.g. knitting, card making, patchwork, tapestry, cross stitch, ceramics, stone carving, leatherwork, sugar craft, woodwork, pyrography, felting, ...
(This is not a complete list. If in doubt, please ask if your entry will be suitable)

Section 6 – Art

Any piece of artwork, a pen, pencil or pastel drawing or a painting in any medium.

Section 7 – Photography

A photograph of one or more animals max 7”x5”

Section 8 – Children: Reception to School Year 11

8 a) Reception to School Year 2

1. Bake and decorate 5 homemade cookies.
2. On A4 size – paint a picture of an animal.
3. Decorate a face mask.

8 b) School Years 3-6

1. Draw or paint your favourite meal on a paper plate.
2. Bake and decorate 5 homemade cupcakes
3. A photograph of a ‘Vehicle’ - max 7”x5”

8 c) School Years 7-11

1. A photograph of ‘Trees’ - max 7”x5”
2. Bake 5 homemade brownies
3. An A4 poster for the perfect holiday

Section 3.6 Men-only Recipe

Victoria Sandwich

225g (8oz) softened butter

225g (8oz) caster sugar

4 large eggs

225g (8oz) self-raising

flour

2 level teaspoons baking powder

For the filling and Topping:

4 tablespoons jam of your choice

a little castor sugar

for sprinkling

1. Preheat the oven to 180°C/Fan 160°C /Gas 4. Grease 2 20cm (8in) sandwich tins and line the base of each tin with baking parchment.
2. Measure butter, sugar, eggs, flour & baking powder into a large bowl & beat until thoroughly blended. Divide the mixture evenly between the tins & level out.
3. Bake in pre-heated oven for about 25 minutes or until well risen. Leave to cool in the tins for a few minutes, then turn out, peel off the parchment and finish cooling on a wire rack.
4. When completely cold, sandwich the cakes together with the jam. Sprinkle with castor sugar to serve.

COATES VILLAGE HALL

AVAILABLE FOR HIRE FOR A VARIETY OF FUNCTIONS

Why choose the Coates Village Hall?



The Main Hall caters for 90 persons (standing) 60 (seated)

- **State of art Audio/Visual equipment and screen**
- **Effective heating**
- **Convenient parking beside the village hall**
- **Modern well-equipped kitchen including commercial 2 minute dishwasher**

The Meeting Room caters for 20 persons

- **Effective heating**
- **Comfortable furnishings**
- **Convenient parking beside the village hall**

The main hall, meeting room, and kitchen offered at competitive rates

With reduced rates for locals

INTERESTED?

For bookings or to be shown what is available

Contact the Booking Officer on 07818 192587 or email villagehall@coatesparish.org.uk

KEMBLE & DISTRICT RBLWS

Two dates which may be of interest to members of the RBL and RBLWS to which all are invited; Saturday 7 September is the Gloucester Day Parade with lots going on during the day with a parade through the main streets from 1pm.

On Sunday 8 September it is the 80th Anniversary Arnhem Service at the Down Ampney Memorial at 11am.

On Monday 21 October in Kemble village hall from 10 to 11.30am there will be the Annual Poppy Coffee morning. Any items for the bring and buy and raffle stalls would be most welcome. Then on Thursday 24 October the Annual General Meeting of the Women's Section will take place in the village hall. Further info will follow.

Pat Ayres chair/sec

NEWS FROM RODMARTON, TARLTON, CULKERTON AND HAZLETON

PET SERVICE AT ST PETER'S RODMARTON

Sunday 29 September at 11am

On 29 September, St Peter's Rodmarton will be holding their annual Blessing of the Animals service. All two and four-legged creatures, big and small, are welcome to join in this lovely service which will be led by Rev'd Pepita Walker.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST Ride+Stride

Rodmarton and Tarlton will be raising funds again this year for the Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust through a sponsored tour of churches on Saturday 14 September. GHCT is a wonderful charity, which benefits church buildings in Gloucestershire through grants for restoration and preservation, including our own here in this parish, and looks more favourably on churches that give them support through fundraising.

One half of funds raised by us for GHCT will be returned to Rodmarton PCC for our two churches. If you would like to be sponsor us, please contact: 07896 311882, janemarlowe1@gmail.com; or you can donate directly online through the GHCT JustGiving page. Your support would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

AUTUMN PLOUGHING by John Masefield, (1878-1967)

After the ranks of stubble have laid bare,
And field mice and finches' beaks have found
The last spilled seed corn left upon the ground;
And no more swallows miracle in air;
When the green tuft no longer hides the hare,
And dropping starling flights at evening come;
When birds, except the robin, have gone dumb,
And leaves are rustling downwards everywhere;
Then out, with the great horses, come the ploughs,
And all day long the slow procession goes,
Darkening the stubble fields with broadening strips.
Grey sea-gulls settle after to carouse:
Harvest prepares upon the harvest's close,
Before the blackbird pecks the scarlet hips.

HARVEST FESTIVAL AT ST OSMUND'S, TARLTON

Sunday 8 September at 11am

Please come and join our celebration for Harvest Festival in Tarlton, led by Rev'd Pepita Walker, with refreshments afterwards. We look forward to seeing you there. Harvest produce will be much appreciated and will be delivered to Paternoster House for the residents. Thank you.

EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS AT THE CORINIUM MUSEUM

There are lots of events taking place at the museum in September. Details can be found at the museum's website <https://coriniummuseum.org/>



Making your water soft, shouldn't be hard

Soft water helps prevent the build up of limescale, so preserving the longevity and productivity of your appliances.






When these function correctly the results not only extend to your wallet but the hair and skin of you and your loved ones will benefit too.

Find out if you live in a hard water area or request a **free water testing kit** by visiting our website: www.indwatersofteners.co.uk



IND Water Softeners
Priory Industrial Estate, London Road, Tetbury, Gloucestershire GL8 8HZ
Telephone: 01666 503632

What are the benefits of water softeners?

-  Lower Household Bills
-  Longer Lasting Appliances
-  Healthier Hair and Skin
-  Improve Heating Efficiency
-  No Limescale

With better weather over the last month the children have made the most of our super grounds. The vegetable patch is flourishing thanks to the tender care from the gardening club, run by Mrs Hendry.



In early June, Oak class took a trip to Cirencester to meet a local geographer who took us on a tour of Corinium. The children looked at the position of the town and why the Romans settled there. We looked for evidence of the Romans and, following a workshop at the Corinium museum, we ended at the Amphitheatre where we learnt about more than just gladiators.

Year 5 and 6 took off to Dartmoor at the end of June for the biannual Rodmarton Residential. The children took part in rock climbing, river scrambles and ladder climbing. The activities built confidence and skill within the children – perhaps most challenging of all was being away from home and packing their own sleeping bag!

Acorn class made their way to Oxford to visit the Natural History Museum. The children enjoyed seeing all the amazing artefacts on offer at the Museum.

Following the District Sports event in May, we had several children qualify for the Area Sport events. This competition draws all 1st and 2nd place competitors from Cotswold schools together in a grand finale. Rodmarton had qualifiers for sprinting, throwing, long jump, triple jump and speed bounce. This is a huge achievement for our little school and we congratulate all competitors whether they become area champions or not (and a few from Rodmarton did!).

Our annual sports day was held in early July – all children took part in fun activities to begin with, accruing points for their school house teams. Children were then invited to take part in sprint races, followed by a fun parents' race and what has become the iconic Year 6 vs the teachers tug-o-war.

The school community were treated to the Oak class end of year production of Bugsy Malone in the penultimate weeks of the summer term. The children put on a fabulous show – singing, dancing and splurging!

The term has gone by incredibly fast and much has happened. Among those needing mention are Health and Wellbeing Activity day at Cotswold farm park, the Y6 secondary transition days, our final Rocksteady concert, a visit from the local library, Year 3/4 cricket, Forest school and several new faces starting at our school!

Nutty! <https://www.rodmartonschool.co.uk/> 01285 841284

NOTES FROM CULKERTON

GARDENING TIPS FOR SEPTEMBER

Later this month 22 September marks the Autumn Equinox and this makes a fine time to review 2024 gardening successes and what didn't do well. Also looking forward to the next season and 2025.

This year has been, without a doubt, challenging for all gardeners, amateur and professional alike. Sadly, it may well have put new beginners completely off trying another season; experienced gardeners know something will do well. Results seems to highlight location. A good example of this is my son in Bristol with a small, city garden which is a heat trap, he has harvested abundant outdoor tomatoes starting in early July, whereas my plants from the same batch of seedlings were five weeks later, due to much cooler temperatures, especially at night during June and into July. Peas, onions, gladioli and roses are winners for me.

Tomatoes and other tender crops grew strongly in glasshouses and poly tunnels, cropping early and heavily. Surprisingly, those I saw growing, showed signs of heat stress with curled leaves and were much less affected by cold night temperatures.

Slugs & snails have multiplied since the hot summer weather of 2022 which crashed the numbers; insects on the other hand have been very noticeable by their absence, only picking up with warm weather in mid-August. This shows in local top fruit crops of greengages, and plums, with a poor set and much less fruit.

After a slow start to the growing season when plants stayed small, lately there has been a surge, trees have grown metres taller, and weeds are abundant!

Lightly prune trees and shrubs now to keep a good shape or curtail overhanging a neighbour's boundary, leave a thorough prune until winter when these are dormant.

Clear weeds as soon as possible to prevent extra weed seeds falling to the soil. Sow a green manure over cleared ground, hoe this as a cut and drop cover when the plants are 15cm tall which will also include newly germinated weed seeds. Two tasks in one, weeds cleared a second time and the soil is covered for regeneration.

Give a liquid feed to all trees, shrubs and perennials forming flower buds at this month. Agapanthuses are a good example, especially if these are grown in containers. Check pots/containers planted with tulips which have been left undisturbed for a good summer dormancy for weed seedlings and remove.

NOTES FROM CULKERTON (cont)

Bulb buying season is upon us, remember to plant daffodils and tulips deeply for reflowering over many years. Miniature flowering bulbs of iris and tulips seem to do better in terracotta pots, these are more visible in early spring and can be given pride of place, later pots moved for summer dormancy in a less conspicuous, sunny place.

Prepare the ground and greenhouses for autumn planting. Parsley, coriander, rocket, spinach, salad leaves, radish and turnips can be sown now. Sweet peas and other hardy annuals, cornflowers, nigella and canterbury bells are best sown now.

Give the garden a general tidy up and put teak oil on wooden furniture. Leave some architectural tall stems standing to look beautiful during winter, teasels are my favourite and attract goldfinches.

Sally Oates

WHERE HAVE ALL THE INSECTS GONE?

Most of us have noticed the lack of insects this summer, even if only through the absence of splattings on our windscreens. Insect populations are renowned for their boom-and-bust dynamics, with weather being a significant driver, but this year's bust is way out of kilter with the weather – we have had less insect depletion from far wetter summers. It cannot just be down to the vagaries of the spring and summer weather. Perhaps the mild, wet winter did untold damage – in which case, we have Big Problems. A cocktail of problems is most likely.

To us, insects fit into Nasty and Nice. Biting and stinging insects have been perhaps welcomely absent: how many of you have been troubled by a mosquito this summer, and how many horsefly bites have you had? My own tallies are nil and six (squashed) respectively. Our common wasps (two similar species) are decidedly rare, though their numbers should increase during September. Ecologically, though, these 'nasties' do far more good than harm, they just annoy us, me included.

Most butterfly species have had a shocker, including our local Large Blue colonies, and their nocturnal moth cousins too. But these are just the icing on the pollinator cake. The bees (bumble, solitary and honey) have been even poorer, and the hoverflies and other beneficial flies too.

It has been a very poor summer for migratory insects: several million

NOTES FROM CULKERTON (cont)

hoverflies have failed to arrive – and their larvae feed on aphids. The migratory dragonflies have failed too, and the migrant moths faltered after showing some early promise.

Of course, many species are just late, held back by indifferent weather – but the later the fewer.

Yet amongst the plethora of losers, there are winners; none more so than a small golden-haired fly called the Downland Beefly or *Villa cingulata* (Google it, you'll like it). This small but pretty and distinctive fly was considered extinct in the UK for some sixty years, until I turned it up on Daneway Banks in June 2000 – the following day a much better entomologist discovered it near Bath. Party time. It then stormed the Cotswold grasslands and decided to conquer much of southern England. It has now spread off the limestones onto other grasslands and has invaded Wales. Its ecology is unclear: it may be a parasitoid of mining bees, but no one has studied it, and its success may result from it suddenly changing tack and moving onto something else, parasitizing moth larvae perhaps. Insects move goalposts, they have to.

The importance of good news stories cannot be underplayed.

Matthew Oates

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION KEMBLE AND DISTRICT BRANCH DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 24 October - Our Annual General Meeting will start at 7pm, following the RBL Women's Section AGM. The talk following the AGM will be 'In the Footsteps of Lawrence of Arabia', where Jamie Bowden will present an expedition he undertook during his military career.

Membership of Kemble & District Royal British Legion is open to active members in the Services, those who have served and those who haven't been in the Services and wish to support Services personnel. If you have served, please join this local RBL branch.

If you would like more information, please contact me for details or check out the British Legion website:

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/things-to-do/membership/become-a-member>

Ian Czapiewski – Branch Secretary – 07711 015168

KEMBLE AND EWEN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

We are back at the Tavern for our September meeting and Nasim Desai from Oaksey will be our guest speaker talking on Zanzibar and the 1964 Revolution. Visitors are very welcome just come along on Thursday 19 September at 3pm. Some members are attending the 100th anniversary of Oaksey WI on Thursday 12 September and are looking forward to this milestone celebration very much.

Visitors most welcome £5 entrance. Delicious teas and a raffle.

Pat Ayres - Secretary 01285 770385



Jilly's
Cakes and Bakes

Illustrations: A picnic basket, a tiered cake stand with various cakes, and a single cake with frosting.

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CLOSING DATE FOR THE OCTOBER MAGAZINE

Contributions should be sent by e-mail to the Watershed magazine at watershedmag@gmail.com. Articles should be in Arial font at 11 point with **formatting kept as simple as possible**. The editor reserves the right to edit any articles. **Articles should be submitted by 12 September at the latest for inclusion in the next month's issue.**

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Watershed Treasurer	Janet Loines	841578

COATES

Coates Parish Council Chair	Robbie Whitfield	07872 027100
Coates Parish Council Clerk	Alan Moorcroft	641375
Coates Village Club secretary	Tara Davidson	07948 966957
Coates Coffee, Cake & Chat	PJ	770596
Coates Tree Warden	Simon Large	07714 220558
Coates Village Hall	Bookings	07818 192587
Coates Neighbourhood Watch	John Dobson	07808 095553
Coates Snow Warden	Peter Tugwell	770314/07860 718209

FRAMPTON MANSELL

Frampton Mansell Village Hall	Bookings	07710 878987
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RODMARTON

Rodmarton & Tarlton PC Chair	Mark Grimes	770289
Rodmarton & Tarlton PC Clerk	Susan Hare	ex-dir
Rodmarton School	Matthew Smith	841284
Rodmarton Village Hall	Jasper Biddulph	770230

SAPPERTON

Parish Council Chair	Sarah Osborn Smith	07836 512538
Sapperton and FM PC Clerk	Barbara (Babs) Maloney	760276
Sapperton Snow Warden	Mark Franklin	760226
Sapperton Village Hall	Bookings	07771 006848
Sapperton School Head	Gary Price	760325

OTHERS

Watershed RDA	Kathy Mottershead	07979 853907
Cirencester Eating Disorder Support Group	Pat Ayres	770385

COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Ermin Ward	Julia Judd	07853 383874	julia.judd@cotswold.gov.uk
Kemble Ward	Mike McKeown	07785 362573	mike.mckeown@cotswold.gov.uk
Gloucestershire County Councillor	Stephen Hirst	01666 504213	
Member of Parliament	Geoffrey Clifton-Brown	01452 371630	
Cirencester Hospital		0300 421 6200	
Tetbury Hospital		01666 502336	
Police non emergency (24hrs)			101

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 3	10am	Frampton Mansell Coffee Morning
Wednesday 4	7.30pm	BEAT meeting in Coates Village Hall
Friday 6	7pm	Coates Village Club Quiz Night
Saturday 7	1pm	Gloucester Day Parade
Saturday 7	3pm	Coates Country Fayre
Sunday 8	11am	80th Anniversary Arnhem Service in Down Ampney
Wednesday 11	10am	Village Craft Group in Frampton Mansell Village Hall
Thursday 12	7pm	Coates Cinema
Saturday 14		GCHT Ride and Stride
Saturday 14	6pm	Coates Table Tennis Tournament
Tuesday 17	10.30am	Coffee, Cake and Chat Coates Village Hall
Thursday 19	3pm	Kemble & Ewen WI meeting
Wednesday 25	10am	Village Craft Group in Sapperton Village Hall
Thursday 26	7.30pm	Thameshead Ladies Connection
Thursday 26	7.30pm	Coates Village Hall Open Night
Sunday 29	2pm	History & Archaeology Walk and Talk