

NEWS & VIEWS

JULY &
AUGUST 2025



THE MAGAZINE FOR WEST LAVINGTON
LITTLETON PANELL AND THE CHEVERELLS

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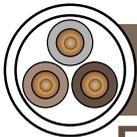
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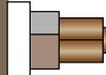
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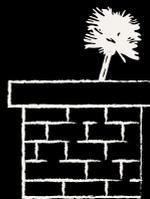
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FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to a packed double issue of News and Views to take you through to September. The N&V volunteer team is taking its usual summer break, but will be back, hopefully refreshed and raring to go, for the September issue. There's a lot happening in our villages over July and August - fetes, shindigs, choral concerts, open gardens, open art studios, the Imber bus, village work parties, important church services and a scarecrow trail - all demonstrating community spirit in socialising together in our very lovely part of

the world. Given the awful happenings in so many other countries, we are lucky to be here - even though the sound of guns is never very far away!

if you are heading out into our countryside, please read the Dorset and Wiltshire Fire Service advice on wildfires on page 19 - picnics are in, barbecues definitely out. Have a lovely summer, and see you in September!

Sue Bonney Editor

Deadline Dates

Editorial copy and photographs should be sent to editor4newsandviews@gmail.com

Articles and photographs for the **September issue** should reach Sue Bonney no later than

Wednesday August 20th. *Please remember the date!*

Advertising in News and Views

For more information about placing an advertisement in News and Views, please email newsandviewsadverts@gmail.com

This Month's Cover: Holy Trinity Academy Year 6 pupils from Great Cheverell picnic with other children from across Wiltshire and Dorset in the grounds of Salisbury Cathedral.

We are always on the lookout for eye-catching photographs for the front cover of News & Views. They should be portrait (vertical), in colour and of a high resolution.

Photograph Permissions

When submitting a photograph for possible publication in News and Views, please ensure you have the permission of anyone in the photograph for their image to appear in the magazine, both in print and online. In the case of children, parental permission must be obtained.

News & Views is the community magazine for West Lavington, Littleton Panell and Great and Little Cheverell. You should be able to find the latest News & Views in full colour on West Lavington Posts on Facebook, and on the West Lavington and Great and Little Cheverell Parish Council websites at: www.westlavington.org.uk www.greatcheverell.org.uk
www.littlecheverell-pc.gov.uk

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REFLECTION

*During this season in our Benefice without a rector, different church members are delighted to share a monthly reflection with you. This month it is written by **Leslie Doyle-Davidson**, who is a Lay Worship Leader and member of All Saints', West Lavington.*

Summer is now truly here and we are all contending with the vagaries of the English weather - too much or too little rain, extremes of temperature, never the same from one day to the next, an endless topic of conversation. But towards the end of the month the schools break up for the holidays, (remember how you looked forward to them, the sun always shone and time seemed endless), but for parents of young children, they can bring added pressure to an already frenetic world.

We all need to take time, to step back, if only for a few moments each day and look at the beauties of our countryside, to savour its riches. Go outside this evening and look up at the night sky (weather permitting!) and wonder at the vastness of the universe, the beauty and the magnitude of it all. Marvel that it has been expanding for roughly 13 billion years after 'The Big Bang'. All matter came into existence within a split second, the primeval soup of neutrons and protons that would go on to create all that you can see.



Put aside the pressures of modern life for a few minutes and reflect on the wonderful gift of life, our place in it and ponder on the Power that caused it all to happen.

Benefice Office

c/o St John's Parish Office, Long Street, Devizes SN10 1NP **Tel: 01380 816963**

Open on Wednesdays and Fridays between 3pm to 5pm.

lavingtonbenefice@gmail.com

Benefice Administrator: **Catherine Brown**

More information can be found on our website **www.lavingtonchurch.org**

Benefice 200 Club

June Draw

The June winner of the Benefice 200 Club was Sandra Gamble from West Lavington. Six more draws to go before we start all over again!

Bonnie Matters **bonnie_matters@hotmail.co.uk**

**CHURCH OF
ENGLAND
BENEFICE**

Regular worship in our sister churches

9.00 am St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Littleton Panell
4.30 pm Ebenezer Baptist Church, West Lavington

Churchwardens

St Peter's, Great Cheverell: Pauline Jenkinson 07986 658187
 BCP Communion is a lovely traditional Service from the Book of
 Common Prayer. We have a clear guide booklet to help you.

Date	Market Lavington St Mary's	West Lavington All Saints'	Easterton St Barnabas	Great Cheverell St Peter's	Little Cheverell St Peter's
Sunday 6th July	10.30 am 10.30 am Benefice Service Communion St Peter's, Great Cheverell Guest Speaker: Fergus Stewart, CEO of Wilts Youth for Christ				
Sunday 13th July		9.00 am Breakfast Church Service at 9.30 am	10.30 am United Service with Trinity	6.00 pm Taizé Service followed by supper	
Sunday 20th July		10.30 am Benefice Service Communion		10.00 am Welcome to Worship	
Sunday 27th July		9.30 am Praise & Worship	10.30 am United Service with Trinity	11.00 am Morning Prayer	
Sunday 3rd August					10.30 am Benefice Service Communion
Sunday 10th August	10.30 am United Service with Trinity & St Mary's Community Hall Market Lavington	9.00 am Breakfast Church Service at 9.30 am		11.00 am Simple Celebration with Holy Communion	

Saturday 16th August		10.00am Churchyard Working Party (all day) with refreshments served for volunteers			
Sunday 17th August	10.30 am Benefice Communion Bishop of Ramsbury <i>Bishop Andrew</i>			10.00 am Welcome to Worship	
Sunday 24th August		11.00am Benefice Service with Patron – Revd Canon <i>Peter Moger</i> followed by Bring and Share lunch			
Sunday 31st August		9.30am Matins		10.30am Pet Service	
Sunday 7th September			10.30 am Benefice Service Communion		

Breakfast Church This includes Bacon Rolls etc to start and a short service for all ages.

BCP Communion is a very lovely traditional Service from the Book of Common Prayer. We now have a very clear booklet to help you follow and join in if you are less familiar with the order and language used.



Time for Reflection and socialising

Taizé service, St Peter's Great Cheverell, Sunday 13th July 6pm

We invite you to come and make space for a beautiful time of reflection at **St Peter's Church, Great Cheverell** and afterwards to socialise at the **Bell Inn** on **Sunday 13th July**.

This is a very special service, and especially fitting in our gorgeous church. For some it appeals because it has a peace and stillness that accompanies it. For others it is joining in the gentle Taizé chants which praise God and touch our own souls. The worship includes some quiet time in prayer and worship. It's a wonderful way to end a busy day and help us reset for the week ahead. And what fun that we can then all socialise together, eating and drinking at our lovely Bell Inn.

Everyone is welcome to join in with the service, but if you would like to come to the pub afterwards please let Pauline know on **07986 658187** or **jenkinson.pauline@gmail.com**

St Barnabas birthday celebrations

On behalf of Easterton PCC and all at St Barnabas Church, I would like to say a huge thank you to all who celebrated and supported our birthday celebrations in June. The exhibition proved a great success, with much interest shown in the village and church history. We are very grateful to all those who loaned photographs and memorabilia - it was much appreciated.

The service with the Bishop's Chaplain, the Rev Sarah Wood-Roe on the Sunday was a delight and very well attended, the furthest attendee coming from Surrey. A big thank you to our friends from Trinity Church for the bars of chocolate for all the fathers! We all appreciated the champagne and birthday cake kindly donated by Pat Morrison and Sue and Gordon Somerville. Thank you all so much and here's to the next 150 years.

Sue Allen, Churchwarden

CHEVERELLS; GARDEN CLUB

In June, the Garden Club was invited to visit Rupert's garden in Easterton Sands where we had a wonderful evening looking around a garden that he has been creating for over 35 years and knows the name of every plant! Thank you Rupert - we had a fantastic evening and we are very grateful.

At our next meeting on **Tuesday 8th July** we are looking around a couple of gardens in Great Cheverell, culminating in a barbecue at a third. If you would like any more information on this or anything else please email me at **Helen.woodlands@outlook.com**



Visit of the Benefice Patron, Revd Canon Peter Moger Sub Dean of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford

Sunday 24th August

The five Anglican churches in our villages: St Mary's, Market Lavington, All Saints', West Lavington, St Peter's, Great Cheverell, St Peter's, Little Cheverell and St Barnabas, Easterton, receive patronage from Christ Church Oxford. Peter Moger took up this role in November 2024 and is involved in the recruitment process for a new vicar. Christ Church can also provide support for our new vicar through certain grants and an invitation to attend a biennial conference for Clergy. Parishioners are also invited to attend a biennial service and dinner at Christ Church. Peter is very keen to support us and has helped us obtain a grant from Christ Church to help with some of the work to improve the vicarage.



If you would like an opportunity to meet Peter, you will be most welcome to join us on **Sunday 24th August at 11am** in **All Saints' Church**, when Revd Peter will be leading a service of Holy Communion, which will be followed by a Bring and Share lunch in the church.

There will also be the opportunity to see the Benefice Profile, which is the document that potential applicants will receive if they are interested in applying for the post of Rector, and to visit the vicarage.

All residents of our villages are very welcome to join us. To help with our planning, please let Liz Evans know if you will be joining us for lunch, by email at: esevans1@hotmail.com

Local Artists' work needed!

The Friends of Courtyard Surgery (FOCS), West Lavington, are hoping to brighten up the Surgery waiting room and corridors with artwork from local artists, including photographs. Work can be donated or put up for sale, and can be collected by a member of the FOCS Committee.

FOCS will keep an inventory of any artwork submitted, and if anyone wants to purchase any artwork, the Surgery will give them a FOCS contact number and they will oversee the transaction. If artwork is sold, then FOCS would ask for a donation to the charity. After a reasonable length of time the artists can replace their work with alternatives.

FOCS also has a skilled framer who is willing to frame any artwork in a temporary frame.

To find out more, artists can contact **Susan Zaman on 01380 830423**.

**FEAR
FREE**

**BREAKING
THE CYCLE
OF ABUSE**

FearFree Wiltshire

A joint meeting was held on 12th June with members from the **West Lavington WI and the Mothers' Union** on the topic of domestic abuse, about which both organisations are committed to raising awareness.

FearFree, with branches in Wiltshire, Devon and Gloucestershire, works for a future where those trapped in a cycle of domestic abuse and sexual violence can break free and live a life free from fear. At the meeting, Mary Wood from FearFree in Trowbridge spoke movingly and passionately about the support given by FearFree. Her experiences, both as a police officer and as a victim, illuminated the need for support across the country. Domestic abuse is a problem that crosses class, gender, urban and rural areas. Approximately 2.3 million people aged 16 and over experienced domestic abuse in the UK in 2024. This may not be physical. Domestic abuse includes physical, sexual, emotional, economic, stalking and harassment, coercive control, tech abuse and 'honour' based abuse.

The Mothers' Union in West Lavington has gained a Bronze certificate for their work in raising awareness in the 'Rise Up' programme - Respond, Inform, Support, Empower, Unite and Pray. They actively support Salisbury Women's Refuge with donations.

The West Lavington WI has joined with WI branches across Wiltshire to undertake Society Without Abuse (SWA) Ambassador training to be a listening ear and a signpost to organisations that can help, such as FearFree. They have also, via the Mother's Union, supported the Salisbury refuge.

At the meeting, donations of personal alarms, adult colouring books and toiletries were welcomed by FearFree. The gifts are distributed by FearFree key workers to the people they support. Everyone's individual needs are part of the assessment, but donations are particularly useful for those who have had to flee abusive situations with little or no resources or home comfort.

FearFree services are open to all genders and they actively seek to promote healthy relationships training in schools and colleges. Find out more at fearfree.org.uk

For further information please contact:

Jackie Knipe (Mothers' Union) jack_knipe@hotmail.com

Sue Bastone (WI) westlavpres@wiltshirewi.org.uk

Confidential Helpline Numbers:

FearFree Wiltshire: 01225 775276

National Domestic Abuse Helpline: Freefone 0808 2000 247

Upcoming Local Roadworks



14th July 0800 - 16th July 1630: High Street, Broadway, street lighting works. Traffic manage in force.

16th July 0930 - 1530: B3098 junction with Low Road East to East Sands, road closure. Diversion in force.

17th July : *Low Road, Little Cheverell,* road closure.

28 July 0900 - 29 Aug 1500: B3098 Market Lavington to Easterton, road closure. Carriageway resurfacing and associated works. Diversion in force.

19 Aug - 21 Aug: Rutts Lane, West Lavington, road closure. Traffic management in force.

NB Although correct at the time of going to press, these roadwork dates and times can change, and others may arise at short notice. For current updates, check local Parish Council websites or Facebook pages, or visit the Causeway live roadworks map on:

<https://uk.one.network/>

West Lavington Village Hall AGM

Wednesday 2nd July 7.00pm

Come along to the Village Hall and hear about all our latest developments and changes. Volunteers are desperately needed to help run the Hall. Could you spare a few hours a month?

We can tell you more about what is involved over a glass of wine at the AGM.

Please come along and support your Village Hall.



West Lavington
village hall
Wiltshire

Pioneering Change for Disabled Residents

If you are disabled and have experienced issues accessing local community facilities in Market Lavington or Littleton Panell, then Gillian Fairgrieve would like to hear from you. Gillian is a local resident and part of a group called the Pioneers, a network of individuals with lived experience of disability. Having experienced challenges herself in accessing the local community, she is gathering views on wheelchair access to shops, paths, GP services, or buses with the aim of campaigning to make changes. Once the group has gathered feedback, they will decide on the next steps.

This initiative is supported by the Wiltshire Centre for Independent Living in Devizes, but will be led by the Market Lavington and Littleton Panell community.

If interested, please share your thoughts via email at getinvolved@wiltshirecil.org.uk

Marlborough Open Studios **All weekends in July, 11am - 5pm**

In July each year artists across north Wiltshire open up their studios for you to visit, meet them and enjoy their artwork. It's a fabulous reason for a tour around the beautiful North Wessex Downs to visit your favourite artists or to experience new or different artwork – often in the studio where it was created.

The Open Studios weekends are free and there's no pressure to buy, so if you have a couple of hours or a whole weekend to spare why not use our website to plan a studio tour.

Local artists taking part in Open Studios include:

Brenda Lyon, 62 The Spring, Market Lavington, SN10 4EB, Studio 23

Brenda is inspired by colour and patterns, creating art which is both lyrical and vibrant. Primarily she uses watercolours and acrylics focusing on still life and landscapes.

Christabel Davey, 48 Garston, Great Cheverell, SN10 5XU, Studio 21

Christabel studied at Salisbury and Taunton Art Colleges in the 1970's and has been immersed ever since in the creative arts including ceramics, textiles, wood, sculpture as well as painting and drawing. Her current work is with finely decorated ceramics.

Michael Davey, 48 Garston, Great Cheverell, SN10 5XU, Studio 21

Michael makes domestic and decorative pottery, using earthenware clay, thrown on the potters wheel and decorated with coloured slips and glazes.

Shirley G Whitby, Bouverie Lodge, Spin Hill, Market Lavington, SN10 4NS, Studio 24

Shirley has a particular interest and passion for kiln formed glass, predominantly making vessels and small decorative objects as well as small items of jewellery.

There are several more artists in Rowde, Potterne and Devizes. For more information, go to the Open Studios website at:

marlboroughopenstudios.co.uk or pick up one of the Open Studios brochures.

VILLAGE LINK

West Lavington, Littleton Panell & Little Cheverell

Tel: 07598 947180

Call this number if you need transport for medical appointments and have no other means of getting there. Donations to cover expenses will be requested.





Edington Music Festival 17th - 24th August

The Edington Festival of Music within the Liturgy is celebrating its 70th birthday this year! Started in 1956 by the Priory Church's new vicar, Canon Ralph Dudley, over one weekend with half a dozen of his choral scholar friends, it was part of a bid to raise enough money to repair the church's very leaky roof. In its 69 years so far, and now with three choirs, six organists, over 70 participants in all, and over eight days of services, the festival has raised over £250,000 for the benefit of the parish and the wider communities which host this wonderful event.

Its congregations now come from all over the globe, from New Zealand to North America, drawn to what is the oldest, and generally regarded as the finest, celebration of church music within the context for which it was written.

This year's theme, '**The Ways of the Lord**', follows journeys made along roads and ways in the Holy Land, with music celebrating the anniversaries of the birth of the leading composer of the late 16th century, Palestrina, and of some more recent composers, Sir John Rutter and Bob Chilcott, whose compositions for the season of Christmas feature in Tuesday's 'Road to Bethlehem'. In between, there is a wide range of music from Byrd, Gibbons, and Hassler, through to Warlock, Daley and McDowall, taking in favourites such as Stanford, Howells and Britten en route.

Three choirs will sing at four daily services including Choral Evensong, recorded for later broadcast on BBC Radio 3, on Wednesday afternoon; a rare liturgical performance of Wood's Mark Passion on Friday evening; and Choral Matins on both Friday and Saturday mornings. Services are free, and everyone is welcomed to enjoy sublime music and spiritual solace.

The Festival Supper, the light-hearted demonstration of the relationship between Festival and Parish, is an evening of food and music this year on **Wednesday 20th August**, and tickets can be bought from **Hugh Hancock at musicalsupper@edingtonfestival.org**.

More details at **edingtonfestival.org** You can also find a leaflet about the Festival with details of all the concerts online at **edingtonfriends.org.uk**





Nearby NGS Open Gardens in July

It is always best to check the website before leaving for your garden visit. www.ngs.org.uk Children are free.

Sunday 6th:

Teasel, Wilsford, Amesbury, Salisbury, SP4 7BL 11am-5pm. Adm £7. Teasel's eleven acres include long herbaceous borders, a lake and a riverside walk. Recently added potager, shrub border, Monet inspired bridge, duck house on small pond, water lilies, specimen trees, chess pavilion and croquet lawn. Enjoy teas on the upper

terrace with magnificent views of the garden and river. 2m SW of Amesbury in the Woodford Valley on western banks of the River Avon which runs through the gardens.

Sat 12th/Sun 13th

Dane Brook, Milkhouse Water, Pewsey, SN9 5JX. 12.30-5pm. Adm £6,

1 acre garden with herbaceous beds, shrubs, trees, semi formal garden, roses, oxbow pond with planted banks and a tree-lined river walk runs the length of the garden, leading to shrubbery. Far reaching views from 2 acres of paddocks, with Jacob's sheep and rare breed chickens. Free range organic eggs. Vintage tractor, pop-up shop selling local crafts and sundries. Wheelchair accessible in dry weather with exception of pond & stream areas. Home-made teas in aid of SSAFA.

Sunday 13th

Little Durnford Manor, Little Durnford, Salisbury, SP4 6AH. 2-5pm, Adm £5.

Extensive lawns with cedars, wildflower meadows, walled gardens, fruit trees, large vegetable garden, small knot and herb gardens. Terraces, borders, sunken garden, water garden, lake with islands, river walks, labyrinth walk. Camels, alpacas, llama, pigs, pygmy goats, donkeys and sheep are all grazing next to the gardens. Refreshments in aid of St Andrew's **Church, Durnford Parish**. Plants in aid of another charity. What3words: *remark.collides.zones*.

Sun 27th

Corsley House, Corsley, Warminster, BA12 7QH. 11am - 5pm, Adm £10.

A garden full of surprises with a unique sculpted wave lawn and a truly exceptional walled garden. Many well preserved ancient outbuildings such as a potting and apple storage shed and a granary built on staddlestones. All gloriously overlooking the NT's Cley Hill. Parking at the parkland entrance. Refreshments in aid of the local church in Corsley.

Preshute Lane Gardens, Preshute Lane, Manton, Marlborough, SN8 4HQ. 2-5pm.

Combined adm £10

Three very different gardens each with their own distinct personality situated on **Preshute Lane** in Manton. **Peacock Cottage** has sweeping lawns with large herbaceous beds packed with summer colour, **Greentrees** has an eclectic mix of herbaceous and shrub borders; and The **Old Post Office** is a thatched house with a contemporary and pretty small courtyard, consisting of a raised flower bed and private seating area. Tea, coffee and cake in the village hall opposite Greentrees.



Embracing Chaos

Be more foxglove!

Nature doesn't follow rules. It sprawls, leans, self-seeds, and surprises. One season it's all floofy exuberance, the next it's bare bones. And yet, much of the horticulture industry seems obsessed with control and perfection - razor-sharp edges, regimented planting schemes, immaculate lawns.

This creates a real pressure, especially for new gardeners. I meet so many people in my garden consultations who feel they're failing because their garden doesn't look like

the ones they see in magazines or on television. They're embarrassed by gaps, self-seeders, or things that have "gone wrong." But I always say there's no such thing as a mistake in gardening, only experiments. Clients often ask me "Is this a weed?" I reply "Do you like it? If you do, then it's not a weed".

I've let my buttercups grow through my roses because I love the contrast of yellow and pink, Moon Daisies and Herb Robert have seeded all over my drive and I have let them because they soften and cool the sea of hot gravel. Try something. I always say, "It's got two chances".



Victorian critic and thinker John Ruskin, once held up the foxglove as a symbol of natural imperfection. Each bloom on its tall stem is slightly uneven, each a little different. For Ruskin, that irregularity was the beauty. That's how I think about gardens. A little structure gives shape, but the rest should be allowed to breathe, to evolve, to surprise you. The best gardens I've seen are full of character - plants in the 'wrong' place, joyful accidents, things creeping in from the margins. That's nature at work.

We don't need to garden like it's a Chelsea Show Garden. We need to garden like we're working with nature, not against it. So let the 'weeds' grow where they please. Let things flop, seed, and shift. Let your garden reflect life in all its glorious, unpredictable mess. Be more foxglove!

Capability Charlotte

If you would like to book a one-hour session of garden advice with Charlotte, she offers villagers a 20% discount and has availability throughout the summer.

Email: info@capabilitycharlotte.com



West Lavington Youth Club

Eric Freeman, WLYC Chairman for many years and committee member for far longer, has resigned, but will remain, thankfully, a Trustee. The Club owes a great debt to him for all he has done, and during his time he has seen it grow so successfully. **Sarah Baker** has been elected as his successor, which meant we needed a replacement Treasurer and **Martin Tenk** has agreed to do this.

You may well be seeing the Pudsey Logo around the club. We have been fortunate in obtaining a significant grant for three years from the BBC Children in Need fund. This, together with the long standing support from Market and West Lavington Parish Councils, Wiltshire Council via the Area board, and the Community Foundation, will give us a security and stability which we have long needed. All this will be used for the benefit of young people in the area.

For any young person who might wish to join us, do come along when the Club is open (see Regular Meetings on page ?). There are three age groups on different evenings, based on School years 4-6, Year 7, and then Year 8 plus. For younger groups in particular, parents are most welcome to bring new starters and introduce themselves.

The Club does not plan to be open during the summer holidays.

Mike May, Secretary WLYC



West Lavington Fete and Fun Family Dog Show

We look forward to seeing you at the West Lavington Fete on Saturday July 12th at the Village Hall and Playing Field from 2pm. We hope the weather is kinder to us this year, and that you all have a very happy and enjoyable afternoon. There will be lots to see, do and buy, all accompanied by the Amesbury Town Band and a chance to win some great prizes in our Grand Prize Draw, and for your canine pal to win a rosette!

We are very grateful to all the local businesses, organisations and residents who support the Fete and the Fun Family Dog Show, including: Mr John Davies, Headmaster of Dauntsey's School who is opening the Fete; our sponsors Aster Homes and Rangebourne Pets; St John Ambulance volunteers; the Redhorn Explorer Scouts; all our village and commercial stallholders; the Great Western and Oxford Harley Davidson Chapters; West Lavington WI and their wonderful teas; Dauntsey's School; Dog Show judge Eve Wheeler; and the Devizes Morris Dancers. Plus our Grand Draw prize sponsors: Superior Plants, Gemini Hairstylists, R Douse and Sons, Erlestoke Golf Club, Lowes of Lavington, Premier Stores, The Churchill Arms, and everyone else involved, especially Toby Robson and friends for their help in setting up the Fete.

Don't forget the Bake-off Competition and we will report back in September!

Picnic, don't BBQ!

Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service (DWFRS) is encouraging residents and visitors to our outdoor spaces to take a picnic and not a barbecue when out and about. Warmer and breezy weather increases the risk of accidental or deliberate fires in our open spaces.

A wildfire can move at speeds faster than an Olympic sprinter, so DWFRS is asking everyone to follow some simple steps:

If you are enjoying our open spaces when a fire occurs, get to a safe place and call the **fire service on 999** immediately, with as much information as possible.

Consider downloading and using **What3Words** to identify your exact location.

You can also help by reporting any anti-social behaviour on our heaths and open spaces to the **Police on 101**.



Landowners and land managers are also advised, where possible, to be prepared for fires and ensure that fire breaks are cut and well maintained with any cut grasses and vegetation removed from the site.

For more information on heath fires and countryside safety, visit the DWFS website at dwfire.org.uk

Wildfires on the Plain: statement from the MOD

'Wildfires are increasingly common across much of the country and sometimes do take place on MOD land. We ask all visitors to the Defence estate to follow the bylaws and be responsible visitors and to note that BBQs and campfires are strictly forbidden.'

We monitor the risk of fires across the training estate throughout the year, working hard to maintain a balance between the needs of our military training audience and the local communities in which we sit.

The MOD has a robust wildfire policy that restricts the use of ordnance, munitions, and explosives when training is taking place during elevated wildfire conditions. We also use a range of measures to prevent and control range fires, including grazing programmes agreed with local farmers to keep the grass short during the summer months, ammunition bans during extremely dry conditions; and fire watch schemes to ensure fires are constantly monitored.'

If you encounter a wildfire don't attempt to put it out yourself – call 999 and ask for the Fire and Rescue service.



**Wednesday 2nd July
Starts 11am**
**The Queen Mother's
Jewellery Collection**
Melksham
Assembly Hall



Our final lecture showcases some of the most splendid and memorable items from the Jewellery collection of the Queen Mother. Beautiful in themselves, the stories behind the collection are equally fascinating and timeless.

If you love the arts and would like to meet a group of like-minded people then join our friendly group who meet ten times a year on the first Wednesday of the month.

You can join us free for your first lecture or come as a guest for only £8.00
www.tasnorthwilts.org.uk



DEVIZES CAMRA 24th BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL

NEW FOR 2025 - TWO SESSIONS

FRI 4TH JULY: 17:30 - 22:00

SAT 5TH JULY: 11:30 - 22:00

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

DEVIZESCAMRA.ORG.UK



DEVIZES CHAMBER CHOIR

Musical Director: Shaun Holley
Organist: Joe Scarffe
Pianist: Tony James

Karl Jenkins - *Symphonic Adiemis*
Holst - *Six Choral Folksongs*
Fauré - *Cantique de Jean Racine*

Saturday 5th July at 7:30 pm

St Andrew's Church, Long Street, Devizes

Doors open 7 pm

Tickets - £12: on the door,
from choir members or from
Devizes Books

Online from:
ticketsource.co.uk/
devizes-chamber-choir

Registered Charity No 1089712

www.DevizesChamberChoir.org.uk

**Stay & Play
Session**

**Saturday 5th July
11:00am-12:00pm**

**West Lavington
Village Hall**

BOOKING & MORE INFO:
[HTTPS://CARS-GALORE.CO.UK](https://cars-galore.co.uk)



The Story of Alice in Wonderland & the Real Alice Liddell

A magical evening taking us back to childhood
to explore the 'Alice' we thought we knew
and how she was based on the real 'Alice'

Thursday July 10th at 7pm
West Lavington Village Hall

Summer Concert

Friday 11th July at 7:30pm

Market Lavington Community Hall

*The programme will contain a mix of
classical, popular and jazz music,
including medleys of 'Guys & Dolls'
and 'Simon & Garfunkel'*

Tickets: £8 from:

St Arbucks Market Lavington
and Devides Books



The Great Cheverell PAVILION Club

UNDER OUR LICENCE AGREEMENT WE CANNOT PUBLICLY NAME THE FILM WE ARE SHOWING



Saturday July 12th

Doors open 7pm Film starts 7.30pm

Members Free - Guests £5



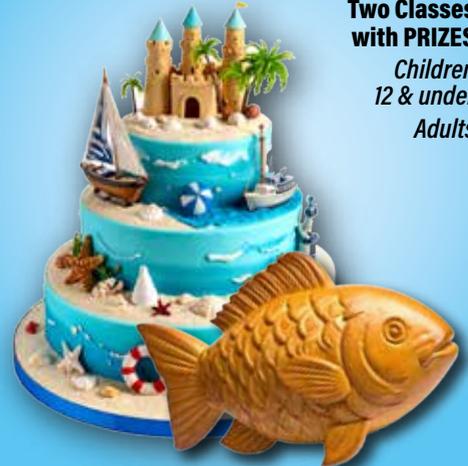
West Lavington Bake OFF Cake/bread decorating competition at the Fete

Saturday 12th July

on the theme of Summer Holidays

**Two Classes
with PRIZES**

*Children
12 & under
Adults*



Please email westlavfete@gmail.com for an entry form

WEST LAVINGTON VILLAGE FETE
SATURDAY 12th JULY from 2pm
VILLAGE HALL & FIELD

All The Fun of the Fete!

To be opened by Mr John Davies, Headmaster, Dauntsey's School



Live music from the Amesbury Town Band
Sponsored by Aster Homes
Fun Family Dog Show
Sponsored by Rangebourne Pets
 Devizes Morris Dancers

3pm procession: Harley Davidson Bikes from
 the Great Western and Oxford Chapters
Bake off Competition!
Children's Games
Bouncy Castle
Grand Prize Draw!



Homemade Teas
Drinks Tent
PLUS LOADS OF STALLS!
Lots to see, do and buy!
FREE ENTRY AND PARKING!

WEST LAVINGTON VILLAGE FETE
SATURDAY 12th JULY from 2pm
VILLAGE HALL & FIELD

Family Dog Show-2.30pm

CLASSES

Classes start from 2.30 pm

Golden Oldie (over 7 years)
 Prettiest Bitch
 Most Handsome Dog
 Best Puppy (under 1 year)
 Waggiest Tail
 Musical Sits
 Best Sausage Catcher!
 Best in Show

Why not enter your pet?
 Rangebourne deliver
 pet foods every Tuesday
 to the Lavingtons.

Telephone 01380 725294
or visit their website at:
www.rangebourne-pets.co.uk

Prizes generously
 donated by
RANGEBOURNE
PETS
 of Devizes
 Entries £3



**DON'T
 MISS
 IT!**



Wednesday 16th July
Starts 10.45am
Going 'Potty'
About Commodes
 Devizes
 Corn Exchange



Janusz Karczewski-Slowikowski traces the
 origin, purpose and social significance of commodes
 often highly fashionable and
 beautifully decorated pieces of furniture.

World-class lectures on the third Wednesday of every month
 except August and September
 Membership from October to July is £50
 Guests £8

f The Arts Society Devizes
www.theartsocietydevizes.org

SUMMER FETE

AT FURLONG CLOSE

MARSH LANE, ROWDE, SN10 2TQ

SATURDAY 19th JULY

from 2.30 until 5.00

DEVIZES TOWN BAND
DOG SHOW | ARTS & CRAFTS
TRADITIONAL ENTERTAINMENT
BBQ | ROWDEY COW ICE CREAM
REFRESHMENTS
AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE
FREE ENTRY
PARKING





In aid of
Great Cheverell Village Hall
Garden Teas
Saturday 9th August
3pm - 5.30pm
*Enjoy tea, cakes &
look around the garden*
Admission £1
Plants | Raffle | Ducks
98 The Green
Great Cheverell



**Lavington and District
Produce Show**
Saturday 23rd August *from 2pm*
Market Lavington Community Hall
Grow it! Make it! Be creative! Take part!
Vegetables, fruit, flowers, cookery, craft, photography
Adult & children's classes
TEAS, RAFFLE, SALE & PRIZES
Entry forms available from village establishments
or online at lavingtongc.co.uk

 **Who Dunnit?**
Come and be a
Crime Scene Investigator!
True to life activity with
a skilled professional
Saturday 23rd August
3pm to 6pm
**with a Fire Investigation
Dog Skill Demonstration**
at West Lavington Village Hall

TICKETS FROM:
treasurer@friendsoferlestoakeprison.com
or email: eve.mcbride1@gmail.com
£15 for adults, £10 for 17s and under
Family (2 adults plus children)
£9 per person
*All under 18s must be
accompanied by an adult*

Bar opens at 6pm
Bring your own snacks

Help support rehabilitation projects for the prisoners and their families
www.friendsoferlestoakeprison.com
Registered charity number: 1201388

**BIG WEST
LAVINGTON
LANDSCAPE**

- Maintain footpaths and bridleways
- Tidy up the playpark
- Meet and chat with other members of the community!

Opportunity for the community to come together and take care of our surroundings. Free teas, coffees and cake available.
Meeting at the village hall at 10am.
Bring your own tools!

**24
AUGUST**

footpaths@westlavington.org.uk

**THE
GREAT CHEVERELL
SHINDIG**



**SATURDAY 30th AUGUST
FROM 2PM - 'til late**

**Country Craft Stalls & Activities
Vintage Vehicle Displays
Live Music - Bar & Food**

**The Pavilion
Great Cheverell**

**GREAT CHEVERELL
SOAPBOX DERBY**

RETURNING FOR THE SECOND YEAR

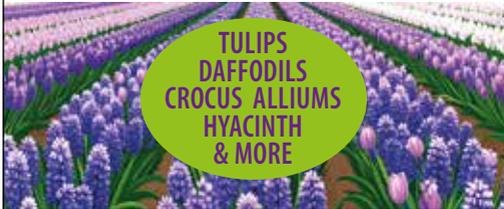
**BULB
SALE**



SPRING BULB SALE

Direct from the Growers in Lincolnshire
Fill a bag of your favourite spring bulbs
Competitively priced

Saturday 6th September 10am - 2pm
At the Pavilion, Great Cheverell
Delicious Refreshments available



**TULIPS
DAFFODILS
CROCUS ALLIUMS
HYACINTH
& MORE**

**WEST LAVINGTON
SCARECROW TRAIL
2025**



**SATURDAY
6TH
SEPTEMBER**

Fun for the whole family! Wander around our beautiful villages, solving clues and seeing some fabulous homemade Scarecrows! Centred on the West Lavington Village Hall and Youth Club building.

Raffle and bake sale – dog and pushchair friendly route – £5 per answer booklet – PRIZES for 1st and 2nd place – FREE puzzle trail for younger children

To sign up to make a Scarecrow, please email your name and chosen film character to:
LavingtonScarecrowTrail@yahoo.com

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

WEST LAVINGTON WI

For further information please contact:
westlavpres@wiltshirewi.org
01380 813512



**Seven Miles
from Any Town
The Story of Imber**

A nostalgic look at this once thriving village and it's inhabitants, before it was evacuated

Thursday September 11th at 7pm
West Lavington Village Hall

SATURDAY 13th SEPTEMBER

10am - 4.30pm at Edington Priory Church

Led by Chris Bruerton, 1st baritone, The King's Singers
Lassus, Whitacre, Vaughan Williams & Chilcott

After working on the four pieces, there will be a run-through for friends and family. Chris will bring us his huge experience of a capella and close harmony singing at the highest level

£25 to include refreshments & music hire
BOOK YOUR PLACE
www.edingtonarts.org



Watch your teddy bear come down the zip wire
Climb the church tower
Learn to bell ring & play the hand bells
Have a guided tour of the church
Join orienteering around the churchyard
Try flower arranging
Find the lost sheep
Learn more about your local church including Holloway history
and most importantly
Enjoy delicious refreshments

Is your bear brave enough?

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, WEST LAVINGTON
OPEN DAY
AND TEDDY BEAR ZIP WIRE
SATURDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 2025
1pm-5pm

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Saturday 20th September 2025

Market Lavington Community Hall

10am - 12pm

The 9th year of holding our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning!

Every penny we raise goes towards Macmillan to help those with cancer live life as fully as they can

Please come and join us for tea, coffee and cake and have a go at the various games, raffle, tombola and bric-a-brac stall



Any donations will be greatly appreciated - collections available
Please contact Sally on 01380 813708

THE NESTLING TRUST

Sunday Afternoon Tea and Cakes

and sale of
beautiful Nepali pashminas and other
handmade items by women's groups
from the foothills of the Himalayas

Sunday 21st September 2025
2.00pm - 4.00pm
at The Old School, Market Lavington

All proceeds will go to help further the work of The Nestling Trust
in bringing healthcare and health education to remote village areas in Nepal

UK Charity Reg. No. 1154431

**WILTSHIRE
COUNCILLOR
FOR THE
LAVINGTONS**



You may contact me about this or any other matter by email to:

dominic.muns@wiltshire.gov.uk
or by phone on **07585 394 178**.

Now that the Council is back in full swing following the elections in May (in Wiltshire at least; Kent is apparently still not holding any meetings), it has been interesting to receive some updates from the new administration.

A main issue that impacts us locally is Black Dog Crossroads. The electricity supply was due to be installed in June, but it has now slipped back to August. I don't know why this has been delayed, potentially an issue with SSE who need to do the work, or a decision by the Council. The installation of the cabling will now commence in early August and is expected to last five weeks. The actual signals will be installed towards the end of the cabling work and so will commence in early September. In total, the project includes 4-way traffic signals, junction resurfacing, and drainage improvements.

As we get closer to the completion of the project there will need to be some temporary closures for side roads (Worton and Broadway) and it is expected that over-height vehicle access to Broadway will be retained. My advice has been to limit closures to nights. Further information will be published mid-July. I have also advised that work should shift forwards as much as possible to coincide with school holidays.

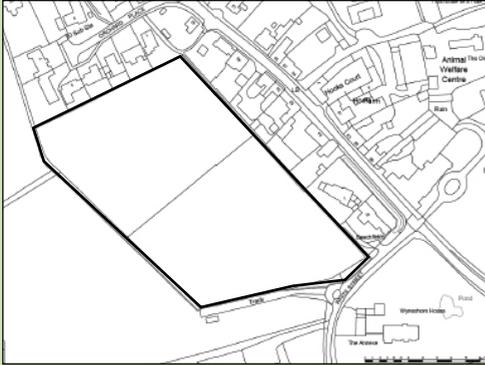
We also have a new development of 47 houses being planned in West Lavington in the field behind White Street. This has been a shock to many residents and feels huge, given the recent developments the village has seen at Holloway Rise and Hedges House. A consultation is being organised for the afternoon of the 9th July, at the Churchill Arms. Like many residents I will be in attendance to learn more about the proposal and discuss my concerns with the community - impact to the roads, schools and doctor's surgery surely top of the list.

Two worrying updates have come from Council officers in the last week. The first is that radioactive material with readings above the safety threshold was uncovered on a Council owned site (a former RAF base in Melksham). What is really alarming is that officers found out about this in January and kept it from Councillors and the local community until June. The same week we found out about this, Councillors were also told that the balanced annual budget that officers had forecast at the end of the last quarter had miraculously turned into a £5m overspend. I accept that this represents just 1% of the overall budget, however, it is inexcusable that £5m in costs can magically appear between the point the previous administration shut the doors and turned the lights off and the new administration entered the building. Something doesn't add up (excuse the pun) and so the upcoming Cabinet meeting will be very uncomfortable for officers, the new Leader and his team.

Consultation on proposed new homes in West Lavington

Wednesday 9th July 2-7pm

South West construction firm CG Fry and Sons is preparing an outline planning application for mixed-use development on the field between Orchard Place and White Street. The proposed development is a mixed-tenure residential development of up to 47 new homes; public open space; green and blue infrastructure; and associated access works and drainage. The application site extends to 2.13ha and with access proposed from White Street.



CG Fry and sons are inviting the public to view the draft proposals at a drop-in exhibition in the Churchill Arms, West Lavington on Wednesday 9th July 2025 from 2-7pm.

If you are unable to attend but wish to comment on the proposals, you can contact Paul Hoffmann, Senior Planning Manager, at CG Fry and Sons on paul.hoffmann@cgfry.co.uk to request a PDF copy of exhibition boards.

You can find out more about **CG Fry & Son** at cgfry.co.uk. Based in Dorchester, the firm has built over 1000 homes at Poundbury, and is proud of its design ethos. Its website says: ‘The company’s ethos has always been the same: to combine traditional craftsmanship and harmonious design with the best of contemporary building techniques.

Wiltshire Wellbeing Hub

The Wiltshire Wellbeing Hub can help:

- put people in touch with community groups who can help and provide a warm space
- signpost to sources of financial support and foodbanks
- provide advice to those experiencing loneliness
- advise people on cost-of-living crisis
- signpost customers to appropriate schemes through the Household Support Fund (HSF)

The Household Support Fund is to support households that would otherwise struggle to buy food, pay essential utility bills or meet other essential living costs during the current cost-of-living challenges and particularly those who may not be eligible for the other forms of Government support.

Call the Wiltshire Wellbeing Hub on **0300 003 4576**

Monday to Thursday 9am-5pm, Friday 9am-4pm

or email: wellbeinghub@wiltshire.gov.uk

Footpaths and Community Volunteering

We would like to share a few updates and gentle reminders with the community as we head into the summer months:

Rights of Way: help keep them clear: If you have a public Right of Way (RoW) running alongside or through your property, we would be very grateful if you could help keep it clear of overgrown vegetation or debris. With the recent combination of warm sunshine and rain, plants and hedgerows have grown rapidly. A few minutes spent trimming back overhanging greenery or removing small obstructions can make a big difference to those using our local paths. Thank you for helping keep our village accessible and welcoming for all.

Community Work Parties: We're pleased to be launching regular community work parties every four to six weeks. These sessions will focus on small projects, such as maintaining and clearing public footpaths and bridleways (with specific interventions for routes that have been raised to us in month); and tidying areas such as the playpark and other communal spaces. These will be advertised on West Lavington Posts, on the Notice Board by the shop, on Facebook and in News and Views.

The next work party is on **Saturday July 26th**, meeting at the Village Hall Car Park at 9.00am.

Big West Lavington Landscape Day – Save the Date! We're excited to announce the first of our new events on **Sunday 24th August**, meeting at the Village Hall at 10am. Free teas, coffees, and cakes will be available for volunteers. Please bring along any tools you can (gloves, rakes, shears, etc.). This will be a fantastic opportunity to work together, take pride in our shared spaces, and enjoy some refreshments and conversation with neighbours.

If you have questions or would like to be more involved, please email: **footpaths@westlavington.org.uk**

Would you like to receive the digital, colour version of News & Views directly into your in-box?

If you enjoy reading News & Views and would like to see it in its full colour glory, let us know! We are looking into the possibility of emailing a full colour digital copy each month directly to interested readers.

Please register your interest at: **NewViewsDigital@gmail.com**

West Lavington Parish Planning Matters

White Street: Land behind the High Street to be developed with 47 Houses. Public Consultation at the Churchill Arms on **Wednesday 9th July** between 14:00 and 19:00. See page 27.

Works to Trees:

Little Paddock House, 48 High Street, Littleton Panell, Devizes, SN10 4ES :
Consultation - PL/2025/04862

Dauntseys School, High Street, West Lavington, Devizes, Wilts, SN10 4HE:
Consultation - PL/2025/04569

Dauntseys School, High Street, West Lavington, Devizes, SN10 4HE:
Consultation - PL/2025/04878

The Haven, 63-65 High Street, Littleton Panell, Devizes, SN10 4ES:

LITTLE CHEVERELL PARISH COUNCIL

Our next Parish Council meeting is at **7pm on 21st July** in the Village Hall. The agenda will be published online and on the notice board by the telephone box on Low Road prior to the meeting.

Public and press are welcome to attend.

Cllr. Mike Phillips - Chairman

Tel: 07908 143389 www.littlecheverell-pc.gov.uk

Little Cheverell Village Hall



We are excited to announce that full fibre broadband was installed at the Hall at the end of June. This will allow all users of the Hall to enjoy free WiFi internet access.

Our series of Pop-Up Pubs has been very successful, and we are planning more. As we plan these at short notice, keep an eye on our Facebook posts for dates, follow Little Cheverell Parish Council to stay informed or visit littlecheverell-pc@gov.uk

The next Pop-Up Pub will be on **Saturday 12th July** from 6pm. Find us at Westbury Road, Little Cheverell SN10 4JP.

As a reminder, we offer pleasant air conditioned surroundings, a lovely outdoor space and reasonably priced drinks. We are now trialling a free buffet which has proved popular so far.

DAUNTSEY ACADEMY PRIMARY SCHOOL



As the end of the school year rapidly approaches, we have so much news to share!

Ofsted inspection: I am pleased and proud to announce that we achieved a Good in our recent Ofsted inspection. This is down to the hard work of the whole school community – staff, governors, parents, families and, of course, our amazing children.

We have received some wonderful feedback from the inspection, some of the highlights being:

- Pupils thrive at this caring and inclusive school.
- Pupils learn the importance of kindness and respect and the school is a harmonious place.
- Pupils develop warm and supportive relationships with school staff. They feel safe and are confident that staff will listen if they have any concerns.
- The school has high expectations for pupils' academic and personal development.
- Children in the early years enjoy their learning and relish new challenges.
- Pupils enjoy learning in the school's large woodlands.
- The school provides memorable experiences that motivate and inspire pupils.

Ofsted is often seen as a milestone in a school's journey which allows you to stop and fully review how your school is doing. Just those comments alone remind me that we are doing a great job and will go into our new school year in September from a wonderfully solid foundation.

School pond: Our school pond is finally filled and ready for action with a dipping platform for the children to access the water safely. The word 'pond' doesn't seem to do it justice, maybe lake is more accurate! It holds a whopping 45,000 litres of water and we thank our lovely local farmer Dale Allen for helping fill it. We look forward to the pond establishing itself over the coming years and cannot wait for the local wildlife to move in.



Sports Day: The children had a wonderful morning at Sports Day and gave it their all! A big thank you to the West Lavington Village Hall and Parish Council for letting us use the West Lavington recreation field.

Summer YES fun: July means it's **YES day** – one of the children's favourite days of the school year – when the children are allowed to throw out the rule book! The children can wear anything they like to school - PJs, onesies, fancy dress. They can wear face paints, nail varnish and temporary tattoos. They can wear their hair down, huge bows or silly glasses. They really embrace the crazy! As always, wish the teachers and I luck - we may need it!

Come and see us: Should you wish to consider DAPS for your children in September, whether that be as a school starter or a school transfer, we are always happy to welcome prospective parents to have a look around our friendly, nurturing and vibrant school. Please get in contact on **01380 813373** or **enquiries@daps.wilts.sch.uk** if you would like to visit us to find out more. Have a wonderful summer!

ImberBus 2025

Saturday 16th August 0930am - 1745pm

As in previous years, several London Transport Routemaster buses (plus a few newer ones) will be the only vehicles allowed to travel through to Imber village and on to other parts of Salisbury Plain on **Saturday 16th August**. They will start from outside Warminster Rail Station and will operate as an ordinary bus service, so there is no need (or facility) for passengers to reserve seats or book tickets in advance. Just turn up on the day and pay the conductor on the bus or purchase a ticket from the ticket desk outside the station, or from one of our roving ticket sellers.

Buses will run from outside Warminster Rail Station to Imber approximately every 10-15 minutes between 0930 and 1745, and from Imber Church back to Warminster every 10-15 minutes between 1010 and 1745. Extra buses may also link Sack Hill car park with Imber.

Local residents will also be able to travel to Imber from Chitterne, Tilshead and the Lavingtons. On arrival at Imber, some buses from Warminster will carry on to Gore Cross, then either to Brazen Bottom and the Lavingtons or to Tilshead and Chitterne. This year extra buses will also link Tilshead, the Lavingtons and Gore Cross with New Zealand Farm Camp. Buses normally arrive at Gore Cross a few minutes before the departure time shown, to enable passengers to change buses.

This year there will be just two fares for unlimited travel on ImberBus: £10 for adults, £2 for children aged between 5 and 16, children under 5 free. The organisers regret there is no reduction for senior citizens, and concessionary bus passes cannot be used.

Visit **imberbus.org** You can subscribe to the ImberBus mailing list to receive email updates.



HOLY TRINITY CE PRIMARY ACADEMY



The summer term promises to be a busy and memorable one. Transition work expanded this term with four induction afternoons for our new foundation children joining us in September, secondary school taster days for Y5 and a far reaching programme of support, stretch and challenge for children beginning Y7 in September.

Our Year 6 children had the privilege of attending a special service of reflection and celebration at the magnificent Salisbury Cathedral, followed by a picnic in the sunshine with hundreds of children from across Dorset and Wiltshire.



Recently we celebrated a wonderful concert at St Andrew's Church, Devizes, featuring the KS2 Holy Trinity Choir and the Great Cheverell Community Choir. Their memorable performance, filled with favourite songs, showcased talent and unity.

Sarum Class enjoyed an enriching visit to Devizes as part of their local history and geography studies. The children explored significant historical sites including St John's Church (linked to the English Civil War), St John's Alley, the Market Square, and a Victorian letterbox. Their journey concluded at the Wharf, where they visited the museum and observed the industrial heritage of the area, including the architecture of the Wharf Theatre. It was a valuable opportunity to connect classroom learning with the rich history of our local area.

Preparations are well underway for the Year 3 and Year 4 summer production of Joseph, which promises to be a tremendous performance. Sports Day is another eagerly anticipated event. In addition to traditional flat races, children will participate in hurdling, throwing events and the ever-popular novelty races. Points earned throughout the year, including those from the swimming gala, will contribute to the overall winning team for 2025.

Our Year 6 pupils will also be hosting a pop-up restaurant for their families, showcasing the culinary skills they have developed in school. From planning and preparation to presentation and service, the children take full ownership of this event, producing delicious and beautifully presented dishes—a remarkable achievement for eleven-year-olds.

The term is further enriched with a variety of activities including educational field trips, leavers' celebrations, award ceremonies, a Eucharistic celebration, a trip to the seaside and the PFA Summer Fair, which will take place on Friday 11th July at 3:00pm. We look forward to sharing all these joyful experiences with our school community and give our best wishes to our fabulous Y6 children as they move onto their secondary schools.

As we complete another wonderful school year, we wish our families a joyful and restful summer break. Thank you for your strong support, enthusiasm, partnership. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year of learning and shared experiences.

If you think your child would enjoy being at our school, please make an appointment to come and visit us, have a look around and chat to the Headteacher. There is lots of information on our website www.holy-trinity.co.uk or call **01380 813796**.

Anna Woodman Headteacher

Wildlife Garden Watch

We do try and garden for wildlife despite what occasionally turns into a war zone against voracious slugs, snails, squirrels and pigeons, w. We also have moles. 'Wind in the Willows' has a lot to answer for - despite their digging up my borders, vegetable beds, and not to mention Him Indoors' grass, with molehills absolutely everywhere, I don't have the heart to trap them. I think of Moley doing his spring cleaning and I just can't do it. Instead, we use devices you stick in the ground that make a beeping noise and supposedly put the moles off. Ours must be deaf.

Thankfully, the dry spring and recent warm weather means the slugs and snails are in much reduced numbers compared to last year, and the butterflies seem to be making a comeback - mostly white and brown, but we have seen garden tiger moths and one hummingbird hawk moth! No peacock or swallowtail butterflies as yet. There has been a huge outbreak on our apple trees of the apple ermine moth, with the caterpillars making protective webs around themselves and munching their way through the trees' leaves. We have resorted to some drastic summer pruning, cutting off the end of branches where the caterpillars were and hopefully reducing their numbers.

Perhaps the birds will develop a taste for the caterpillars we missed - but they seem to be fewer than ever. When we moved here nearly thirty years ago, there were swifts screaming in the sky and swallows plunging and darting above the crops, among many other species of birds. Now, instead of a dawn chorus, we have the Caw and Coo chorus - huge numbers of crows and wood pigeons dominating everywhere. There seems to be no way left of controlling them and giving the smaller birds a chance, especially on the bird feeders. This year we have seen no swifts, no starlings, all of two swallows (who have since vanished), no long-tailed tits and no sparrows. Our regular annual green woodpecker comes no more, and the tawny owls have fallen silent. We are left with a few blue and great tits, some robins and blackbirds - and, thank goodness, a couple of skylarks in the top fields. If you are doing any better, I'll be delighted.

LAVINGTON PRESCHOOL



We have had a busy Term 6 looking at well-being and keeping healthy. We have been sampling healthy fruit and vegetables, talking about what helps us to be healthy, such as drinking water, eating less sugar and exercise. The children have joined in discussions on how important it is to tell someone if you are sad or worried about something and we have also been practising our yoga and going out on well-being walks.

Our children who are moving up to school this year have begun their transition visits to Elm Class at Dauntsey Academy Primary School. They also took part in our sponsored trike-ride, where they had fun whizzing around the playground collecting stickers as they went.

We held a table-top sale raising £68.50 - a big thank you to those who came and purchased items. We all walked to Dauntsey House Care Home and delivered some biscuits for the residents and the children sang some of their favourite songs before walking back to Preschool.

Dave Hickory of 'Marvellous Maths' visited the Preschool and held a fun maths workshop which the children thoroughly enjoyed. We are running 'Lucky Dip' and 'Toy Tombola' stalls at the West Lavington Village Fete on Saturday 12th July - please come along and support our village.

We are looking forward to our children's graduation at the end of the term. Our families are invited to join us for a picnic lunch and to share our graduation celebrations.

We would like to thank all our families for their continued support, and to wish them all an enjoyable summer holiday.

We currently have limited spaces for 2 year-olds and 3/4 year-olds. If you have any queries, please either call us on **01380 812551** or send an email to **lavingtonpreschool@gmail.com** or **managerlavingtonpreschool@gmail.com**



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SOUTH HILLS OLD SCHOOL NURSERY



Here at Old School Nursery we have been enjoying the beautiful sunshine whilst also learning about how to keep safe on hot sunny days by protecting our skin from the sun, wearing our sun hats and staying hydrated.

We recently hosted a Father's Day stay and play where many of our Dads came to play for the afternoon, participating in an obstacle course, making Father's Day crowns and enjoying an afternoon treat of cake and strawberries.

Our older children are preparing for their transition to school. They have been trying on school uniform, practising to put it on themselves and listening to stories about starting school. We are fortunate to have a strong link with the local primary school where they visit regularly, exchanging pen-pal letters/pictures. They came to Old School nursery recently for a picnic in the garden and the reception teacher comes to read a story to the children throughout the year. This will all support a smoother transition to school in a few months' time.

We continue to care for our plants growing in our garden, harvesting the fruit as it ripens. We are looking forward to having our new growing area transformed over the next few months, ready for planting some fast growing crops in the autumn.

We currently have spaces available for 2 year-olds. Please contact us on **01380 812418** or email **oldschoolmanager@southhillsschool.com** to book a visit.

Carer Support Wiltshire in Devizes

At the Bear Hotel, Market Place, Devizes SN10 1HS

Bereavement Help Point, Devizes: 10.30 - 1200 1st July. 15th July, 5th Aug, 19th Aug

The Bereavement help point is a space to meet and talk with others who may be experiencing similar thoughts and feelings, in an informal and supportive setting. All sessions are free of charge, just come along. Developed by St Giles Hospice Care, funded by Devizes Town Council, Devizes Lions, Worton and Potterne Parish Councils, and delivered by Dorothy House and Carer Support Wiltshire.

Carer Support Wiltshire:

Freephone **0800 181 4118** Mon-Thurs 9am - 4.30pm, Fridays 9am - 4pm

General Enquiries: **01380 871690** **carersupportwiltshire.co.uk**

Artificial Intelligence

My wife, our grown-up children and I once discussed which of us would soon find ourselves out of work due to the advance of Artificial Intelligence. As a pastor I was pretty confident that no AI-enabled robot could do my job. My son promptly asked ChatGPT to write a Baptist style sermon on a passage from Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians. It completed the task in seconds. The sermon took the form of a typical Baptist message and helpfully explained the text. Would have taken me hours

to do that. No, I haven't been tempted to take AI shortcuts in my sermon prep. Honest.

Apparently, many university students don't have such qualms. ChatGPT and other AI platforms are being used to write essays to save budding scholars the bother. Lecturers complain that the attention span of today's students has been addled by their use of social media. They have difficulty reading the requisite number of books and then deploy AI to write essays on A Tale of Two Cities, or whatever. The trouble is that that AI platforms sometimes make mistakes. No less a journal than the Chicago Sun-Times recently published an AI-authored summer reading list for 2025. The list helpfully included a brief blurb for each title recommended. However, alert readers quickly pointed out that some of the books were fake. Rather embarrassing for the paper.

AI no doubt has its uses, but it can't be left to get on with things without our involvement. Just ask the red-faced editor of the Chicago Sun-Times. There is no substitute for human ingenuity in the arts, science, and literature. We cannot delegate ethical decisions to algorithms. Besides, we will always need the human touch. Have you ever tried to sort out a customer service problem using an AI Chat facility? 'Artificial', certainly. 'Intelligence', not so much. Even exchanges with other people using texts, email, or social media can't replicate face-to-face communication.

One of the most profound statements in the Bible is found in the opening chapter of the Gospel of John, 'And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us'. Christians believe that, in Jesus, God entered our world to speak to us in person. We can read his words as recorded in the Gospel accounts of the New Testament. Jesus did more than speak to us about the love of God. He came to show us God's love for humanity by laying down his life for our sins upon the cross. The risen Jesus is present in the lives of his people by the power of the Holy Spirit. When the Lord returns his people will see his face and share his glory.

Flaws and glitches notwithstanding, Artificial Intelligence may be able to do things that put our capabilities in the shade. But the most sophisticated computer has nothing on human beings, whom God created in his own image.

Pastor: Guy Davies
www.pbc-ebc.org.uk

You are welcome to join us for our Sunday services at 4.30pm. On the 4th Sunday of the month we have 'Time for Tea +', a traditional Sunday tea, followed by a short service.

OLD CATHOLIC APOSTOLIC CHURCH

“Let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds” (Hebrews 10:24).

God wants us to regularly meet with other believers. Some say, “I can worship God at home. I don’t need to go to church.” Many believers believe the sole reason we meet together is to worship. But worship is not the sole reason. Nor is it so that we can be taught God’s truth. We can turn on our radios and televisions and hear good Bible teaching.

So, why go to church? The writer of Hebrews says it is to safeguard against drifting. We are the body of Christ, and when we are with other believers, we are doing what comes naturally for eternity, being together in His presence. We are the church, and together we provide strength for one another through prayer, fellowship, and encouragement.

In the atmosphere of worship, and fellowship in God’s house, we are not alone. We hear others talk about how the Lord has miraculously provided for them. One may describe the pain they have suffered as a result of a loss and the comfort of knowing Jesus. A new believer may tell their story of redemption, rejoicing in God’s grace. As we listen to others recount God’s work in their lives, we are spurred on to faithfulness and to praising God for His goodness.



Throughout the Bible, we find that one of God’s principle desires is to have a close relationship with us. By becoming active in a local church, you safeguard yourself against missing out on all that God has for you. Your participation in a body of other believers safeguards your personal fellowship with God. Remember, when you drift away from the family of God, it is only a matter of time until you drift away from fellowship with God.

We are not saved by good works but by God’s grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8).

Make sure the church you attend teaches the Word of God without compromising His truth and accurately teaches the principles in Scripture while demonstrating God’s love, forgiveness, and grace. Remember that you also have a responsibility to actively use your spiritual gifts for the benefit of other believers.

Rev Fr David Knipe,
(Prayer/Pastoral care/Bible Study)

Email: frdavidknipe@liberalcatholics.co.uk

Website: www.liberalcatholics.co.uk

Carer Support Wiltshire is no longer running the Carer Support Cafes or Parent Carer Groups in Devizes. These have been taken over by Carers Together Wiltshire (see below).

The Carers Together Wiltshire Partnership

Age UK Wiltshire is working in partnership with Community First, Alzheimer's Support, Wiltshire Service Users Network, Citizens Advice Wiltshire and Wessex Community Action, under the umbrella, 'Carers Together Wiltshire'. This partnership will allow us to provide tailored support to the thousands of individuals across Wiltshire identified as a carer.

We can provide activities, breaks, advice, counselling, coaching, training and support (including peer-support) for carers. You can contact us on 01380 710300 or email enquiries@carerstogetherwiltshire.org.uk or visit our website <https://carerstogetherwiltshire.org.uk/>

Carers Together Wiltshire Support Groups

Devizes Carer Cafe: The Bear Hotel, Devizes, **2nd July, 6th Aug 10.30-12.00**

Parent Carer Group Devizes: The Bear Hotel, Devizes, **16th July, 10.30 -12.00**

Parent Carer Group Wednesday 13th August 2025 - Parent Carer picnic and ball games at Hillworth Park (for Parent carers and cared fors) from **10:30am to 12pm**. Bring own picnic and ball games. All are welcome!

East Wiltshire Carer's Group: The Rowdy Cow, Lower Farm, Devizes Road, Rowde SN10 2LX **Fridays 25th July and 22nd August, 10.30am to 12 noon.**

For unpaid carers of people living with dementia. Please call **01380 739055** or email office@alzheimerswiltshire.org.uk to find out more.

DID YOU KNOW?

Wiltshire Centre for Independent Living

Did you know there is a centre which supports disabled people in Devizes? The Wiltshire Centre for Independent Living was founded in 2005 by disabled people for disabled people, with one goal in mind: to help everyone live independently with choice and control over their own lives. The Centre offers a wide range of services, advice, and training for individuals, professionals, and organisations interested in disability-related support.

Their office is centrally located in Devizes with easy access for all, but they are happy to meet you wherever you feel most comfortable, including in your own home. They are open from **Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.**

Wiltshire Centre for Independent Living

11 Couch Lane, Devizes, SN10 1EB

info@wiltshirecil.org.uk 0300 1233 442

TRINITY CHURCH

We meet in the Community Hall, Market Lavington every Sunday morning at **10.30 am** unless stated otherwise.

Visitors to our informal style of worship in the United Reformed Church/Methodist tradition are always welcome. Do come along.

All services are accompanied by refreshments.

JULY	
July 6th	Trinity Church Service Led by Revd Graham Warmington
July 13th	United Service at St Mary's Church, Market Lavington Led by Revd Gary Gotham
July 20th	Trinity Church Service with Holy Communion Led by Revd Gary Gotham
July 27th	United Service with St Mary's and St Barnabas (Local Arrangement)
AUGUST	
August 3rd	Trinity Church Service Led by Joanne Williams
August 10th	United Church Service Led by Revd Tom MacMeekin
August 17th	Trinity Sector Service at St Andrew's Church, Devizes Led by Revd Gary Gotham
August 24th	United Holy Communion Service at All Saints' Church, West Lavington followed by Bring and Share lunch Led by Revd Peter Moger
August 31st	Trinity Church Service Led by Patti Harrison

Church Minister: Revd Gary Gotham, 69 Queens Road, Devizes, Wilts.
01380 724264 gary.gotham@gmail.com

Trinity Church Secretary: Les Charlton
07962 422 624 secretarytrinitychurchml@gmail.com

Postal address: Trinity Church Secretary, c/o St. Arbucks Cafe,
1 Church St, Market Lavington SN10 4DT

WHAT'S ON WHEN - A CALENDAR OF LOCAL EVENTS

JULY	
Wed 2nd:	North Wilts Arts Society lecture: Jewellery Collection of the Queen Mother. Assembly Hall, Melksham 11am. www.tasnorthwilts.org.uk
	West Lavington Village Hall AGM, WLVH 7pm.
Fri 4th/Sat 5th:	Beer and Cider Festival, The Wharf, Devizes. Fri 5.30- 10.00pm, Sat 11.30am - 10.00pm. Tickets £15. devizescamra.org.uk
Sat 5th:	Devizes Chamber Choir Summer Concert, St Andrew's Church, Devizes 7.30pm.
	Cars Galore Stay and Play Session, WLVH, 11am - 12noon. Book at cars-galore.co.uk
Mon 7th:	Cheverell Magna Parish Council meeting, GC Pavilion, 7.30pm
Mon 7th - Sat 12th:	Shakespeare Live presents Much Ado About Nothing, Cleeve House, Seend. 8pm, plus Sat matinee 2pm. Tickets £10-£25.
Tue 8th:	Cheverells Garden Club meeting
Wed 9th:	C G Fry public consultation event re new WL development, Churchill Arms WL, 2-7pm
Thur 10th:	West Lavington WI 'The Story of the real Alice in Wonderland'. 7pm WLVH
Fri 11th:	Lavington Community Choir Summer Concert, MLCH, 7.30pm. Tickets £8.
Sat 12th:	West Lavington Village Fete, Village Hall and Playing Field, 2pm
	Pop-Up Pub, Little Cheverell Village Hall, 6 - 11pm.
	Great Cheverell Pavilion Film Night. Starts 7.30pm Members - Free Guests £5
Sun 13th:	Taizé Service, St Peter's Great Cheverell, 6pm.
Wed 16th:	Devizes Arts Society lecture 'Going Potty about Commodes'. Devizes Corn Exchange, 10.45 for 11am. £8 on the door.
Sat 19th:	Furlong Close Summer Fete, Rowde. 2.30 - 5pm.
Mon 21st:	Little Cheverell Parish Council meeting, LCVH, 7pm.
Sat 26th:	Community Work Party, West Lavington, WLVH, 9am.
Sat 26th/ Sun 27th:	Fulltone Music Festival, The Green, Devizes.

WHAT'S ON WHEN - A CALENDAR OF LOCAL EVENTS

Mon 28th - Fri 1st August:	Kids Summer Dance Club, WLVH. Book before end June for early bird ticket price of £25 per day: amy@starsdance.co.uk
AUGUST	
Wed 6th to Sat 9th:	Lawrence Art Society Annual Exhibition, Devizes Town Hall
Sat 9th:	in aid of the Great Cheverell Village Hall - Open Garden and Teas 3pm - 5.30pm Admission £1 - 98 The Green, Great Cheverell
Sat 16th:	Imber bus service running all day every 10 minutes between 0930 and 1745. Tickets £10 adults, £2 for children 5-16. For timetable and pick up points see imberbus.org
Sun 17th - Sat 24th:	Edington Music Festival
Sat 23rd:	Lavington and District Produce Show, MLCH, 2pm. 'Who Dunnit', fundraiser for Friends of Erlestoke Prison, WLVH 3-6pm. Tickets £15, £7 for 17s and under, Family groups £9 a head.
Sun 24th:	Holy Communion and Bring and Share lunch to meet Revd Peter Moger, sub Dean, Christ Church, Oxford, from 11am. West Lavington Big Landscape Day. Meet at WLVH 10am with own tools. Potterne Festival, Potterne Cricket Club, The Grove, from 12 noon. Tickets: Adults £20, Under 18s £5, Under 5s free.
Mon 25th:	Summer Bank Holiday Easterton Country Fete, Easterton VH and Field, 1 - 4.30pm
Sat 30th:	The Great Cheverell Shindig, The Pavilion GC, from 2pm until late. Devizes Carnival (TBC)
SEPTEMBER	
Sat 6th:	West Lavington Scarecrow Trail in aid of West Lavington Youth Club, 10am - 4pm Bulb Sale in aid of St Peter's GC, The Pavilion GC, 10am - 2pm
Sat 13th:	All Saints West Lavington Open Day, 1 - 5pm. Edington Arts Choral Workshop, Edington Priory Church 10am - 4.30pm. £25.
Sat 20th:	Macmillan Coffee Morning, MLCH, 10am - 12 noon.

REGULAR MEETINGS OF VILLAGE GROUPS

- Art Group:** Thursday mornings, Giles Room, WL Village Hall, 9.30am - midday
- Cafe Scientifique:** *usually* first Tuesday of the month, 7.30pm, The Raven , Poulshot
- Cheverells Garden Club:** second Tuesday in the month, 7.30pm, GC Village Hall
- Easterton Sewing Bee:** Wednesday evenings, 7pm in Easterton Village Hall
- Friendly Fridays,** Old School, Market Lavington 10am to 1pm, all ages
- Gt Cheverell Book Club:** last Tuesday of the month, 2pm
- Gt Cheverell Friends and Neighbours:** first Wednesday in the month, GC Village Hall 3pm.
- Home Group:** Tuesdays in term time, 46 High Street, West Lavington, 6.30 - 8pm
- Kennet Quilters:** second Monday in month, ML Community Hall, 1.30 - 4.30pm.
- Knitting Club:** Baptist Church hall on third Wednesday of the month at 10am.
- Lavington Community Choir:** Thursdays, ML Community Hall, 8pm for 8.15pm.
- Lavington and District Swimming Club:** Sundays 3.30-5.30pm, Tuesdays 7.15-8.15pm, Thursdays 6.30am-7.30 am, Dauntsey's School Pool. 22nd April to 1st July 2025.
- Lavington and District Garden Club:** third Wednesday of the month, 7.30pm, WL Village Hall, £2 per meeting, £15 per year
- Market Lavington Toddlers' Group:** Drop in, from birth to 5 yrs. Tuesdays in term time, 09.30 - 11.30am, The Old School, Market Lavington. Contact **Maxine on 07967 635147**
- Market Lavington Short Mat Bowls Club:** Mondays 10am & Wednesdays 7pm, Market Lavington Community Hall
- Mothers' Union:** second Monday of the Month, 2.15pm at 54 High Street, West Lavington, unless otherwise advised.
- Rhyme Time: for babies through to pre-schoolers,** 1st and 3rd Fridays of month, including holidays. 10.15 - 10.45am, Market Lavington Library.
- Tuesday Club:** for 60+, Tuesdays, ML Community Hall 10am - 2pm
- West Lavington Friendship Club:** second and fourth Wednesdays of the month, Baptist Church Hall at 2.30pm, unless otherwise advertised.
- West Lavington WI:** second Thursday of the month, Giles Room WL VH, April-Oct 7pm,
- West Lavington Youth Club:** West Lavington Youth Club: Mondays 6-8pm Year 8 (12 yrs+), Tuesdays 6-8pm Year 7 (11 years), Wednesdays 6 -8pm Years 4-6, (Primary) WL Village Hall
- Whist Drive:** Every Friday, Great Cheverell Village Hall 1.30pm

USEFUL NUMBERS

Emergency Ambulance/Police/Fire	999
Police Non-Emergency	101
NHS Direct	111
Courtyard Surgery	01380 813 300
Day Lewis Pharmacy, ML	01380 813 395
Salisbury District Hospital	01722 336 262
RUH Bath	01225 428 331
Great Western Hospital Swindon	01793 604 020
Minor Injury Unit Trowbridge	01225 711 329
Minor Injury Unit Chippenham	01249 447 100
Village Link West Lavington	07598 947180
Village Link Gt Cheverell	01380 721 775
Wiltshire Council	0300 456 0100
Your Wiltshire Councillor Dominic Muns	07585 394 178
West Lavington Parish Council (Parish Clerk)	07597 761 361
Cheverell Magna Parish Council (Parish Clerk)	07766 319252
Little Cheverell Parish Council (Parish Clerk)	07544 803175
Little Cheverell Parish Council Whats App Group littlecheverell parishcouncil.org.uk	07908 143389
Wiltshire Police and Crime Commissioner	01380 734 022
Wiltshire Highways	0300 456 0105
Wessex Water Plc	0345 600 4600
Open Reach (BT)	03301 233 7533
National Grid	0800 404 090
SSE Electricity	0800 048 3516
Power Cuts	105
LOCAL CHARITIES	
Alzheimers Support Wiltshire	01225 776 481
Carer Support Wiltshire (for carers)	0800 181 4118
Carers Together Wiltshire	01380 710300
Citizens Advice	0800 144 8848

Dorothy House Hospice 24 hr Advice Line	0345 0130 555
Fear Free Wiltshire	01225 775276
Julia's House Devises	01380 562 525
Kennet Furniture Refurbiz	01380 720 722
SSAFA Wiltshire	0204 566 9131
Victim Support	0808 281 0113
Wiltshire Mind	01225 706 532
Wiltshire Sight	01380 723 682
Wiltshire Wildlife Hospital Animal Queries and Emergencies	01980 629 470 07850 778 752
Wiltshire Wildlife Trust	01380 725 670
NATIONAL HELPLINES	
Childline	0800 11 11
Combat Stress Helpline for veterans	0800 138 1619
Crimestoppers to anonymously report a crime	0800 555 111
Highways Information Line	0300 123 5000
Macmillan Cancer Support	0808 808 0000
NSPCC Child Protection Helpline	0808 800 5000
National Domestic Abuse Helpline	0808 2000 247
National Suicide Prevention Helpline	0800 689 5652
RSPCA National Call Centre	0300 1234 999
Samaritans	116 123
SSAFA Forcesline	0800 260 6767
Veterans Helpline	0808 1914 218
Victim Support Supportline	0808 1689 111
LOCAL SCHOOLS	
Lavington PreSchool	01380 812 551
SouthHills Old School Nursery	01380 812 418
DAPS	01380 813 373
Holy Trinity	01380 813 796
Lavington School	01380 812 352
Dauntsey's School	01380 814 500



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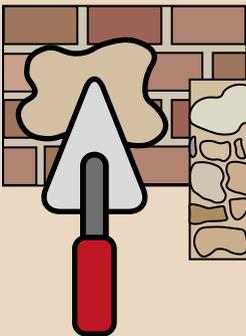
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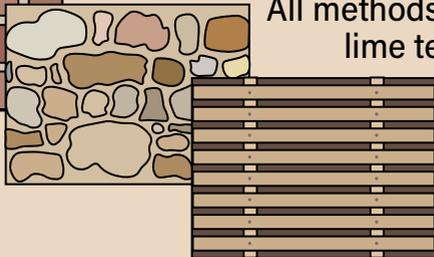
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