

DERRY HILL AND
STUDLEY MATTERS

inSPIRE



The Magazine of Derry Hill & Studley Parish



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EDITORIAL POLICY

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The deadline for inclusion of material in **next** month's magazine is the **20th** of this month.

ADVERTISING RATES

All rates are for insertion in 10 consecutive issues of inSPIRE.

Size	Colour	Approximate size of advert (Width by height) (cm)
Quarter page	£50.00	6 by 8
Half page	£100.00	12 by 8 or 6 by 16
Full page	£200.00	12 by 16

Cover Picture: Well House by John Barnes

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www.lansdownehall.org

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Editorial

Dear reader, this is my final editorial and I just wanted to let you know how much I have enjoyed helping to run the magazine and correspond with the many people who have contributed and written to me over the years.

However, nothing is forever and I'm delighted that the Parish Clerk is taking over my role and the Derry Hill and Studley Parish Council has taken over overall responsibility of running the magazine. I have been assured that the magazine will remain as is, though I'm sure there is always room for improvement!



This magazine was of course created by the church many moons ago and has gradually evolved. It is nothing without the tireless and wonderful contributions of many people and organisations, so heartfelt thanks to them. Also, thanks to Ian and Cathy Liddle for their hard work in putting the magazine together, Jacqui Bonardi for relentlessly sorting out the advertising and the many good folk who go out in all weathers to deliver the magazines.

So why have a magazine? I believe it is part of the fabric of our community, helping to bring together our two villages by telling people what is going on, perhaps wetting their appetites to try something new or informing them of what's going on. It was also for this reason, some 25 years ago, some of us decided to build the village hall to hold village events.

My final plea is to take part, be it litter picking, going to church, playing walking netball, joining the WI, or sitting on the parish council, for you will be the richer for it.

Ed

(Richard Aylen)

Church Contacts **CHRIST CHURCH - DERRY HILL**

If you wish to discuss arrangements for Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals or would like a pastoral visit or meeting arranged or need to see a Vicar, then please contact the **Team Administrator**:

Mrs Ann Stiff Tel: 01249 816522

email: enquiries@mardenvale.org.uk

Team Office: 30 Church Street, Calne, SN11 0HU

The office is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9am to 1pm

Church Wardens

Mr Peter Rigby 01225 704356

Mr Ian Liddle 01249 816229

PCC Treasurer (Tr) & Secretary (Sec)

Mr Peter Roycroft (Tr) 01249 660550

Mrs Lucinda Prater (Sec) 07882 469005

FLOODLIGHTING THE SPIRE

This is a lovely thing to do to remember loved ones and to celebrate special anniversaries and birthdays. The Spire is currently lit between 7pm and midnight, though this varies with the time of year. Floodlighting the Spire can be arranged through **Ian Liddle – iliddle1@bopenworld.com 01249 816229**

A donation to the church for the cost of the lighting is welcome.

THE TERM IS OVER: THE HOLIDAYS HAVE BEGUN

You're probably wondering if you read that heading correctly! But as I write it, it's true: it's the end of July, school term finished last week, and most of you are enjoying your holidays.

But you won't be reading this until September. If term time hasn't begun yet, it will do very soon. You may well have that sinking feeling which comes when it's time to go back to work, or college, or school. So why am I writing about the holidays?

Well, for a start, I hope you've enjoyed your holiday, and that you've thanked God for it! Secondly, I want to ask you to reflect for a moment on the best holiday you've ever had. How did it match your expectations of it? How did it exceed them?

The following paragraph comes from C S Lewis' The Last Battle. Aslan, the lion, says to the children:

"The term is over: the holidays have begun. The dream is ended: this is the morning" . . . And for us this is the end of all the stories, and we can most truly say that they all lived happily ever after. But for them it was only the beginning of the real story. All their life in this world and all their adventures in Narnia had only been the cover and the title page: now at last they were beginning Chapter One of the Great Story which no one on earth has read: which goes on forever: in which every chapter is better than the one before.

(From The Last Battle, Lions edition, 1980, pp 171-172)

You may already know that the children to whom Aslan is speaking have died and gone to heaven. C S Lewis had a great point: heaven will be a thousand times better than the best holiday we've ever enjoyed.

Bits of the Bible are like a travel brochure: they give us glimpses of what heaven will be like. But whereas travel brochures can make the dingiest hotel and the grottiest beach sound like Paradise, the Bible tells us the truth. We can completely trust what it says. Why don't you get your Bible out (or use the internet!) and read through Revelation 21:1-4 & 22-27?

I hope that such a vision encourages you, and makes you want to echo the song of the angels from earlier in the book of Revelation:

"Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honour and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!"
(Revelation 7:12)

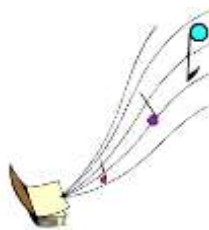
With prayers and best wishes

Sarah Errington

(Team Vicar; email: sarah.errington@mardenvale.org.uk; tel: 01249 263430)

What's your favourite hymn?

On behalf of Christ Church, thank you to everyone who answered this question at the village Fete in July. We ended up with 16 hymns and songs on the list!



We will sing those which are appropriate for children and young people at our:

All-Age (Family) Service on Sunday 7th September at 10.30 am.

Everyone is welcome to join us, but we especially hope to welcome the people who voted for:

*He's got the whole world in his hands,
Morning has broken,
Shine, Jesus, Shine, and
We are climbing Jesus' ladder.*

If you voted for a different hymn or song, please look out for details of a special service later in the autumn.

Rev. Sarah

September 2025 Church Services

Time	Time	Time
Wednesday 3rd		
8am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
Sunday 7th Trinity 12		
8am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
9.30am	Christ Church, Derry Hill	Spoken Communion
10.30am	Christ Church, Derry Hill	All age Service
4pm	St John the Baptist, Foxham	All Age?? Tbc
6pm	St. Martin's, Bremhill	Evensong
Wednesday 10th		
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
Sunday 14th Trinity 13		
8am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
9.30am	St John the Baptist, Foxham	Holy Communion
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
11am	Christ Church, Derry Hill	Holy Communion
6pm	Bowood	Evensong (Bishop Robert)
6pm	St. Martin's, Bremhill	Holy Communion BCP
Wednesday 17th		
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
Sunday 21st Trinity 14		
8am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
9.30am	St. Martin's, Bremhill	Holy Communion
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
10am	Holy Trinity, Quemerford	Family Service
11am	Christ Church, Derry Hill	Holy Communion
Wednesday 24th		
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
Sunday 28th Trinity 15		
9.30am	St Peter's, Blackland	Holy Communion BCP
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Morning Praise
10am	St. Martin's, Bremhill	All Age Holy Communion
10.45am	Holy Trinity, Quemerford	Holy Communion
11am	Christ Church, Derry Hill	Morning Prayer
6pm	St John the Baptist, Foxham	Evensong

Cardiac Arrest – 999 & CPR ASAP

If you see a person in cardiac arrest, call 999 immediately and start CPR. You will be told what to do by the 999 operator while you wait for an ambulance to arrive.

Time is critical and CPR is necessary to maintain an oxygen supply to the brain and other organs until the heart can be restarted by defibrillation shock.

You don't need to be qualified to do CPR or to use a defib, you are trying to save a life!



Scan below and watch the video it only takes 5 minutes:



Believe it or not Heartbeat isn't funded by the NHS – we are entirely volunteers and rely on the generosity of the village to help cover the regular costs of replacing batteries and pads, so if you can help us with a one-off donation or a small regular standing order that would be great, our account details are:

Account Name:Derry Hill and Studley Heartbeat

Sort Code:30-91-99

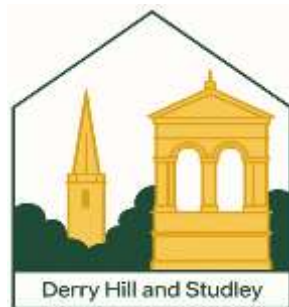
Account No:52349360

Many thanks for all your support

Julian Derry Hill and Studley Heartbeat
07769 970401 / julesoliver3@gmail.com

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Click on the logo to access lots of information in our villages



Mobile library visits to Derry Hill

Lansdowne Hall Derry Hill

14.30 – 15.45

Tuesday: 2nd & 16th September 2025

Kingston House Derry Hill

10.10 – 10.30

22nd September 2025



1st Derry Hill Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

All three sections meet at the village hall on a Monday at 6pm, we enjoy doing a variety of activities each week. We are looking forward to our end of term campfire and promise evening and the Guides are off on camp over the summer holidays



If you are interested in volunteering or if you daughter would like to join us, please do get in contact via <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk>.

Lucy, Emma, Erica, Emma and Jess

The Sky at night

September is here, the nights are drawing in, and it's a brilliant time to get outside and look up.

This year, though, the sky has something extra special in store—a rare **Blood Moon eclipse**—alongside the usual mix of shifting constellations and bright planets.

Here's what to watch out for over the month.



The headline act comes early. On the evening of **Sunday 7 September**, the Moon will rise over the UK already in the middle of a **total lunar eclipse**. For about 80 minutes, the Moon will glow a deep rusty red—what's often called a “**Blood Moon**”.

Now, there's a catch: from Britain, the Moon will be **very low on the eastern horizon** during the eclipse, so you'll need a clear, open view to the east to catch it. If you can find a hilltop or a stretch of coastline, you'll be in with the best chance. Even so, it promises to be one of the most dramatic lunar events of the decade.

The gas giants are slowly stealing the spotlight this month. **Saturn** lingers in the southern sky, a steady golden glow in the constellation Aquarius. If you've got binoculars—or better yet, a small telescope—you'll even be able to spot its famous rings.

Later in the evening, **Jupiter** makes an appearance, getting brighter as the weeks pass ahead of its big opposition in November. **Mars** and **Venus**, meanwhile, are keeping out of the way, staying close to the Sun and tricky to catch.

Finally, on **22 September**, the **autumn equinox** arrives. Day and night are equal in length, and from then on, the evenings really start to stretch out—perfect for longer stargazing sessions.

Katherine Checcchia

It's time for a Macmillan Coffee Morning and you're invited

Let's do whatever it takes
to support people living with cancer.

Place: Lansdowne Hall, Derry Hill, SN11 9QY

Date: Saturday 27 September

Time: 10am – 12pm

Contact: Paula 07833755232, Janet 07941888729



IN MEMORY OF
MARGARET BELL

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT



Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (200107), Scotland (SC039987) and the Isle of Man (2046). Also operating in its own right, MAC19953, Institute for

Rub A Dub Preschool

As we write this we are enjoying the last days of the summer break and looking forward to the start of the new term and welcoming the new 'Rub a Dubbers' through the door. It's an exciting time for us to meet our new children and watch them begin the journey with us.



Towards the end of the last academic year, we welcomed Ofsted to our setting and are very happy to say that we have been awarded 'Good' status. We also completed our change of our charity status to a CIO, so eagle eyed amongst you may see a new charity number and Ofsted number on our marketing. We are still the same setting you know and love but changing our status just means new registrations numbers for us.

We are looking for a new treasurer to help the committee, if you are interested in helping the setting in this role then we'd love to hear from you.

We also have a vacancy for a 'Bank' member of staff. This is a member of staff who doesn't have permanent hour but who can be called upon in the event of staff sickness or to cover meeting/ training sessions. Please get in touch with the Chair of the Preschool Jennifer Wright if you would like to talk about this opportunity.
rubadubchair@hotmail.co.uk

Kate Checchia

Treasurer

rubadubtreasurer@gmail.com



**THE WILTSHIRE
BOBBY VAN TRUST**
Registered Charity No: 1153790

Gifts galore at fundraising sale for Wiltshire Bobby Van

The popular Devizes Autumn Fair, which has been running for more than 20 years, will once again be featuring unique gifts, clothes and crafts to raise funds for the Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust at The Corn Exchange in Devizes from 10am to 4.30pm on October 3rd.



The fair will feature dozens of stalls from craftsmen and women and producers from across the South West. There will also be refreshments available at the event's pop-up café. Tickets are £5 per person but anyone booking online in advance can get two for the price of one. Tickets are available at devizesautumnfair.co.uk.

The charity operates two vans, both staffed by former police officers, which visit homes across Wiltshire and Swindon to offer free practical home security measures, fire safety assessments and online safety guidance for people over 60 or over 18 with a registered disability

It works in partnership with Wiltshire Police and other organisations including Victim Support, Age UK, housing associations and Wiltshire Council's trading standards department to identify people who need help and reassurance.

Director Jennie Shaw said: "This will be a wonderful chance to get started on the Christmas shopping, with so many stalls featuring some unique hand-crafted gifts from local producers – and help us to continue keeping older and vulnerable people safe in their homes."

(Pictured: Shoppers at last year's fundraising for the Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust at The Corn Exchange in Devizes)

Derry Hill and Studley Parish Council



At our July meeting, the Parish Council considered a request to take over responsibility for the production and publishing of inSPIRE magazine. This is such an important magazine for our community that we felt it was vital to keep it going. We will do our best to build on the hard work that Richard Aylen has put into it. I am pleased that so many of the volunteers involved in its production and distribution are happy to carry on and I'd like to thank them for their continuing support.

Another of our responsibilities is being the custodian of the Well House on Old Derry Hill. This was built at the end of the 19th Century by the Poynder family of Hartham Park, near Corsham. They built three identical ones at Colerne, Biddestone and Hilmarton. The Parish Council formally adopted ours in 2002 and restored it at the time, with support from North Wilts District Council and Viridor.

Following deterioration and storm damage last winter, I am pleased that we have completed repairs to the roof and replaced the broken finial. We appreciate the support and advice from the Wiltshire Historic Buildings Trust and I would also like to thank Bath Roofing on a great job.

Next Council Meeting Dates

Monday 1st September 2025 @ 7.30pm – Finance Committee

Monday 8th September 2025 @ 7.30pm – Full Council

Monday 13th October 2025 @ 7:30pm – Full Council

All council meetings are held at the Lansdowne Hall, Derry Hill.

Keeping in Touch

Website; www.derryhillandstudley.gov.uk

Facebook; search 'derryhillandstudley'

Email; clerk@derryhillandstudley-pc.gov.uk

Phone; 07751802761

John Barnes
Chairman

Wiltshire Council – Consultation

Wiltshire Council is holding events across the county this autumn to encourage people to talk about adult social care services and provide feedback to help support ongoing improvements.

The council is holding four roadshow events in September at different locations and a webinar in early October to encourage people to drop in, have a chat and find out more about adult social care services.

The events will offer attendees the opportunity to:

- Learn about the support and services available through adult social care services (ASC).
- Explore how prevention and wellbeing are central to Wiltshire's approach.
- Share personal experiences and insights to help shape the future of adult social care in the county.
-

The drop-in roadshows will provide opportunities to find out more about different areas of adult social care with partners and agencies we work with. There will also be areas for people to talk to Wiltshire Council staff about adult social care and provide any feedback.

The webinar will be on Tuesday 7 October from 6pm and people who would like to join can sign up here [Adult Social care webinar](#). People can also use the link to send in questions ahead of the webinar.

The roadshow events are at the following dates and locations and people can drop in at any time:

- Wednesday 10 September from 1pm - 3pm at The Olympiad in Chippenham
- Thursday 11 September from 10am - 12noon at the Wylle Room, Five Rivers Health and Wellbeing Centre, Salisbury
- Tuesday 16 September from 1pm - 3pm at Melksham Community Campus
- Thursday 18 September from 10am - 12noon at Tidworth Leisure Centre

Derry Hill and District WI

We have had a busy and successful summer in Derry Hill W.I. Several members enjoyed a walk and coffee in the sunshine at Caen Hill Locks.



Eight members visited Tristenagh Gardens at Potterne in July. The gardens were open under the National Garden Scheme which are excellent for group visits.

We had our usual cake stall at the village fete on a scorching day, but it was still a huge success and is our main fundraising activity in the year. We are so lucky to have so many members making all the delicious cakes and willing to help on the stall. Our thanks also go to the fete committee for giving us this opportunity and a such a fun day.



At our July meeting we were entertained by Bruni Walker who certainly showed us the Benefits of Laughter, a joyful experience.

By the time this magazine comes out we will have had our August meeting when we are planning on playing crazy golf in Monkton Park and enjoying an Italian meal at Vecchia Orsa in Chippenham.

In September we will be welcoming Ali Warren who will be telling us about the history of ice cream. Mm, hope she brings samples!

Derry Hill W.I. meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month (except August and December) at 7.30pm in the Lansdowne Hall. If you would like to come along or find out more, please contact our secretary, Liz.

Email derryhillsec@wilshirewi.org.uk

Sally

Future dates and performers for the Jazz Club

JAZZ CLUB – Marden House CALNE

Marden House 7pm for 7.30pm

Tuesday 30th September

Hendo's Washboard Kings

Tuesday 28th October

Duncan Anselm's Trio – Sax, piano & double bass

£10 cash on the door please

Bookings by phone please on 07976 945055

Thanks

James



Hot Shots Walking Netball

We had a delicious end of season cream tea In July at Lowden Garden Centre. Most members were able to attend and we had a lovely time. We

have come a long way since we started nearly 6 years ago and have all become firm friends.



Our new 'Hot Shots Walking Netball' shirts have now arrived. So, we are ready to start the new season on September 1st. Will they improve our play? We certainly hope so!!

If you would like to come and have a go it is £3 per session, Monday and Friday at 1.45-2.45 pm, term time only, on the outside multi-pitch next to Lansdowne Hall. An excellent way to socialise, have fun and keep fit.

Tina



Derry Hill & Studley Gardening Club



Our annual outing was at the end of June and this year we had the privilege of visiting Rodmarton Manor & Gardens near Cirencester. The 8-acre Cotswold Garden was designed originally as a series of outdoor rooms and is still the same today. The house is a Grade I listed building, constructed in the early 20th century in an Arts and Crafts style. Definitely worth a visit (www.rodmarton-manor.co.uk/).

At our July meeting we welcomed Nick Morgan who spoke about a productive year in the greenhouse. Paula won the competition with her hydrangea cutting and Mark came a close second with his fuchsia cutting.

On Saturday 12th July, we had a stall at the Derry Hill & Studley Fete selling plants, raffle tickets to win one of our lovely hampers and a chance to win a Paddington Bear by finding where in Derry Hill or Studley Paddington had hidden his marmalade sandwich.



At our August meeting, Robert Harvey shared with us his 5-year journey in creating a beautiful Downland Garden. Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month February to November 7.30pm at Christ Church, Derry Hill. New members welcome.

Paula Wheatcroft

pdoel@live.co.uk 07833 755232.

Mothers' Union Prayer & Fellowship Group



With summer bringing a change to our normal monthly meetings we met in July for a most enjoyable afternoon tea in Barbara's garden. The sun was out in full force, and it was lovely to sit in the shade of a large apple tree. Everyone enjoyed the delicious food and drink and thanks goes to Barbara for her kind hospitality.

On Friday 8th August we joined ladies from Calne and Royal Wootton Bassett Mothers' Union for the Mary Sumner Day Service in St Mary's. It was a lovely service taken by Rev'd Annie Church with the homily given by Rev'd Katey Minshall from RWB. After the service refreshments were laid on by the ladies of Calne MU and our thanks go to everyone who helped to make it a lovely occasion.

Our next meeting is in Christ Church on Wednesday 3rd September at 2pm when Colette will be giving a talk about mature students. Refreshments will be done by Dierdre and Barbara. All are welcome to join us.

Barbara M Parry

TOWN HALL MOVIOLA

This will be our 20th Anniversary of showing films in Calne.

MR BURTON. Wednesday 24th September.

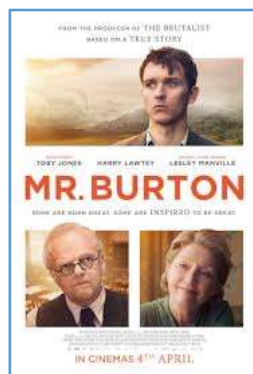
This is the story of Richard Burton's life right from his childhood.

Tickets £6 available from the Calne Information Centre (card) or on the door (cash only please)

Refreshments available.

Doors open at 7.00pm for 7.30pm

Thank you all for supporting us.



Thank you all for supporting us.

Viv

Book Club Review

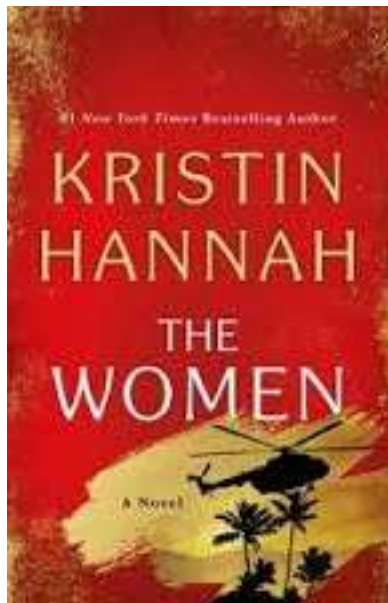
The Women by Kristin Hannah

The Women is a gripping fiction that explores the experiences of Frances “Frankie” McGrath, a young nurse who volunteers to serve in the Vietnam War. The book follows Frankie’s personal journey from a sheltered upbringing to the harsh realities of war and the struggles she faces upon returning home.

Hannah masterfully explores themes of identity, courage, and resilience. Frankie’s initial naivety is gradually stripped away as she faces the visceral horrors of combat hospitals, the chaos of trying to save lives with limited resources, and the emotional toll of loss that accumulates day after day.

Frankie’s struggle to find recognition and purpose amid trauma is deeply compelling, made all the more powerful by the bonds she forms with her fellow nurses, Ethel and Barb. These friendships, rooted in mutual understanding, shared sacrifice, and moments of both tenderness and laughter, are beautifully portrayed. They’re not just connections formed in adversity; they are anchors in a chaotic world. Through those relationships, we see Frankie redefine herself, not just as a nurse or a woman, but as someone who has endured and survived something indescribable. There’s a raw honesty in Hannah’s writing that doesn’t flinch from grief, guilt, or the longing for belonging.

The Women is more than a story of war, it’s a story of courage, heartbreak, and an unwavering will to be seen. It’s a tribute to the resilience of women who serve, and to the lifelong impact that service leaves in its wake.



Kerry

“Things always work out in the end”

Residents at Kingston House care home planted ‘seeds of wisdom’ for younger generation

Residents at a leading non-profit nursing and care home enjoyed an afternoon in the sunshine, potting summer pansy seeds and planting petunias- connecting with nature and stimulating memories- while exchanging their ‘seeds of wisdom’ and valuable life lessons.

During their session, residents wrote their words of advice-about life and living, relationships and wellbeing-which will be shared with their family and friends.

The idea celebrates the experiences of residents at the Greensleeves Care home on Lansdowne Crescent and how their life lessons can support younger generations make wise decisions and pave the way to a fulfilled later life.

Seventy-six-year-old Tony Read said his tip for the younger generation is to take time and be calm. He added: “Things always work out in the end.”

Margaret Smart, 95, believes people need to worry less and shared, “Don’t worry about what anyone else thinks, just be yourself.”

Iris Watson, 85, said she would like to advise everybody that they should always treat others as you would like them to treat you. This sentiment was echoed by Rachel Jones, 94, who said, “Help others in need. You may need someone’s help in return one day.”

Ninety-three-year-old Mavis Lay said, “Always speak the truth, the truth is easier to remember than lies.”

Ken Lewis, 81, wanted people not to be afraid: “Don’t fear the unknown. If you want to do something, just go for it.”

And eighty-four-year-old Annette Bennett is a big believer in, “No regrets,” and advised people not to worry about the things they didn’t do.



Elizabeth Clark home manager at Kingston House said: “Our residents have experienced so much throughout their lives and asking them to share their nurturing tips- their seeds of wisdom- was

incredibly inspiring and thought-provoking. It was also another opportunity for a therapeutic activity together.”

A survey by the group showed that many people feel unprepared when it comes to care with one in four having to make difficult decisions at a point of crisis.

Elizabeth added: “Summer is the perfect opportunity for getting care wise. Families often have a bit more time to start thinking about the additional support an older loved one might need in future. The season also offers relaxed and accessible ways to do so—from simple resources like our free Get Care Wise guide to open days so everyone can get to know their local home, or even short stays to get a taste for what living in a care community like ours feels like.

“Activities like Seeds of Wisdom remind us that knowledge is power and that it pays to plan ahead where possible. We are here to help families make well-informed care decisions, without the pressure of urgency.”

Kathy

Major Repairs to the Lansdowne Hall

Thanks to generous grants from both the Parish Council and Calne Area Board essential repairs to the Lansdowne Hall roof will be made at the end of October.

The work is being carried out by local contractor Daylan Gleed Roofing Ltd and regular users of the Hall will be contacted shortly about changes that will have to be made during the works.

Every effort will be made to minimise disruption for users but for health and safety reasons access to some area will be restricted.

If you have any questions about a booking, please contact the hall administrator for information.

administrator@lansdownehall.org

DOG WALKING & PET DROP-IN SERVICE

*Do you need help keeping your furry
friend active and happy?*



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- Ground investigation works on the main site for the engineering
- Archaeological investigations in the field west of the A4

We will share more details and confirm construction dates as soon as they are set. Updates will be posted on our website: **uk.edenrenewables.com/forest-gate-solar**

We will also be sending information directly to local residents and businesses who may be affected, via a mail drop.

To receive email updates, please register in advance by contacting **ForestGateSolar@edenrenewables.com**



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September 2025 Crossword



ACROSS

- 3 Lozenge(8)
- 5 Wading bird(5)
- 6 A dozen(6)
- 7 Swim suit(6)
- 9 Uproar(6)
- 11 Perhaps(5)
- 13 Be too hot(7)
- 15 Begin(5)
- 16 Light cake(6)

- 17 Outdoor(8)

DOWN

- 1 Catch fire(6)
- 2 Venerate(6)
- 4 Selfless(10)
- 8 Die(6)
- 10 Fondle(6)
- 12 Writing desk(6)
- 14 Male singer(5)



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Wellbeing notes

Let your inner child play this September

Yes, we've long moved on from the days when librarians told you to 'hush' in the library. But for older people like me, the conditioning runs pretty deep. Which was why what happened last week felt so very liberating.

The Thursday Club, which meets in Chippenham Library, was set to discuss 'Favourite forms of exercise, then and now'. Well, in the middle of the session, in a nice space between biographies and cook books, we all got up and took turns hula hooping. Even the librarians had a go. There was so much laughter. And afterwards, one of the group members took us through some simple line dancing moves, which hadn't been planned but certainly added to the fun.



Hula hoops, like the one shown here, carry the magical ability to make the person using them smile or even laugh, and it seems that line dancing has a similar effect. Maybe the laughter, the sheer feeling of wellbeing, isn't in fact down to the hoop, or the dance steps. Maybe it's simply because we're having fun, we're *playing*, in the company of friends old and new. It's in those moments that our inner child emerges – because whatever age you might be chronologically, in the very heart of you lives your child-self, the being who loves to play, explore and generally have fun.

This September, how might you let your own inner child out to play?

Suzanne Askham

Derry Tots

toddler group



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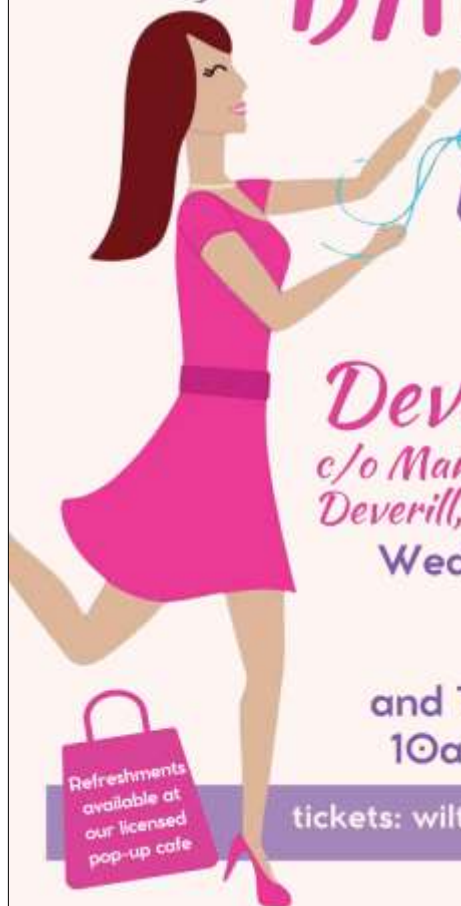
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July August 2025 Crossword



ACROSS

- 4 Cure(6)
- 5 Occur(6)
- 8 Pole(3)
- 9 Trachea(8)
- 12 Feltnes(4)
- 13 Golf club(6)
- 14 Worldwide(6)
- 15 Noseguy(4)

18 Caller(7)

19 Pig pen(3)

20 Dressod(4)

21 Green turf(5)

DOWN

- 1 Untidy state(4)
- 2 Steel tower(5)

3 Pastry dish(3)

5 Theory(10)

6 Vessel(4)

7 Lariat(5)

10 Ice house(5)

11 Coarse(6)

12 Mac(5)

16 K(1)(4)

17 Assault(6)



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