

DERRY HILL AND
STUDLEY MATTERS

inSPIRE



The Magazine of Derry Hill & Studley Parish



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All articles submitted for publication are subject to editing.

The deadline for inclusion of material in next month's magazine is the **16th** 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
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Full page	£200.00	12 by 16

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Editorial

As we move into November, with autumn in full swing and the year beginning to wind down, I'm delighted to bring you this latest edition of **inSPIRE**. Having recently taken on the role of editor, I'm keen to ensure that the magazine truly reflects every corner of our wonderful community.



Our village is full of life, from clubs and societies to volunteer groups, schools, and local events and **inSPIRE** should be a place where all of these voices come together. My hope is for the magazine to become the go-to source of information about what's happening across the village, while also celebrating the people and stories that make our community so special.

To make that happen, I'd love your help. If you're part of a community group, organisation, or club that doesn't currently contribute to **inSPIRE**, please do get in touch. Whether it's a short update, event notice, or feature article, your contributions are what bring these pages to life.

Let's work together to make sure the magazine reaches every part of our community — sharing news, celebrating achievements, and helping everyone stay connected as we head into the busy winter months.

Katherine Checchia

Editor

Derry Hill and Studley Parish Council



On 10th October, I attended the Calne Area Local Highways and Footway Improvement Group (also known by the clunky acronym of “LHFIG”). This committee brings together Wiltshire Council with the town and parish councils in the wider Calne area to consider highways issues. LHFIG has a devolved budget (just £24,930 this year) to fund modest local improvements.

Happily, our parish had a successful morning, with backing for both schemes that I talked about last month. Firstly, our scheme for village gates for Pewsham and Old Derry Hill was approved, with a Wiltshire Council commitment of £4,975. Secondly, our scheme for traffic calming measures in Studley and Norley Lane was also supported as a bid for this year’s round of substantive scheme funding, with a £5,000 contribution from LHFIG.

At our Parish Council meeting in October, we also voted to replace the two dog bins on Petty Acre. These are the responsibility of Wiltshire Council, but we have their agreement to replace them without taking over the responsibility (and cost) of future emptying.

The agendas, papers and minutes of Parish Council meetings are always published on our website. Meetings are open to members of the public, who are welcome to attend to see local democracy in action.

Next Council Meeting Dates

Monday 10th November 2025 @ 7:30pm – Full Council

Monday 1st December 2025 @ 7:30pm – Finance Committee

Monday 8th December 2025 @ 7:30pm – Full Council

Keeping in Touch

Website: www.derryhillandstudley-gov.uk

Facebook: search ‘derryhillandstudley’

Email: clerk@derryhillandstudley-pc.gov.uk

Phone: 07751 802761

John Barnes

Chairman

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)

Mrs Dorina Freeman (Tr)
07449 321199

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@btopenworld.com 01249 816229**

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

Vicar's notes

REMEMBER, REMEMBER . . .

You've probably already completed the famous rhyme about the Gunpowder Plot in your head . . . gunpowder, treason and plot; I know of no reason why the Gunpowder Treason should ever be forgot.

During the first couple of weeks of November, we do a lot of remembering. All Souls' Day falls on 2 November. It's a day on which Christians traditionally remember and give thanks to God for all faithful Christians who have died. Churches often hold a special service around this time, which in our churches here is called a 'Remembering Service'. We invite all those who would like to remember before God those whom they love but see no longer, to come and do that together in church. If you'd like to take part in such a service, you should find details for your local church(es) elsewhere in the publication in which you're reading this article!



A few days later, we remember the Gunpowder Plot and give thanks that it wasn't successful. Traditionally, we do that by lighting bonfires and letting off fireworks. The longer version of the rhyme quoted above includes the line: By God's providence he [ie Guy Fawkes] was catch'd. Then, of course on 11 November and the Sunday closest to it, many Acts of Remembrance will take place, as we remember and give thanks for those who gave their lives in the First World War, and many other wars since; men and women who lost their lives in the cause of defending their nation, and enabling their descendants (us) to live in freedom and peace.

If you attend Church services regularly, then you'll be aware that we remember and give thanks for the death of our Lord Jesus Christ, at every service of Holy Communion. We remember and give thanks because it's in Jesus' life, death, resurrection and ascension that we can find hope in a world which often feels confusing and hopeless.

With prayers and best wishes

Sarah Errington

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

November 2025 Church Services

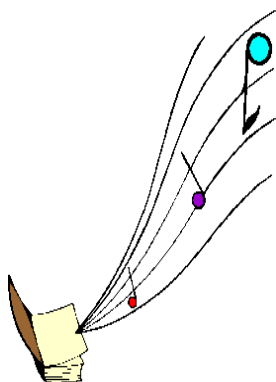
Time	Church	Service
Sunday 2nd All Saints' / All Souls'		
8am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
9.30am	Christ Church, Derry Hill	Spoken Holy Communion
10.30am	Christ Church, Derry Hill	All age Service
3pm	St Mary's, Calne	REMEMBERING SERVICE
4pm	Christ Church, Derry Hill	REMEMBERING SERVICE
4pm	St John the Baptist, Foxham	REMEMBERING SERVICE
5.30pm	St. Martin's, Bremhill	REMEMBERING SERVICE
Wednesday 5th		
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
Sunday 9th Remembrance Sunday		
8am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
9.30am	St John the Baptist, Foxham	Remembrance Service
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Remembrance Service
10.50am	St. Martin's, Bremhill	Remembrance Service
10.50am	Christ Church, Derry Hill	Remembrance Service
6pm	Bowood Chapel	Evensong
Wednesday 12th		
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
Sunday 16th 2nd before Advent		
8am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion - Harvest
9.30am	St. Martin's, Bremhill	Holy Communion
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion - Harvest
10am	Holy Trinity, Quemerford	Family Service
11am	Christ Church, Derry Hill	Holy Communion
Wednesday 19th		
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
Sunday 23rd Christ the King		
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	Patronal Service
4pm	Lyneham / Woodhill	Deanery Evensong
6pm	St John the Baptist, Foxham	Evensong
Wednesday 26th		
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion

Cont'd on page 9

November 2025 Church Services (cont'd)

Time	Church	Service
Sunday 30th Advent Sunday		
8am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
10am	Holy Trinity, Quemerford	Family Service
11am	Christ Church, Derry Hill	Holy Communion
6pm	St. Martin's, Bremhill	Benefice Advent Carols

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 sang those which were appropriate for children and young people at a service in September.

We will be singing some of the rest at our **Communion service at 11.00 am on Sunday 16 November.**

Everyone is welcome to join us and enjoy singing some of your favourites.

Parish Clerk Notes

As parish clerk I often see people asking about road closures in the area. There is a way of seeing what roadworks are planned in the locality by visiting www.one.network you can see what is happening in real time and what is planned for the near future.

The main one to note is 3rd Nov- 22nd Nov there will be two-way lights on Old Derry Hill to enable wall repair works to be completed.

On Remembrance Sunday 9th November there will be the memorial service held at the War Memorial. To enable the safety of all those attending the service there will be a road closure for one hour (10.30-11.30) between Chapel Street and Lansdowne Crescent. The diversion route will be signposted along Old Derry Hill and back up the A4.

DERRY HILL ART CLUB

Some of our members celebrating 25 years as a community group in the village.



We met this month for our regular Art Club session hosted by Andrea armed with the results of our latest challenges. Free to join and meeting the first Monday in the month 2 - 4pm and weekly Mondays 7 - 9pm on Zoom. New members always welcome, beginners through to skilled.

Phone Dani for more info Tel. 01249 816106

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 to all our financial donors without whom we couldn't keep our village defibs operational.

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

The Night Sky in November 2025:

As the nights grow long and crisp, November offers rich stargazing opportunities across the UK — from shooting stars to bright planets and the return of winter constellations.

Meteor showers are the main highlight. The Taurids peak around 12 November, producing slow, bright meteors and occasional fireballs. A few nights later, the famous Leonids reach their peak on 17 November. Although moonlight from a nearby full Moon may wash out fainter meteors, patient observers could still catch some impressive streaks in the pre-dawn hours.

November's full Moon on the 15th is also a supermoon, appearing slightly larger and brighter than usual as it passes near its closest point to Earth. Its glare will dominate the sky for a few nights but offers a striking sight for photographers.

In the evening sky, Jupiter and Saturn shine brightly in the south, joined at times by the crescent Moon in mid-month. Mars sits lower toward the horizon, gradually fading, while Venus glimmers before dawn late in the month.

For deep-sky watchers, the Pleiades star cluster sparkles in Taurus, easily visible to the naked eye and stunning through binoculars. Nearby, the grand shape of Orion rises later each evening, marking the coming of winter's most recognisable constellations.

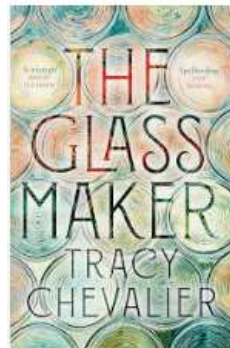
Whether you're spotting meteors, planets, or the glittering Seven Sisters, November's long nights reward anyone who takes a moment to look up.

Katherine Checchia

Book Club Review

The Glass Maker by Tracy Chevalier

This sweeping historical novel follows a family of glass makers on the island of Murano near Venice. The novel spans 6 centuries and uses a very unconventional method of having the characters age at a different rate to real time. Thus, the central character, Orsola, starts as a small child in 1486 and only becomes elderly in 2019. Some people have found this confusing but I thought it worked well and avoided having too many different characters to get to grips with.



The descriptions of Venice and the lagoon are wonderful, making you feel you are wandering through the squares or travelling the canals in a gondola. Orsola, her 2 brothers and the extended family are well drawn characters that you learn to love or dislike. The author's research is extensive, covering the plague, the rise and fall of the economy of Venice and the techniques of glassmaking in Murano.

However, I think that the great strength of the book is in its depiction of the power of women. Orsola's family is torn apart by the death of her father, a master glass maker. Neither of her brothers have the same skill or character to make the intricate pieces and Orsola learns to make glass beads and sell them to help the family survive at a time when women were only supposed to do housework.

The depictions of suffering during the plague are very powerful - when whole families were nailed up in their houses to stop it spreading. The smallness of their world comes across well too, they were frightened of going across to Venice, a 20-minute boat trip and even more scared of "terrafirma", the mainland.

I think Tracy Chevalier has given us a great novel, very readable and meticulously researched and it was well received in book club and is highly recommended.

The Book Club

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.

This term Rainbows have welcomed some new faces, been learning new games and working on our Lead stage 1 badge. We have also had our very own Rainbow talent show and tell session.

Brownies have been working on their Express Myself theme and had fun making tacos for taco week.

Guides have been having a go at some of the new interest badges this term, we have made scrapbooks and tried out different painting techniques for our Artist badge and learnt how to cook potatoes in different ways (along with a home-made burger) for our Food Critic badge.

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

Lucy, Emma, Erica, Emma and Jess

Lansdowne Hall: Ready for the bad weather

By the time you read this work should be well ahead on the repairs to the hall roof. Thank you to all our users and neighbours for their patience while it is completed.

We have taken the opportunity to have local company WEC clean and check over the solar panels while they are off the roof, so they will continue to work efficiently providing renewable clean electricity.

The Toddler and Yoga groups at the hall are fundraising to help meet the costs of the work which is much appreciated and frees up funds for other improvements.

If you have any questions about a booking please contact Jane Clark Hall Administrator for information, 07860 940323
administrator@lansdownehall.org

Lansdowne Hall Management Committee

Derry Hill United Football Club

The first six weeks of the season have flown by. All the teams are settled into their leagues and have been enjoying their football.



The U7 and U8 boys both took part in their respective Mid Wilts Youth Football league tournaments at the beginning of October. All the boys made their coaches proud - they demonstrated the skills they had been working on in training, good teamwork and that they enjoy playing football. Thanks to the coaches - Josh, Tarek, Josh, Tom, Emily and Frank - who coached the boys at these tournaments.

On 19 October we hosted the first U7 Girls Football Festival of the season. It was great to have so many girls from across Wiltshire and Bath playing football together. Thanks to WASP, LJW Coaching and Calne Lions for your support running the festival. This was our U7 girls' first opportunity to play as a team against other clubs.

Their coach, Lee, said to the parents after the festival, "I can only assume you are as proud as I am with this amazing group of girls. Every single one of them was an absolute superstar today and played with beaming smiles on their faces and they never stopped trying, it was amazing to watch." Thanks to Lee and Kieran for coaching.

We have spaces in the following mixed squads U6, U7 and U8 and spaces in the following girl's squads U6, U7, U9 and U10. If you would like more information about joining our club please email joinus@dhufc.org.

Claire - Administrator

Derry Hill United

Rub a Dub Preschool



It's hard to believe that we've already reached the end of the first half term of this academic year! A lot has happened, and we have even more exciting plans as we head into the Christmas season.

Firstly, we're thrilled to announce the launch of our brand-new *Rub-A-Dub logo*!

With Christmas fast approaching, we have a packed calendar of fun events and festive activities for both the children and the community. *Pumpkin Carving Competition – Opens 24th October!* Put your creative hats on and show us your spookiest designs.

Quiz Night – Friday 21st November, 7pm, at Lansdowne Hall We're bringing back this popular event! There will be burgers, snacks, and drinks available to purchase on the night — it's set to be a fantastic evening.

Christmas Raffle – Coming soon!

Our much-loved raffle will return, with tickets going on sale shortly. We would be so grateful for *donations of prizes* to make it our best one yet. Please get in touch with us via email at rubadubchair@hotmail.co.uk

Bags 2 School – Friday 14th November

Bag2School helps promote the reuse of clothes and shoes, supporting those who rely on second-hand clothing. Please bring any unwanted clothes or shoes to drop off outside Rub-A-Dub Preschool in the morning.

We're looking for a new Treasurer!

We are currently seeking a *Treasurer* to join our friendly team. If you're organised, enjoy working with numbers, and would like to support the preschool behind the scenes, we'd love to hear from you. Contact Jenny Wright on rubadubchair@hotmail.co.uk

As always, our *Facebook page* will have the latest updates and event details, so be sure to follow us there: facebook.com/rubadubpreschool
Thank you, as ever, for your continued support.

Jenny Wright

Chair of the Committee
(rubadubchair@hotmail.co.uk)

FODHS Friends of Derry Hill School

On Friday 10 October we held our AGM which was well attended and we were able to share a full report on activities and funds.



A special thank you to Emma, our outgoing Treasurer for all her support over the last five years, and welcome to Sharron who has kindly volunteered to continue the Treasurer mantle.

We are in the process of organising the raffle draw for the Christmas Bonanza on Friday 6 December. We would really welcome contributions to the raffle prizes - if you have any you'd like to donate or any companies you think that we could approach, please let us know by emailing friends@derryhill.wilts.sch.uk.

Lastly, as a reminder, the blue-token voting boxes for the "Tesco Stronger Start" in-store fundraising scheme are now open! Our project is called *Project Playtime* and our aim is to improve the outdoor play area at Derry Hill School with new play resources, Forest School equipment and the reintroduction of the Gardening Club. The boxes can be found at the big Tesco Superstore on Beversbrook Lane, Calne and the Tesco Express on School Road, Calne.

Please do vote for us!

Lina Middleton

FODHS Committee Secretary

Calne Neighbourhood Policing Update

Crime and incident updates



- On 08/09/2025, an unknown female driving a car has driven around a bend startling a horse by driving aggressively towards it and the rider in Tytherton Lucas. No further police action taken due to a lack of evidence.
- On 08/09/2025 at 13:44hrs, unknown persons have sprayed graffiti on the boundary boarding of a construction site on Oxford Road in Calne.
- On 19/09/2025, an unknown person has damaged a fuel line to an oil tank which supplies a household in Bremhill.
- On 25/09/2025, a vehicle was located on Church Road, Derry Hill with damage to a wheel. The driver was also located asleep on the rear seat of the vehicle under the influence of alcohol. The female driver was arrested on suspicion of being found in charge of a vehicle whilst being under the influence of alcohol. The driver was conveyed to custody and later charged with the offence.
- On 27/09/2025, unknown persons have taken items from a clothing recycle bin in Beversbrook Road, Calne.
- On 05/10/2025, an unknown person has thrown an item at a moving vehicle windscreen causing damage in Mile Elm.
- On 09/10/2025, a vehicle was stopped by officers on the A4 near Derry Hill. The driver of the vehicle admitted she had been recently smoking cannabis. The female driver was arrested on suspicion of driving a vehicle whilst being under the influence of drugs and being found in possession of a Class B drug. The driver was conveyed to custody and later released under police investigation.

Protect your oil tank.

Whilst it may seem like an unlikely target for criminals, the theft of heating oil is not uncommon - particularly in rural areas at this time of the year.

Domestic oil tanks can contain many hundreds of pounds worth of oil. As the price of fuel remains high it makes it a valuable target for thieves.



There are however several things you can do to help protect your oil supply.

Wherever possible, keep fuel tanks locked and alarmed and install them within secure buildings or a cage. Consider installing anti-siphon devices, remote oil level gauges which set off an audible alarm if the level drops suddenly. You can also consider installing motion sensing lighting and CCTV connected to your mobile device when away from your property.

If it's not possible to keep your tank inside a building, please consider planting spikey shrubs which serve as a good deterrent. You can also use fencing and hedging to hide your tank.

Mark Cook

Calne Neighbourhood Team



Social Media and Community Messaging

Regular updates for the Calne area can also be found on community messaging and Facebook page: Calne police



Macmillan Coffee Morning in memory of Margaret Bell

Thank you to everyone who supported the Coffee Morning on Saturday 27th September by making cakes, helping in the kitchen, donating raffle prizes, bringing along family and friends and donating generously.

It was good to see so many people, and we raised an incredible £2500.

Paula Wheatcroft

Derry Hill and District W.I.

Our speaker in September was Ali Warren who gave us a most interesting talk on the history of ice cream which was fascinating but sadly no samples!



Members turned out in force to help with the refreshments at the MacMillan coffee morning which raised over £2000 in memory of Margaret Bell, an amazing achievement. Those who went to visit the sculptures in the gardens of Avebury Manor said they had enjoyed their outing on what looked to have been a beautiful Autumn Day.

In the future we will be looking forward to another walk and coffee in Bowood before it closes for the winter and to our November meeting which will be a craft evening- top secret but probably Christmas related. We will also be having our usual cake stall at the Gardening club Autumn Fayre on Saturday 15th November- always an excellent event.



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@wiltshirewi.org.uk

Sally

Derry Tots Toddler Group

October Round Up

This month our creative crafting corner has seen the children painting hedgehogs, creating London bus plates, and assembling spooky skeletons. We've also finally built our new shed to house all those ride-ons, garden toys, and outdoor games ready for the summer months. The committee would like to say a huge thank you to the Parish Council for helping to fund the construction – it has made a massive difference in our ability to store and access toys, furniture and crafting supplies.



Looking Forward

The Derry Tots Toy Sale is back again this year! We'll be open alongside the Derry Hill and Studley Gardening Club Christmas Fayre on Saturday 15th November at the Lansdowne Hall 11am – 3:30pm. The Hall will be open during school drop off and pick up on Friday 14th November for donations. We would greatly appreciate any clean, good quality toys as we are raising money to support the roof restorations at the Hall.

Interested in Joining Us?

If you'd like to know more about the playgroup, please contact us at engdhuf@gmail.com or join our Facebook group, Derry Tots – Derry Hill Under 5s. We'd love to welcome you to a free trial session.

Alex Morgan

Derry Tots Committee Member

Derry Hill C of E (VA) Primary School

As we have welcomed a new academic year, it has been delightful to see all the children return with such eagerness and passion for their learning.



All the children have been exploring new topics:

Dormouse Class are finding out what it is like to start school and explore their first learning journey whilst Mole Class are on the hunt for The Gingerbread man, who is still hiding somewhere in School!

Hedgehog Class are looking at what took place during The Gunpowder plot and Squirrel Class are finding out what it was like living in the stone age.

Rabbit Class are discovering how to light up The Big Top Circus and Fox Class are exploring space and seeing what it might be like to step onto a new planet. Owl Class have also experienced what it was like to be alive during WW2, finishing off with a VE day party to celebrate all of the wonderful work they have done.

We had a church service for the harvest festival with parents and children in attendance, we were thrilled with all the donations of food we received. These were donated to the local charity Doorway. All in all we have relished our first term of school.

Mrs H Roberts

Future dates and performers for the Jazz Club

Here is the menu at the Jazz Club from October onwards (NB concerts are at 7 for 7.30pm at Marden House, Calne on the last Tuesday of each month except December).



28th October:

Duncan Anselm sax plus piano and double bass in the style of Charles Mingus etc.....

25th November:

Iain Ballamy sax plus Gareth Williams piano

27th January 2026

Nick Payn sax plus harmonica and vocals with organ accompaniment.

24th February

Dave Newton piano trio

James

Hot Shots Walking Netball

Half Term has flown round. As we are term time only, we reconvene on Monday 3rd November. The weather has been very kind so far and all our sessions have been outside, and some, in the sunshine!



We have booked our Hot Shots' Christmas Dinner outing and are all looking forward to an amazing evening thanks to Allie.

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



At our October meeting, Joff Elphick gave a great talk entitled 'Crayfish on the Lawn'. Joff's amusing talk covered a selection of topics including plant recommendations, moths encountered in his garden, fasciation, interesting sights and observations and people. We learned the story of Judith Hann and Rick Stein's dog and were introduced to the first Turkish snail in Gloucestershire. Joff also played a recording of Pam Ayres reading an extract from her book 'The Last Hedgehog'.

Our final meeting of 2025 is on Tuesday 4th November when we will be welcoming Timothy Walker to give his talk 'In the Not So Bleak Mid-Winter'. The Competition Table in November is an arrangement of berries and seed heads.

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month February to November 7.30pm at Christ Church, Derry Hill. New members welcome.

The Derry Hill & Studley Gardening Club Annual Christmas Fayre takes place on Saturday 15th November 11am – 3.30pm at the Lansdowne Hall, Derry Hill.

Paula Wheatcroft

pdoel@live.co.uk 07833 755232.

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Lansdowne Hall, Derry Hill

14.30-15.45

Tuesday 11th & 25th November

Kingston House Derry Hill

10.10-10.30

Monday 17th November





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Mothers' Union Prayer & Fellowship Group



We met on Wednesday 1st October in Christ Church with opening prayers read by Dierdre. Thinking ahead we began the process of working on our 2026 programme. If all goes to plan, we should have some interesting talks along with joint ventures and MU Services and whilst the MU celebrate our 150th Anniversary at St Paul's Cathedral we will be planning something a little nearer to home.

We had great fun with the Quiz Afternoon. The first was won by Judi, Colette won the 2nd and the 3rd was won by Rev'd Sarah whom we were delighted to welcome to our meeting. This was rounded off with refreshments organised by Colette and Robyn and included some delicious cake; thank you ladies.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 5th November at 2pm in Christ Church when Robyn will show us how to make gift bags. Opening prayers will be done by Jean with Nan and Judi doing refreshments. All are welcome to join us.

Barbara M Parry

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Judging starts 15 December. 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes to be announced.

Christmas Market and Lights On. 16.30, 6th December at The Village Hall

Wassailing 13.30 -14.30, 4th January. Venue to be announced.

Martin Handyside Community Committee



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UPDATE: FOREST GATE SOLAR FARM CONSTRUCTION

We expect full construction of the solar farm to begin in **Spring 2026**.

In the meantime there may be other activities continuing on site including improvements to the site entrance on the A4, further site investigations, ecological and landscaping work. We are committed to minimising disruption and to keeping the local community fully informed as the project progresses. You can find the latest updates on our website:

uk.edenrenewables.com/forest-gate-solar

We are compiling a register of local suppliers, particularly for accommodation and transport services. If you are a local business that would like to be involved please let us know. Once full construction dates and details are confirmed, we will notify nearby residents and businesses directly via a mail drop.

To receive email updates or register as a local supplier, please contact **ForestGateSolar@edenrenewables.com**

Scan the QR code for the latest information.



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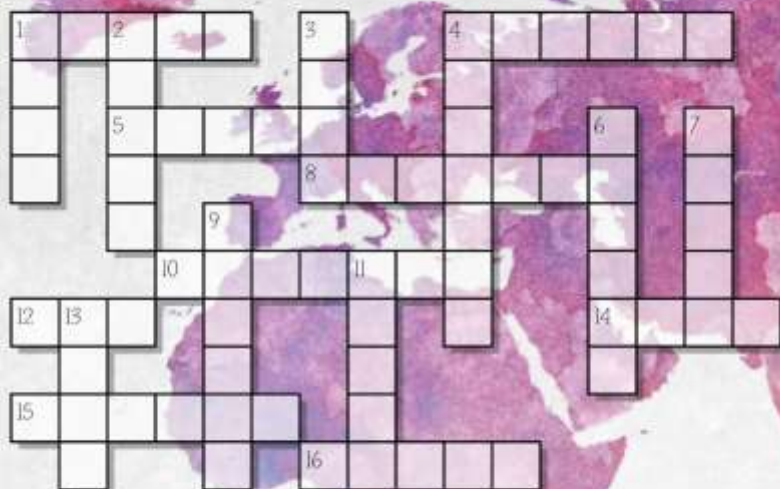
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November 2025 Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Arc(5)
- 4 Neckwear(6)
- 5 Snake(5)
- 8 Inspect(7)
- 10 Countries((7)
- 12 Put on(3)
- 14 Wander(4)
- 15 Mourn(6)
- 16 Make void(5)

DOWN

- 1 Bottle stopper(4)
- 2 Domain(5)
- 3 Heal(4)
- 4 Pharmacist(7)
- 6 Church room(6)
- 7 Stringed instrument(5)
- 9 Compassionate(6)
- 11 Body of water(5)
- 13 Gemstone(4)



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Wellbeing notes

The most evocative sound in the world

The path along Cocklemore Brook gets a bit muddy at times. Pretty, but muddy. The other day I was tiptoeing over damp autumn leaves when a noise overhead caused me to look up. Geese, honking in formation – flapping heavy wings in a tired 'V' shape they likely maintained all the way from Iceland, Greenland or beyond.

There's something rather soulful about the noise of flying geese. How do they manage to sound both mournful, and adventurous? Perhaps I'm dwelling on this right now because my daughter has recently gone to the other side of the world, and she won't be back until the geese have returned to their homelands, hatched their young, and started gathering for their next winter in the British Isles.



There is a wrench somewhere around the heart when a loved one is absent. Yet it's not all sad, because I'm happy for my daughter to stretch her own wings: to enjoy a new adventure and become more independent.

The urge to travel is no doubt deep within humans, as much as it's within those tired geese overhead. If we can't, or choose not to, cover physical distance, we can always use our imaginations. Perhaps that's why the honking of geese as they fly is so evocative: it's the sound of faraway places, heard within the comfort of our own neighbourhood.

Suzanne Askham

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October 2025 Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Glossy fabric(5)
- 3 Unsweetened biscuit (7)
- 7 School bag(7)
- 8 Herb(7)
- 9 Educate(5)
- 11 Young child(7)
- 14 Steel tower(5)
- 15 Once more(5)
- 16 Spine(8)
- 17 Marry(3)
- 18 Male singer(5)
- 19 Illness(7)
- DOWN
- 2 Dirigible(7)
- 4 Fake(11)

5 Paper

- fastener(6)
- 6 Ruin(7)
- 10 Tall fur helmet(5)
- 12 Amphibian(4)
- 13 Squadron(5)
- 17 Sardonic(3)



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