

DERRY HILL AND
STUDLEY MATTERS

inSPIRE



June 2026

The Magazine of Derry Hill & Studley Parish



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MAGAZINE PRODUCTION TEAM

Editor	Katherine Checchia	07751 802761
Advertising Coordinator	Jacqui Bonardi	inspireadcord@gmail.com
Distribution Coordinators	Belinda Tanner	07856 656034
	Gavin McHale	gavin.mchale@btinternet.com
Webmaster/Compositor	Ian Liddle	01249 816229
Proof Reader	Cathy Liddle	

Please send articles and other correspondence to:

Mrs. Katherine Checchia inspireeditor@outlook.com

Please send advertisement copy and related correspondence to:

Mrs. Jacqui Bonardi inspireadcord@gmail.com

EDITORIAL POLICY

Any opinions expressed in this publication are those of the individual writers and are not necessarily the policy or opinion of Derry Hill and Studley Parish Council or its editor.

By submitting content, contributors warrant that the content they submit is not obscene, threatening, harassing, libellous, offensive, deceptive, fraudulent, invasive of another's privacy, or defamatory of any person.

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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
Half page	£100.00	12 by 8 or 6 by 16
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Derry Hill
Store &
Post Office
(opening 27 July)**

National Lottery

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7.00am to 8.00pm

01249 819209

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Available for Hire**

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Available for Hire

Preferential rates for local residents
Derry Hill, Studley and Sandy Lane

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and bookings**

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www.lansdownehall.org

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Editorial

As we move into June and the days continue to stretch longer into the evening, it is lovely to see so many people out and about enjoying our villages whenever the weather allows. Gardens are bursting into colour, footpaths are well used, and there is a real sense of community as summer approaches.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped prepare the village for the Best Kept Village competition judging. From litter picking and tidying communal spaces to tending gardens and helping neighbours, every contribution has played a part in showing our community at its very best. We are now awaiting the outcome of the judging, but whatever the result, the pride and teamwork shown across the village has already been something to celebrate.

Attention is now beginning to turn towards the next big community event of the summer; the Village Fete in July. Many of our local groups and organisations are already making plans, and we are very grateful to the Community Committee for taking on the organisation of this much-loved event. The fete is always a wonderful opportunity to bring people together, and we look forward to seeing the community once again enjoying a day filled with fun, entertainment, and village spirit.

I hope you all enjoy the weeks ahead and make the most of the lighter evenings and opportunities to spend time outdoors with friends, family, and neighbours.

Ed

Community Groups contact details

Derry Hill & Studley Parish Council	Parish Clerk clerk@derryhillandstudley-pc.gov.uk
Christ church - Derry Hill	Administrator enquiries@mardenvale.org.uk
	Church Wardens Peter Rigby 01225 704356 Ian Liddle 01249 816229
	Treasurer Dorina Freeman 07449 321199
	Secretary Lucinda Prater 07882469005
Derry Hill Art Club	Dani French 01249 806106
Lansdowne Hall	Jane Clark administrator@lansdownehall.org
Derry Hill Community Heartbeat	Julian Oliver Julesoliver3@gmail.com
1 st Derry Hill Rainbows Brownies and Guides	www.girlguiding.org.uk
Friends of Derry Hill School	friends@derryhill.wilts.sch.uk
Rub a Dub Preschool	rubadubpreschoolenquiries@gmail.com
Derry Hill School	admin@derryhill.wilts.sch.uk
Derry Hill United Football Club	admin@dhufc.org
1 ST Derry Hill Scouts	waitinglist@1stderryhillscouts.org.uk
Derry Hill & District WI	derryhillsec@wiltshirewi.org.uk
Derry Tots Toddler Group	engdhuf@gmail.com
Derry Hill Hotshots walking netball	Pauline.Cooke2@btinternet.com
Derry Hill & Studley Gardening Club	DHANDSGC@outlook.com
Community committee	www.derryhillandstudley.org
Bowood Carving and woodwork group	bowoodcarving@gmail.com
Wellbeing Walks on Wednesdays	Colette Som 01249 736497

Derry Hill and Studley Parish Council



It is now one year since Calne Without Parish Council became Derry Hill and Studley Parish Council. As a smaller council, Derry Hill and Studley PC is more financially constrained, which means that we need to take a strategic approach to financial planning in order to support the delivery of community improvements.

We've started work on a four-year rolling Strategic Plan and we're asking residents for their ideas and views on what improvements they would like to see in our Parish. We'll use the responses to help develop the Plan, so this is **your** opportunity to have a say and help shape the future of our community. Suggestions may be outside of the powers and remit of a Parish Council to deliver, but we may nevertheless seek to achieve over time through lobbying and influencing.

To complete the survey, please scan the QR Code or put the following address into your browser:
<https://forms.office.com/e/KL2h46Zeij>
Alternatively, please contact our Parish Clerk if you'd like a paper copy to complete.



Following the resignation of one of our councillors, we have a vacancy for Derry Hill and Studley Ward. If you'd like to apply to be co-opted as a parish councillor, then please contact our Parish Clerk for an application form, Applications close on Friday 26th June 2026.

Next Council Meeting Dates

Monday 8th June 2026 @ 7:30pm – Full Council

Monday 29th June 2026 @ 7:30pm – Finance Committee

Monday 13th July 2026 @ 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, Chair

JOIN DERRY HILL & STUDLEY PARISH COUNCIL TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO YOUR COMMUNITY

Following a recent councillor
resignation we have one vacant
seat for a councillor to represent
Derry Hill & Studley Ward.

For an application form visit
www.derryhillandstudley-pc.gov.uk

Be a positive influence within the community.

Applications must be received by
Friday 26th June 2026



clerk@derryhillandstudley-pc.gov.uk

Lansdowne Hall News

Charity Event in aid of Children's Oncology at the Great Western Hospital

The Lansdowne Hall is delighted to be providing the venue for a Flower Demonstration Fundraiser to support Children's Oncology at the Great Western Hospital on Saturday 4th July starting at 6.45pm. In support of this local event the hall has been able to supply the venue for free.

Local residents enjoy special reduced hire rates for the Hall's facilities, and for major community events the Hall Committee works with organisers to provide the best service often accepting a donation in lieu of hire costs.

Hall Multi Pitch

With the Football World Cup starting this month there will be the usual excitement and a new generation will catch the football bug. If you are arranging a football party and want to save your garden plants from being flattened why not hire the Hall multi pitch at £6.50 an hour for a 5 aside game or kick around.

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

Lansdowne Hall Management Committee

Rector's notes

One of the aspects of church life that I think is very important is the opportunity to meet in smaller groups to talk about our shared faith. I've mentioned this before, but asking questions is an essential part of any learning, and since heckling during sermons is frowned down upon, these small groups offer the perfect place.

June and July sees our termly study groups meeting again, this time to look at a part of the Bible that most of us know very little about – Sometimes known as 'The Apocrypha', or the deuterocanonical writings. These books don't appear in the standard Protestant Bible, but they *are* part of the Bible for Roman Catholics and Orthodox Christians. Up until the 16th century Reformation, they were part of everyone's Bibles! For Anglicans today, these books do appear in our regular pattern of readings, but always with alternatives given from the standard 66 books. The official C of E view is that these books are spiritually valuable for instruction, but not for defining Christian doctrine.

But actually contained in these books are some incredible stories of heroes of the faith from the centuries between the Old and New Testaments – like Judas Maccabeus, Tobit, Judith, Susanna and many others. The whole story behind the Jewish festival of Hannukah is here (also known as the Festival of Dedication, which Jesus himself is recorded as attending in John chapter 10).

Beginning in June, we have five or six study groups meeting across the Marden Vale Benefice in people's homes and online to look at these writings. This is the first time I've ever done a study in small groups on this subject. The final details of the groups' dates and venues are still being worked out, but please look at the weekly notice sheet on the benefice website to find out how you can join a group: www.mardenvale.org.uk

With my prayers and best wishes

Caspar Bush Team Rector, Marden Vale Benefice

E - Caspar.Bush@mardenvale.org.uk or T - 01249 914364

June 2026 Church Services

Details of the Church services for June are available on the Marden Vale Benefice Website (<https://www.mardenvale.org.uk/>)

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.

Derry Hill C of E (VA) Primary School

The sun is shining and we are fully embracing spring here at Derry Hill School, the children are enjoying their time outside. During Forest School sessions, children are noticing the seasonal changes and taking the time to listen to what nature has to offer. Families of Derry Hill also recently enjoyed the great outdoors as the children recited some poems to them, wrote some letters and performed some songs to show how much they appreciate them. This was for our Family Appreciation afternoon; fun was had by all! Parents also were able to enjoy their children's art work at our annual art showcase.

Mrs H Roberts

Christ Church, Derry Hill

All Creatures Great and Small Pet service



A short service to bless our pets and give thanks for all God's animals.

**Sunday 28th June
2026 – 11am**

All creatures very welcome (...you can bring a photo of your pet or bring a toy pet.)

Weather permitting it will be outside. We would love to see you all ... Rev Annie and Peter.

Parish Clerk Notes

The UK's traditional landline phone service is changing. By January 2027 phone calls will be made using a broadband connection instead of the old copper phone network.

For most people, the change will be straightforward. Your phone number will stay the same, and many existing handsets will continue to work. However, it is important to check whether anything else in your home or business relies on your landline such as telecare and personal alarm systems, door entry and burglar alarms etc. If these devices are not compatible with a digital connection, they may stop working unless changes are made.

To find out more please visit the website below;

www.wiltshire.gov.uk/digital-phones-switchover

There are regularly roadworks in the locality, to get up to date information on planned roadworks please use www.one.network for all the information.

Do you know about the mywilts app? If you see something in the area that you feel needs attention, the quickest way to bring it to Wiltshire Councils attention is to log it on my wilts, broken traffic lights, blocked drains, potholes, trees overhanging highways are all examples of things that can be quickly reported on the app. Visit www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywilts-online-reporting to find out more.

Mothers' Union Prayer & Fellowship Group

We met on Wednesday 6th May and after discussing the forthcoming 150th Anniversary Songs of Praise Service in September we handed over to Nan who gave us a wonderful talk and demonstration of a floral display. All the beautiful flowers came from Clare's garden and a lovely oblong container covered with bark was used; the overall result was a stunning display which was raffled at the end and the lucky lady to win was Judi, well done. Many thanks go to Nan for a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon.

Our next meeting is on Wed 3rd June at 2pm in Christ Church when Rev'd Annie Church will be taking our annual Holy Communion Service. Refreshments will be provided afterwards by Dierdre, and all are very welcome to join us.

Barbara M Parry



Your phone landline is changing – are you ready?

By January 2027, the UK's traditional landline is getting an upgrade and is switching to new digital phone lines.

If you or a loved one have a personal emergency alarm (telecare alarm) that uses your landline, this change could stop it from working.

Don't wait until the switchover, contact your phone company as soon as possible to stay connected.

[www.wiltshire.gov.uk/
digital-phones-switchover](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/digital-phones-switchover)

Wiltshire Council



Derry Hill & Studley



Best Kept Village Competition 2026



Derry Hill and Studley are entering the Wiltshire Best Kept Village competition again this year. In 2025, we came second in the North Wiltshire region - a fantastic achievement for our first effort.



What do we need
to show?



- Community Spirit
- Attention to detail
- Tidiness and presentation of villages
- How we protect and enhance our local environment



When do we need to be
ready?



Initial judging:

11th May- 7th June

contact; martin.handyside@derryhillandstudley-pc.gov.uk

CPR & Defibrillator Training

Our training session last month in the Lansdowne Hall was attended by 10 people and we are grateful to Bruce, our paramedic, for his practical demonstrations, his insightful explanations and of course his lively humour! Unfortunately 5 people who had booked failed to attend, but if you missed the session scan below and watch this video:



Where Are our Defibs?

Do you know where our 6 defibrillators are in the village? Don't wait for an emergency use Defib Finder:

<https://www.defibfinder.uk>

Click "Otherwise continue", "Continue", Enter your postcode or Derry Hill, Calne and you will see the location of the six defibs in Derry Hill and Studley. Click on each marker to see precise location, its ready status, and how to get there. Or check up on other locations you visit regularly.

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

Account Name: Derry Hill and Studley Heartbeat

Sort Code: 30-91-99

Account No: 52349360

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

Derry Hill United Football Club.

Are you looking for a football team?



We have some spaces going into next season. Year groups listed are the year the player will be in September 2026.

Email us on joinus@dhufc.org for more information.



SPACES FOR 2026/2027 SEASON

(YEAR GROUPS IN SEPT 26)

MIXED FOOTBALL

U16 INFERNO (YEAR 11)

U15 FLARES (YEAR 10)

U14 BURN (YEAR 9)

U13 VULCANS (YEAR 8)

U8 FIREBOLTS (YEAR 3)

U7 BLAZE (YEAR 2)

U6 HOTSHOTS (YEAR 1)

GIRLS FOOTBALL

U15/U16 GIRLS PHOENIX (YEARS 10/11)

U11 GIRLS BEACONS (YEAR 6)

U10 GIRLS FIREWORKS (YEAR 5)

U6/U7 WILDCATS (YEARS 1/2)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO ARRANGE SOME FREE
TRAINING SESSIONS
EMAIL JOINUS@DHUFC.ORG**

The Sky at Night

June brings the shortest nights of the year, but there are still plenty of reasons to look up at the night sky.



One of the highlights this month is the close conjunction of Venus and Jupiter on 8th June. The two brightest planets will appear very close together low in the western sky after sunset, creating a striking sight visible to the naked eye.

The Summer Solstice falls on 21st June, marking the longest day of the year and the official start of astronomical summer. After this date, the nights slowly begin to draw in again.

Look out too for the bright stars of the “Summer Triangle” appearing later in the evening, while the Full Moon on 29th June — known as the Strawberry Moon — will light up the sky.

June is also a good month to watch for noctilucent clouds, delicate glowing blue clouds that can sometimes be seen low in the northern sky after sunset.

Even with the lighter nights, a few minutes spent outside on a clear evening can still reveal some wonderful sights overhead.

Katherine Checchia

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 had great fun at the pantomime and are looking forward to celebrating World Thinking Day

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, Jess and Lucy

1st Derry Hill Scout Group

Can you help?

1st Derry Hill Scout Group need your help.

The trustee board chairman position is becoming vacant in the Summer as the current chair Mr Duane Clark is stepping down after over a decade of association with the Group.

The Trustee Board which meets quarterly with an AGM in the Summer oversees the groups affairs.

Ensuring that the fixtures and fittings that the children use are maintained, and that the activities they enjoy are conducted in a safe and secure way.

If you interested in helping one of the communities most popular groups, please contact.

Chris Mayer

Lead Group Volunteer

1st Derry Hill Scout Group

chris.johnmayer@btinternet.com

Rub-A-Dub Pre-School



May Highlights

Many thanks to those who dropped off clothes to the Bag2School donation, all the money raised will go straight to the Pre-school.

Coming up in June

We have a busy month this month, with lots of exciting events for the children and families to enjoy.

We will be hosting the Dads this month for our annual 'Den Day with Dads'. The children and their fathers will work together to build the most creative and sturdy den they can, with the materials we provide. This is always a popular day and only slightly competitive! At the end of the month, the children will compete at our Sports Day, with families invited to cheer them on. It's a great chance for the families to get together and watch the children enjoy the races and games, hopefully in the sunshine!

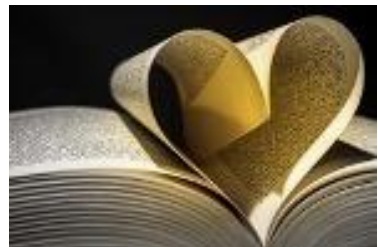
Kind regards,

Megan Lee (Committee Secretary)

Mobile Library Visits to Derry Hill

Lansdowne Hall, Derry Hill
14.30-15.45
Tuesday 9th & 23rd June 2026

Kingston House Derry Hill
10.10-10.30
Monday 1st & 29th June 2026



Derry Tots Toddler Group

Derry Tots is a welcoming toddler group for children from birth to 5 years old, held every Wednesday during term time, 9:30–11:30am at the Lansdowne Village Hall.



Run entirely by volunteers, our group offers a warm, friendly space for little ones to play, explore, and learn — and for parents, grandparents, and carers to connect with others in the local community.

Each week features themed crafts, stories, and a fun rhyme time, along with a variety of toys, role play activities, and a cosy reading corner. Babies have a safe area to enjoy, and in the warmer months we make the most of the outdoors, while our large, bright hall keeps us cosy through the winter.

We provide healthy snacks for the children and hot drinks and biscuits for the grown-ups. If you'd like to join us regularly, the cost is £2.50 for the first child and £1.50 for additional children. We know that committing to a playgroup every week isn't always easy, so we've also introduced a flexible, non-subscription option for parents and carers who need a bit more wiggle room - just email the contact below if you'd like more info.

Whether you're new to the area or a familiar face, Derry Tots is a lovely place to spend the morning — full of friendly chatter, happy play, and community spirit.

Interested in Joining Us?

If you'd like to know more about the playgroup, please contact us at enqdhuf@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

Calne Neighbourhood Policing Update



Crime and incident updates

- On 29/04/2026. A male was reported as missing and later located in woodland near to Studley.
- On 23/05/2026, a female was found in distress on the Millennium Bridge at Black Dog Hill. The female was taken home to gain ongoing mental health support.

Vehicles damaged in Derry Hill

Overnight 13-14th May, several vehicles were damaged in a car park by an unknown person. This has consisted of wing mirrors being torn off or damaged.



If you have any information on this matter, or who may be responsible, please contact me on the above email address.

Quoting crime numbers reported so far:
54260057847, 54260057873, 54260057874

Summer Crime Prevention advice

Police advise that as warmer weather arrives, residents should remain vigilant against opportunistic crime by keeping doors and windows locked—even when at home. Secure gardens and sheds, avoid advertising holidays on social media, and keep valuables out of sight to prevent theft.

Home Security

- Lock Up: Always lock doors and windows, even when in the back garden or just leaving for a short time.
- Consider CCTV or doorbell camera.
- Check Windows: Ensure windows are not left open in unoccupied rooms, particularly those accessible from public areas.
- Secure Sheds/Garages: Lock away tools and bikes, as burglars use these to gain access to homes.

- The "Occupied" Illusion: Use timer switches for lights if out in the evening to make the home look occupied.
- Keys: Keep keys out of sight and away from letterboxes or cat flaps.

Personal Security & Outdoors

- Public Safety: Keep phones, wallets, and bags close and visible; avoid putting them in back pockets.
- Unattended Property: Never leave bags unattended, even briefly, in public places or shopping trolleys.
- Vehicles: Keep cars locked and use a "Faraday" bag for keyless fob keys.

Holiday Safety

- Social Media: Do not broadcast holiday plans on social media; share your adventures after you return to avoid highlighting an empty home.
- Secure Premises: Set burglar alarms and consider using timers for lights or radios to deter intruders.

Reporting

- If you witness suspicious activity, report it to the police immediately on 101 or 999 to help protect your neighbourhood.

Social Media and Community Messaging

Regular updates and details of our public engagement events can be found on Facebook page: Calne police

PCSO Mark Cook
Calne Neighbourhood Police Team

Social Media and Community Messaging

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Calne Neighbourhood Police Team

Derry Hill & District W.I.



Last month Nigel Linacre from the local charity Well Boring told us about their work digging wells beside rural schools in Africa to provide safe drinking water. He was an inspirational speaker.

In June our speaker will be the very entertaining Debs Marrison-Wood. Last time she visited us we had great fun learning about her work as a milliner and trying on a huge variety of hats.

A group of us went for a walk around Sutton Meadows at Sutton Benger to see all the orchids and cowslips. We had coffee at the Sun Café at the back of the Rising Sun at Christian Milford. This is a lovely venue run by Jean who many of you may remember from when she worked in our village shop.

We were very pleased to hear at our last meeting that we had raised well over £200 in the past year for our chosen charity, Julia's House in Devizes, just from selling our unwanted books, plants and scarves and from our competitions.

In the future we are looking forward to another couple of garden visits, to Cadenham Manor, Foxham and to Beggar's Knoll at Westbury. A group of us are very busy planning our entry for the wheelbarrow parade at the village fete. Whilst our plans are obviously top secret, I'm just going to give you a sneaky preview and show you what Alex has made.



If you want to see more you'll have to come to the fete on July 11th

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 or go on our waiting list, please contact our secretary. Email: derryhillsec@wiltshirewi.org.uk

Sally

Email: derryhillsec@wiltshirewi.org.uk

JAZZ CLUB

Our next concert at Marden House,
Calne, will be on
June 30th
21st Anniversary Party
Dave (of course) plus!!



Admission still only £10,
please pay at the door as usual....
Reservations please to this email and say where you'd prefer to sit in
rows 1 to 6 - on the back wall or in the balcony...
BYO Refreshments please as there's
NO BAR!

Meditation – a contemplative space to be present

Why not join us for an introduction to meditation on any Wednesday evening during the coming winter? Take a 30-minute break from your business and discover this gentle way of stilling your mind and body.



We meet in Derry Hill Church and all are welcome. Each time we sit down to meditate, we are all beginners, so all you have to do is just turn up!

And it is simple, we arrive in quiet and listen to a short reading before meditating together for 20 minutes. We end with a short reading. And there are chairs not cushions for us to sit on!

We meet every Wednesday from 6.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.

You can just turn up or if you need further information, please contact [Janet Robbins](mailto:Janet.Robbins@wccm.org) on 01249 814845
www.WCCM.org

Derry Hill & Studley Gardening Club



Derry Hill & Studley Gardening Club

At our May meeting we welcomed back Ray Broughton from Winchester to talk to us and give us useful tips about growing vegetables.

One tip - when you dead head your marigolds leave the dead heads in the vegetable garden to deter pests.

On Saturday 2nd May, several members of the Gardening Club worked on tidying and putting in new plants at the front of the Lansdowne Village Hall. Other members worked on the War Memorial Garden.



The next meeting is on Tuesday 2nd June. Our speaker will be Alan Holland from TWIGS Community Garden, Swindon.

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month February to November 7.30pm at Christ Church, Derry Hill. The annual cost is £25 per household.

New members always welcome.

Paula Wheatcroft
DHANDSGC@outlook.com
0783 3755232.

Climate and Environment Group

Around 80% of people in the UK are concerned about climate change and the environment, but it's difficult to know what we can do as individuals. To help at a local level, the Parish Council has relaunched its Climate and Environment Working Group and is looking for more volunteers to get involved.

In previous years, the Group has organised events at the village hall, a thermal imaging camera loan scheme, a free tree scheme, the community orchard and restoration work to the River Marden.

Since the relaunch, we've held a couple of planning meetings in the Lansdowne Arms and have around a dozen members involved, both parish councillors and community volunteers. If you'd like to get involved, then please contact the Parish Clerk at clerk@derryhillandstudley-pc.gov.uk.

We've also done some early work to support this year's Best Kept Village Entry, planting a wildflower mini-meadow at Bowood Sports Ground.

To help plan future initiatives, we're inviting all Derry Hill and Studley residents to complete an online survey so that we can get a better handle on:

- What changes local people are making to their homes and lifestyle.
- What you'd be interested in learning more about, through, e.g. local talks.
- Interest in involvement in local environmental or nature recovery projects.



Please do take a few minutes to complete the questionnaire to help us plan activities that may be of benefit to you, our community, and the wider environment. Just scan the QR code or put the following address into your browser:

<https://forms.office.com/e/qLqPStYw7J>

Jenny Joyce & John Barnes



**The Hub - serving Derry Hill,
Studley, Old Derry Hill and Sandy
Lane**

*Click below to access lots of information in
our villages*

www.derryhillandstudley.org



frameworks

bespoke picture framing
07963 967444

- Custom frames made to measure •
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UPDATE: FOREST GATE SOLAR FARM CONSTRUCTION

Pre-construction work has been progressing on site. This has included building the site entrances on the A4, hedge and tree maintenance on the boundary and within the site, and test piling.

We currently expect to start the main building works in late Spring/early Summer.

We remain committed to minimising disruption and to keeping the local community fully informed as the project progresses. When full construction information is confirmed it will be shared:

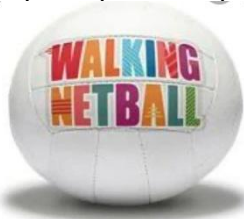
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Useful info:

- We play Mondays and Fridays (Term time) –



you don't have to come both days unless you want to.

- Location – Derry Hill Village Hall (SN11 9QY)– Outside if weather permits – Inside if not.
- Time – 1.45pm – 2.45pm
- Cost £3 per session – 1st session is free!
- We also have a social side – afternoons teas, meals out coffee catch ups.

Come and give it a go what do you have to lose!!



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Pauline.Cooke2@btinternet.com

Or on Facebook 

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Flower Demonstration Fundraiser

In January last year, our daughter Evie was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia. Since then, she has undergone various chemotherapy treatments and, thankfully, is now in remission. Throughout this difficult time, the Children's Oncology Team at Great Western Hospital have provided outstanding care, showing not only expertise but real kindness to Evie, her sister Grace, and our family.

To say thank you, I am organising a fundraiser to support the team who have done so much for us. The funds raised will go towards a much-needed piece of equipment that the unit currently cannot afford. This will allow nurses to practise accessing Ports and Hickman Lines in children, helping them to deliver treatment and take blood samples with greater confidence and care.

We chose to hold the fundraiser in Derry Hill, a village that has always meant a great deal to us. I grew up there and, although I no longer live in the village, I still feel a strong connection. Many of you may know my parents, Lyn and Mike Jarvis, and my grandparents, Leonard and Gladys Jarvis, and Rita and Phillip Crabb, all of whom were part of the Derry Hill community. My husband and I were married in the church, and both Evie and Grace were christened there, making it a very special place for our family.

The evening will feature a flower demonstration by Michael Bowyer, who also has close ties to the village as my dad's cousin and spent much of his younger years here. It promises to be an enjoyable evening, with Michael creating beautiful arrangements while sharing stories from his travels.

It would be wonderful to see some familiar faces from Derry Hill—do come along, enjoy the evening, and help support a very worthwhile cause.

Vicky Goodship

FLOWER DEMONSTRATION FUNDRAISER

With Michael Bowyer MBE

In aid of Children's Oncology at The Great
Western Hospital



**Saturday 4th July. Doors open at 6.45pm to
start at 7.30pm**

**At
Derry Hill Village Hall, Petty Lane,
Derry Hill, Calne, Wiltshire
SN11 9QY**



**£10 per ticket (non-refundable)
Demonstration flowers will be entered into a raffle**

Please contact Vicky Goodship on 07846 903017 for a ticket.

Book Club Review

Maurice and Maralyn by Sophie Elmhirst

Sophie Elmhirst is a prize-winning journalist, and this is her first book. It is an account of Maurice and Maralyn Bailey's extraordinary adventure on the seas of the Pacific where their dreams of escape turn to disaster. It is the Nero Books Awards 2024 Non-Fiction Winner.

Maurice and Maralyn tell the story of what happened when a husband and wife decide to escape their suburban life in 1970s Derby and instead build a boat and set off to sail to New Zealand. Their dream collapses after a chance encounter with an injured whale leaves them adrift on the Pacific Ocean on a tiny raft for 117 days.

A fight for survival follows, as well as a test of their endurance and their love for one another. Their experience made them very appreciative of the wildlife around them and although they killed the turtles, fish, sharks and birds that visited their raft or passed by in order to survive when they returned to human civilisation, they became vegetarians and never ate meat again.

We found this book an interesting true-life account of survival in the most extreme circumstances and how the personalities of both Maurice and Maralyn affected their ordeal and their life changing experience on the raft.

It was easy to read and members of Book club researched further into the couple's account, looking at you tube interviews etc.

Some of us thought it lacked the depth of a first-person narrative account, but some preferred that so I'd encourage you to see for yourself what you think...

Sue Deedigan

Derry Hill Bookclub



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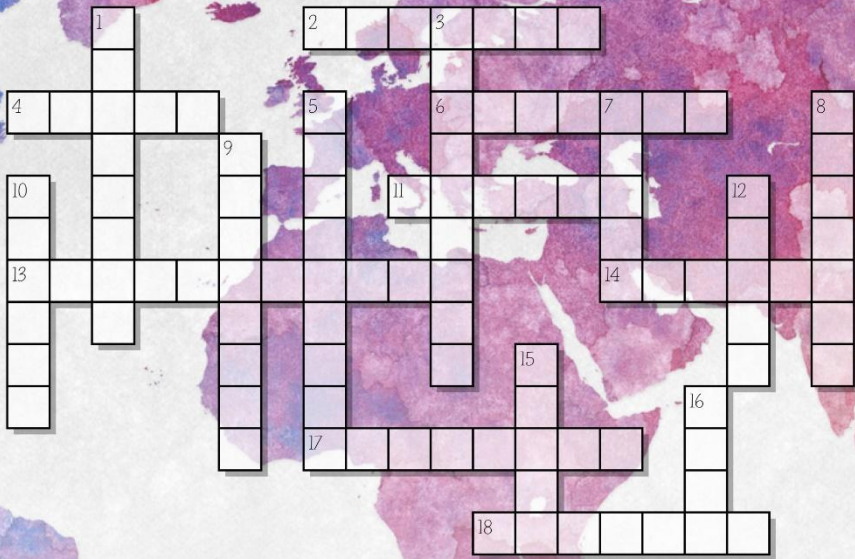
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June 2026 crossword



ACROSS

- 2 Breathe(7)
 4 Confess(5)
 6 No longer working(7)
 11 Crowd(6)
 13 School subject (11)
 14 Soup dish(6)

- 17 Spotted beetle(8)
 18 Sensation(7)
- ## DOWN
- 1 Whole(8)
 3 Bought(9)
 5 Exactly the same(9)

- 7 Correct(5)
 8 Lockjaw(7)
 9 Mercy(8)
 10 Stay(6)
 12 Thin pancake(5)
 15 Forgo(5)
 16 Farm building(4)

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Wellbeing notes

Mastering the art of ‘enough’

The first time I ever went gathering wild garlic in our local woods, I went a bit mad. There was so *much* of it: carpets of lush, edible green that I was going to turn into jars and jars of pesto sauce. Trouble was, no one could make that much sauce, or sides of greens, or casserole additions. I ended up composting much of it, feeling bad. After that, in successive years, I learnt to harvest no more than needed.

A good friend of mine learnt the lesson of ‘enough’ at an ‘eat all you can’ restaurant when she was young and broke. She went with a friend and they both stuffed themselves so full they felt sick. Never again!

Large supermarkets tempt us with bulk buys of our favourite treats. Nowadays I avoid such ‘bargains’, as I’ve learnt the hard way that I will end up bingeing. It’s far nicer to buy a single treat, and enjoy it mindfully, as I did the other day at Tea Inc. in Devizes where I tucked into a yummy chocolate brownie. Such moments are all the better for not happening too often.



When we begin to master the art of enough, something remarkable happens: we begin to trust that our needs will be met – no panic buying or hoarding required. As Lao Tzu says in the ***Tao Te Ching***, ‘He who knows that enough is enough will always have enough’.

Suzanne Askham

Wellbeing notes from Old Derry Hill

Wellbeing Walks on Wednesdays

What time do the group meet?

9.30am at the Lansdowne Hall next to the bench under the tree.

What sort of walks does the group do?

The most appropriate to the group that meets. Get in touch and join the WhatsApp group for more info.

What sort of footwear would be appropriate?

ANY but most importantly suiting the weather and your feet!

Is there a plan of walks?

The WhatsApp group will provide more information.

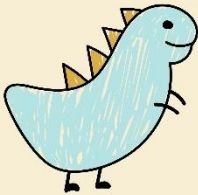
We're sorry but strictly no dogs can join the walks.



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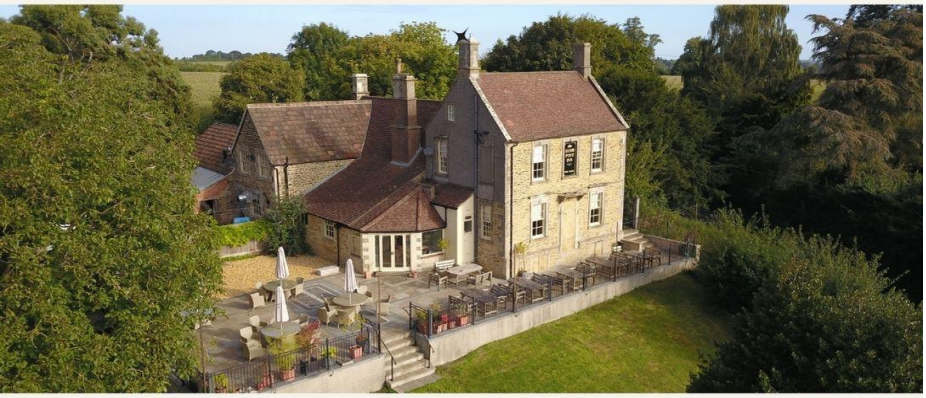
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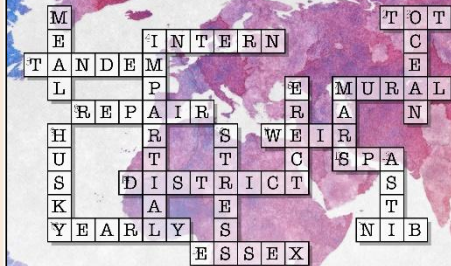
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May 2026 Crossword



ACROSS


- 2 Young child (3)
- 4 Trainee (5)
- 5 Bike for 2 (6)
- 7 Wall painting (5)
- 8 Mend (6)
- 11 Low dam (4)

DOWN

- 12 Health resort (3)
- 14 Region (8)
- 15 Annually (6)
- 16 Pen part (3)
- 17 English county (5)
- 1 Repast (4)

ACROSS

- 3 Large sea (5)
- 4 Neutral (9)
- 6 Upright (5)
- 7 Planet (4)
- 9 Sled dog (5)
- 10 Emphasise (6)
- 13 Italian wine (4)



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