

DERRY HILL & STUDLEY VILLAGE FETE

Saturday 11 July 2026

13.30 to 17.00

ENTRY VIA LANSDOWNE HALL GARDEN GATE

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF FAMILY FUN!



Cakes
Tombola
Community Groups
Childrens Activities
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FREE ENTRY

For more information visit:
www.derryhillandstudley.org

July / August 2026

The Magazine of Derry Hill & Studley Parish



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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
Full page	£200.00	12 by 16

Cover Picture: Fete Poster by Katherine Checchia

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Editorial

As I sit down to write this editorial, it marks my tenth edition as editor of inSPIRE and completes my first full publishing year with the magazine. Since my first edition in September last year, the months have flown by, and it has been a privilege to help bring together the stories, news and events that make our villages such vibrant places to live.

One of the most rewarding aspects of the role has been getting to know more members of our community. Putting together the magazine each month has introduced me to people, groups and organisations that I might not otherwise have met, and it has been a pleasure to learn more about the many activities and initiatives that make our villages such special places.

The magazine thrives thanks to the contributions of local groups and organisations. If your club, society, charity or community group does not currently submit articles, please consider doing so. There is always space to share your news, events and achievements, helping keep residents informed and connected.

This month also sees one of the highlights of the village calendar: the Village Fete. As always, it promises to be a wonderful afternoon where the community comes together to enjoy good company and plenty of fun. It is also an important opportunity for local groups to raise funds, raise their profile and recruit new members and volunteers.

If you are attending, take some time to visit the stalls and talk to the people behind them. Whether you are new to the area, looking for a new hobby or interested in volunteering, the fete is a fantastic opportunity to discover what is happening in the village and how you can get involved.

As always, I hope you enjoy this two month edition of inSPIRE and thank you to everyone who contributes to making both the magazine and our community such a success.

Katherine

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



Many thanks to everybody for their patience with the roadworks in Derry Hill over the past month. During July there will be carriageway resurfacing along the eastern end of Church Road. The traffic calming work will then be completed in August once this resurfacing work has been done.

I am also pleased to advise that Wiltshire Council will be reducing the speed limit from 50mph to 40mph to the south of Sandy Lane. We are hopeful that this will act as a buffer to reduce traffic speeds entering the village.

Last month, Gallagher Developments & Gleeson Homes launched a public consultation on a proposed development of 1,200 new homes in land between the London Road, Pewsham Way & the old canal (see www.pewshamchippenham.co.uk).

By the time this is published we will have responded to the consultation. It's an early consultation and there will also be further opportunities to respond to the outline planning application when it's submitted. There is also a petition which can be found at <https://c.org/WjGvCrTJns>.

This site was allocated for housing in Wiltshire's draft Local Plan, something we contested at the time. Sadly, this means it is likely to be approved, so we'll be arguing the case to mitigate the impact of the development on our parish as far as possible.

We're particularly concerned with traffic impact on the local road network & are also pushing for reinstatement of the canal through the site, together with the establishment of a strong green buffer to the south of the development to prevent the coalescence of Chippenham with the communities of our parish.

Finally, last month's inSPIRE included links to two Parish Council consultation surveys. These are still open, so if you haven't yet completed them, the links are below:

Parish Survey: helping us understand the views and priorities of residents across the parish:

<https://forms.office.com/e/KL2h46ZeiJ>



Climate & Environment Survey – gathering specific feedback on green issues, sustainability and climate-related priorities within our community.

<https://forms.office.com/e/gLqPStYw7J>



Next Council Meeting Dates

Monday 13th July 2026 @ 7:30pm – Full Council

Monday 20th July 2026 @ 7:30pm – Human Resources Committee

Monday 14th September 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

July & August 2026 Church Services

Details of the Church services for July & August 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.

Lansdowne Hall News

Derry Hill and Studley Village Fete

We are looking forward to the village fete on 11th July. Come and visit our stall at the Fete to find out about all our facilities and the improvements we have planned for the Hall. Take the opportunity to see the facilities and ask questions to see if the hall could provide a venue for your group or event.

We will also be showcasing plans made in partnership with the Derry Hill Gardening Club to create a community garden at the front of the Hall, come and see how you can help us by giving your time or donating plants.

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

Don't forget about this flower demonstration fundraiser taking place on Saturday 4th July 2026.

Hall Multi Pitch

With the Football World Cup now in full swing 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

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



We're throwing a festival in a field and you're invited!"

Have you ever been to a Christian Festival? I don't mean the annual Festivals of the Christian calendar, such as Christmas, Easter or Pentecost. I mean the events such as Spring Harvest or Greenbelt, at which people gather from across the country, to worship together, hear some great speakers, and maybe get involved in activities which are part of the programme. These events are a great opportunity to be encouraged and challenged in our faith, but they can be expensive, and/or mean travelling a long way.

But did you know that there's a Christian Festival here within our own Benefice? Eden Bridge Festival took place for the first time last year, and it's back for 2026! Eden Bridge is a family-focussed Christian Music Festival, which takes place in a field.



Everyone is welcome, whether you're firmly rooted in church life, exploring faith for the first time, or somewhere in between. Tickets are free (but you do need to book, as there's a limit on numbers). There's plenty of children's activities, crafts, bouncy castle, a drum workshop, and more. A variety of groups will be leading worship throughout the day, and a prayer tent, food and drink will be available. It's all happening on Saturday 22nd August, 11:00 am – 6:00pm at Wick Bridge Farm, Bremhill. More details, and a link to book tickets, are available online: <https://www.edenbridge.love/>, or look out for leaflets which will be in churches soon. I'll look forward to seeing you there!

***One field. One faith. One joyful noise.
Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!
Serve the Lord with gladness!
Come into his presence with singing!***

(Psalm 100:1-2)

With prayers and best wishes

Sarah Errington

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

Derry Hill & Studley Fete

The fete takes place at the Lansdowne Hall and school field from 1:30 - 5pm on Saturday 11th July. Access will be via the Lansdowne Hall garden gate off Aylen Way.

The theme this year is “If you go down to the woods today” in honour of the 100th anniversary of the publication of Winnie the Pooh. So, expect a lot of bear action on the day!

You can expect to see all your favourite stalls with cakes, tombola, bottles, water and wine and gardening accoutrements along with information stalls and plenty of children’s games and activities.

In the arena this year we have our regular activities including Rub-a-Dub races and the Fitzgraham Academy of Dance as well as a new spectacle which will bring brain-teasing challenges for our scouting and girlguiding organisations – can’t wait for that.

On hand to provide a little sustenance we will have The Dumb Post BBQ, coffee and tea and the ever popular Fete bar.

We have the return of the barrows this year to lead the fete parade at 2pm when we will announce the Annette Leaver Community Award for 2026.

Finally, we have the grand raffle with prizes galore and some quite special ones at that. We are grateful to all those who have donated raffle prizes and to our fabulous sponsors, The Dumb Post, Assured Partners and Artway.

We’re looking forward to a lovely afternoon and to seeing all of you.

Thanks

Peter Prater

Chair,
Derry Hill & Studley Fete Organising Committee

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 Council's 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 had a lovely meeting when we met on Wednesday 3rd June in Christ Church and our grateful thanks go to Rev'd Annie Church for taking our annual Holy Communion Service. It was a meaningful service with an excellent sermon enabling interesting thoughts to be shared and discussed.

After the service we enjoyed friendly chat over tea and light refreshments thanks to Deirdre. This was our last meeting in Christ Church until September when we are having a 'Songs of Praise' to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Mothers Union. In the meantime we are having our July meeting in Barbara's garden with an Afternoon Tea and in August we will join Calne MU to celebrate Mary Sumner Day with a service in St Mary's Calne.

Barbara M Parry

Heartbeat at the Village Fete

Come and see us at the Fete to find out what our latest defibs look like and we will show you how to use them. We can also show you where your nearest one is

– its important to know where to go in an emergency. If you missed our training session last month we can also give you a quick catch up or you can scan below for a 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

Many thanks for all your support

Julian Derry Hill and Studley Heartbeat

07769 970401 / julesoliver3@gmail.com

Derry Hill United Football Club

What a month! What a season!



Over 260 players in 20 teams have played in over 400 games over the season. It has been great to see all the players improving their football skills and making friends.

Over the weekend of 6/7 June 2026 we held our second girls' tournament and welcomed 70 teams and over 550 girls from across Wiltshire to Bowood Sports Ground. Thanks to volunteers from across the club we put on a great tournament with some amazing football on show. Thanks to Jasmine Kennedy (RWBTF C 1st team) and Millie Price (Swindon Town C6), who both played their youth football at Derry Hill, for coming to present the girls with their medals and trophies.

We ran mixed football tournament nights for our mixed teams. These were great fun - who doesn't want to play in a football tournament after school! There were lots of great goals and on the final night U10 Heat won the U12 Cup. Well done Heat.

To end the season we had a fun day of football, climbing, sun, soak the coach, trophies and food at BSG. An opportunity for us to congratulate the players, thank parents for bringing their children to football and thank coaches for all the hard work they put into the sessions and matches they coach (and all the admin that needs to be done behind the scenes).

Finally, on 13th June we celebrated 25 years of football at Derry Hill Utd FC. We were delighted to welcome many of the founder members to Bowood Sports Ground for an evening BBQ. The founding members shared stories of the club's beginnings and we told them about the recent seasons and plans for the future. We also said goodbye to Chris Saville, one of our longstanding volunteers, who is stepping down after 20 years of volunteering at the club.

Keep your eye on our social media for details of our summer camps. We have some spaces in our squads for the coming season. If you would like more information please email joinus@dhufc.org

Administrator Derry Hill United

The Sky at Night, July & August

The long summer evenings may mean we have to wait a little later for darkness, but July and August still offer plenty of reasons to look up.



One of the highlights of the summer is the *Perseid meteor shower*, which peaks on the night of *12–13 August*. Often regarded as the best meteor shower of the year, the Perseids can produce dozens of shooting stars every hour under clear, dark skies. This year, the Moon will be out of the way, making conditions particularly favourable.

August also brings a pair of eclipse events. On *12 August*, a *partial solar eclipse* will be visible from the UK as the Moon passes in front of part of the Sun. If you plan to observe it, make sure you use proper solar viewing equipment – ordinary sunglasses are not safe for viewing the Sun.

Later in the month, during the early hours of *28 August*, we will be treated to a *partial lunar eclipse*. Around 90% of the Moon will pass through Earth's shadow, giving it a noticeably darkened appearance before dawn.

The Moon itself is always worth a look, particularly when full. This summer's full moons occur on *29 July* and *28 August*, with the August full moon coinciding with the lunar eclipse.

Keep an eye out too for the *International Space Station (ISS)*. Although travelling around 250 miles above our heads, it often appears as a bright, steady light gliding silently across the sky.

Viewing opportunities change from week to week, so it's worth checking an ISS tracking website to find out when it will next pass over our area.

Whether you're hoping to catch a shooting star, watch an eclipse or simply spend a few minutes admiring a summer night sky, July and August offer plenty of opportunities to step outside and look up.

Rub-A-Dub Pre-School



June Highlights

We had a great start to the summer. With the onset of warmer days, we have had lots of fun in the garden and enjoyed some family fun with our Dads Den Day and of course Sports Day.

The children put on a great show for Sports Day and performed so well in the races. We were so proud of how they did and we all 'refuelled' with a cream tea afterwards!

Coming up in July

We will be collecting for the final **Bags to School** of the year on **Thursday 9th July**. Please donate any unwanted clothes and shoes by dropping them off outside the nursery, at the Village Hall, at around 9am on the day.

Bag2School is a fundraising scheme that helps schools and community groups raise funds through textile recycling - they pay per kg of donations. The items are then exported to countries around the world.

At the end of the month, we will be going on a summer trip to a local farm park. We look forward to enjoying a day out together with children, staff and parents before the year comes to an end.

It will also be the end of the last term for our Rising Stars, who will be going to school in September. We wish them all well and we know they will continue to shine on the next step of their journey.

Kind regards,

Megan Lee

(Committee Secretary)

Mobile Library Visits to Derry Hill

Lansdowne Hall, Derry Hill

14.30-15.45

Tuesday 7th & 21st July 2026

Tuesday 4th & 18th August 2026

Kingston House Derry Hill

10.10-10.30

Monday 27th July 2026

Monday 24th August 2026



Derry Hill and Studley Fete

Saturday 11th July at the School and Hall

Can you spare a bottle or two for the church bottle stall? Church is also collecting for the foodbank as well this year, so if you have any items (such as shampoo/ketchup/salad cream/vinegar/wash up soap etc) to donate too that would be brilliant.

We will put a reminder in your door and where your local collection point is. If you don't happen to get one, please bring your donation to the Fete on the day.

This stall is to help with the up keep of the church and to help with the foodbank.

Thanks in advance.

Richard Aylen (Christ Church PCC)



Derry Tots Toddler Group

Village Fete

We're delighted to be running our much-loved "Adopt a Teddy" stall at this year's Village Fete, so please do come along and see if you can give a soft toy a new home.



The children have been busy as bees preparing our entry for the wheelbarrow parade, putting in lots of creativity and enthusiasm. We very much hope to see you there for what promises to be a wonderful community event.



About Us

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?

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 30/05/2026, 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.

On 16/05/2026, a vehicle single RTC was reported after a vehicle was travelling at speed and lost control on A361

On 17/05/2026 male was stopped and searched after smelling of cannabis in Hazeland. The male received a community resolution for the possession of drugs and will be interviewed for the traffic offence of being in charge of a vehicle

On 02/06/2026 – motorcycle stolen in Bremhill – Motorcycle was recovered in Swindon where a male was arrested.

Vehicles damaged in Derry Hill

Overnight 13-14th May, several vehicles were damaged in in village and the Lansdowne Arms car park by an unknown person. This has consisted of wingmirrors being torn off or damaged. We are still actively investigating this matter and are appealing for any CCTV in the area of Derry Hill, Studley Gardens and Studley Lane.

Vehicle parked in Old Derry Hill

A blue car parked in Old Derry Hill – has been reported to Wiltshire Council we are hopeful this vehicle will be removed soon.

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

Plea for information

At approximately 12:40am on 15 May 2025, our community was the victim of a shocking and deliberate act of vandalism.

A number of vehicles were targeted along Devizes Road, Church Road and in the Lansdowne Arms car park. The community notice board was also vandalised. The attacks appear to have been carried out using weapons, with the total cost of the damage expected to exceed £30,000

One vehicle was written off completely, while another sustained more than £7,400 worth of damage. For many of those affected, these vehicles were essential for work, family commitments and daily life. The financial and emotional impact on the victims has been considerable.

This senseless act has shaken a corner of the community, leaving residents angry, frustrated and concerned that such an incident would happen in our village.

It is believed that those responsible may have connections to the local area. Someone knows who carried out these attacks. What may have been viewed by the perpetrators as a moment of amusement or recklessness has resulted in significant hardship for innocent people. If you have any information, however minor it may seem, please come forward. All information will be treated seriously, and even the smallest detail could prove crucial to the investigation.

Together, we can help ensure that those responsible are held accountable and send a clear message that this type of behaviour has no place in Derry Hill.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Wiltshire Police,

Local Resident

Derry Hill & District W.I.



There were a lot of changes at W.I. last month. At our Annual Meeting Liz, our secretary and Paula our minutes secretary stood down and were thanked for their wonderful service and presented with plants for their gardens. Tina also stood down from arranging our speakers and she has certainly found us some excellent ones in the past few years. All of them will be greatly missed.

However we now have a team of secretaries and a team to source speakers. Lots of new systems to get to grips with but a great new crew.

In July our speaker will be Victoria Walsh telling us the Story of Rena Stewart and in August, no formal meeting but we will be playing skittles and enjoying a meal at the Wellesley Arms in Sutton Benger. A group of us went to visit the beautiful gardens at Cadenham Manor in Foxham on a glorious day and enjoyed tea and cake too.



In the future we are looking forward to another garden visit to Beggar's Knoll, Chinese garden at Westbury. We also have several coffee mornings planned in members' gardens, but the main highlight of the summer will be the village fete on Saturday 11th July. Not only will we be having our usual stall selling home-made cakes but we are entering a barrow in the parade – a huge amount of work is going into this. In a mad moment I volunteered to push it!

Our September speaker will tell us how artisan chocolate is made. I do hope she has 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 find out more or go on our waiting list, please contact our secretary.

email: derryhillsec@wiltshirewi.org.uk Sally

JAZZ CLUB

Details of the Jazz Club's meetings at 7 for 7.30pm in Marden House, Calne for July, August and September follow (entrance £10 at the door):



Tuesday July 28th : Medicine Creek (American folk jazz)

Tuesday August 25th:
Dave Newton piano with
Alan Barnes - saxes etc

Tuesday
September 29th:
Julian Costello quartet

Bookings: 07976 945055

Meditation – a contemplative space to be present

Why not join us for an introduction to meditation on any Wednesday evening during the coming months? 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** on 01249 814845
www.WCCM.org

Derry Hill & Studley Gardening Club



The speaker at our June meeting was Alan Holland from TWIGS (Therapeutic Work in Gardening Swindon). TWIGS is part of the Recovery Tree Charity and provides support for people experiencing mental health problems by offering a range of horticultural, craft and art activities within the gardens in Swindon.

The gardens are maintained by volunteers and are open to the public every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10:00am to 3.30pm. For more information go to <https://www.therecoverytreecharity.org.uk/>

The Competition Table, a single rose, was very popular and congratulations go to Liz for being this month's winner.

We hope to see many of you at the Derry Hill & Studley Fete – you will have the opportunity to win one of our amazing hampers and buy plants grown by our members.



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

Derry Hill and Studley Climate & Community Committee

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, 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/gLqPStYw7J>



Jenny Joyce & John Barnes



UPDATE: FOREST GATE SOLAR FARM CONSTRUCTION DELAYED

Thank you for your patience while we completed the resurfacing of the site entrances in June. We're grateful for your understanding during the temporary traffic measures which were needed to get this work done safely and efficiently.

Due to circumstances outside our control, the start of full construction has been delayed.

We remain committed to minimising disruption and to keeping our neighbours informed as the project progresses. When the construction timetable is confirmed it will be shared:

- Directly with nearby residents and businesses via a mail drop
- On our website uk.edenrenewables.com/forest-gate-solar

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



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Hot Shots Walking Netball

Hot Shots Walking Netball is a lot of fun and a chance to make some new friends. We have a great group of ladies and welcome all ages and abilities. Most of us haven't played since school!!



Netball sessions are term time only and finish in time to pick up any school children. We do not play matches against other Walking Netball groups so there is no pressure! You only need a pair of trainers and a bottle of water to join in.

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

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

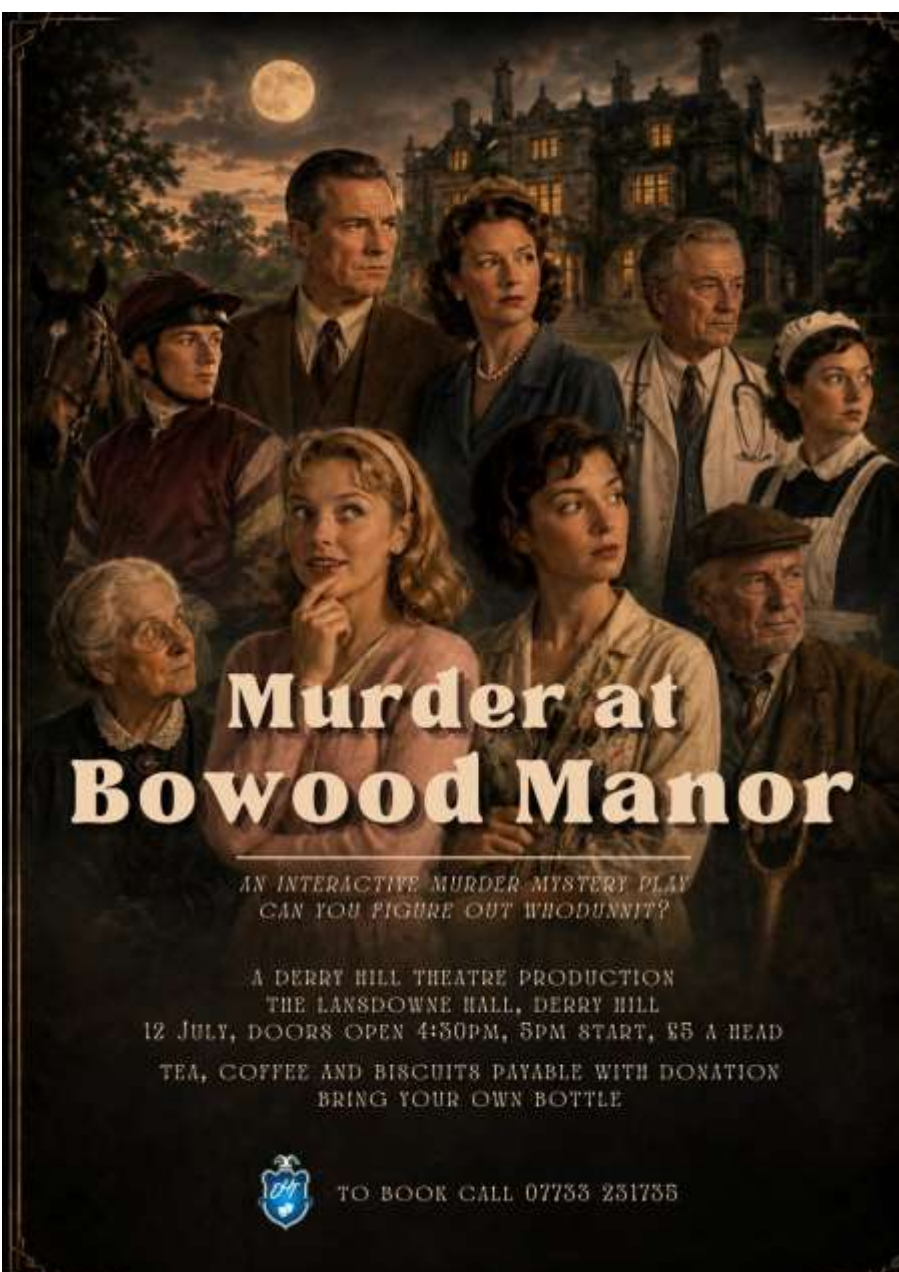


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Book Club Review

The Artist by Lucy Steeds

This debut novel is set during the summer of 1920 in the remote hills of Provence. Steeds has a beautifully descriptive style of writing which draws the reader in from the start. Set a few years after the end of the First World War her novel tells the story of three principal characters: Joseph the aspiring art journalist, Edouard Tartuffe the celebrated reclusive artist and his downtrodden niece Sylvette (Ettie).

The story unfolds slowly, alternating between Joseph and Ettie, and the intrigue increases. Joseph is a damaged young man, a failed artist, still reeling from the death of his beloved mother, desperate to make a success of his writing career to placate his bullying father. He arrives in Provence to write an article about Tartuffe (Tata), who the height of his celebrity left Paris and moved his studio to Provence and withdrew from society. Tata lives there in solitude with his niece, Sylvette (Ettie). Ettie has spent all her life trapped in the crumbling Provençal farmhouse at the whim of her uncle, a man who believes his artistic "genius" absolves him of any consideration or concern for others. She runs his life for him, tolerating his vile tempers and protects him from the outside world whilst yearning to escape.

Joseph arrives in Sainte-Auguste under the impression he is there to interview Tata but discovers he was summoned under false pretences by Ettie. Provided that he agrees to sit for his latest creation 'Young Man with Orange' Joseph is permitted to stay by Tata. Tensions mount over the following sweltering weeks leading to an explosive finale.

Unusually for our group, we all enjoyed 'The Artist'! It was not surprising to learn that this novel won Waterstones Debut Fiction Prize last year. A thoroughly good read, I wouldn't hesitate to recommend it.

Sarah



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July 2026 Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Planet(6)
 3 Perch(5)
 5 knight's
 title(3)
 6 Tact(9)
 9 Coal
 mine(8)
 10 Dry(4)

- 13 Abandon(7)
 15 Take out(7)
 17 Culinarily
 herb(5)
 18 Napkin(9)

DOWN

- 2 Month(5)

- 4 Church
 room(8)
 7 China(9)
 8 SMS
 message(4)
 11 Golf club(6)
 12 Box(6)
 14 Lustre(5)
 16 Beverage(3)

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Wellbeing notes

Are you a tortoise or a hare?

One of my favourite tea breaks took place a few years ago, when a wild hare kept me company in the garden. For long minutes it seemed entirely contented to be there, until eventually it bounded away.



Altogether less speedy, my grandmother's tortoise lived in her Bromham garden for decades, until one day it slipped through a gap in the fence and was next seen in Heddington, four miles away.

I suspect humans operate somewhere between those two extremes, and it's worth asking ourselves which we prefer. I used to think it was better to be a hare: to rush after my goals at top speed while I had the energy. Recently, though, I faced up to the fact that I am indisputably a tortoise. The evidence is clear: it has taken me decades to write two particular books; and I didn't go abroad for five years until recently, when I took a month off to explore three amazing countries.

Hares are often seen as more appealing: those lovely long ears and big eyes don't hurt. Tortoises, on the other hand, are wrinkly from the start. No one cuddles a tortoise. But the old adage doesn't lie, and maybe it's helpful to bear in mind when some personal goal stays stubbornly out of reach. You *will* get there. Slow and steady wins the race.

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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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 Forget(5)

16 Farm

building(4)



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