

BLUNSDON

VILLAGE MAGAZINE

June 2020



Photo taken by Richard Walker

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Did you know?

This Magazine is delivered to around 1000 homes in Blunsdon every month.

So, it's a great way to keep all Blunsdon residents up to date with details of clubs, activities and events that are happening right here in our village.

As we are slowly coming out of lockdown if you have been running a club or involved in planning an event, now is a good time to think about reaching out to people through this Magazine with information on likely future activities.

As there are many new households who have recently moved in to Blunsdon, it's also a good opportunity to use the Magazine to share your information with our new neighbours.

The Magazine aims to keep everyone up to date so there will be a new What's On page when clubs start to resume. Look out for this in future Magazines.

Contributions from YOU will always be welcomed.

**Please email all items for the Magazine to
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A message to everyone from Blunsdon Community Shop

A big hello from the team at your shop, it's been a challenging few months here at the shop and for all of our community and residents, we hope everyone is doing well and staying safe.

We have been very fortunate during this difficult period in that we have some fantastic, selfless, volunteers who have enabled us to be able to support our community with newspaper deliveries, food deliveries and working hard to keep stock on our shelves.

We wouldn't have been able to do this without their/your support and we are sure that the whole village is as grateful as we are for all of your help & commitment.

A further thank you to all of our customers who continue to use our shop, a shop without customers wouldn't survive and we are grateful to you for your continued support to us.

We will continue to work hard to be here for you during the good times and the bad, so do pop in and see us, for those of you who don't know about the Blunsdon Community Shop find us on Facebook for the latest information and updates on products/special offers.

Just a reminder we have a great range of stock and some truly fantastic local produce including Fresh Bread, Eggs, Milk, Organic dairy products, Cakes, Honey, Jams and Condiments and of course all the normal items you would find at your local shop.

Volunteers Needed – Can you spare a couple of hours a week to help your local Community Shop, it's a great way to meet lots of our local people and give something back to our close community. Ask in the shop for more information or message us on Facebook!

From all of us here at the Village shop,

Take care and stay safe.

TALES of VENICE, the Guide Dog puppy

Hello readers, I hope you are all safe and well and remain so until Covid 19 has been beaten.

I too have had to follow the lockdown guidelines but as I have 2 puppy walkers who live in the same household, I have been lucky and been for a 'free run' in a morning with one puppy walker and a training walk in an afternoon with the other. My training has been difficult as I am not to go into shops, travel on buses or trains and have to stay at least 2 metres away from other animals and people. I not only have to keep myself physically fit but also mentally fit and to help me my puppy walkers have bought me a new toy. You can see me trying to get some food out of it in the picture.



I have to push or pull the container over and when I do the food falls out, yum yum.

My puppy walkers did not waste the box the toy came in, they made me another game as you can see from the photograph. They have put a series of holes in the box and I have to be quick to find which hole the carrot has come out of. If I am slow the carrot goes away before I can bite a piece off, but if I am quick, I can take a bite of carrot. Again yum, yum!

When we are out on my free run in a morning my puppy walker and I have been practising some new commands. I have to stay where I am when given the command to stay and then my puppy walker walks away. I am not allowed to move until they say I can come and then guess what! More treats, yum yum.



My puppy walkers took me to the Orbital Centre a few days after the lockdown was eased. I did not go into any shops but walked about 3 metres away from the queues as I have not seen many people since lockdown began. I was good and did not try to go towards the people in the queue which made my puppy walkers happy and I got some treats! What I was not keen on was when they let quite a few people into Asda at once as the noise of lots of trolleys moving at once worried me. I soon got used to the noise with some help of treats.

You may have forgotten the last question I asked, it was - Do you know how many people are registered blind in the UK? Why did I say visually impaired and not blind? It is because there are very few people who are completely blind but many who can see very little e.g. just dark and light.

There are nearly 2 million people living with sight loss in the UK but not everyone would benefit from a Guide dog, each case is assessed on a 1:1 basis and when successful it is life altering.

Question: Why do my puppy walkers have to use right angle turns when we are out walking?

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Coronavirus and Support in the Parish

There are still those that are hard to reach and support in the Parish. Can I please ask everyone to keep a watchful eye out for those that might not read this or Broadcast Blunston or the Parish Facebook pages – or might not get to the Shop. **If you think there is someone who might need help please ring Tracey on 705617 and let us know. Thank you.** The PC will continue to monitor and support those that need it in the community.

Swindon Council continues its help through **Here for Swindon - Support for residents**

1. **Compassionate Swindon: volunteer support for those who most need it.** Contact volunteer@swindon.gov.uk if you would like to help
2. **Council Tax relief to vulnerable people and households to help those affected most by coronavirus** - Please call us on 0345 302 2316 if you are having difficulties.
3. **Emergency household supplies for residents most affected by coronavirus** - If you have received a letter and been identified as 'shielding': If you have received a letter asking you to stay at home for 12 weeks (also referred to as being 'shielded') and responded that you do not have a support network to help you, you will receive a weekly food parcel delivered directly to you by the Government. Please call the council if you wish to discuss essential top-ups to this provision. If you are self-isolating at home, able to afford supplies and do not have a support network to help you: Our staff and volunteers will deliver food supplies:
 - a. Household box - £5.00
 - b. Fruit & veg bag - £6.50
 - c. Dairy bag - £5.50
 - d. Food box with meat (includes contents of fruit & veg and dairy bags) - £30.00
 - e. Food box for vegetarians (includes contents of fruit & veg and dairy bags) - £30.00
4. **Supporting council housing tenants** – Tenants affected by coronavirus are requested to **contact their Neighbourhood Housing Officer** to discuss their circumstances. Support is available for those who fall behind on rent payments due to coronavirus.
5. **More parking options for key workers, volunteers and residents making essential journeys** - All NHS staff, social care staff, charities and volunteer groups can apply for a free permit
6. **Offering free childcare to key workers during the Easter holidays and May half-term** - We are providing funding for 24 hours of childcare per week (6 hours a day or as flexibly as required) to help key workers carry out their essential work during the Easter holidays and May half-term. Further information available on SBC website.

7. **Helping residents to access library services online** - All loans will be automatically renewed until libraries are reopened. All library memberships due to expire before the end of June will be automatically renewed for six months.
 8. **Extending bus pass use for older and disabled people** - Elderly and disabled residents can use their bus passes before 9.30am, although the government has instructed that people must stay at home except for shopping for basic necessities, daily exercise, any medical need and travelling to and from essential work.
 9. **Priority re-booking and waiving fees for marriages postponed due to coronavirus**
- Support for businesses**
10. **Getting vital financial support to local businesses** - 100% business rate relief will be available for all retail, leisure and hospitality businesses for 2020-21. This will be reflected in their bills from April 2020. A £10,000 grant will be available to small businesses with a rateable value of up to and including £15,000. A £25,000 grant will be available to all retail, leisure and hospitality businesses with a rateable value between £15,001 and £50,999. We are contacting eligible businesses with information on how they can access the grant funding. For more information: COVID-19 - Government support for businesses
 11. **Supporting not-for-profit and commercial tenants in council properties** - Businesses unable to pay their rent because of coronavirus will be given extra protection so they don't have to worry about being evicted. Three-month rent deferral to commercial and not for profit tenants
 12. **Helping Swindon's taxi drivers** - Extended Hackney and Private Hire driver licences with no charge for six months. Alternatively, drivers may wish to apply for a one-year licence at £70 instead of the usual three-year licences (£210). For more information please contact Kathryn Ashton, Licensing Manager at kashton@swindon.gov.uk or 07881 281883.

Planning Applications

S/TPO/20/0304: Tree Preservation orders (TPOs) and requests for works to various trees have been sought for the Hill Cottage (former Golf Course) site.

S/ADV/20/0214: An application to put illuminated signs on the new Gym that was the Co-op next to Dobbies.

S/HOU/20/0542: Following a recent delegated (decision without consulting the PC) to allow a garage to be used as an independent dwelling at 13 Turnpike, there is an application for a dwelling that has been named 13A Turnpike – for the erection of a two storey side extension and dormer window to rear.

S/RES/20/0515: Reserved matters application for the erection of 43 dwellings and open space on land at Broadbush (Green Square Development)

S/HOU/20/0519: Application to build a dwelling on land between 'Brooklyn' and 'Brooklyn Lodge' on Broadbush

Recent Planning Decisions

S/RES/19/1581/: Granted: Reserved matters (detailed) application for the erection of 70 dwellings, cemetery extension, community shop/cafe and associated works. The Borough is still waiting for the final report on the archaeological finds which may affect that decision.

S/HOU/19/1754/: Refused: Erection of 3 new dwellings and associated works. Land to Rear of 14 /15 Malthouse Close.

Blunsdon East Neighbourhood Plan (BENP).

We have now received the Final Report from the NP Examiner and the great news is that she has approved the Modified Plan. Now a proposal Paper will go to a Full Council meeting demonstrating that the NP meets the Basic Conditions (national planning laws). They will make an agreement to hold the referendum within the Parish which I guess could be quite some time. However, the plan is now accorded 'weight' in planning considerations and contributions that developers make to the community, for mitigation works, are increased from 15% to 25%. So, congratulations to the Steering Group members past and present for their help in getting the plan through – they all deserve a well-earned, socially distanced celebration. Chairs: Martin Jones and Trevor Morton-Holmes and members Andy Marshall, Peter McSparron Edwards, Simon Clarke, Stuart Boyd and Sandra Keates – thank you all for your hard work.

Broadband Lower Village

The quality of broadband and its speed in the Lower Village is generally poor. PCllr Selwood has put together a survey with the residents demonstrating this which we have forwarded to our local MP, Justin Tomlinson, for action. He has got the ball rolling and we are waiting for the next stage in trying to improve it. We will keep you updated.

Blunsdon Village Magazine

The Magazine is a vital source of information and communication for the Parish and a lifeline to those not using the internet and social media. It is currently struggling to provide the magnificent service it has done, for much more than the 33 years I have been reading it. The Parish Council has agreed in principle and is proud to help keep it going until the situation improves.

Parish Council Meeting

The Parish Council had its first 'virtual' full meeting on **Monday May 4th**. The next virtual meeting will be on 1st June.

Stay safe, stay well, stay in.

Ian Jankinson – ianjankinson@blunsdonparishcouncil.co.uk – 07702 684281

THANK YOU TO PARISH COUNCIL

From the Magazine Committee and on behalf of our readers we say “THANK YOU” to the Parish Council for funding which will allow the Magazine to be printed and distributed over the coming months. The Magazine relies on income from advertisers and one-off donations and this funding from the Parish Council will enable hard copies to be printed and posted through all Blunsdon letter boxes.

THANK YOU TO THE MAGAZINE DELIVERY TEAM

I’m sure many of you will be glad to see the Magazine back in this hard copy delivered through your letter box by one of our delivery team. A special thank you to all of the boys and girls who deliver the Magazine, take a bow: -

Michael

Boo

Tom

Travis

Aron

Oscar

Edward

Charlie





St Leonard's Church
Blunston

Connecting with God, each other
and our community



From the Vicar's desk.....

My Dreaming.

Top of my list is a beer at the pub, sitting outside would be fine, but going to the bar to order would be wonderful.

I am sure we will all have our own dreams of what we are missing the most, what we are looking forward to being reinstated in our lives.

Some of my thoughts have been turned into prayer for what we have experienced in lock down that could become permanent for our way of life. Support for those who are now in the front line, especially those for whom we have not given appropriate value for the jobs they do.

For the huge improvements in air quality, I saw images on the news last night and was amazed at the before and after pictures.

The last ten days of May have for the last few years been designated by many Churches as 'Thy Kingdom Come', an opportunity to pray specifically for God's Kingdom to come here and now on earth, as the famous line from the Lord's Prayer puts it.

Those ten days represent the time from Jesus ascension into heaven after his earthly ministry was completed, where he is 'at the right hand of God interceding for us' to the day the Holy Spirit of Jesus was 'poured out' to the church enabling us to continue Jesus' work on earth.

Covid 19 has certainly shone a light into all sorts of places where we have fallen short of God's Kingdom on earth.

I certainly aim to ensure my prayer continues such that much needed reforms and changes are followed up and implemented, but also my own life reflects 'thy Kingdom come'.

Keep safe everyone and God bless.

St. Leonard's Church Services

N.B. All services are suspended until further notice.



St Leonard's Church
Blunston

Connecting with God, each other
and our community



News from the Pews.....

We all want quiet. We all want beauty..... We all need space.

Unless we have it, we cannot reach that sense of quiet in which whispers of better things come to us gently These are words (and some of you may know) by Octavia Hill one of the co-founders of the National Trust.

How prophetic and meaningful to appear back in the Spring edition of the Trusts magazine. We find ourselves with plenty of quiet, beauty and space. Some of us may have to look a little harder - but all is readily available given the right attitude.

The quietness without cars tearing around, that we can actually hear the birds singing. The beauty of a sunrise or sunset, the glorious colours in shades of red and orange. The space between waking and going to bed - at first seemed interminable! but we can now use it differently. It's all about learning How.

As a congregation we are learning How to zoom, meetings and PCCs . Keep in contact with everyone, there's always some type of "jungle drum" if the internet is not your thing. Imagine, as I do, how isolated people were before: back in the days of town criers, letters that could take weeks to arrive! Word of mouth that could be instantly misinterpreted. We find ourselves not too badly off.

We will have had our first PCC, since lockdown by the time you read this! We will possibly put a date in the diary for our APCM, which would usually have occurred by now. Therefore, like it or not we are still trying to carry on with the things that keep St Leonard's rolling, in ways that were probably unheard of a couple of months ago.

As always, we miss the old Us, but are endeavouring to appreciate the new One.

We know there is continuous support across the community: a great big THANKS, to all who get involved and hopefully that will be part of the NEW.

The Sunday service will continue via twitch, this is increasingly popular and has a positive impact.

With all good wishes for the coming months- Jane

Walking Quiz

Our youth worker based in Highworth, has devised a picture/ bible based walk around Blunston. There's a chance that you can just use the pictures to create your own stroll; or go the whole way and work out the bible based clues. This was primarily for children (that's not to say it's easy!) but if anyone wants an electronic copy or paper one please contact me. There are small prizes for completed work!

Please contact me via jane_ockwell@hotmail.com I'm not expecting a rush - but bear with me if I don't reply immediately.

Happy strolling..... Jane

Notes from the Editor

If you have an article for the Magazine, some news that you would like to share or ideas on how to keep busy especially for those residents who are self-isolating then please send to blunsdonmagazine@gmail.com

The magazine is run by local volunteers from the village. All your ideas, comments and contributions will always be welcome.

This month's front cover was taken in the High Street during the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

EDITOR: Please email all items for the magazine to blunsdonmagazine@gmail.com
Arlene tel. 01793 727306

ADVERTS: To place an advert in the magazine, please contact Penny on 01793 722073

Blunsdon Village Magazine is available to read online at Blunsdon Parish Council website: blunsdonparishcouncil.co.uk

The July Magazine will be delivered from: 26th June

Please note deadline for items for inclusion:

Magazine issue	Deadline for inclusion
July	17 th June
August	22 nd July
September	19 th August
October	23 rd September

NOTICE BOARD

****Over the last few weeks, I have received a number of messages reminding dog walkers to pick up their dog mess. Please do not leave it on the footpaths. ****

****Reminder that there is NO PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY through the drive of number 20 Pontings Close, across to the field adjacent to the tennis courts. ****

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Blunsdon's Caring Corner



Peter Barnes, GP

Many residents of Blunsdon will remember Peter Barnes, a GP partner at Westrop surgery from 1995 until he was sadly forced to retire due to ill health in 2009. It is with great sadness that he lost his fight on 23rd March 2020. Despite having left the practice over 10 years ago, staff and patients alike still talk fondly of Peter and he continues to be much missed by all. To remember him we asked some of the people who knew him best to describe why he was so loved and respected.

John Bestwick, GP partner Westrop: What to say about Dr Peter Barnes, the best doctor to work with? He was such a good colleague to me, funny, cynical and dry yet in reality always willing to go the extra mile with patients and that is why they all loved him. He had an incredible memory, especially for patient anecdotes, and was so friendly. His personality matched his size perfectly and I always felt confident with him around. I can't tell you how much we miss you, Peter and we always will.

Angela Rogers, Matron at Park View Rest Home:

Dr Barnes, as I always called him, was one of the nicest people you could ever meet. He was also the kindest and most respected doctor and always gave us a lesson or two on his weekly visits. He had a lovely manner with the residents and would always crouch down beside them (well, he was very tall!) and offer reassurance and support and the residents loved him and trusted him. The rounds every Wednesday at Park View would take ages as Dr Barnes would entertain us with his humour, his anecdotes and his latest recipes. I will miss Peter hugely but want him to be remembered as a wonderful "old" fashioned doctor who respected us all and made us all feel important and competent.

Helen Pavely, Receptionist, Blunsdon Surgery:

Working with Peter from when he joined the practice in October 1995 was always a joy. He really loved his role as a GP and had an excellent rapport with his patients and the staff at Blunsdon Surgery. He always loved to chat and was forever congesting our small dispensary telling us his latest stories and family news! I have so many fond memories of Peter and especially the Westrop Surgery Christmas celebrations which were legendary, with Dr Ling as his sidekick they caused uproar and laughter with the entertainment they organised (often at the staff's expense). Peter appreciated good food and loved cooking and I have many recipes which I still use that he hand-wrote for me. He has left an indelible mark with me and I am very grateful that I had so many happy years working in Blunsdon with his larger-than-life personality and presence.

For those of you who wish to remember Peter, his wife Kate plans to hold a memorial for anyone who would like to attend. At the time of writing and because of the Covid-19 pandemic no date has been set but we will post details on the practice website, www.westropmedicalpractice.nhs.uk nearer to the time.

Dr Simon Stacey

**BLUNSDON SURGERY 36 Berton Close, Blunsdon, SN26 7BE
Tel 01793 721254**

	Doctor	Doctor times	Reception
Monday	Dr S Stacey	3.10pm-4.40pm	3.00pm-6.15pm
Tuesday	Dr J Bestwick	9.00am-10.40am	8.45am-12.15pm
Wednesday	Dr S Stacey	4.00pm-7.10pm	3.00pm-7.15pm
Thursday	Dr L Lodwick	9.00am-10.40am	8.45am-12.15pm
Friday	Dr C Devine	9.00am-10.40am	8.45am-12.15pm

EMERGENCIES - Tel. 01793 762218 (Outside surgery hours)

Don't delay seeking medical help because of coronavirus

People living in Swindon are being advised not to let worries about coronavirus stop them asking for medical help for themselves or their children if they become ill, have a serious accident or have a concern about their health.

They are also being warned that not seeking medical help for symptoms that could be the early warning signs of serious conditions such as cancer could be putting lives at risk.

The warning comes as new data shows a considerable drop in the number of people coming forward to ask their GP for help and advice during the coronavirus outbreak.

Recent statistics show that, in Swindon, the average number of patients being sent by their GP to the Great Western Hospital for further investigations into symptoms that suggest cancer each week has dropped by more than 200 to 80.

Although GP practices across the region have adopted new ways of working, such as establishing isolated clinics for potential coronavirus patients, the practices themselves are still open to offer care, treatment, advice and peace-of-mind.

- For information about services at the Great Western Hospital visit www.gwh.nhs.uk
- Further information on how to stay well throughout the coronavirus outbreak can be found at www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19.



BLUNSDON VILLAGE GARDEN CLUB

I write this on a really hot, sunny day whilst wondering if this sort of weather is going to continue despite the forecast of possible thunder and showers - which, let's face it, is what we were always accustomed to! It would seem, from random conversations held with others around the village, or queuing up outside the village shop (such excitement!), that the majority of us are devoting our efforts to turning our green spaces into mini kitchen gardens and exchanging excess seedlings with friends and neighbours.

However, as there is no club news to impart at the moment, I am sharing with you all a Plant Quiz which you may enjoy! Happy (and safe) gardening to you all!

Brenda Boyd Tel: 01793 725928

A PLANT QUIZ

Below are 20 anagrams of well known plants commonly grown in British gardens.

They may be Latin or English names. There are: -

5 bulbs/corms 5 hanging basket plants 5 shrubs 5 bedding plants
5 scented plants

EROS	SPYAN	MANJISE
CUSHIFA	SEELOCHUNKY.....	TROYAFISH
SOCCUR	GARDENHAY	ELVENRAD
WORDSPON	TAUPINE	GOODDOW
ROLLWELFAW	UPLIT	PEWTEASE (2 words)
UMBIRVUN	ODALISLUG	BOILALE
FIDOFLAD	AIMANOH	

At the moment Blunsdon's roads are unusually quiet. It's possible for us to go for lovely walks along the lanes and enjoy our time out without all the usual hustle and bustle of traffic. It reminds me of the Blunsdon of my childhood when the village was more rural and life didn't seem so hectic and busy.

My relatives lived on the old Ermin Street on what became Hillside Way, when the houses had very long front gardens leading on to the old main road, the 419. Children played ball games out on the road then quite safely because there were so few cars about in the years just after the war.

We could always hear if a lorry was coming up old Blunsdon Hill by its laboured chugging or clanking gears and we could run out of the way into Mrs Portlock's gateway by the giant sycamore tree there. This pull in was half way along the field which now has the new "Chase" development on it. Sometimes, we wouldn't see any traffic for over half an hour. From my aunt's house "Greystones" we'd go with friends down Widhill Lane towards Henley Jones' Farm, Upper Widhill and dive under the fence to the copse below the houses. It was dark and mysterious there and it had a wonderful swamp covered in giant mare's tails which we pulled up and used as swords when we played at "pirates".

The swamp was really a series of springs and we used to get plastered in mud, we'd sink down into it, sometimes over the top of our wellington boots. My aunt was very kind and didn't seem to mind too much when we returned looking like mud larks. She always found time to take us out on adventures over the fields. She'd take us and friends as well over to Blunsdon Abbey ruins, all covered in masses of hanging ivy then where it had been abandoned for over 50 years. Occasionally we'd find grass snakes amongst the foliage. The lanes and fields beyond Lower Village seemed so remote then as we wound our way towards Port Farm collecting all kinds of wild flowers that grew in profusion down there. On one memorable occasion I remember we got to Water Eaton Copse and to our amazement we found butterfly orchids, beautifully fragrant small pale cream flowers on long stems. As we grew older and became a bit more independent, we'd be allowed to go off for the day on newly acquired bicycles. We'd take packed lunches, usually including egg, fish-paste or mashed banana sandwiches and a bottle of Kia Ora or Tizer if you were lucky.

I remember frequent trips to Lechlade and Cirencester but a firm favourite on a fine day was always Hannington Wick and the river. We'd park our bikes in the farmyard of Bridge Farm, the old farmer there was happy to look after them. We would walk over the fields to various favourite "beaches" by the infant Thames and we'd spend the day paddling and catching minnows in jam jars. We'd sometimes have a competition spinning dried cow pats to see how far we could throw them!

In no time at all or so it seemed we'd wend our way back home, cycling and singing in the middle of the road for most of the journey, except when we had to make room for the odd tractor. By the time we reached home it was time for bed, we were tired but we'd had a fantastic day.

A Recipe from CookFoodFan



Remember when we went out for a coffee or tea and cake, well it's just as good in the garden.

So, no store cupboard recipes but time for treats. This recipe is perfect for children to make, store them in a Kilner jar and watch them disappear!

CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES

150g salted butter, softened	225g plain flour
80g light brown muscovado sugar	½ tsp bicarbonate of soda
80g granulated sugar	¼ tsp salt
2 tsp vanilla extract	200g plain chocolate chip or chunks
1 large egg	

- Preheat the oven to 190C/170C fan/gas 5. Line two baking trays with non-stick baking paper (greaseproof is fine).
- Put the butter and sugars into a bowl and beat until creamy. Beat in the vanilla extract and egg. Sieve the flour, bicarbonate of soda and salt over the mixture and mix in with a wooden spoon. Add the chocolate chips and stir well.
- Using a teaspoon, place small mounds of the mixture well apart on the baking trays. Bake in the oven for 8–10 mins until light brown on the edges and still slightly soft in the centre.
- Leave on the tray for a couple of minutes to firm up and then transfer to a cooling rack. (You will need to do a couple of batches.)
- ENJOY!

Brain Teaser of the Month (Thanks to Colin for sending in this puzzle for the Magazine).

Each question below contains the initials of words that will make it correct. Find the missing words. e.g. 16 = O in a P Answer – Ounces in a Pound (Answers on page 18)

1. 26 = L of the A
2. 7 = W of the W
3. 1001 = AN
4. 12 = S of the Z
5. 54 = C in a D (with J's)
6. 9 = P in the SS
7. 88 = PK
8. 13 = S on the A F
9. 32 = D F at which W F
10. 18 = H on a G C
11. 90 = D in a R A
12. 200 = P for P G in M
13. 7 = S on a F P P
14. 3 = B M (S H T R)
15. 4 = Q in a G
16. 24 = H in a D
17. 1 = W on a U
18. 5 = D in a Z C
19. 57 = H V
20. 11 = P in a F T
21. 1000 = W that a P is W
22. 29 = D in F in a L Y
23. 64 = S on a C B
24. 40 = D and N of the G F
25. 76 = T in the B P



DORSET & WILTSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE

It would be really helpful if people could avoid having bonfires during this coronavirus lockdown period. While we know that the current weather makes getting out in the garden very tempting, lots of the false alarms we attend are caused by bonfires. Equally, bonfires can get out of control very easily. Please help us to help you, by reducing any activity that could lead to us being called out.

Bonfires are very common in the summer, but they can get out of control very easily. If you want to burn off garden waste, here's some safety advice:

- Site any bonfire well away from buildings, fences, trees and garden structures.
- Have a garden hose to hand in case the fire starts to get out of control.
- Don't light a bonfire on a windy day, as it could flare up more than you expect.
- Be courteous to your neighbours – if you're planning a substantial bonfire, let them know, and stay with it at all times to ensure that it remains safe.
- If you're intending to have a large bonfire, use our on-line form – we often receive emergency calls from people who can see lots of smoke, and it helps us to know where this could be a controlled burn.
- Never use flammable liquids such as petrol or paraffin to start a bonfire.

If you have concerns about the environmental impacts of bonfires, such as smoke, you will need to contact Swindon Borough Council.

Garden equipment:

- Refill garden heaters, petrol mowers etc in the open air and don't smoke while doing so.
- Deal with any fuel spillage by allowing it to evaporate, soak into the ground, or cover with an absorbent material.
- Take care when lighting garden heaters and never move when lit. Keep away from flammable materials, such as awnings or laundry lines.
- When using candles or flares, make sure they are firmly packed into the ground.
- Keep children and pets away from naked flames and hot lanterns.
- Make sure any candles, flares and lanterns are fully extinguished when you have finished with them.

Brain Teaser Answers

1. Letters of the Alphabet 2. Wonders of the World 3. Arabian Nights 4. Signs of the Zodiac 5. Cards in a Deck (with Jokers) 6. Planets in the Solar System 7. Piano Keys 8. Stripes on the American Flag 9. Degrees Fahrenheit which water freezes 10. Holes on a Golf Course 11. Degrees in a Right Angle 12. Points for Passing Go in Monopoly 13. Sides on a Fifty Pence Piece 14. Blind Mice (See How They Run) 15. Quarters in a Game 16. Hours in a Day 17. Wheel on a Unicycle 18. Digits in a Zip Code 19. Heinz Varieties 20. Players in a Football team 21. Words that a Picture are Worth 22. Days in February in a Leap Year 23. Squares on a Chessboard 24. Days and Nights of the Great Flood 25. Trombones in the Big Parade

Did you take the Swindon Emoji Challenge in last month's Magazine the answers are below:-

1.   PENHILL
2.           NINE ELMS
3.  OASIS
4.   MECHANICS INSTITUTE
5.   ABBEY MEADS
6.   NORTH STAR
7.   BRIDGE MEAD
8.   LINK CENTRE
9.   TOOTHILL
10.      WOOD STREET
11.    BARBURY CASTLE
12.     QUEEN'S DRIVE
13.    WINDMILL HILL

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