

BLUNSDON

VILLAGE MAGAZINE

October 2020

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(Rosie)

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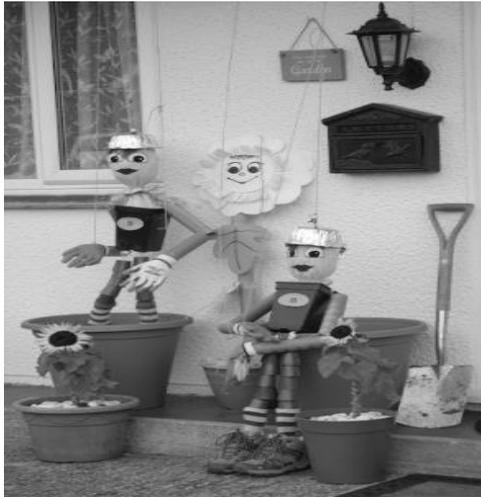
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SEASONED FIREWOOD

Blunsdon Scarecrow Trail 2020



I hope that you had chance to join us on a fantastic weekend of scarecrow-making and guessing, cream teas, virtual gardens, meeting neighbours and being out and about in our village with your community.

Which was your favourite scarecrow - the bookworm, the beekeeper, Mr Badger, or maybe another one? There were so many fabulous ones to choose from.

The Trail made over £1,000 for the Church which is an incredible total, so thank you so much for your support. It just goes to show how important it was in

these strange times for us all to get together as a community and it was a joy to see so many people enjoying themselves.

Funny how times have already changed, fortunately we didn't have the rule of 6 to contend with then!

Congratulations go to Dan & Zach French as the winners of the scarecrow trail, to Karina for her winning image in the grownup's photography competition, and to Rosie whose image won the junior's section.

The front cover of the magazine shows Rosie's winning entry, Karina's photo will be on next month's front cover.

Thank you to Steve Iles for judging the winners.

Thankyou's go to: the fabulous scarecrow makers; Helen & the amazing cream tea team; Jane Ockwell for opening the church every day for the Virtual Open Gardens; the gardeners for supplying their images; Nigel & the shop team for supporting the refreshments stand; and to Colin Scott for helping create the map.

Most of all thankyou to you, the fabulous supporters.

More images are to be found on the Facebook Broadcast Blunsdon page in glorious technicolour – please do upload yours there if you would like to!



Here's the list of scarecrow answers:

No	ADDRESS OF SCARECROWS	ANSWER (BEGINS WITH B)
1	BLUNSDON HOUSE HOTEL	Bee
2	4 THE RIDGE	Black Panther
3	45 MINERVA HEIGHTS	Bing Bong
4	8 TURNPIKE LANE	Bottom
5	9 TURNPIKE LANE	Brunel
6	DOWNSVIEW, BROADBUSH	Beth Tweddle
7	46 SUTTON PARK	Bob the Builder
8	21 LONSDALE CLOSE	Bob Marley
9	ST LEONARD'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL	Betty O'Barley (Scarecrow's Wedding)
10	13 HOLDCROFT CLOSE	Bertie Bassett
11	41 HOLDCROFT CLOSE	Badger
12	GARDEN COTTAGE, OFF PONTINGS CLOSE	Britannia
13	24 HOLDCROFT CLOSE	Boba Fett (Star Wars)
14	6 HOLDCROFT CLOSE	Boris Becker
15	BLUNSDON COMMUNITY SHOP, HIGH STREET	Bacteriologist
16	46 BERTON CLOSE	Brownie
17	14 HIGH STREET	Bellatrix LeStrange
18	ST LEONARDS CHURCH	St John the Baptist
19	6 CHURCHWAY	Bedtime
20	34 MALTHOUSE CLOSE	JS Bach
21	LARGES HOUSE, FRONT LANE	Bananaman
22	LITTLECOT, FRONT LANE	Beekeeper
23	YENTON ACRE, FRONT LANE	Billie Eilish
24	CALLAIS HOUSE, FRONT LANE	Beyonce
25	DEACONS COURT, HUNTS HILL	Bradley Wiggins
26	WEST HILL HOUSE, HUNTS HILL	Beanstalk
27	GREENWOOD, HUNTS HILL	Butternut Squash
28	SPRINGFIELD, HUNTS HILL	Bear Grylls
29	ORCHARD HOUSE, HUNTS HILL	Bedouin
30	HUNTS HILL HOUSE, HUNTS HILL	Burglar Bill
31	APRIL COTTAGE, HUNTS HILL	Boris Johnson
32	WYCHWOOD, 11 HATCHERS CRESCENT	Bill and Ben
33	THE HEART IN HAND, HIGH STREET	Baker
34	54 HIGH STREET	Blacksmith and Horse
35	MERRON HOUSE, FRONT LANE	Bookworm

Blunsdon Village Quiz 2020

Friday November 6th

This annual event and fundraiser for St Leonard's Church is going ahead on Friday 6th November as planned but in a virtual format. We know many of you attend the quiz, as much for the social event as the intellectual challenge and will be disappointed but do not despair. Enrol the family, the children and even the dog to make a team and we promise not to make it too difficult. All we ask is 2 hours of your time, a few pounds and the willingness to support this valued community activity.

Depending on the local situation in November it may even be possible for small groups of friends to be co-located in the same house.

Don't be scared as this is a quiz where losing has its attractions, as you will not have to host next year's event!

An entry form is below or you can simply phone or email Alex.

To enter, or request further details, please email kasperczakalex@gmail.com or phone 07554 811779 with the following information:

Team Name

Number in Team (Maximum of 6)

Contact Name, Mobile Number & Email Address

Do you need tuition in Zoom?

This will be provided prior to the event.

Please help us make Blunsdon Village Quiz 2020 a success!

All proceeds to St. Leonard's Church



<http://www.blunsdonparishcouncil.co.uk>

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Coronavirus and Support in the Parish

There are a series of help messages that you will see on our Facebook page and elsewhere. However, 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 Blunsdon 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.

Methodist Church and Hall

As we said in last month's PC News, the Parish Council registered the buildings as an Asset of Community Value. This offers the community the opportunity to bid for the building on the open market. As a Parish Council we have registered an interest as a potential bidder for the building and put into place a moratorium on that sale process until the end of February 2021. This will give us chance to consult with you as to whether you would like us to bid for the building to keep it in public ownership, and for the PC to work out how we might pay for it and how we would cover the running and maintenance. If there is someone in the Parish that could help the PC prepare this consultation, we would welcome your help. Please contact Tracey in the first instance on contact@blunsdonparishcouncil.co.uk with your details and how you might be able to help.

Parish Council Office

With the proposed sale of the Methodist Church and Hall the PC has been given notice to quit the office at the premises. Therefore, Tracey Judd our Parish Clerk has agreed to work from home until we secure a new base. Contact details will remain the same: Tel 01793 705617 and contact@blunsdonparishcouncil.co.uk

Planning Applications

S/20/0818: Erection of 2 dwellings on land at Burytown Lane. **PC agreed to object and support the Conservation Officer's comments**

S/HOU/20/0587: Relocation of previously approved annexe to property at 1 The Copse. **PC agreed to support in line with Conservation Officer's comments.**

S/20/0043: Change of use of existing buildings to 2 dwellings at Meadow View. **PC asked for clarification on the status of a previous application. Site visit with Planning Officer requested.**

S/20/1020: Erection of a 2-storey side and rear extension and a single storey front extension at 35 Holdcroft Close. **PC agreed to object**

S/20/0840: Retrospective permission for the conversion of a garage with a self-contained annexe above at Home Farm, High Street. **PC agreed to support.**

S/20/0906: Construction of 7 parking spaces at the Recreation Ground, Sutton Park. **PC agreed not to comment.**

S/20/0943: Erection of a single storey side extension at Woodbine Cottage, Kingsdown Lane. **PC agreed to object.**

S/20/1033: Erection of a garage at 39 Bramwell Close, Kingsdown. **PC agreed to support.**

S/20/0515: Reserved matters application for 43 houses off the B4019, Broadbush. **PC agreed to object.**

Recent Planning Decisions

S/TPO/0720/LAND: **permission given** to fell 3 x Horse chestnut trees – Pontings Close.

S/20/0694: Erection of a first floor side extension at 18 Berton Close. **Permission Granted**

Recreation Ground Parking

Thanks to all of you residents who took the time to comment on this proposal, both to the PC and on the planning portal. The PC has agreed to revisit other opportunities for parking to alleviate the congestion in Sutton Park, caused at certain times by Recreation Ground users, especially at weekends and at school pick-up and drop-off times.

Parish Council Finances

The PC Annual Audit for 2019/20 has now been completed and returned. We were very concerned at the loss of income during the long periods that we were unable to open our facilities. However, we have applied for and received a small business rate support grant which has enabled us to make up for the losses and deal with the additional costs incurred by maintaining our facilities Covid Safe. It has also allowed us to agree a 2.75% wage increase for PC staff in line with the Unison/Local Government agreement on wage increases for Local Government workers.

Swindon Carers

Tanya Hawker from Swindon Carers came to talk to us about the work they do in supporting carers from aged 5 to 105! They help with financial issues and with respite for those that selflessly care for loved ones. See article in Magazine.

Jumble Trail

Following the outstanding success of the Scarecrow Trail and the 'takeaway cream teas' organised by friends of St Leonard's Church, the PC is happy to support the idea of a 'Jumble Trail' around the Village. Look out for further information.

Kingsdown Lane

The Borough Council are in the process of improving this Restricted Byway that runs from the end of Kingsdown Lane by the Nursery all the way through to Catsbrain Farm on the A361. It was always a lovely walk but soon will be improved with a better and safer path.

Broadband Lower Village

Progress is slow with Open Reach but is moving forward. The PC will be concentrating on improving speeds that are currently below 10 MBs in the first instance. We will however still press for high-speed fibre at the same time. Links with City Fibre have proved unsuccessful. We will pursue Justin Tomlinson MP for his further help in this.

Tree Survey

Following a tree survey that the PC carried out you will notice arboriculturists working in areas around the Village making trees safe for the future.

Speedwatch

The volunteers of Speedwatch have resumed their speed safety checks throughout the village roads and are noting those that break the limits.

Date	Location	Vehicles Counted	Exceeding limit	Maximum Speed mph
01/09/2020	Ermin St	192	18	58
03/09/2020	Lady Lane	260	36	47
07/09/2020	Broadbush	251	8	40
09/09/2020	Broadbush	271	7	43
11/09/2020	Ermin St	129	21	50
15/09/2020	Lady Lane	341	38	51

Our amazing volunteers continue to keep the Parish safe by conducting their Community Speedwatch duties and we would like to thank them for the time they give to this extremely useful activity. Recently they have received some abuse from drivers and the local Neighbourhood Police Team has agreed to give them some support. You may also have noticed a new flashing speed indicator sign on Blunsdon Hill. This is a new type of sign that collects travel data that we can use as evidence when requesting safety measures.

Play Areas

We have recently had completed our annual safety inspection and all play areas have passed with some minor requirements. An area of concern that has been reported to us is the lack of supervision and social distancing by parents and children who have just finished school for the day and are congregating at the Linley Road area. Please will you ensure that you follow Government Guidelines while using the Play Area for all of our safety. Thank you.

Parish Council Meeting

The next virtual meeting will be held on Zoom on Monday 5th October 2020 at 19:30. Stay safe, stay well.

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

Thanksgiving Service for Brilliant Blunsdon

Thank you to everyone who has responded so positively. A small working party has met and we have outline plans for a service to give thanks for the many valued organisations and individuals to whom we feel so grateful.

By October 31st please forward your suggestions for suitable inspirational songs, hymns or readings you or your organisation would like to be included to:
mrpjsummers@hotmail.com

This will give those coordinating the music plenty of time to organise rehearsals. We are planning (hopefully) for **10a.m. Sunday 9th May 2021.**

Looks as if we will all face new challenges from this Covid pandemic as we move into winter and we're going to have to continue being 'Brilliant Blunsdon' for quite a while!
Penny Summers



Community Shop
—BLUNSDON—

You can now really put the “U” in Blunsdon by purchasing one or more of the £10 Shares in your shop. By buying shares you are investing in your community and its shop and café. A share sale is one of the key methods Community Shops use to raise funds in order to realise the goal of providing a facility for everyone.

A share prospectus together with business plan and forecast is downloadable from the web site www.blunsdoncommunityshop.uk where you can also register how many shares you would like to buy.

If every grown up in the village purchased just one £10 share our target would be easily met. We also welcome share purchases from local companies by the way, so if you are a business that may benefit from a new shop, why not become a sponsor?

Existing Shareholders

We are issuing new shares to existing shareholders of the current shop and hopefully we will get certificates to you soon. If you have not received one by the time of reading, please email chairman@blunsdoncommunityshop.uk

The paving blocks for the new shop are going well and there is still time for you to make your mark. We have had one or two village organisations come on board but we thought more would be interested to mark their start date in the village. That said, what does seem to be quite popular is a family name followed by the date that family first moved to the village. Just think in years to come ancestors may visit Blunsdon and be thrilled to see that the family name was established here in the past. Order forms are available at the shop or just go to the web site and download one.

Apples

By the time you read this, we will have already had squeezed the first of the 2020 batch of apples for our now famous Blunsdon Apple juice.

We are grateful for apples donated so far but we have now stopped accepting any more.

So, thank you for all the excellent apples donated.

You will be pleased to know that the price remains at £3 per bottle

Opening Hours:	Monday-Friday	09:00-16:00
	Saturday	08:00-15:00
	Sunday	08:00-12:00



St Leonard's Church
Blunston

Connecting with God, each other
and our community



News from the Pews.....

As we go to print, we will have had 2 services under our belts! There were no queues or jostling for a seat, just a steady return to a place that had remained empty for several months.

No one turned up in their slippers or pyjamas! I say this slightly in jest as I'm almost sure that that is how some of us watch the streamed service. We are always acutely aware of how we are viewed by others - and for me church is a special occasion for our 'Sunday best'; so, for months now it's been bit of a relief not to have to 'dress' to attend church in our own living rooms. We become comfortable, but we are loved whatever we choose to wear. Having said that it was also refreshing to get properly attired for the first service - a stepping stone or milestone of what is to come.

Our fundraiser this year took the guise of a virtual 'open gardens' viewed in the church and an excellent 'cream tea' pop up cafe in the shop car park! Why haven't we done this before you may ask? This was thinking outside the box, and our thanks conveyed to the ladies that organised it all. One of the better things to come out of a crisis.

Various things are being planned for the coming months: how many will come to fruition is anyone's guess. Plans will be in place and ready to implement at the drop of a hat. What has bothered me personally is the talk of Christmas being cancelled for families! No way - it'll just be different. I'm almost sure Jesus will be happy with whatever you do on HIS birthday.

Jane Ockwell

Services for St Leonard's Church, Blunston

Following the easing of restrictions, we plan to hold two services per month. The dates are as follows:

11th October 10am - Communion

25th October 10am - Morning Prayer

8th November- Remembrance Service, to be held in the Cemetery at War Memorial.

All services will be held with seats socially distanced. Communion will be bread only and coffee will be served after the service, please bring your own cup if you would like. You will be served in your seat so you can relax and chat at a distance. Face coverings will need to be worn. There will be music but unfortunately no singing!

Looking forward to seeing everyone!

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Ian Noble Cert CII (MP &ER), Mobile no. 07368201057, Blunsdon

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St Leonard's Church
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Connecting with God, each other
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From the Vicar's desk.....

Signposts

In reflecting on what to write for October, I came across the following from the former Bishop of Durham who offers theological and Biblical reflections on the current crisis – and how Christians should respond:

'This is a time for lament. For admitting we don't have easy answers. For refusing to use the crisis as a loudspeaker for what we'd been wanting to say in any case. For weeping at the tomb of our friends... The initial calling of the church, first and foremost, is to take our place among the mourners... The call of Jesus' followers, then, as they confront their own doubts and those of the world through Jesus and behind locked doors, is to be sign-producers for God's kingdom. We are to set up signposts – actions, symbols, not just words – which speak, like Jesus' signs, of new creation: of healing for the sick, of food for the hungry, and so on... For these tasks we will need the living presence of Jesus, and the powerful breath of his spirit. That is what we are promised.'

Whilst the crisis has changed how we worship, how we interact, how we live, it has not changed God nor that living presence of Jesus. We need, more than ever, to pray, to wait, and to listen. God will guide us, and we need to guide others. Christians continue to care for others in new ways, through a way of living we did not expect and one that leaves us somewhat daunted by what might be next.

September was a restart of school, the continuing of the slow advance towards a more normal life and work, and a return to worship. But let us always remember to be the light of Christ, to signpost the way and to seek guidance through prayer.

God is with us, and will guide us, through Jesus the living presence.

Blessings for a safe October.

Paul Morris. LLM.

Thank you!

On behalf of St Leonard's Church, I would like to thank everyone who was involved in the Scarecrow Trail, Virtual Gardens Display, Photo Competition and Cream Teas. We raised a grand total of £1,100.

Helen G

Notes from the Editor

If you have an article for the Magazine or some news that you would like to share 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.

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

Front cover photo: by Rosie, winner of the Junior Photography Competition

The November Magazine will be delivered from: 30th October

Please note deadline for items for inclusion:

Magazine issue	Deadline for inclusion
November	21 st October
December/January	18 th November

THANK YOU

The Magazine thanks **Newland Homes Ltd** for supporting the community through their recent generous donation to the Magazine.

Lest we Forget

Paint a poppy..... colour one or craft one - then stick it in your window or pop it on your gate!

We are uncertain as to whether we will be able to have any sort of Remembrance observation this year, but as a village I'm sure we can paint it red!

So, get your children or grandchildren to get colouring or break out the crayons by yourself: then from the beginning of November I hope to see poppies popping up all over the place.

The challenge is set.

Jane

TALES of VENICE, the Guide Dog puppy

Hi everyone, hope you all avoided the sudden spike in Covid 19 in Swindon and are keeping safe.

Well, did you guess how much it costs to support a Guide dog for a day? It is £5 a day. We are not cheap are we?

My puppy walkers went away for a few days to Cornwall (after the summer holidays) but I could not go with them as they stayed on a working farm and I would have wanted to play with the sheep and cows.

Do not worry I also had a holiday too. So that Guide Dogs do not forget their training we do not go to Boarding Kennels, instead we go to a Boarder.

They are usually someone who has previously been a puppy walker but can no longer look after a puppy full time.

My puppy walkers had a long talk to my Boarder before I went and were only allowed to take my food, health card, medallion and Halti (all double bagged, disinfected and placed in their garage for 72 hours before I left).



We were all worried how I would settle as I was not allowed my toys or bed due to Covid 19. Nobody needed to worry as when I arrived at the boarders and my puppy walkers removed my collar and lead, I was straight into the house and never looked back.

The photo shows me only 20 minutes after I arrived, settled and enjoying a new bed and toys. Guide Dogs like puppies to stay at a Boarder so they can see how well we can settle in a new environment. I loved my stay at the Boarders, in fact my puppy walkers were worried I would not want to come home as I was having such a great time.

My Boarder said I can go back anytime as I was such a well-behaved girl.

Question of the month: When do you think the first known example of a special relationship between a dog and a blind person occurred?

BLUNSDON SURGERY

Tel 01793 721254

Blunson Surgery is now open for patients to come in.

We are operating a traffic light system. Please remember you will need to wear a mask to enter the building and only enter when the light is green.

EMERGENCIES - Tel. 01793 762218 (Outside surgery hours)

BLUNSDON NOTES Manor Farmhouse (opposite St Leonards Church)

When I was a child, I remember Manor Farmhouse, formerly Church Farmhouse as a mysterious empty dwelling, almost hidden from view like something out of Dickens. The garden was full of tall weeds and nettles and there was a huge old monkey puzzle tree to the right of the entrance gate. It still looked imposing though with its tall stone chimneys and big wooden gate with a metal arch surmounted with an acorn finial. The old front door there was almost hidden under a trellised Victorian porch covered in rambling roses.

Old Mrs Heigham had been the last occupant, her family having owned it since 1918 when the Sutton estate had sold it. It had been home to their estate bailiff, a Mr Knapp for a number of years previously. The house had been bought by Ferris, an estate agent in Old Town and he'd failed to find a buyer because of its sorry state.

Then in 1955 the Sarjent family bought it and set about making it a family home once again. Luckily it had been re roofed in 1919 by the Heighams when the original Cotswold stone tiles were cleaned and put back and the structure of the house was also proved to be sound.

The old house retained lots of original features, like the fine oak Jacobean staircase with vertically symmetrical balusters whose thick old timbers creak all the way up to the attic bedrooms.

The Sarjents discovered two hidden powder closets either side of the fireplace in the main sitting room and a fine Jacobean stone fireplace was later discovered behind a more modern grate between these closets.

Manor Farmhouse is one of Blunston's finest houses. It is L shaped, has stone chimneys with moulded caps and is irregularly gabled. Some windows on the north side have odd gable shaped hoods and there is also a lovely neo-Gothic window on the landing stairs.

The house has a cellar with a stone floor and stone lined channel running round it, useful for running water when it was used as a dairy. There was also a pump in the cellar to provide water for the large kitchen above. Outside there is a former laundry building and the old wooden pay office for all the farmworkers is still at the top of the side entrance.

In the gardens near the house I also remember there used to be an interesting outdoor privy with small, medium and large seating arrangements!

The Sarjents put their stamp on the gardens, creating a tennis court, flower beds and planted many trees and shrubs including the front beech hedge. For extra privacy as Blunston continued to grow, they also asked Nelson Coxhead of Pear Tree Cottage, a local handyman, to build up the old rubble stone wall along the High Street side of the garden and it's still possible to see where the original height used to be, about half way down. Rex Sargent used to joke that this would be "Nelson's Monument".

The Sarjent family grew up in the house and were always involved in church and village activities so they were sadly missed when Rex and Joan finally moved away when their family left home. Since then the old house has been home to several owners over the years and today it still stands, now secluded by mature shrubs and trees behind a new gate and a tall thick beech hedge.

Richard Radway



BLUNSDON FOOTBALL CLUB

Recent results

Redhouse, home drew 1 - 1

Nalگو Sports, away won 8 - 2

Swindon and District Premier League – current position, 4th

It's been great to see the return of local football in what will be a very competitive league with many strong teams, with Blunsdon being one of them.

There have been very few changes to playing personnel from last season due to the lack of signing on incentives that new Blunsdon players were previously given, such as the heaviest marrow and longest runner bean as judged at the annual Heart in Hand Hop, which unfortunately had to be cancelled this year.

However, manager Iain Rosewell was stung into action and has splashed the cash on a new "keeper" that he had heard people swarming to Lower Village to see perform during the weekend of the August Bank Holiday scarecrow trail. Iain said, "There will be a real buzz around Sutton Park on 31st September when our new keeper makes his debut for the Amber and Black B team."

Upcoming Fixtures; all Saturday, 2.30 pm kick off, home matches played at The Theatre of Trees, Sutton Park.

3 October, Highworth Town Dev, Highworth Rec

17 October, The Globe, Southbrook Rec

24 October, Ashton Keynes, home

31 October, Hatherop, away

Your socially distanced support is most welcome.

BLUNSDON CRICKET CLUB



Results – Wiltshire Cricket League Division 61

Finished runners up (out of 6)

Calne, home – won by 5 wickets, against the Champions Elect, with a miserly 3 for 5 from **James "Mary" Shelley** and 40 not out from **Shaun "Doddery" Dodson**.

Wanborough, home – won by 8 wickets, thanks to an unbroken 100+ partnership from **Shaun "Doddery" Dodson** and **James "Mary" Shelley**.

Well that was a short but very sweet season. Everyone at the club can't wait for next year, especially with the Winter Tour to Greenland being cancelled because their Ice Pitch has melted into the sea due to global warming.

Hope to be back in Spring 2021.

New Yoga Class: Wednesday evenings at 6pm



The longer nights are reminding us that Autumn is here, but why not try something to keep you healthy and happy, and break up the working week? Yoga can really boost the spirits, keeping you warm and flexible in the colder months.

Introducing Magic Yoga with Julia:

A regular yoga practice seems to magically transform both body and mind. We feel better with Yoga in our lives. Unlike other exercise, Yoga is non-competitive, not aggressive, and yet is highly effective in creating a positive change in our body shape, power and mobility. Most importantly, it can help our state of mind too, giving us more confidence, and more control over emotions.

My name is Julia, I have been practicing yoga for many years, and I'm starting a Vinyasa style yoga class at Blunsdon Village Hall. Vinyasa "flows" between Asanas (poses) carefully and mindfully, starting with a focus on the breath, warming up, and moving through a sequence which the class will develop together over a few weeks. Every person in class is different: you might be a runner or a keen horse rider looking to increase flexibility; or a couch potato escaping from the TV; or perhaps you're a seasoned yogi looking for some inspiration. My job is to help you leave class feeling good!

Yoga is *magic*, and I want to share that sparkle with you. Please come and join me.
Namaste, Julia

First Taster Class £5.00, Wednesday 7th October 6pm-7pm.

To book & receive joining instructions, email: julia@magicyoga.co.uk

Venue: Blunsdon Village Hall, High Street, Blunsdon, SN26 7AR (small hall).

Spaces are limited to 14 max. Free parking. COVID19 Compliant.

Regular classes at 6pm on Wednesdays can be booked as a series or a one-off basis.

Q. Do I need to be flexible?	No, practicing yoga helps to build flexibility and strength – it's not about touching your toes!
Q. Will I have to do abs?	I promise we won't do any sit-ups, but yes core work is always part of my yoga classes.
Q. What should I bring?	You must bring your own mat, plus any props, like blocks or cushions, water etc. Clothing: layer-up so you can keep warm. Windows may be open for COVID19.
Q. Will we be sitting meditating?	It's an active class so you will create some heat. We connect our breathing with each movement, and finish with Savasana (a few moments of rest). We may also meditate.



Dear Blunsdonians,
This Halloween trick or trick will be off the cards due to Covid. However, to make it up to the children who still have a fun to dress up and go out in the night to explore a Halloween Trail such as spotting the hidden pumpkin stickers and for our night front garden/ house show, we would create characters like a scarecrow trail but with lights in a night and guess what film that a character is in! For example, Harry Potter, Casper, Hocus Pocus, Sabrina, Night before Christmas etc.
So with our efforts, to make this Halloween 2020 more fun, safe and memorable way that we will not let Covid ruins our event.
We are hoping to do this on Halloween night, Saturday 31st October.

If you would like to do this, please email me lcornock@live.com for details or to enter! To enter, please need to be before 25th October so I can create a map!
Best Regards, Lauran.



A Recipe from CookFoodFan



Walking around the village many people have been harvesting their apple trees and kindly leaving apples for people to take. So, I thought it was a good time to share a recipe for apple cake often referred to as Dorset Apple Cake. It looks good, is simple to bake and delicious to eat. Better still this rustic bake can be eaten as a cake or served warm with ice-cream, custard or clotted cream (yum!).

Ingredients

1½ Bramley apples (about 300g), or any firm eating apple, peeled and cored
225g self-raising flour
1 tsp baking powder
½ tsp mixed spice
½ tsp ground cinnamon
125g butter, **plus 25g melted**
125g light brown sugar
1 lemon, zested (optional if you don't have a lemon)
2 eggs, beaten
2 tbs demerara sugar for the crunchy topping

Custard, clotted cream or ice cream, to serve if required.

Method

1. Heat the oven to gas 4, 180°C, fan 160°C. Grease and base line a 20cm (8inch) loose-based cake tin.
2. Cut one apple in half, then slice one of those halves into 8 and set aside. Chop the remaining two halves into small dice.
3. Sieve the flour, baking powder, cinnamon and mixed spice into a bowl. Rub in the butter.
4. Stir in the sugar, lemon zest and diced apple.
5. Stir in the eggs and mix well.
6. Spoon the mixture into the tin and level the surface.
7. Arrange the apple slices on the top and brush with the melted butter.
8. Sprinkle over the demerara sugar and bake in the oven for 30-40 mins.

Tip

This cake freezes well so can be cut into quarters, wrapped and put in the freezer for another day.
If it lasts that long!



VIRTUAL SENIOR GAMES FOR CARE HOMES IN SWINDON (including Park View in Blunsdon)

Swindon Sports Forum in conjunction with Swindon Borough Council and WASP (Wiltshire and Swindon Sport) had plans to conduct a Senior Games for Care Homes in Swindon during this autumn. However, the current situation wouldn't allow this. But...instead we have organised the first ever VIRTUAL Senior Games instead.

We have invited six Swindon Care Homes to take part (including Park View) and they all are extremely enthusiastic about the forthcoming event.

The event will be run over 4 days from Thursday 8th to Sunday 11th October.

This is a fun event in which any resident can participate, but there are medals and a trophy for the best performances. Each care home will record the 6 best performances during 4 events. These are Javelin (using a foam javelin!) – Putting - Tin Can Alley - and Target Mat.

These best attempts will be judged by our Sports Forum Coordinator Chris Baker (chris@wiltssport.org)

Justin Tomlinson has agreed to produce a video message for the launch and Professor Dawn Skelton, Professor of Ageing and Health, School of Health and Life Sciences, Institute for Applied Health Research, Centre for Living, Glasgow Caledonian University who was one of the founders of the original Games in Glasgow will also address the competitors.

So, despite the Lockdown we can inject a little bit of fun into the Care Home environment.

Ian Jankinson – Chairman - 07702 684281 – ianjankinson@msn.com
- www.swindonsportsforum.co.uk



Good luck Park View!



SWINDON Carers Centre

Are looking after a friend or family member?

If so the Swindon Carers Centre is here to support you.

Swindon Carers centre (SCC) is an independent charity established to support and provide help to carers in Swindon.

Are you a carer?

If you are looking after an ill, frail or disabled family member, partner or friend, then you are a carer. The person you look after may be elderly, have a physical or mental health condition, a learning disability or a drug or alcohol dependency (diagnosed or undiagnosed).

People often do not view themselves as carers, and as a result can miss out on the various rights, benefits and support which may help them in their role.

SCC can support carers in a number of ways;

- Provide information
- Signpost to other relevant organisations
- Give one-to-one support, including assistance in accessing services
- Welfare and benefits advice
- Access to breaks and complementary therapies
- Training sessions and self-help groups
- Emergency card scheme

For more information or to discuss your caring role and initiate the registration process, here is how you can reach them;

Telephone: 01793 531133

Email: carers@swindoncarers.org.uk.

If you prefer you can submit a referral form online by visiting the website www.swindoncarers.org.uk

Our Vision:

Creating a community where carers are recognised, valued and supported.

Our Mission:

To improve the wellbeing of people with caring responsibilities in and around Swindon.

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