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Church Services for March

Sunday, 4th March 3rd Sunday of Lent

10.30am Holy Communion at Christian Malford

Thursday, 8th March

9am Morning Prayer at Christian Malford

Sunday, 11th March Mothering Sunday

10.30am A Celebration for the whole family with our Benefice Children's Choir at Christian Malford

Sunday, 18th March 5th Sunday of Lent

10.30am United Benefice Holy Communion at Sutton Benger

Thursday, 22nd March

9am Morning Prayer at Christian Malford

Sunday, 25th March Palm Sunday

9am Holy Communion at Christian Malford

Thursday, 29th March Maundy Thursday

6pm Simple meal and Holy Communion at Christian Malford

Friday, 30th March Good Friday

10.30am "Messy Church" – build an Easter garden in a shoe box at Sutton Benger. Please bring your own shoebox if possible.

2pm Meditation at the foot of the cross at Kington Langley

Saturday, 31st March Easter Eve

8pm Service of Light at Tytherton Kellaways

Sunday, 1st April Easter Sunday

10.30am All Age at Christian Malford

Waste Collection dates

Household waste, black box and garden waste - Thursdays, 8th and 22nd March.

Blue lid recycling - Thursdays, 1st, 15th and 29th March.

Household recycling centre opening hours

Visit www.wiltshire.gov.uk/household-recycling-centres to check which days your local centre is open.

Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

Home Security and Online Safety Schemes

The Trust is an independent charity which works closely with Wiltshire Police to provide an invaluable home security service. The Trust has been operating this scheme for the past 20 years helping to secure homes for the elderly, vulnerable & disadvantaged throughout Wiltshire. The Trust also runs a scheme to offer advice on keeping safe whilst online for people aged over 60, or 18+ registered disabled. If eligible, you can request a home visit or arrange a group talk. To enquire about a home security check for your home call 01380 861155 or Email : bobbyvan@wiltshire.police.uk

For all enquiries regarding the Stay Safe Online Scheme
Call: 01380 861191 or Email : bvonlinefsafety@wiltshire.police.uk

Village Memorial Cross. Most days many villagers will walk past the memorial cross situated on The Green and perhaps cast a glance at the names of the servicemen carved thereon. Details of those servicemen and the circumstances in which they died will appear in these pages. Most died in the first world war and the brief notes that describe the circumstances in which they died bring home the sheer horror and often chaos of their situation.

Private CHARLES HENRY DAWSON
29946, 22nd (Tyneside Scottish) Battalion, Northumberland Fusiliers
who died on 10th October, 1918

Remembered with honour at Cologne Southern Cemetery.

The city of Cologne (Köln) lies in the west of Germany approx 30kms to the north of Bonn. Cologne Southern Cemetery is located within the civilian cemetery, Südfriedhof Köln. Cologne was entered by Commonwealth forces on 6th December, 1918 and occupied under the terms of the Treaty of Versailles until January, 1926. The Cemetery was used during the war for the burial of more than 1,000 Allied prisoners, as well as German servicemen. In 1922 it was decided that the graves of Commonwealth servicemen who had died all over Germany should be brought together into four permanent cemeteries. Cologne Southern was one of those chosen and graves were brought in from 183 burial grounds in Hanover, Hesse, the Rhine and Westphalia. There are now 2,482 First World War servicemen buried or commemorated in the Commonwealth plots at Cologne. The total includes special memorials to a number of casualties buried in other cemeteries in Germany whose graves could not be found.

The Tyneside Scottish consisted of four battalions. The parent regiment was the Northumberland Fusiliers in which they became 20th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd battalions, forming 102nd Brigade of the 34th Division. The division embarked for France in January, 1916 and the first major action was the opening of the Somme offensive on 1st July in which the division suffered the highest losses of any division on that day, some 6,400. In February, 1918 the 1st and 2nd Tyneside Scottish battalions were disbanded and the 3rd Tyneside Scottish transferred to the 48th Brigade, 16th (Irish) Division, landing in France in July 1918. Although there is very little doubt that this is the correct person, his connection with the village has yet to be identified.

Christian Malford Village Website. Gives details of village events, clubs and societies There is a notice board and a list of useful telephone numbers and local services.

To include your event within the village diary send your item to email: parishclerk@christianmalford.org.uk

Parish Council. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, 6th March in the village hall, commencing at 7.45pm.

The Luncheon Club. This much appreciated club will meet on Tuesday, 13th and 27th March at 12.30pm. Contact Angela Hamilton on 721091 or Shirley Palmer on 740627

Women's Institute. The next meeting is on Thursday, 15th March at 7.30pm in the village hall. See below for a full report form the WI.

Christian Malford Neighbourhood Development Plan

REFERENDUM

Thursday, 8th March, 7am - 10pm in the village hall

Easter Lilies in Christian Malford Church As in previous years there will be arrangements of beautiful lilies in our church this Easter. If you would like to purchase a lily, in memory of a friend or loved one, these will be available at £2.50 per stem. There will be a box for requests and payment in the village shop, or your order may be given to Pam Carter at 5 The Nurseries. Please note the name/s of those to be remembered, and it would be helpful if you could include your name/contact number, just in case of a query.

CHRISTIAN MALFORD SCARECROW TRAIL

'Once Upon a Time...Fairytale and Fables'

24th -25th March 10am – 5pm

TRAIL SHEETS £3.00

FROM THE RECREATION GROUND (SN15 4BQ)

Hot and cold refreshments, hot dogs, bacon butties

raffle, children's games, children's trail

For more information find us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/cm scarecrowtrail

Sponsored by

Kingsley Pike and

Thornbury Surfacing (Chippenham) Ltd

Join us to say

'Thank you, Mum!

A special celebration for Mothering Sunday
March 11th at 10.30am
All Saints' Church, CHRISTIAN MALFORD
followed by refreshments

Lent Groups

Saturday, 3rd March 10am – 12 noon
PRAYER at All Saints Church, Christian Malford
Saturday, 17th March 10am – 12 noon
TEACHING at All Saints, Sutton Benger
Saturday, 24th March 10am – 12 noon
FELLOWSHIP at Kington Langley Village Hall
followed by Lent Lunch.

Memories of Christian Malford School – Part 2, 1947-1952

Brian Collier

I started these years with a bit of good luck. I failed my exam for the grammar school which meant I would stay at Christian Malford School until I left on my 15th birthday.

For the first two years we still had the same headmistress. Once she stood a ten-year-old boy in front of the class and shouted at him. When he ran out of the room she told two older boys to fetch him back. They came back ten minutes later and said they could not catch him. They could have caught him but they did not want to bring him back to the school whilst the headmistress was still in such a temper.

There still was not much money around so we made our own games. There was a craze of walking on stilts made from empty tin cans but this was banned at school, the world's first health and safety rule!

The school had a glass fronted case and inside there were insects pinned to a board. They were probably insects from South America – there were some huge beetles and butterflies and there was also a humming bird. I thought it was a wonderful thing but the headmistress told two boys to take it outside and burn it. How could a person with that mentality inspire children to want to learn?

The toilets were outside – they had steps made of planks with buckets underneath which, when full, were emptied in a hole dug in the field. The boys urinal only had a small roof so if the wind blew in a particular direction you could get wet whilst using the urinal.

One boy brought in some .22 bullets. He set fire to some paper in the toilets and put the bullets on the paper and ran. There were still some marks in the door when I left.

For the last two years of my time at the school we had a much better headteacher who taught us by making us interested and not by fear. But there was no careers advice. On my last day he asked if I had a job to go to and I replied that I was to be an apprentice to a toolmaker. He replied, "What's that".

I visited the school again when our grandchildren were there – what a change! Books with coloured pictures, posters on the walls, the blackboards had gone. It looked so friendly and interesting. I wish I could put myself there now and start all over again.

Brush With Art. The art group resumes in March at the village hall between 6.45pm and 9pm. Dates for March are Monday, 5th and Monday 19th. The first meeting will be a personal art sessions at which members will discuss the content of future meetings. The cost remains at £4 per session. Refreshments. Contact Roger Carter on 720810 or Anthony Hughes on 720966.

Village Ball, 2018

Saturday, 16th June in the Church, 7pm until 1am.

Dancing to the Park Lane Big Band

Tickets £45, tables of eight.

Tickets will be available from mid-April.

If you want to pre-order your tickets, either individually or in tables of eight,

contact Anthony Hughes on 720966 or

e-mail anthony.hughes04@btinternet.com

Fewer tickets will be available this year so order your tickets early.

Village Hall 100 Club draw. £40 Mr and Mrs Webb, £20 Mrs Y. Savage, £15 Mr. I Kirkpatrick and £10 Mr. K. May.

BOOK THESE DATES NOW!
The Malford Players'
next production will be
Lord Arthur Savile's Crime
that well-known comedy by Constance Cox
based on the short story by Oscar Wilde
Performances at Christian Malford Village Hall
on Thursday 17th, Friday 18th and Saturday 19 May
Watch this space for further details nearer the time

Dauntsey Vale Link Scheme This good neighbour scheme covers Dauntsey, Foxham., Brinkworth and Christian Malford. The scheme offers far more than just driving clients to/from medical appointments. Other helpful assistance includes shopping, visit to the hairdressers, walking the dog, small DIY tasks in the home, help with forms and letters, visiting a friend in hospital or at home, taking you to meetings and events, reading a book or newspaper, small jobs in the garden. Please ring our Co-ordinator to discuss your requirement. Even if we are unable to help, he/she may be able to give you details of someone who can. Telephone 07563 769549.

Church news. *Church Brass* Could you spare an hour or so during one month a year to help give the church brass a bit of TLC and sparkle? The brass only requires cleaning once each month but currently there are quite a few spaces on our brass cleaning rota and some additional volunteers would make a tremendous difference. Also you don't have to work alone, as two people would get the job done in half the time! So if you could help, please contact Teresa Bolter (720035) for more information.

Church opening times The church is open each day from 9am until dusk for villagers and visitors from elsewhere to enjoy, reflect, pray or just sit quietly within it's medieval walls. The entries in the visitors book indicate how pleased visitors are to have this church open and available to visit. It belongs to the village so please make use of it.

Table Tennis. The group meets on most Thursdays 7.30pm 'til 9.30pm (except third Thursday in the month) at Christian Malford Village Hall. Cost:£1.50 per session. There are two table tennis tables, bats and balls provided. The only skill required is the ability to hit a ball! Average standard play, but we are good teachers if you are a beginner. No match play or leagues....only pub drinks afterwards, if you've worked up a thirst!
From age 12 to 90 (12 to 16 year olds must be accompanied at all times by a parent). Phone Sally Purkiss 01249 720077for further information.
Dates: March 1st, 22nd, 29th

Christian Malford Community Speed Watch Summary (Jan) In January our volunteers provided 22.5 hours of by-the-road-side speed watch sessions in 6 different locations across the village. We reported 77 vehicles speeding in both the 30 & 40 mph zones. We are keen to expand our team and if you could spare some time to our cause, please e-mail join@christianmalfordcsw.co.uk

Parish Steward for Christian Malford and Sutton Benger

The Parish Steward, Adrian Moss, visits each of our two villages two days a week at the beginning of each month to address a wide variety of minor highway defects and needs. To ensure that we do not lose this valuable service, provided by Wiltshire Council, we need to ensure that he has plenty of work to do.

HOW CAN YOU HELP? - by reporting any of the following tasks for the Parish Steward to undertake:- Hand cleaning of small grips, rodding of small culverts and manholes, filling small potholes, hand cleaning of road gully tops, hedge trimming around road signs to maintain visibility (but not wholesale hedge cutting as this needs to be done by the landowner), washing highway signs, over-run damage, strimming of grass verges for visibility at junctions and of highway signs, siding out overgrown vegetation obstructing footways, clearing debris and leaves (but not litter) and painting railings away from water.

Please report tasks, with as much detail as possible to:-

Cllr Mike Lawrence mike@hamhouse.co.uk or

Linda Bragg, Clerk, parishclerk@christianmalford.org.uk or 07982 030973 (answerphone)

All other highway matters should be reported to Wiltshire Council

Mobile Library will visit on Thursday, March 8th stopping at the village hall between 2.15pm and 2.45pm. The Mobile Library Service consultation has now finished and the mobile library will continue to visit Christian Malford on a monthly basis on a Thursday, 2.15 – 2.45pm (North route D). Copies of the new timetable will be available from the mobile libraries and can be viewed on <http://services.wiltshire.gov.uk/MobileLibrary/>. please refer to North Mobile Library Routes February 2018.

School Local Board vacancy

There is a vacancy on the Local Board of Christian Malford, Seagry and Somerfords' Walter Powell Primary Schools. This is a voluntary role which is akin to the governor role in a Maintained School. The Local Board works with staff on the strategic aspects of the schools and supports them to continue to improve the education of the pupils in our community. If you would like to get involved, or find out more about the role, please either call the school (01249 720496) and leave a message for Claire Kennedy or email Claire Kennedy on localboard@christianmalford.wilts.sch.uk.

The school website is: www.christianmalford.wilts.sch.uk

Women's Soft Ball Cricket Rod Alcorn Christian Malford Cricket Club writes,

Women's Soft Ball Cricket was a new initiative in the 2017 season which aimed to introduce ladies to the game of cricket with the use of a softball. This initiative was a great success and saw many ladies enjoying cricket across the county at both club training nights but also at the Women's Soft Ball festivals. Overall, the initiative is broken down into two sections. Firstly, clubs are offered the opportunity to take part in a 6-week coaching program to develop batting, bowling and fielding skills in a sociable and enjoyable environment. It is hoped that these sessions will prepare the participants for a soft ball festival, in which they can showcase their newly acquired or improved skills. Secondly, women's teams are provided with an opportunity to participate in a Women's Soft Ball Festival, which allows teams from across the county to participate against one another in a relaxed manner.

If any ladies or girls would like to play soft ball cricket, they should contact me and I will collate their names.

Rod Alcorn Christian Malford Cricket Club

W: <http://christianmalford.play-cricket.com> M: 07979 366023

Christian Malford Allotments. If you would like to have a plot (or even just half a plot) when one becomes available, put your name on the waiting list now. For full information visit <http://malfordallotmentteers.weebly.com/>

Probus Club The next meeting of the club will take place at The Rising Sun on Thursday, 1st March starting with coffee from 11am. The meeting will start promptly at 11.30 to cover any business. This will be followed by a talk by Allan Glass on A Ridiculously Brief History of Electricity. Lunch will be served at 1pm. There are still some vacancies and should anyone wish to join our friendly band or would like to find out more about our Probus Club please contact a committee member. Nigel Fairley 721278; John Webb 720216; Steve Purkiss 720077 or Ray Stockall 720676..

Village Fete. Saturday, 14th July The arrangements for this year's fete are taking shape. The initial plan is to hold it later in the day with games for children such as slippery pole, foam pit etc., and to have the usual stalls such as tombola, books and plants.

This would lead into an evening event where the WI organise a BBQ supper along the lines of the skittles evening. Fire pit for toasted marshmallows and possibly a small firework display at the end. Village organisations will be expected to play their part and if you would like to volunteer your services contact Phil Hines on 720003.

WI news.

WI County Scrabble Day Monday 5th March 10.30am - 3.15pm. Booking is essential.

Christian Malford Village Hall. £13 with a hot lunch.

'House of Flavours' Factory Outlet at North Wraxall Friday 9th March 10.00am

A demonstration first and then 'hands on' making your own chocolate Mothering Sunday gift and an Easter gift. £15 to include tea and cake. Confectionary will also be on sale at factory prices. Booking in advance to Tina at the Village Shop or Helen Hyland.

The Big Chinese Takeaway Saturday 10th March,

To be held in the Christian Malford Village Hall. WI member can bring a husband, partner or friend! Doors open at 7.00pm for 7.30 start. Bring your own drink. Dancing and eating is on the agenda! It will be a great evening with the 'Jade Tiger' from Royal Wootton Bassett providing the food. Get in there quickly as there will be a maximum limit on our numbers. Book with Tina £13 per person.

AGM and 'Women & Osteoporosis' Thursday 15th March, 7.30pm.

Photos throughout the AGM of 'Our 2017/18 WI Year!' Look out for yourself in the photos!

Kathleen Hennessey from Stryker UK will be talking about fractures of hip, hip replacement, knee replacement plus fracture of wrist. All relevant to women and osteoporosis. She was unable to talk to us in January due to illness.

Walk with Val Monday 19th March

Our great walks begin again this month. Up to a five mile chat and tramp. Contact Val 740219

Discover, Cook and Eat Yeast for Easter Wednesday 21st March

Bookings in advance to Tina at the Village Shop or to Christine Bowyer. £5 per session. 10.00am - noon at Christine's.

All our information and club activities can be found on the notice board outside the Christian Malford village shop.

New members are always welcome. Phone Tina for any queries on 01249 720956