



**Christchurch Forest of Dean
St Mary the Virgin English Bicknor**

**Church and Community
News and Events
March 2024**



50p

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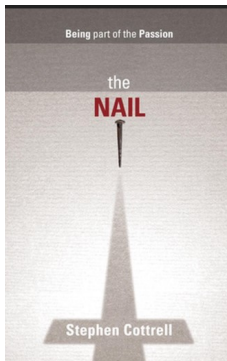
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Contact Jeff on
01594 860936

Lent Discussions

Following our very thought-provoking Advent discussions, we've decided to use another bestselling book of Stephen Cottrell (Archbishop of York) – 'The Nail' – for our Lent discussions. The following extract from the blurb gives you a flavour of the book.

"In 'The Nail', key witnesses describe Christ's crucifixion from their points of view. Each character considers the part he or she played in hammering the nails into Jesus. We learn how the Roman centurion was just following orders, and that Pontius Pilate merely obeyed the wishes of the majority. By vividly expanding these stories and others, Stephen Cottrell invites us to ask ourselves if we would have behaved any differently in those situations."



Please join us for the Lent Discussions

Wednesday at 2pm

March 6th, 13th and 20th

We meet at Andy and Pam in Hillersland.

Please contact Carol on 837207 for further details

Give thanks to the Lord, because he is good; his love is eternal!

Psalm 107

Life without faith is an arid business.

Attributed to Sir Noel Coward



Church Services for March 2024

St Mary the Virgin, English Bicknor

March 3rd 3rd Sunday of Lent	9.30 am Holy Communion
March 10th MOTHERING SUNDAY	9.30 am Matins
March 17th 5th Sunday of Lent	9.30 am Holy Communion
March 24th PALM SUNDAY	9.30 am Matins
29th March GOOD FRIDAY	10 am Traditional Benefice Service
31st March EASTER SUNDAY	9.30 am Holy Communion

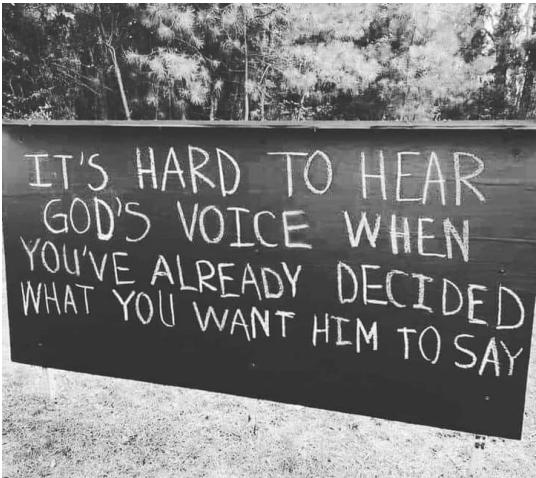
Every Wednesday throughout Lent there is a discussion group at Pam and Andy's—see page 3

Every Thursday there is the opportunity to take Communion at English Bicknor Village Hall— see page 14

Church services for March 2024

Christchurch Forest of Dean

March 3rd 3rd Sunday of Lent	11.00 am Sunday One	6.00 pm Holy Communion
March 10th MOTHERING Sunday	11.00 am Holy Communion	6.00 pm Evensong
March 17th 5th Sunday of Lent	11.00 am Morning Worship	6.00 pm Evensong
24th March PALM SUNDAY	11.00 am Holy Communion	6.00 pm Songs of Praise
29th March GOOD FRIDAY	10am Traditional Benefice Reflections	At ENGLISH BICKNOR
31st March EASTER SUNDAY	11.00 am Holy Communion	6.00pm Holy Communion



What do you think Revd Tony?

Why is Christening so important?

There was a time when almost everyone born in this country would have been 'Christened'. Well, here are some statistics.

In the 2011 Census, 33.2 million people identified as Christian. A number which had declined from 71.7 % in 2001, to 59.3% in 2011.

Historically, Christening/Baptism was a matter of custom and expectation. Now, fewer parents choose to bring their children for Baptism. In 2019 there were 89,000 Baptisms (Christenings) in the Church of England. In the same year there were 640,370 births in England and Wales.

So, the picture has changed significantly since the turn of the century.

However, those parents that choose to have their children Christened still represent a significant percentage of our population and the promises they make are serious and significant.

So, again, **'Why is Christening so important'**.

Christening a child, or the Baptism of an adult signifies an acknowledgement that:

That individual and precious person is to be a follower of Jesus Christ.

In the case of an infant, Parents and God parents PROMISE to support them and bring them up in the Christian faith and to be part of the Church community.

The Church community promises to pray for all those who are Baptised that their lives might be full and that they might 'know' Jesus in their day to day lives.



The big promises that parents and God parents make mean that Christening is more than a social custom. It is about inviting God into a child's life and ensuring that he or she has the opportunity to understand what that means as they grow.

It also offers a foundation for being part of the community of Christian people who, in their daily lives, try to live out a Christian life and be faithful followers of Jesus Christ.



I know that many families don't attend church on a regular basis and much of that is to do with how our lives, culture and family mean there are different demands on family time than there once was. But, Christening is a first step on a journey and, if nothing else, through familiarising children with the stories and the people of the bible as they grow, and helping them to learn to pray and explore their own spiritual life, parents and God parents can stay true to the promises they made at the time.

One amazing passage from the Old Testament says:

You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.
Jeremiah 29 v 13

To me, this passage says that God, our Father, doesn't force us into a set of beliefs but, rather, wants to be found by us and to have a relationship with each and every one!

Blessings and thanks

Tony Williams
Rector

Prayers for March 2024

Lord, the days are getting longer and our gardens are waking up slowly; help us to show those we come into contact with the love that flows through you. Inspire us all with each new day that we can find you in all we do and see. Help us to notice what is all around us and open our hearts and minds to your love through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Dear Lord,

I expect to pass through this world but once;
and any good thing, therefore, that I can do
or any kindness that I can show to any fellow creature,
let me not defer or neglect it,
For I shall not pass this way again.

Stephen Grellet 1773-1855

God our Father, Creator of the world,
please help us to love one another.
Make nations friendly with other nations;
make all of us love one another like brothers and sisters.
Help us to do our part to bring peace in the world
and happiness to all people.

Prayer from Japan

Thank you, Lord, for our mothers. We remember today their loving care, and their ceaseless love for us. May we show them by our gifts, our words and our actions that we love them and care about them too. Father, we thank you for the family of the church. Thank you for those who are true mothers within our Christian family. May they know your blessing and strength as they care for others. Amen.

From the Parish Records

Derrick John Kear

Service at Christchurch
followed by committal at
Forest of Dean crematorium
on 2 1st December 2023.

Graham Kenneth Baldwin 84

Service and committal at For-
est of Dean crematorium on
26th January 2024

John Lyons 87

Service and committal at
Forest of Dean crematorium
on 19th January 2024

Diana Victoria May Owen 83

Service at St Mary the Virgin,
English Bicknor followed by
burial in the churchyard on
16th February 2024

For love is as strong as death,
Passion as cruel as the grave;
It blazes up like a blazing fire, fiercer than any flame
Many waters cannot quench love, no flood can sweep it away;
if a man were to offer for love
The whole wealth of his house
It would be utterly scorned

Song of Songs 8:6-7

English Bicknor and District Gardening Club

Our Spring season has got off to a flying start with talks about the National Garden Scheme and the history of vegetables.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 26 March when we look forward to seeing Marion Stainton who will pass on her tips on how to make the most of The Spring Garden.

Then on Tuesday 30 April, Alex Luker will talk about the vast subject of Roses.

All our meetings take place in English Bicknor Village Hall, starting at 7.30 pm and everyone, current or prospective member, is most welcome.



**MINUTE AND MINUTE
SHOULDN'T BE SPELLED THE
SAME.**

**I'M NOT CONTENT WITH THIS
CONTENT.**

**I OBJECT TO THAT OBJECT.
I NEED TO READ WHAT I READ
AGAIN.**

**EXCUSE ME BUT THERE'S NO
EXCUSE FOR THIS.
SOMEONE SHOULD WIND
THIS POST UP
AND THROW IT IN THE WIND.**

It is better to fail in originality
than succeed in imitation .

Herman Melville

+++++

You are never too old to set an-
other goal or dream another
dream.

CS Lewis

+++++

A person who never made a
mistake never tried anything
new.

Albert Einstein



English Bicknor Women's Institute

English Bicknor WI news

As always, the WI offers its members interesting and lively activities and experiences. At our February meeting, Fiona Warin gave us a vivid portrayal of life as a land girl in the second world war. She set the scene where we were all prospective land girls and she explained what we could expect in our new roles. Fiona kept us captivated from start to finish.

Another highlight of the past month was when some of the ladies presented an enormous cheque to Coleford Opportunity Centre. The money will be used to purchase sensory equipment. The ladies spent an enjoyable hour with the children and staff. We will now consider creative ways to fund raise for our next local charity.

Our Tuesday morning walks are much enjoyed by a large group of ladies despite the occasional downpours and lots of mud! We have recently started monthly shorter walks so that we are catering for a wider range of walking ability.

Also, our walking netball sessions continue to be great fun and we have welcomed some new players.

We have lots of events planned for the coming months including a theatre trip, a federation council meeting, a walk hosted by Dymock WI and a county quiz.

Our meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at 7pm in the village hall. For further details please contact Sue Yemm on 01594 860845

Lent 2024

Soup and Bread lunches



Every Saturday during Lent
17th February – 23rd March (inclusive)

12-1pm at Christchurch

**Delicious home-made soups, crusty bread
with cake, tea and coffee to follow**

Donations are invited for an agreed charity

(Suggested donation - minimum £5.00 per person)

Forest of Dean Fundraising Group

Cancer Research UK

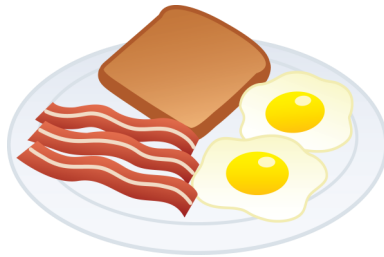
BIG BREAKFAST

Friday 8th March 2024

10.30-2.00pm

**Forest Hills Golf Club,
Mile End, Coleford**

£10 per person



We are hosting a BIG BREAKFAST for Cancer Research UK>

Join us right now and help beat cancer sooner.



FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S ENGLISH BICKNOR

A.G.M

Tuesday 16th April 7pm at the Church.

All Welcome

We are a group of people who raise money solely towards the upkeep of our lovely Parish Church. Many thanks to those who kindly support our numerous events and those that subscribe to an annual membership of £10.

Thursday Communion at 11.00

in English Bicknor Village Hall

With the start of a new year, our Thursday Communion 'regulars' would like to extend a warm welcome to anyone who might appreciate some quiet space in a busy week.

Whilst worship in Church is wonderful, it is equally possible to experience time with Jesus Christ in our beautiful and accessible Village Hall

Our service of Holy Communion is short and reflective with no obligation for individuals to take a leading role. You can come and just 'Be'.

Following our service there is time to enjoy each other's company relaxing with light refreshments.

For further information Contact Helen on 01594 860205

Christchurch Kitchen

You may have heard that the kitchen in Christchurch is to undergo an upgrade.

The PCC looked at creating a new, fully formed catering kitchen. However, after advice and much debate it was decided that this would be unnecessary, and inappropriate anyway, given that there is no possibility of building onto the church as had once been considered. Building within the church would involve high enclosing walls, cutting off vision to and from the kitchen, and installing a catering-grade extraction system : not to mention rather a lot of red-tape.

Instead, the existing servery will be redeveloped. It will be in the same place as the current servery, but will extend lengthwise to the Eastern edge of the window on the North wall and the width increased slightly. The increase in size will enable more than two people to work behind the counter. Which, if you have ever experienced working there, will be a huge bonus.

The units will all be stainless steel but clad on the side facing the church. There will be a hand-wash sink, a large sink, a dishwasher, plate warmer, a hot water system and a servery counter at two levels so that children and wheelchair users are able to access easily. The equipment will be up-graded to include a combi-microwave, possibly air-friers, modern hotplates, maybe a soup kettle or two and, if necessary, new saucepans for the hotplates. And if anyone knows of a silent kettle, please let me know.

It will, however, cost rather more than is available in the church coffers. As a parish, Christchurch has always been generous and the hope is that as fund-raising events take place they will be widely supported. The PCC encourages anyone who feels able to make a straight forward donation to contact Barbara Davies (PCC Treasurer) on 837270.

There will be regular updates in the magazine.

Judith Brickwood

Project Leader

01594 738645

Judithbrickwood33@gmail.com

What happens in March

This year, Easter falls early , last year it was celebrated in April. Some dates, however, do not change and there are some strange customs which occur throughout the British Isles in March.

For example:

1st March, is Whuppity Scoorie Day in Lanark, Strathclyde. At 6pm children race round St Nicholas church, the parish church , making as much noise as possible and trying to hit each other with balls of paper tied to string. Just why they are encouraged to do this is a bit obscure. Some say it is simply to celebrate the coming of spring: some that it reflects the ancient curfew change from winter dark to lighter evening: and yet other say it comes from a time when miscreants were whipped around the town and 'scoored', or cleansed , in the River Clyde.

11th March is Penny Loaf Day in Newark, Nottinghamshire. This commemorates a dream that one Hercules Clay had—a nightmare really—for on three consecutive nights he dreamed his house was on fire. So convinced was he that disaster was about to befall that the family moved out of the house. Within hours of them leaving, a bomb fired by parliamentary forces during the English Civil War destroyed the house. Thankful for the lucky escape, Clay left £100 in trust to provide penny loaves for the poor of the town.

15th March is the day of the Tichborne Dole. Tichborne is a village in Hampshire and in the twelfth century Lady Mabelle Tichborne was mortally ill. She asked her husband, Sir Roger, to establish a gift, a dole, of bread in her memory to all those who come to Tichborne for the Feast of the Annunciation - which is, of course, on the 25th March. Foreseeing the he would have to provide the flour from the wheat grown on his land, Sir Roger agreed to provide all the flour from as much land as his wife could encompass. Lady Mabelle, perhaps less mortally ill than she seemed, managed to crawl around 23 acres. The area is still known as The Crawls.

Towards the end of March the children in St Clement Danes School attend an afternoon service at St Clement Danes church. This is the church which gave rise to the nursery rhyme 'Oranges and Lemons'. The nursery rhyme is included in the service and afterwards the children are each given an orange and a lemon.

At the church of St Andrew Undershaft there is an effigy of John Stow. Stow compiled the *Survey of London* which is a unique record of the city before the Great Fire in 1666. The fire started in Pudding Lane and by the time it was put out much of the old city was destroyed. Every three years the Lord Mayor of London places a new quill pen in the hand of the effigy.

On the spring equinox the Druid Order meet at the stone of Free Speech which is on Parliament Hill Fields in London. Seeds are scattered and an Eisteddfod of music and poetry take place.

And then at the end of March (sometimes in early April) the Boat race takes place. This is one of the oldest sporting events in the world beginning in 1829 and continuing ever since. The only years the race did not happen were during the First and Second World Wars. The Boat Race originated when Charles Merivale, a student at St John's College, Cambridge, challenged his school friend Charles Wordsworth to a race at Henley-on-Thames. Cambridge lost and demanded a re-run the following year. For the next several years there were disputes as to where to race (always the Thames, it was the exact spot that was disputed) but by 1839 a course from Westminster to Putney was agreed. Now known as the Championship course, it is just over 4 miles long and runs from Putney to Chiswick Bridges. The race is rowed on the in-coming tide, meaning that the rowers are pulling against the tide, making the whole experience rather harder. To date there have been one dead heat (in 1877): crew mutinies, sinkings, and some very dangerous rowing. These days, the banks are lined with party-goers and the event is televised world-wide.

A more local event is held in both Oxford and Cambridge known as 'the Bumps'. A bit like a form of watery dodgems the idea is to bump the boat in front of you. Crews race line astern starting 1.5 lengths apart. The aim is to "bump" the crew ahead of you without being caught by the crew behind. If you bump, your race is over and you swap places with the bumped crew in the next race of the day. If you get bumped you keep racing; you can be bumped more than once! Crews who move up four (or more) places in one day are awarded "blades", crews who are bumped in each race get "spoons".

Quiz for March. Answers on p33

1. What is the last week in Lent called in the Christian calendar?
2. Which US President started the tradition of the White House Easter egg hunt?
3. From which country does the Easter lily originate?
4. What name is given to the day before Good Friday?
5. What name is given to the last TWO weeks of Lent?
6. On which day are Hot Cross Buns traditionally eaten?
7. Who was Fred Astaire's female co-star in the 1948 movie "Easter Parade"?
8. Easter Island is an overseas territory of which other country?
9. What is the Sunday prior to Easter Sunday known as?
10. Who directed the 2004 movie "The Passion of the Christ", the dialogue of which was entirely in Aramaic and Latin?
11. Which company produced the UK's first Easter egg in 1873?
12. On what animal did Jesus ride into Jerusalem on the first Palm Sunday?
13. When the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate, offered to release Jesus, who did the crowd insist he release instead?
14. The Good Friday agreement signed in 1988 as part of the Northern Ireland Peace process is also referred to as what?
15. Where did the Last Supper take place?
16. Which is the only Shakespeare play to mention Easter?
17. Which of Jesus' disciples denied him three times before the cock crowed?
18. Who on Easter Sunday 2006 became the first incumbent Head of State to reach the North Pole?
19. How many times is Easter mentioned by name in the King James Bible?
20. According to the Gospels who was made to carry the cross of Jesus?



It is not often that it is possible to say Happy Birthday to someone who has lived 100 years. But on 31st January 2024 Gene Marshall marked just such an anniversary. Friends and relations gathered in Christchurch to help celebrate the event.

Many Happy Returns, Gene.

The portrait above was taken by Adrian Griffin on the day



Friends and Family gathered to celebrate the event





Not your usual ice-bucket



.....nor the simplest birthday cards!



Thank you to everyone who sent me birthday flowers, gifts and wonderful cards . The notice on the Church railing was commented on by many

I know several guests made individual donations on line to the Alzheimer's Society and I am pleased to report that the £200.00 in the party donations box has also been paid to them.

Thank you so much

Gene Marshall.

Berry Hill Community Orchard



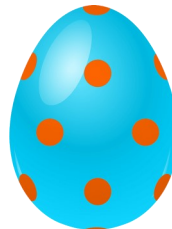
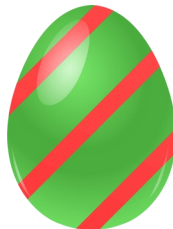
Easter egg Hunt

Saturday 30th March

10am-11am

Free Family and Community Event

Everyone Welcome!



How things have changed

by Gene Marshall

I was asked to write this contribution about significant changes in my lifetime for this magazine. The subject is so enormous that all I have managed are a few personal and random thoughts about it all.

When I look back to my life in the 1920's and 30's I see a completely different world. There have been so many changes and it is difficult to decide which are the most significant.

The change in the role of women in society is remarkable. When I was a child in the Forest women's work seemed to be confined to such jobs as teaching, nursing and shop work. Married women were generally expected to run the home and raise the children. However some married women in this area ran successful businesses and others joined the men's bowling club and raised money to build a ladies' pavilion. The Second World War gave women the opportunity to do what had traditionally been considered men's work. Educational opportunities and qualifications have led to women working alongside men in all walks of life and men taking a bigger part in the domestic scene.

Another area of great change has been in the food supply. In my early childhood every house had a good-sized cultivated vegetable garden growing the year's supply of vegetables. Many households had a pig and chickens. In the 20's the grocery shop near the Globe in Berry Hill weighed and measured and bagged most commodities in the shop. I remember the broken biscuits at a penny a bag and the strong blue bags used for the sugar. This must have changed fairly quickly as I remember pre-packaging in my teens. Now we have access to traditional foods from practically every country in the world

The change in the population mix in the Forest is another interesting topic. In my childhood there were few incomers. During the Second World War men from the prisoner of war camp and American troops stationed locally mixed freely with the locals and some formed lasting relationships and settled here. I was away from the Forest for several years.

Eventually I returned to teaching in Forest schools. When I first started teaching in Elwood School most children were from Forest families. When the first Severn bridge was built many more families moved to the Forest. Irish families escaping the troubles moved here and the children joined the school so the population of the area grew and changed. Now we enjoy people of many races and colour, beliefs and traditions.

We played top and whip on what is now Grove Road as there were only four or five car owners in the area. The butcher's boy delivered meat on a bicycle with basket. The milkman came in a horse and cart carrying the churns and measured the milk into your jug at the door. Groceries were delivered in a horse drawn covered wagon. Now we have three car families, foreign holidays, cruises, adventures and our horizons are extensive.

There have been so many improvements in my lifetime. We live in comfortable houses with good living standards. We have the great benefits of the NHS. There have been great strides in communication, education and knowledge of child development to name only a few. Yet some improvements have given rise to new problems such as global warming among others.

Gene will be writing more of her observations over the next few months..

The **Buddy Bag Foundation** was set up in 2015 to help make a difference to children entering emergency care. It provides a backpack containing essential items including toiletries, pyjamas and underwear, a book and teddy bear.

Please could you knit a teddy for a Buddy Bag?
Patterns are on the noticeboard in the porch at Christ-church.

If you need wool please let me know.

Thank you

It usually takes me more than 3 weeks to prepare a good impromptu speech. *Mark Twain*

The amount of sleep required by the average person is about 5 minutes more. *Max Kauffmann*

Wouldn't the world be a better place if everyone could say the following when needed:-

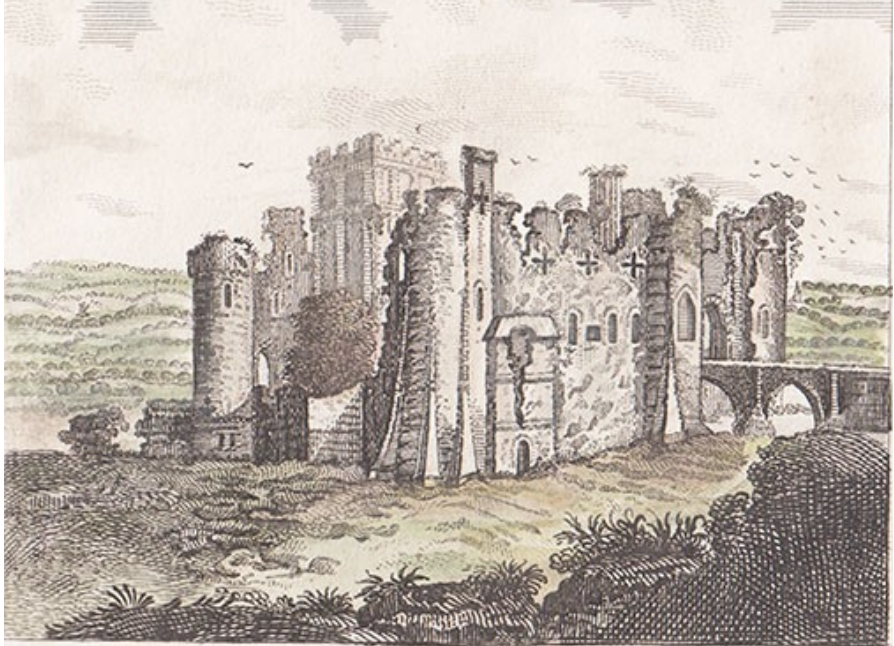
I don't know

I'm sorry

GOODRICH CASTLE

With Alex Knight

Alex is an archaeologist and a guide at Goodrich Castle.



Thursday 14 March

7.30pm, English Bicknor Village Hall

Entry: £4, FREE for EBLHG members – join on the door

www.englishbicknorlhg.co.uk

Claire Scales info@rocklodge.co.uk 01600 773220

ENGLISH BICKNOR LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Coleford Tourist Information Center Needs you

Do you enjoy meeting people ?

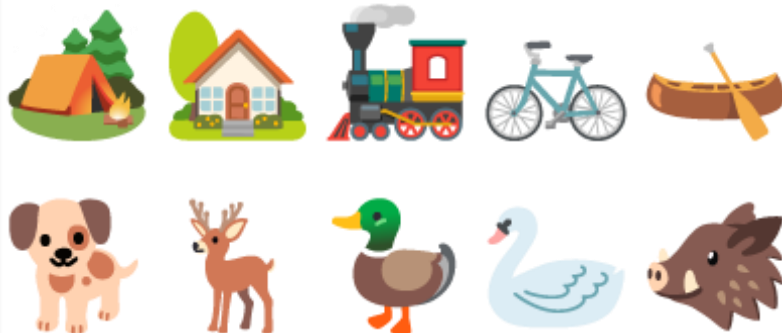
Do you have 3 hours a week to spare ?

Could you volunteer at **Coleford Tourist Information Centre**?

We are a friendly, welcoming group of people who volunteer a few hours each week to help visitors (and local people) find their way around the Forest and Wye Valley area. We are always looking for new volunteers so please pop into the "shop" for a chat or contact via email- info@colefordtown.net

Are you looking for advice, information, books, maps of the area or a lovely locally-made souvenir? Then you'll be happy to know that the Coleford Tourist Information Centre reopened on Saturday 10th February. The team of knowledgeable volunteers are always happy to help. The opening hours until Easter are 10am to 3pm, Monday to Saturday.

Just some of the things we were asked about last season!



#visitdeanwye #TIC #TouristInformation
#TouristInformationCentre

The Hut

(Berry Hill Memorial Institute, Park Road, Berry Hill)

**Donations greatly appreciated
for our next fundraising event.**

**Please call 07748 456 452 to arrange
drop off.**



**Jigsaw
&
Book Sale**



Refreshments Available.

**Saturday 23rd March
10 -12**

Everyone Welcome

A TASTE OF CORNWALL

at

English Bicknor Village Hall & Bar

Entertained by

**SHIPS & GIGGLES
SEA SHANTY SINGERS**

Friday 8th March

7pm Tickets £8.00

*Pasties, Pies,
Scone with Clotted
Cream*

For TICKETS
contact
Daph 01594 860259
07766631988
email,
daphgwilliam@gmail
.com

Always look on the bright side of life:

‘It’s snowing still,’ said Eeyore gloomily

‘So it is,’ said Pooh

‘And FREEZING.’

‘Is it?’

‘Yes, said Eeyore. ‘However, ‘he said, brightening up a little,

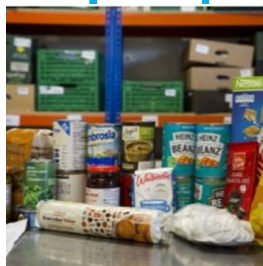
‘ we haven’t had an earthquake recently.

AA Milne in Winnie the Pooh



The Food Bank are short of:

Pasta
Tomatoes
Teabags
Jam
Sponge puddings
Rice Puddings
Tinned fruit
Washing up liquid
Washing powder/
liquid



DROP OFF POINTS ARE:

Coleford Coop
Coleford Lidl
Coleford Tesco Express
Coleford Town Council Offices
Coleford Main Place
Eskimart Coleway
Cinderford Tesco
Cinderford Library
Cinderford Greenhill Coffee
Cinderford Applegreen petrol
Lydney Tesco
Lydney Lidl
Lydney Library
Lydney Town Council
Ruardean Crooked End Farm
Drybrook Vales Butchers
Micheldean Kevins Butchers

It's that time of Year—again

Council Tax , water rates, - and your subscription to the magazine.

Very many thanks to all those who paid so promptly last year: Jeff was smiling! and the distributors were pleased too.

**We are keeping the cover price the same as last year at
£5 for the year.**

**Please pay your distributor. Or direct to Jeff. Or by bank transfer.
There is also a tin in each church if that is more convenient to you
or you like to collect your magazine yourself from the church.**

Bank details are

Sort Code: 30-95-29 Account: 01151465

Friends of Christchurch FoD

Coffee Morning

16th March

Excellent coffee, brilliant cakes and great conversation.

Meet old friends and make new ones.

Everyone welcome.

'The secret of getting ahead is getting started.' Mark Twain

'Attitude is the little thing that makes a big difference' Winston Churchill

'If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way.' Martin Luther King

Play Mornings at Christchurch

Most Thursday mornings in term time

In the church at Christchurch

9:30am* - 11:30am

For Under 5s with supervising adult(s)

Soft play equipment, bouncy castle, climbing frame

Toys, books & puzzles

Carpeted space with room for little ones to use their
energy

Fairtrade coffee/tea for the adults

**Doors open earlier so adults dropping older siblings at
school can come straight to Play Mornings.*

For more information contact:

Barbara: 01594 837270

email: PlayAtCC@gmail.com

It is often the small steps, not the giant leaps, that bring about the most
lasting change.

Queen Elizabeth II

Quiz answers

People are often unreasonable,
illogical and self-centered;
forgive them anyway.
If you are kind,
people may accuse you of selfish,
ulterior motives;
be kind anyway.
If you are successful,
you will win some false friends
and some true enemies;
succeed anyway.
If you are honest and frank,
people may cheat you;
be honest and frank anyway.
What you spend years building,
someone could destroy overnight;
build anyway.
If you find serenity and happiness,
they may be jealous;
be happy anyway.
The good you do today,
people will often forget tomorrow;
do good anyway.
Give the world the best you have,
and it may never be enough;
give the world the best
you've got anyway.
You see,
in the final analysis,
it is between you and God;
it was never between
you and them anyway.

1. ***Holy Week.***
2. ***Rutherford Hayes in 1878.***
3. ***Japan.***
4. ***Maundy Thursday.***
5. ***Passiontide.***
6. ***Good Friday***
7. ***Judy Garland.***
8. ***Chile.***
9. ***Palm Sunday.***
10. ***Mel Gibson.***
11. ***Fry's of Bristol.***
12. ***Donkey.***
13. ***Barabbas.***
14. ***The Belfast Agreement.***
15. ***Jerusalem.***
16. ***Romeo & Juliet.***
17. ***Peter.***
18. ***Albert II of Monaco.***
19. ***Once (Acts 12:4)***
20. ***Simon of Cyrene.***



Snowdrops
by
Adrian
Griffin



3 COURSE SPRING LUNCH

Formally known as POP in LUNCH

SATURDAY 11th MAY

12pm onwards

RAFFLE

BAR

**English Bicknor Village
Hall**

Adults £15 Children £7

Proceeds to F.O.S.M





Free mentoring service for girls and young women

Girls and young women in Gloucestershire and South Gloucestershire can now benefit from an innovative new mentoring initiative: Gloucestershire Mentoring Programme.

This free service is being offered by a collaboration of seven trusted organisations and is available for 11–25-year-olds. Specifically, those whose life circumstances suggest they're at risk of becoming involved in crime. And in some circumstances, those already linked to criminal activity.

Gloucestershire Mentoring Programme is hosted by The Door and funded by CHK Foundation, and offers young 'at risk' females the chance to form a long-lasting relationship with a trained volunteer mentor. Having a relationship with a trusted, independent adult is something that's often missing in the lives of young people and can be life-changing. It helps them build resilience and grow in confidence, and, over time, empowers them to have a more positive future.

If you know a young person who might benefit from the support the Programme offers (or you are that young person), you can visit gloucestershirementoringprogramme.co.uk to apply.

If you have a heart for understanding and supporting young people, a little spare time and would like to become one of the Programme's volunteer mentors, the providers would love to hear from you. You can contact any of them directly or via the Programme website, which will help you find the one operating closest to you. No experience is required and full training will be provided.

The seven delivery organisations collaborating to provide this service are: 1625IP; Breathe; Nelson Trust; Thames Valley Partnership; The Door; WAM Youth; and Young Gloucestershire. Follow the Programme on [social media](#) and help them spread the word.

For general enquiries, email info@gloucestershirementoringprogramme.co.uk or call 01453 756745.

LYDCARE

PRACTICAL HELP FOR THOSE IN NEED

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT – Lydbrook and surrounding villages

Our drivers provide a superb personal “ door to door” service , they are available to take you to and from your appointments , hospital , doctor or local activities. They are happy to wait until you are ready to return home .

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Contact -01594 544414.

WELLBEING AND BENEFITS ADVICE – across the Forest of Dean

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Funded by Forest of Dean District Council ; Sponsored by Oversby& Co

Contact - 01594 860143

English Bicknor Lunch Club

Contact 01594 836187

Community Contacts

The Gloucestershire Wellbeing Trust

A support service in times of difficulty

If you would like to talk to someone in confidence please contact the Community Wellbeing Service at Forest of Dean District Council on 01594 812447 or 01594 812399.

Gloucestershire Police

Find out about local police activity and link in to the various ways you can find support and information by going online to
<https://www.gloucestershire.police.uk/neighbourhood-policing/forest-of-dean/>

English Bicknor Chit Chat

The Facebook page contains information about the village and local events. If you are not a Facebook user and would like anything added then please email
Daphne@drysladefarm.co.uk

Barnwood Trust

Information and help applying for grants from the trust is available from the Forest of Dean Office on 01594 839191

Or visit www.barnwoodtrust.org

Christchurch and English Bicknor churches website

www.christchurchfod.org.uk

VICTIM SUPPORT: [4 Lords Hill, Coleford GL16](#) : [01594 810190](#)

If you run a community organisation and would like the details published in the magazine on this page, please contact Judith on 07708633089

Who is Who in our Churches?

Rector: Revd. Capt. Tony Williams, CA

Christchurch Vicarage Ross Road Christchurch Coleford GL16 7NS 01594 836751 revtonyw@hotmail.com

Ministry Team

Joan Atherley, Sue Boulter, Sandie Bradley, Maggie Walters, Rev Helen Rodwell , Carol Turley, Sally Whittington , Rev Tony Williams, Linda James, Chris Howells

Reader Chris Howells

Worship Leaders

Maggie Walters, Carol Turley, Linda James, Sandie Bradley.

Safeguarding Pam Iddiols and Andy Iddiols 01594 834598

Or email: pamela-spooner@sky.com

Christchurch

Church Wardens: Linda James 01594 822935

Carol Turley 01594 837207

PCC Secretary Midge Hoyes 07967 561521

Treasurer Barbara Davies 01594 837270

English Bicknor

Church Wardens ; Jennie McHattie 01594 834855

Jan Furnival 01594 541566

PCC secretary Jan Furnival 01594 541566

Treasurer John Furnival 01594 541566

Magazine editor Judith Brickwood 01594 738645 or email
judithbrickwood33@gmail.com

Magazine Treasurer Jeff Carrick 01594 860936

Benefice Website www.christchurchfod.org.uk

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