

VILLAGE BUZZ



A MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR VILLAGES NESTLING IN THE NADDER VALLEY
DECEMBER 2021

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Ah, Mistletoe— must be nearly Christmas!

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Mophead Mildred

Merry Christmas and may your Poinsettias last forever!

Cheer up, it'll soon be the shortest day and then we're on our way to Spring.

Well, here's Mophead Mildred again after a break of four months. I can't believe I wrote my last article when it was high summer, doesn't that seem a long time ago? How different the garden is now when I look out of the window and see bare earth reappearing where there was once wall-to-wall verdant foliage. During that time ornamental grasses have changed colour from green to pale sandy brown and rustle gently in the breeze; the old dark brown helenium flower heads contrast beautifully against them. There has even been a touch of frost on a couple of nights as we are colder here than in the village. Bulbs of all types were planted in October/November and my compost heap is now full to the brim with fading or dead foliage that I couldn't fit in my green bin.

Thanks to the unseasonably mild weather in October/November, everything seems to have kept going longer than usual, so although we all like to postpone cutting back as long as possible, it should no longer be put off. Now really is the time to get down to pruning back those last perennials and clearing away old leaves from hellebores, ready for their happy flowers that will start appearing from January onwards. Any clematis that flowers after June can be cut back to about 3 feet (90 cm) above ground level. This removes the weight of the year's growth ahead of possible winter gales. In February prune the stems down to about 18 inches (46 cm) and cut just above a pair of healthy plump buds. Perennial geraniums can be cut back to ground level and if the weather is mild, you may see a neat little mound of new foliage appear. Soggy hosta foliage should all have been cleared off the crowns by now and roses can be pruned back this month and next. Some people leave it as late as March to do their roses, so you can make your own choice about

timing. I prefer to prune them in December/January in order to prevent any wind-rock from the winter winds which will no doubt occur at some point. It also looks much tidier!

As the last leaves fall from trees and shrubs, if you have a pond, make sure any leaves are carefully removed from the water before they start to decay. This will help keep the water clear and clean for all the little bugs that are snoozing the winter away down at the bottom.

Back in September we were thrilled to be asked to take part in a Nadder Valley bat survey. We had a sound recorder set up in our garden for five nights at the end of which it was taken away and analysed by bat experts. We had 7,480 'hits' recorded over this time, although half of these seem to have been crickets (not bats!). However, we apparently have eleven species of bat hurtling around the garden, including Barbastelle, Whiskered, Pipistrelle and Brown Long-eared. We knew that we had bats as quite often in the summer they fly round us when we are sitting on the patio at dusk but it has been fascinating to learn more details about the variety of species. They all look the same in the dark and fly so fast it's impossible to spot any differences! As we approach Christmas, a jug, vase or any pretty container full of holly (with berries of course), ivy trails, laurel and any other evergreen foliage can make an attractive feature in your home. Small blue conifer branches give a lovely contrast to the usual deep green leaves and even a sprig or two of forsythia could well be coaxed into opening its buds by the warmth of your house. Contorted hazel (*corylus contorta* aka Harry Lauda's walking stick) stems can be hung with stars, baubles, ribbons or bows to make a pretty centrepiece too. Let your creativity and imagination run wild! And



Take a moment to admire this stunning display of rich, red holly berries near Grovely Wood, Baverstock.

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should you be tempted by those serried ranks of perfect poinsettias in the shops, keep them cool and out of any sudden drafts, especially when transferring them from shop to car to home. They will not be happy in a warm or hot room. And finally, as a rather uncertain and unsettled 2021

draws to a close, let us all hope that the small light glimmering at the end of the long Covid tunnel continues to get steadily brighter through next year. Merry Christmas to all you Nadder Valley gardeners, may 2022 be a wonderful gardening year! — MM

What do plant names mean?

Forsythia: named after William Forsyth, superintendent of the Royal Gardens, Kensington 1737-1805.

Garrya: (Silk tassel bush) named by Douglas in honour of Mr Garry of the Hudson Bay Company, who gave the former much assistance in his plant-collecting expeditions in North-west America.

Juncus: (Rush) from the Latin *jungo*, to bind, or tie, the stems being used as a cord.

Mimosa: from the Greek *mimos*, imitator, referring to the sensitivity of the leaves to touch or injury.

Oenothera: (Evening primrose) from the Greek *oinos*, wine, and *thera*, pursuing or imbibing. The roots of one species were regarded by the Romans as an incentive to drinking.

Gardening Lore

Ivy is credited with the power to prevent drunkenness. (But does it taste nice???)

The seven days before and the seven days after St Thomas' Day on 21st December were known as the Halcyon Days. As the old name for a kingfisher was 'halcyon', it was believed that during these fourteen days, the gods granted a respite from winter storms to the female kingfisher so she could hatch her young in peace and calm.

If you want to see an image of your future husband then walk backwards nine times round a pear tree on Christmas Eve. Probably a bit late for most of us!

Plant of the month
Viburnum x bodnantense 'Dawn'

A fully hardy shrub with dark green foliage that is bronze when young. It has strongly scented dark pink flowers on bare wood from late autumn until spring. It can reach 10 ft high but is easily kept under control by pruning after flowering.



Fovant War Memorial – What a difference!

Leslie Brantingham – Fovant

First of all Fovant Parish Council would like to thank all those who kindly offered to come and clean the village's War Memorial; it was greatly appreciated.

However, the elbow grease scheme was overtaken by a most generous offer from Fovant's latest long-term residents (intention not history!), Mary and Craig Staniforth, who arrived in late September in Sutton Road. Craig stepped up and offered to use equipment he owns from a 'previous life' to gently clean our War Memorial with low pressure very hot water. And the results are plain to see... the lettering once more is clearly legible and the stonework appearance 'lifted', but not sterile. Craig also cleaned away the accumulated moss and debris in the surround and on the village hall paths, thus clearing up a slip hazard into the bargain.

A sterling achievement! Thank you Craig and Mary and welcome to Fovant!! You have done a great job and saved many a knuckle and Elastoplast in the stone scrubbing that was planned. I know that those of you who attended the service at the War Memorial on Sunday 14th November appreciated the hard work you both put in, as will all those who now pass by and contemplate.

— **LB. Clerk Fovant Parish Council**



Some of my favourite recipes

Barbara Duncanson – Compton Chamberlayne.

Buttermilk Roast Chicken

This recipe was inspired by Nigella Lawson's version. I fiddled a lot, changing the spices and sweetener, though my biggest changes were to increase the salt, garlic and marinating time. If you wish to use Kosher salt instead of table salt use 2 tablespoons if using Diamond kosher salt and 1 1/4 tablespoons if using Morton kosher. I imagine that going forward I'll be using this technique as a springboard for a lot of different recipes and spice combinations. However, even when using the simplest recipe below, the chicken was unbelievably tender and flavourful.

Ingredients

- 2 cups buttermilk
- 5 garlic cloves, peeled and smashed
- 1 tablespoon table salt
- 1 tablespoon granulated sugar
- 1 1/2 teaspoons paprika, plus extra for sprinkling (I used Hungarian, a smoked one would also be delicious)
- Lots of freshly ground black pepper
- 2 1/2 to 3 lbs chicken parts (we used all legs)
- Drizzle of olive oil
- Flaked or coarse sea salt to finish



Method

1. In a bowl, whisk buttermilk with garlic, table salt, sugar, paprika and lots of freshly ground black pepper.
2. Place chicken parts in a gallon-sized freezer bag (or lidded container) and pour buttermilk brine over them, then swish it around so that all parts are covered. Refrigerate for at least two but preferably 24 and up to 48 hours.
3. When ready to roast, preheat oven to 425 degrees. Line a baking dish with foil (not absolutely necessary, but Nigella suggested it and I never minded having a dish that cleaned up easily).
4. Remove chicken from buttermilk brine and arrange in dish. Drizzle lightly with olive oil, then sprinkle with additional paprika and sea salt to taste.
5. Roast for 30 minutes for legs; approximately 35 to 40 minutes for breasts), until brown and a bit scorched in spots.
6. Serve immediately.
We enjoyed it with wild rice and green beans one night; roasted potatoes and, uh, more green beans another.

Got a good recipe?

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Mummers wanted!

MUMMERS PLAYS ARE A FORM STREET THEATRE that has been performed across Britain and beyond since at least the middle ages and probably has a lineage that goes back well over a thousand years. It is a simple play that roughly follows the story of St George and the Dragon, but has taken in a wider theme involving life, death and resurrection.

Most plays have six characters, but that can vary from play to play, as has the Quidhampton play. These are Father Christmas, King George, Bold Soldier, Turkish Knight, Cut-the Dash, The Doctor and Little Johnny Jack.

In 1974/5 a group of folk enthusiasts re-discovered the **Quidhampton Mummers Play** and decided to resurrect the tradition of performing the play in pubs around Salisbury and particularly in its origination village. As always this was to raise money, but in line with changing times this was for charity and not the benefit of the players as it had been in the past. In the 45 years that the Mummers have performed they have raised over £30,000 for local charities. These have included the Stars Appeal, British Heart Foundation, Macmillan Nurses, Wilts Air Ambulance, Breast Cancer and Rheumatology Departments, Dorothy House, RNLI and many others.

During this time new players have joined, whilst others have left and so the play has continued, but unfortunately in recent years there have been no new recruits. Now there is a crisis with the **Quidhampton Mummers** where their numbers have dropped so much that the play will not be able to go on this year unless new members can be found to join their ranks.

As a result the **Quidhampton Mummers are looking for new people** to help to keep the tradition going for this Christmas and then take the play on in to the future. This could be individuals, a group of friends or a society who would help ensure its continuation.

ALL NEW SUPPORT WILL BE VERY WELCOME.

If you are interested then Quidhampton Mummers would like to hear from you!
qmmummers21@gmail.com

Official! – The Nadder Valley is part of the national sophisticated ‘cocktail belt’

Browsing through the Times the other day we came across an article in their ‘Bricks & Mortar’ supplement titled ‘The Tipple Effect’.

Basically, the author had picked out some of the best spots nationally, from a property perspective, for rural sophistication and good transport connectivity. Lo and behold, The Nadder Valley popped out in the text! (read below) – good to know we’re ‘on the map’!



“It’s an hour’s drive north to London, an hour south to the Dorset and Hampshire beaches, and in between is fantastic, almost stereotypically English countryside of rolling fields and thatched cottages,” says 37-year-old Adam, whose regular events at the pub include comedy nights hosted by Alan Carr, Sean Walsh and the like. “There’s definitely appetite for that sort of thing here now among young professional families who love the benefits of the countryside but want some of the trappings of city living.”

The **Nadder Valley** near Tisbury on the Wiltshire-Dorset border is another niche for the cocktail belt crowd, says Charlie Stone, a director at Rural View estate agency. Country cottages cost up to £1 million, farmhouses up to £2 million and manor houses or rectories £2.5 million to £5 million, he says. “There are lots of beautiful houses tucked away with far-reaching views, and there’s a vibrant social life, with an eclectic mix of the wealthy and the artisan, plus a smattering of celebrities,” Stone says. “The road and rail connections to London are excellent, so is access to great schools, fine dining with pubs such as the Beckford Arms, and theatre and the arts in Tisbury. Buyers enjoy the area for its romance and the slightly slower pace of life.”

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Species of the month

MISTLETOE

Peter Thompson, Barford St. Martin

THE MONTH OF DECEMBER tends to be dominated by a frenzy of preparations for Christmas and then of course, the big day itself. Amongst the plethora of items that go towards making a house feel 'Christmassy' is a sprig or two of mistletoe, hung up as part of the Christmas tradition, maybe with the hope that a kiss might come our way! (Covid allowing of course!!) So, where has this tradition come from?

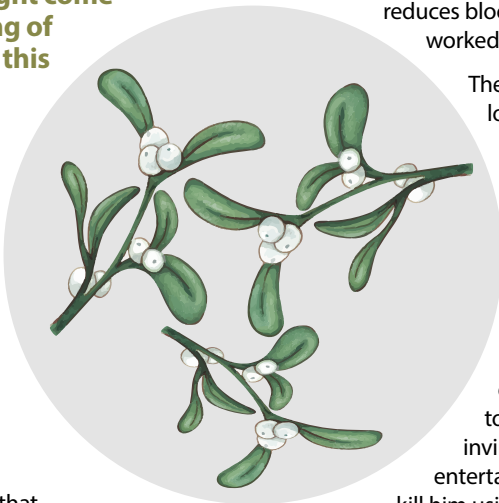
Well, it was the Druids – especially one William Stukeley (1687 – 1765) who promoted the use of mistletoe as a symbol. He particularly liked mistletoe for its beauty, (it is our only native white berried plant), its unusual mode of growth and that it reached maturity in winter – “when all nature is dormant”.

The most common host trees that mistletoe grows on are apple, lime, poplar and hawthorn – and very rarely on oak. If the Druids ever found a bunch of mistletoe growing on an oak tree, they believed that it was a sign that the Gods had specifically chosen this tree and a great ceremony would follow.

The mistletoe would be cut from the tree by a priest

wearing white robes and using a gold or bronze sickle in such a way that it fell onto the white cloak, but never onto the ground, as if it touched the earth its powers would be lost. It was not only used in ceremonies but was also believed to promote fertility in women, who often wore it as a necklace or bracelet.

It was also widely used to overcome the death-like trances of epileptic fits – which, as it contains an ingredient that is both an antispasmodic and reduces blood pressure, would have worked in most cases.



The origin of its connection with love and kissing has several stories, one of which comes from a Norse tale concerning the death of Balder, a Norse god. He was the son of Frigg, the goddess of love and wife of Odin.

After dreams foretelling of Balder's death, Frigg made every plant and animal swear to never hurt him, making him invincible, but the other gods entertained themselves by trying to kill him using a variety of weapons.

Loki, an evil god, realised that mistletoe had been overlooked in the vow-making, so he contrived to make a weapon out of mistletoe and killed Balder with it. Frigg's tears then became the white berries and she decreed the plant should become a symbol of love, which is how the plant is linked to love and kissing.



In some parts of the country mistletoe was hung up in the middle of the main room of the house at exactly midnight on New Year's Eve and the old bunch that had been there all year was taken down. Now, you are probably thinking that this is a bold idea as it would enable you to kiss people throughout the year, however they hung it up to ward off witches and goblins!

There are more than 900 mistletoe species around the world, but only European mistletoe (*Viscum album*) is native to the UK. Mistletoe is hemiparasitic, taking water and nutrients from its host, however, the evergreen leaves can photosynthesize, so the plant is not totally dependent on its host.

Mistletoe is normally spread to new trees by birds – especially the mistle thrush which is particularly fond of the berries. The seed is deposited onto the branch in the dung of the bird - which incidentally gives the plant its name. The name comes from two Anglo Saxon words 'mistel' which means dung and 'tan' which means twig or

stick! So, you could translate mistletoe as 'poo on a stick'! Not exactly romantic is it!

If you want to try propagating mistletoe yourself, give it a go. (No, you don't have to eat the berries and leg it up a nearby tree – in fact definitely don't, as the whole plant is poisonous to humans).



Choose at least twenty berries, ideally taken from different bunches. Mistletoe is dioecious, meaning plants will be either male or female, so you'll need to grow both to produce berries.

The seeds are naturally sticky and designed to cling to branches. Wipe fresh berries, squeezing out the seeds, onto the underside of a new branch, where birds are less likely to spot them. Avoid old branches and there's no need to cut into the wood,

although some folk like make a small nick in the wood in which to place the seed.

Then be patient! Mistletoe takes time to establish and five years at least to become large enough to produce berries.

Mistletoe colonies are vital for six species of insect that live nowhere else. The current list comprises one moth, the mistletoe Marble Moth, three sap-sucking bugs, one predatory bug and one beetle, the mistletoe Weevil.

Mistletoe is also the county flower of Herefordshire and is often harvested as a winter crop from their cider and perry orchards. Just one mile over the border into Worcestershire is Tenbury Wells – England's mistletoe capital. Mistletoe auctions have been held in the town for over a hundred years and the main mistletoe festival day takes place on the first Saturday after 1st December. A local girl is crowned the mistletoe queen, and a lantern-lit parade makes its way through the town as the winter sun sets.

So, there you have it! Mistletoe, sometimes called Churchman's Greeting or Kiss-and-go, is I think you will agree, really rather a special plant.

— PT

Peter Thompson lives in Barford St. Martin and has worked in conservation and farming all his life. You might also be interested in reading his blog: 'Fresh Air Scribbles' <https://freshairscribbles.blogspot.com>



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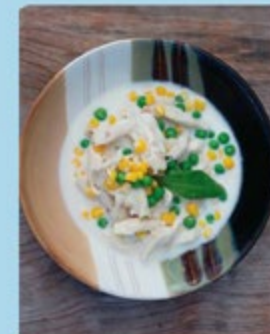
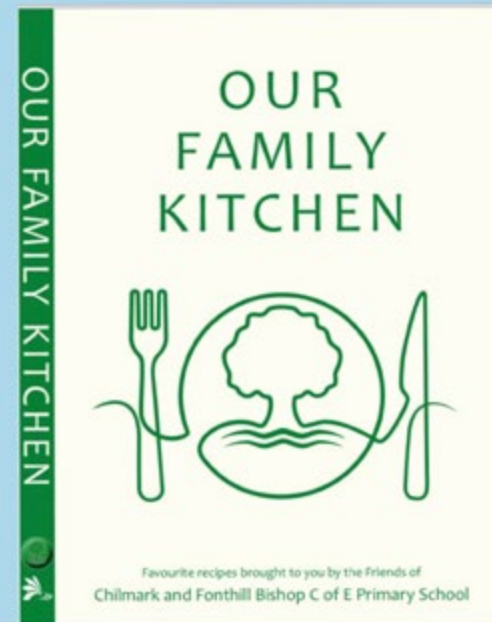
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In the 1850s, the British Army was the only European army without an award for personal valour. The Crimean War (1854-56) led to the institution of the Victoria Cross which has become the hardest earned and least awarded gallantry medal in the World.⁽¹⁾

In 1815, the British Army of about 230,000 men was riding high on its well deserved reputation as the co-victor with the Prussian Army of the Battle of Waterloo. As so often happens on the declaration of peace, its strength was reduced to the extent that, by the time Queen Victoria came to the throne in 1837, it stood at about 92,000 men. As a shadow of its former self it was hardly large enough to meet its several roles: to deal with civil unrest,⁽²⁾ to defend the country from external threat and garrison our growing empire. More worryingly, it had become increasingly neglected, poorly administered and badly led.

Successive Commanders-in Chief, including the Duke of Wellington, were opposed to change and officers, all of whom had to purchase their commissions and promotion, had little reason to disrupt their comfortable lives in preparing for war. Whilst undoubtedly courageous in battle and on the hunting field, they did little to improve their military skills, neither concerning themselves much with the Army's preparation for war nor with the welfare of its men. The Crimean War found them wanting and things had to be put right.

By the 1850s there was a liberalising whiff of change in politics and social attitudes in Great Britain and reports about the disastrous conduct of the war did nothing but accelerate this. Attitudes in and about the Army began to chime more closely with aspects of Victorian romanticism in that the heroism, courage and resilience



ABOVE: The Victoria Cross.
LEFT: The Roll Call, 3rd Bn Grenadier Guards after the Battle of Inkerman, 1854, painted by Elizabeth Thompson, Lady Butler 1874
BOTTOM LEFT: A Rough Rider of the 1st Royal Dragoons which took part in the Charge of the Heavy Brigade at the Battle of Balaclava, 1854.
BOTTOM RIGHT: Coldstream Guards veterans of the Battle of the Alma and Inkerman, encumbered by the bearskin cap, tight fitting double-breasted tunic and heavy equipment.

of the private soldier came to be admired and valued as were the physical strength and simple dignity of the manual labourer. This theme was picked up soon after the war by photographers, with detailed studies of individuals and groups of soldiers and, twenty to thirty years later, by artists who showed in dramatic, but nonetheless sympathetic detail, the effect of battle on the ordinary soldier.

Poor leadership and administration before and during the early months of the war resulted in appalling hardship for soldiers and the almost non-existent medical care of the wounded and sick. Casualty figures were alarming especially as they highlighted the extent of death from sickness and disease compared with those killed in action or who died of wounds.⁽³⁾ Had it not been for the few soldiers' wives⁽⁴⁾ allowed to accompany their



husbands' regiments, things would have been worse still. The seriousness of the situation was highlighted by the advent of professional war correspondents who accompanied the Army to the Crimea. They were too shocked by what they saw to be deferential and, for the first time, the public started to get independent reports about the state of the Army and the conditions

in which soldiers had to live, fight, be wounded and very likely die. The reports were far from good, they dismayed the Queen and alarmed the higher command who, without success, attempted to have them banned. Letters written by those serving in the Crimea corroborated the Press reports and gradually public interest in the War and anger mounted.

What made the Press reports all the more compelling was that they arrived in England in almost real-time by telegraphy. Initially, reports

were sent by steamship from the Crimea to Varna on the west coast of the Black Sea then telegraphed by cable to London; this took several days. In 1855, a 300 mile underwater cable was laid by the British from the Crimea to Varna, thus reports were able to reach England within hours of being sent. For the first time hot news about the conduct of a war and the conditions of the Army was arousing public interest to fever pitch and led to questions being asked in Parliament.

In 1855, to the soldiers' great relief, the Army's logistic support was sharpened up and medical care improved. This was due not only to public outcry but also to the ideas and energy of individuals from the professional and commercial classes. Notable amongst the innovators were Florence Nightingale, the famed Lady of the Lamp, who took nursing to a new level. Another was the Frenchman Alexis Soyer,⁽⁵⁾ the most celebrated chef in Victorian England. He went out to the Crimea determined to help in some way, worked initially with Nightingale and went on to advise the Army about how to feed its soldiers in the field and to design his highly acclaimed stove with which to cook for large numbers.

After the Paris Peace Treaty in 1856, public concern remained high and a series of Parliamentary reports ultimately led to the great Army reforms of the 1860s and 1880s. However, an immediate and by far the most democratising innovation following the war was the introduction of a medal for individual gallantry in the face of the enemy for which all ranks were to be eligible; Great Britain was the only European country without such an award. The Queen became closely involved with this initiative and graciously gave her name to it; the Victoria Cross was instituted in 1856 and first awarded by her to 111 Navy and Army recipients of all ranks in Hyde Park in June 1857. The first

Victoria Cross in the Navy was awarded to Mate Charles Lucas of HMS Hecia and in the Army to Ensign (2nd Lieutenant) R.J Lindsay of The Scots Fusilier Guards. Initially it was not intended for the medal to be awarded posthumously and this was not to change until it was awarded to Lieutenant Frederick Roberts of 60th King's Royal Rifle Corps for his action during the Boer War at the Battle of Colenso in 1899. Many Victoria Crosses were awarded posthumously during the First World War but the Victoria Cross Warrant was not officially amended to include posthumous awards until 1920.



Whilst the Army reforms resulted in quite significant improvements and new opportunities for forward thinking officers, they brought unwelcome disruption and unprecedented levels of work for the majority of 'old school' officers.

This was cleverly emphasised by Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Seccombe (1840-1899), a former Royal Artillery officer, artist, illustrator and cartoonist who wrote rhyming verse to describe his cartoons of the Victorian Army. In his 'Navy and Army Drolleries' the verse describing 10th Hussars shows us that officers were for the first time having to work at their profession; after a few introductory lines about 'these



splendid sons of Mars', he continues...

*But, believe me, the lives of bright beings like these
Are not all enjoyment, good living and ease;
For in these troubled days of Re-organisation,
When our principal business would seem Re-creation,
What with Autumn manoeuvres, exams and long courses
There isn't much peace for Her Majesty's forces.*

Thomas Seccombe had a wide knowledge of Shakespeare and bringing this and his artistic skills together he produced his highly acclaimed 'Military Misreadings of Shakspere' (sic) in 1880.

It was a runaway success becoming a Victorian classic and enjoying six reprints in the two years following its publication. He was an insider and his cleverly observed and beautifully drawn cartoons highlight the social and military perils of the post-Crimea reforming Victorian Army. The humour of his 32 cartoons and cleverly chosen quotes from Shakespeare's plays are as relevant today as they were 140 years ago; this locally written and designed book is a book for all time.⁽⁶⁾

Queen Victoria's army in the closing decades of the 19th century was held in high regard by the public as long as it did its stuff, securing the Empire and keeping out of trouble at home. Tommy Atkins had at last become well led and cared for; he was proud to serve as a 'Soldier of the Queen' — PC

LEFT: The line of underwater cable laid by the British in 1855. BOTTOM LEFT: Alexis Benoît Soyer (1810 - 1858) was a French chef who became the most celebrated cook in Victorian England.

Notes:

1. 1358 VCs have been awarded to 1355 recipients (three having won it twice). The youngest recipient was aged 15, the oldest 61. The last VC was awarded in 2015 to LCpl Joshua Leakey for his action in Afghanistan in 2013.
2. The progressive establishment of Police Constabularies across the country by Acts of Parliament from 1829 to 1839 reduced the requirement for the Army to operate in aid of the civil power.
3. Of the approximate 21,100 British Army deaths only 4,700 were killed or died of wounds whilst 16,300 died of sickness and disease.
4. 6 men per 100 were granted permission to marry; wives were 'held on the strength' of the regiment and some provision made for them. A ballot was held before embarkation to establish who would accompany their husbands overseas. The few wives who accompanied the Army to the Crimea did sterling work cooking, mending clothes and caring for the sick and injured.
5. Besides other titles, Alexis Soyer wrote the acclaimed 'Shilling Cookery Book' (1855) for the benefit of the emerging and self-improving middle classes.
6. Contemporary text written by Paul Cordle (Chicksgrove), layout designed by Jan Kalinowski (Compton Chamberlayne), foreword by General Sir Jack Deverell (Sutton Mandeville).

THE PERFECT GIFT IDEA

MILITARY MISREADINGS OF SHAKSPERE

BY MAJOR THOMAS SECCOMBE

Contemporary text written by Paul Cordle and forward by General Sir Jack Deverell.

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DATE	5 December			12 December			19 December			Midweek Carol Services			24 December			25 December			26 December		
SUNDAY	Advent 2			Advent 3			Advent 4			Christmas Eve			Christmas Day			St Stephen's Day					
SOUTHERN AREA																					
Ansty	11.15	MBCP	JA	11.15	PC	GS	11.15	Carols	GS	-	-	-	-	-	-	11.15	AAC	MH	-	-	-
Compton Chamberlayne	09.30	PC _T	GS	-	-	-	16.00	Carols	JA	-	-	-	22.00	PC _T	MH	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fovant	08.00	HC _{O2T}	MH	-	-	-	18.00	Carols	GS	-	-	-	-	-	-	09.30	PC	GS	-	-	-
Sutton Mandeville	18.00	EBCP	GS	09.30	PC _{O2T}	GS	-	-	-	-	-	-	17.00	Carols	GS	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swallowcliffe	11.15	PC _T	GS	18.00	EBCP	GS	18.00	Carols	JA	-	-	-	22.00	PC _T	GS	11.15	AAS	GS	-	-	-
NORTHERN AREA																					
Barford St Martin	11.15	AAC	TF	09.30	McW	LAY	16.00	Carols	LAY	-	-	-	22.00	HC	EB	-	-	-	-	-	-
Baverstock	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17 Dec 18.00	Carols	EB	-	-	-	09.30	PC _T	MH	-	-	-
Chilmark	11.15	AAC	EB	09.30	AAS	EB	-	-	-	17 Dec 19.00	Carols	TF	22.00	HC _T	TF	11.15	AAC	EB	-	-	-
Dinton	09.30	AAC	EB	11.15	AAC	JN	16.00	Carols	TF	21 Dec 18.00	Drive-in Carols at Dinton VH	-	16.00	Crib Service	EB	09.30	AAC	EB	-	-	-
Teffont Evias	-	-	-	-	-	-	18.00	Carols	EB	-	-	-	-	-	-	09.30	AAC	CF	-	-	-
Teffont Magna	-	-	-	11.15	AAC	EB	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN AREA																					
Chicklade	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16 Dec 18.00	Carols	JN	18.00	PC _B CP	JN	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hindon	09.30	PC	JN	09.30	AAC	JN	18.00	Carols	JN	-	-	-	22.00	PC	JN	09.30	AAC	JN	09.30	HC _T	JN
Fonthill Bishop	17.00	EBCP	MH	08.00	HC _B CP	JMH	09.30	MBCP	JA	22 Dec 18.00	Carols	JMH	-	-	-	09.30	PC _B CP	SE	-	-	-
Fonthill Gifford	08.00	HC _B CP	JMH	11.15	MBCP	MH	08.00	HC _B CP	JMH	-	-	-	-	-	-	11.15	PC _B CP	JMH	-	-	-
Tisbury	09.30	AAS	JMH	09.30	PC	JMH/MH	09.30	PC	JMH	20 Dec 19.30	Village Carols	JMH	16.00	Crib Service	JMH/JA	09.30	PC	JMH/JA	-	-	-
				18.00	RS	JN							22.00	PC	JMH						

SERVICES

- BCP** Book of Common Prayer
- CW** Common Worship
- HC** Holy Communion (said)
- PC** Order 1 Communion (with hymns)
- HC (or PC) O2T/C** Order 2 Communion, traditional/contemporary (PC includes hymns)
- PC_T** Order 1 Communion, traditional language (with hymns)
- PC_{O2T}** Order 2 Communion, traditional language

- FC** All Age Family Communion
- AAS** All Age Service
- M** Mattins or Morning Prayer
- MP_r** Morning Praise
- E** Evensong or Evening Prayer
- RS** Reflective Service
- SoW** Service of the Word
- AAC** All Age Communion

CLERGY

- CF** Colin Fox
- EB** Elaine Brightwell
- GS** Graham Southgate
- JA** Judy Anderson
- JMH** Juliette Hulme
- JN** Jo Naish
- MH** Mark Hayter
- SE** Simon Evans
- TF** Tina Fox

PLEASE NOTE

This Service rota is not currently subject to any prevailing Government restrictions.

However, if regulations are introduced, changes to this rota may be required. Please check www.achurchnearyou.com for up-to-date information about service times and changes. Please also ensure that you comply with any local requirements, such as the wearing of coverings over the mouth and nose, and maintaining social distancing.

Do you need a little time and space to stop and think?

Healing and Wholeness

The Nadder Valley Churches invite you to join us for a quiet service of prayer and contemplation For yourself and for those whom you care about through this season

3.00 pm

Wednesday December 8th

St Andrew's Chapel, St John the Baptist, Tisbury

Including a reading, a song, meditation and prayers for all the needs of your world.



Focus Point

Are we nearly there yet?

Recently it has really struck me that we are so often leaning towards the future ... towards one big event, a date on which all our hopes and dreams will be realised. Maybe that is putting it bit strongly – but from the hype around Christmas, you could be forgiven for thinking that as long as we have pigs-in-blankets and the right sort of turkey, all will be well.

Yet the journey is important too. There were many journeys that first Christmas. We see Mary and Joseph setting off like so many others to be registered for the census. Palestine must have been more full of travellers than the Costa del Sol after lockdown. And well before that, if biblical timing is to be believed, a group of Magi were travelling in search of meaning and understanding of the cosmic happenings they had seen. Not to mention the flight of the Holy Family to Egypt as Herod pursued them.

These journeys would have been arduous, life-changing, and life-giving.

How we travel towards Christmas matters. The people we travel with matter. Of course we prepare for the big day with others in mind – presents carefully selected with love, invitations sent out, expectations of reunions with loved ones. But what of those who have not got these networks, who are lonely, bereaved, out of cash, refugee. How do

we travel with them too? We're not there yet if we ignore those in need.

Last year we were unable to make physical journeys, but so many people reached out in kindness to share some of the care we all needed. This year, hold before you the wonder of the destination – for it is the coming of Jesus into the world; a Jesus who is helpless, dependent, poor, barely sheltered. God is sharing everything with us, no matter who we are: rich, poor, scruffy, generous, sad, joyful or feeling that we're not quite up to this. Everyone is welcome at that manger and all of us are beloved.

Recently, I rode from Tisbury to Iona on a bicycle. And on the journey I met so much kindness from strangers. There was the woman who shared lunch with me on a bench in Market Bosworth, the cafe owner who provided a free flapjack and hot soup in the rain and five, yes five, people who stopped to ask if I needed help with a puncture. The world is full of love and grace – let's add to this.

So journey well through Advent, mindful of all those in need in our community, so that we arrive at the manger together. All are welcome. Come and see – join us in worship.

A most blessed Advent journey to you all.

Jo

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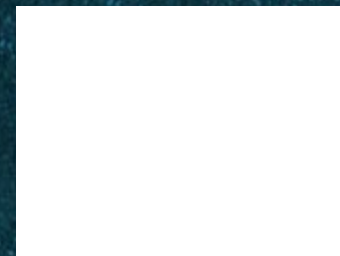
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4				7				
2						6		8
3			5	6		1		
	3				4			1
	5				1	3		
						9	2	4



December's Brain Gym x 2

HOW TO PLAY SUDOKU

The objective of the puzzle is to complete the grid so each of the rows, columns and 3 x 3 sub-grids contains the numbers 1 to 9. The challenging part of the puzzle is that each number can only appear once per row, column, or sub-grid.

SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 31



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Salisbury Young Farmers re-launches as Wiltshire celebrates 90 years of Young Farmers' Clubs

Young Farmers Clubs in Wiltshire took part in National Young Farmers' Week 2021 (25-29 October), supported by NatWest, and celebrating the impact Young Farmers' Clubs have had on rural young people and their communities over the past 90 years.

The week-long celebration of YFCs and the work they do included the opportunity for YFCs to share their history and stories from members and alumni about the impact YFC has had on their lives.

The week aimed to promote YFCs to more rural young people, the National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs (NFYFC) is one of the largest youth organisations in the UK. It heads a nationwide body of 581 Young

Farmers' Clubs (YFCs) located throughout England and Wales dedicated to supporting young people in agriculture and the countryside. Their memberships comprise thousands of members aged 10 to 28 and they provide a unique opportunity for members to develop skills, work with the local community, travel abroad, take part in a varied competitions programme and enjoy a dynamic social life.

Rachel Goldie, NFYFC Chair of Council 2021-22, said:

"National Young Farmers' Week promises to be a really uplifting week – showcasing all that is great about being involved in YFC. The organisation might be 90 years old, but its members represent the future of the countryside and the agricultural industry and we're focused on ensuring its sustainability. You don't have to be a farmer to be a Young Farmer, but YFCs are a great way to learn more about British food and farming and to celebrate living and working in the countryside."

The local Salisbury branch is set to re-open this year, new members are asked to contact the club via Facebook (Salisbury Young Farmers Club), or email:

salisburyyfc@outlook.com

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Christmas Charity Donation

At Christmas many of us like to give something to those who are in need. Instead of bringing a present to church at Christmas, can you once again help us support local charities?

Last year your generosity was gratefully received. This year, it is still needed more than ever.

SALISBURY WOMEN'S REFUGE provides safety for families who have had to flee from abuse. They welcome items which will be both welcome as presents at Christmas but also useful throughout the year. All items should be NEW, not second hand and unwrapped so that they can be distributed appropriately.

Please contact the Revd Jo Naish on revdjoannanaish@gmail.com or ask any member of the Nadder Valley ministry team to arrange for collection of goods or tokens. Donations of non-perishable food items or confectionery with a sell by date of End January 2022 or later are also welcome for the Trussell Trust.

Thank you so much for your help.
Jo Naish



A BIG THANK YOU to all Children's Society collection box holders in Barford St. Martin for their kind and generous donations throughout the year to this vital society. This year we have raised

£322.08

It is reassuring to live among a community with such generosity of spirit.

Thank you.
Sue Haddock

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Solution to:
December's Brain Gym on
page 26

8	4	5	6	7	9	1	2	3
2	1	6	4	3	8	9	7	5
3	7	9	2	1	5	6	8	4
5	2	8	9	4	3	7	1	6
1	6	7	5	8	2	4	3	9
9	3	4	7	6	1	8	5	2
4	9	3	1	5	7	2	6	8
6	5	1	8	2	4	3	9	7
7	8	2	3	9	6	5	4	1

Solution to:
December's Brain Gym on
page 27

5	2	9	6	1	7	4	8	3
1	7	6	8	4	3	2	9	5
8	4	3	9	2	5	7	1	6
4	6	8	1	7	2	5	3	9
2	1	5	4	3	9	6	7	8
3	9	7	5	6	8	1	4	2
6	3	2	7	9	4	8	5	1
9	5	4	2	8	1	3	6	7
7	8	1	3	5	6	9	2	4

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Editor: Gill Fisk | gill@village-buzz.co.uk
 Design & Production & Advertising:
 Jan Kalinowski | jan@village-buzz.co.uk
 telephone: 01722 716874 | mobile: 07881 288027



Advertising & article submission deadline

Tuesday 14 December

File formats we prefer to work with –

High resolution Acrobat PDF or high resolution JPEG (300ppi)

To maintain the highest print quality we only accept high resolution images. In other words: Images must have a minimum resolution of 300ppi (pixels to the inch). Any problems please give Jan a call on 07881 288027.



VILLAGE BUZZ

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR VILLAGES NESTLING IN THE NADDER VALLEY
DECEMBER 2021

USEFUL INFORMATION



Wiltshire Council

Christmas waste and recycling collections and HRC opening times 2021

SALISBURY HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING CENTRE

WINTER (1 November to 31 March)

10.00am - 4.00pm

CLOSED ON THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS

Stephenson Road, Churchfields Industrial Estate SP2 7NP
Tel: 01722 322309

WASTE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION DATES WILL NOT CHANGE OVER THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR PERIOD, as waste collection crews will be working as normal on Bank Holidays – Monday 27, Tuesday 28 December 2021, and Monday 3 January 2022.

Garden waste collections will stop for two weeks over this period as normal. The last collections will take place on Friday 24 December and they will restart on Monday 10 January 2022.

Residents can check their waste, recycling and garden waste collection online at wiltshire.gov.uk/WasteCollectionDays Household recycling centre (HRC) opening times and dates will change over the Christmas and New Year period and residents are advised to check online before visiting an HRC at:

wiltshire.gov.uk/household-recycling-centres

HRCs that normally open on Fridays will be open on Christmas Eve, 24 December from 10am but will close at 1pm. All HRCs will be closed on Saturday 25, Sunday 26 December and Saturday 1 January 2022. Other than on these dates, the centres will open as normal on their specified opening days.

Christmas recycling messages:

At Christmas time many of us generate more waste than usual. We would like everyone to do their bit by recycling as much of their waste as possible. Our kerbside recycling collection service helps make this easy to do. In addition to the everyday items people tend to recycle in

their blue lidded bin and black box, people can add items including wrapping paper, providing it scrunches into a ball;* cardboard packaging, plastic sweet tubs (up to 5 litres), mince pie foil cases, drinks cans, glass bottles, and Christmas cards without glitter. Local charity shops may be happy to receive donations of unwanted Christmas presents.

It is important that people do not place batteries or electrical items into any of their bins. These items can cause fires in collection vehicles or at waste processing and sorting facilities. These should be disposed of at HRCs instead.

Households with extra recyclable materials such as cans, cardboard and paper can place these in suitable alternative containers alongside their bin for collection. Flatten cardboard and wash and squash plastic bottles and cartons and put the lids back on as this will help make more room in your blue-lidded bin.

Collection of real Christmas trees:

People who pay to have their garden waste collected can put their real Christmas tree, alongside their garden waste bin on their first collection in January. We will collect your tree for composting, or they can support local charities by paying a small donation to have your tree collected via the Just Helping scheme at <https://charityxmastreecollection.com/>.

For information about local recycling centres, recycling Christmas trees, collection days and advice on how to reduce waste and recycle as much as possible during the festive period visit www.wiltshire.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling.

*The scrunch test is when you try to squeeze paper into a ball. If it stays in a ball, it is most likely the wrapping paper is made of paper only. If it does not, it is likely the paper contains other materials, which means we cannot collect it for recycling.