

GRAPEVINE

AUTUMN 2015

KC FUN DAY

Thank you to everyone who came in memory of Kevin's contribution to village life. It was lovely to see children and grandchildren returning to the village to support the event. Thank you also to everyone who helped in any way and again to Gill and Dom for the use of their field and garden.

It was a bit chilly to say the least but everyone seemed to enjoy themselves sitting down and eating and chatting as well as participating in the games.

The treasure hunt in the morning certainly lived up to Kevin's contorted clues but most people managed a good score and it didn't rain this time! The items to collect certainly represented the numerous hobbies which Kevin had and also his Hangover Party exploits. The winning team was the 'Tadpoles' (otherwise know as the Winterburns).

The KC Cup was won by Sue Smith's team with Xanthe and Mike.

Profit from the food sales and your generous donations has come to over £524 so with the money donated at Kevin's funeral last year (which has already been sent) we will have raised over £1100 for the Wiltshire Air Ambulance. Kevin would be proud of you. Thank you.

Hopefully there will be plenty of photographs to be judged for next year's KC Cup winner. The competition will be open to all villagers of all ages. Details will be announced at a later date so get snapping now.

~ Sandra



EDITORIAL

Thanks to my granddaughter, Isabel, who has handled all the technical side of the editing. The Grapevine will continue for two years at least. We hope you enjoy the latest issue.

~ Isabel and Audrey Plummer

BOWLS CLUB

The Village Hall has been a fantastic venue for the last six years for indoor bowling, especially since the new bowling surface was recently put into use.

The attendance will be slightly down this coming season as some of our regular players are leaving the Village. We are, therefore, looking for new players from the Village, who can expect a warm welcome in a warm hall! Which is something to look forward too during the winter months. We stop for coffee or tea and biscuits at half time and have a chat to catch up on Village goings on!

Note.

The normal Bowls Meetings will start on Monday 28th September

Afternoon session: 2.30 – 4.30pm

Evening session: 7.00 – 9.0pm

~ Mike Truman

SAFARI SUPPER

April saw the Safari Supper back again after a break of 18 months. Jon had advertised it as having a 'Twist', so in memory of Kevin's 'guess the cocktail' games (which were always very popular) at hangover parties, we had to produce a cocktail to accompany our course!

18 of us began with Sangria and then went to each of our three courses to sample more cocktails!! Prosecco French 77, Apple Crumble, Tequila Sunrise, Mojito, Bucks Fizz and one with a lot of strong spirits in it!! Were among those sampled by various participants throughout the evening. We then all finished with Kir Royale. Needless to say there were a few sore heads the next morning. However we all had a great time and enjoyed the food as well.

'The next safari dinner will NOT have a 'twist' but proceed as normal through 3 courses at different houses over the evening. It is on **NOVEMBER 14TH**. Please let me know by November 7th at the latest whether you are joining us or not.

~ Sandra Crumpler

A Little piece of poetry written by My Mum 28 years ago when she was spending her final years in a Nursing Home This was her contribution for the second edition of the "Grapevine" in 1987 when I was editor, and I think it worthwhile re-publishing.

~ Mike Truman

Great Hinton

*Hail to you Great Hinton !
gem of the Wiltshire Plains,
set within your tiny bounds
of meadows, streams and lanes.*

*Your people spread their harmony
around your village life,
nurturing love and happiness,
obliterating strife.*

*Wider may your bounds e'er grow
and ties of friendship keep,
and may your stream of life e'er flow
in channels strong and deep.*

~ Mrs. E.A. Truman

BADMINTON GROUP

A group of us from the village plus some friends meet on a Friday night at Christie Miller from 8:00pm for an hour's badminton. New members of any ability and age would be welcome so if you are interested please ring Ken on **810403**

~ Ken

A SCHOOL VISIT TO KENYA

On 28TH June 2015 we, along with 40 other students from King Edwards School, travelled to Kenya. Although it was a school organised trip, we also went with a charity called Moving Mountains who have projects that improve the lives of people across the world, in particular Africa. The main purpose of the trip was to visit our partner school, Wagwer, to construct a new kitchen and to teach lessons. Before we arrived at Wagwer however, we had the opportunity to visit an elephant and a giraffe sanctuary and to pass the Great Rift Valley. The journey to Wagwer took 4 days, but this was an opportunity to witness Kenya as we drove through many villages and we were amazed at how friendly everyone was towards us. Once we arrived at the school, we were put into groups of 14 (7 from King Edwards and 7 from Wagwer). This gave us the chance to ask and answer questions to each other. Although the language barrier sometimes made this difficult, their English greatly improved over the period we were there and we even learnt some Swahili from them! We all agreed that although the construction work we did out there was important, exchanging stories and visiting the houses of the students to witness how they live was more beneficial and something we will never forget. When we left Wagwer we continued travelling around Kenya. We visited a rainforest where we watched an unforgettable sunrise. We also played a football match against a local academy and organised a sports afternoon with local children. We visited a primary school where we taught maths and English lessons. We also went to visit the home of Joy Adamson (where the film 'Born free' was filmed). Another highlight was visiting the home of Sarah Obama (Grandmother of Barack Obama) and had the opportunity to interview her. We ended our visit to Kenya on a safari where we saw the 'big 5', which was an amazing way to end the trip.

Camping for three weeks in one of the poorest areas of the world was extremely difficult, however we are glad we did it as we witnessed poverty up close and tried to improve their lives slightly, during the time we were there.



~ Adam and Daniel Lawes

FLORAL DISPLAYS

Thank you to Keith and Mary Strickland and Di Drinkwater for volunteering to plant and look after the flower pots in the village - they all look splendid.

~ Sue Smith

WHY NOT HIRE THE VILLAGE HALL?

We have a well-kept Village Hall which is available for anyone to hire at very reasonable rental charges.

The Hall is the right size for family parties, with the use of the skittle alley if required.

For a small charge you may also hire chairs, tables, crockery and cutlery for parties in your home.

For Bookings, please contact

~ Rebecca Locke on **01380 870588**

QUIZ NIGHT

In June, Catherine and Alex organised a second quiz night which proved to be very enjoyable. It tested us all to the limits of our ability. The winning team, made up of Rebecca and Steve, Rachael and John, Kirsty and Matt, known as the 'Big Cheese', ended the evening winning a box of chocolates.

GREAT HINTON MEMORIAL HALL TRUST

At the Annual General Meeting in May the Trust Chairman reported that during the year five village clubs have regularly used the hall. And the Community Committee has used it for social events, children's parties have been held in it, the Parish Council uses it for meetings and it is a polling station for elections. A small charge is made for the use of equipment taken for home use.

Income is highly dependent on the 100 Club and the rent from the Bowls Club which uses the hall the most. The Youth Club is meeting less frequently but the Arts and Crafts Club now has more members meeting regularly which makes up half the shortfall. We have been fortunate in having elections every year and one day's hire for a polling station is worth £128. Overhead expenditure ran at budgeted levels and there was an operating surplus of £392 before expenditure on minor improvements. The flushing system in the men's toilets has been improved and an area in the loft has been boarded and a loft ladder and light installed by Jo and Ken. The collage has been refurbished and an information plaque put up with costs met by donations from individual and clubs.

The trustees have met to set a budget for the year and review the hiring rates which have been maintained at the previous level of £6 an hour for the use of villagers. The net contribution of £840 from the 100 Club is essential to balancing the budget so we are grateful to everyone who pays £15 to join every year. ~ *Richard Clarke (Chairman)*

OUR NEW EDITOR

I am sure everyone will agree how pleased we all are that Audrey has taken on the responsibility of editing the Grapevine. We all wish her luck and know she will get the support of villagers who regularly write

and submit their articles, reports and stories for all to read.

Audrey is our sixth Editor after 28 years since the 1st edition, And those of you who have lived in the Village since 1987 may remember some of the past editors, and they are:-

1987 - 1989	Mike Truman	(7 issues)
1989 - 1992	Min Squibbs	(10 issues)
1993 - 1997	Kevin Crumpler	(10 issues)
1997 - 2000	Mark Newman	(7 issues)
2000 - 2015	Richard Clarke	(33 issues)
2015 -	Audrey Plummer	

Being Editor of the Grapevine can be a thankless task without your contributions, so please keep in touch with Audrey, and have your articles ready on time.

~ *M.T.*

ART & CRAFT GROUP

Our group meet every Friday morning, 10-12 am to create. We create a bit of noise when we are all there chatting over coffee but mostly we enjoy creating watercolours, acrylics, patchwork, knitting, crochet, silk painting, tapestry, sketching, and more. It is a very relaxed group and we would welcome anyone to come and join us. We will start again in September and pay £2 per session to cover hall hire costs. If you need to find out more, contact me on 870635.

~ *Carol Clarke*

LADIES CLUB

Another successful ladies club year ended in June with our annual village fete, which raised a fantastic £782, of which £752 was donated to Alzheimer's Support and £30 to Dorothy House Hospice. Thanks to all those who helped and supported the event, especially to Gill and Dom for lending us their home once again. The weather was very kind to us but we could have done with it being a bit warmer for the after dinner meal! Everyone made a real effort to dress according to the VE theme. We were fortunate enough to have the Alzheimer's Support CEO herself, Babs, to open the fete and we enjoyed Belles Angels Morris Dancers. Pat the organist was very good and played fitting music - I think he would have played all night if we asked him!!

Another busy year begins for the club in September. Our chosen charity for the coming year is Hope Nature Centre, which supports adults with learning difficulties in West Wiltshire situated in Southwick Country Park.

Ladies Club runs from September to April, and we meet at the village hall at 8pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. We are an informal and friendly group of ladies of all ages and would warmly welcome new members.

Subscription is £8 per year which helps cover guest speakers etc.

For further information please contact either:

Rachael Lawes Tel: 01380 870070 e-mail rachaelawes@hotmail.co.uk

Or

Rebecca Locke Tel: 01380 870588 e-mail rebeccalocke@live.com

Ladies Club Programme 2015/16

16 TH September 2015	Cheese and wine evening
21 st October 2015	Skittles Evening
18 th November 2015	Bead decoration – Debbie Wood
December date TBC	Carol Concert
16 TH December 2015	Ladies Christmas meal
20 th January 2016	How to grow sweet peas – Jill Hazel
17 th February 2016	'Looking at life' – amusing and light hearted observations by Jean Collens
16 th March 2016	Gourmet Dinner
20 th April 2016	AGM and Bring and Buy

~ Rebecca and Rachael

GOOD LUCK TO KATY AND LINDA

Our good wishes go to Katy Locke and Linda Harbour who have reached a new stage in their lives by starting at university. Katy has gone to Birmingham to read Maths, and Linda to Camarthen to study Fashion and Design.

**LOCAL COUNCILLOR
JONATHAN SEED REPORTS**

The funding of the Hopper Bus by Wiltshire Council for transport to the Royal United Hospital in Bath over the past ten years or so to the tune of a whopping £200 000 per year has attracted a great deal of attention in the press in recent weeks. This focus was brought about by the Council reviewing its decision to spend this amount of money on a service that is not a Council responsibility and particularly on a service that is the responsibility of the NHS. This service was also being used by staff as subsidised transport to work as their charges were less than other passengers. Whilst we all accept that this is a highly valued service by those who use it we also have to accept that costs must fall with the responsible budget holders and the Council simply does not have this scale of funding to spare. However as a result of the Council reviewing its financing of the service very productive discussions have taken place between the Council, the RUH and the Clinical Commissioning Group and it looks like a brand new service will be created doing much the same job but being funded by the organisations who receive a budget to do so. This will be good news all round and will suit all the council tax payers in Wiltshire, whether or not they use the Hopper.

The recent General Election campaign has made me very conscious that people within the area that I represent want to talk to me as their elected local representative and discuss local issues that affect them from time to time. I also discovered in the last election that there are lots of people locally who want to be involved in the political process without necessarily joining a political party. The sort of issues that often get raised locally range from solar and wind farms to road safety to traveler planning to the canal project. Sometimes I can help and get things done immediately and at other times I

can try and influence the process to make positive changes.

I am moving my surgeries around and would be very happy to discuss and explain any issues and also address political or other issues with any member of the community who wants to come along from 7 to 8pm at the bar of the Somerset Arms in the village on Thursday 29th July.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

After the sad resignation of Philip Selwyn-Smith, Ken Young has joined the Parish Council. He has many years experience working in the Highways Department and will be a great asset to the Parish Council with his Highways and other Knowledge.

The Parish council has few issues

Recently, although Highway safety along with hedge cutting & road & drain maintenance always feature at meetings.

The Parish council has been pleased to support Hint Fest after agreement had been made to limit music to 12.30. No more than 800 people with security present and traffic to be signed in from the A350 not through the village. If any Villager had any local issues please contact the Clerk or a Parish councillor.

~ Carol Burch (Clerk)

COFFEE MORNING

Please come to Rebecca's coffee morning, to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support, on Friday 2nd October from 10 to 12, at 5 Pepper- corn Orchard.

There will be a sale of cakes, Phoenix Trading cards and a raffle.

Hope to see you there!

Please note this is a week later than the usual Macmillan Coffee Morning day

~ Rebecca Locke

CHARITY WALK FOR ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT

If you have seen us walking around the lanes it has not been an idle amble but an effort to be fit enough to participate in the Devizes Alzheimer's Support 25th Anniversary Charity Walk. Sandra, Di Norris, Di Drinkwater and Beryl entered for the 29 mile walk between Bath and Honey Street, along the Kennett and Avon Canal over the May Holiday weekend. We chose how many days to walk and which sections, altogether we walked 90 miles. We were seriously impressed by Sandra as she walked the

whole route accompanied by Pat for the Hillperton to Seend section.

We chatted, admired the lovely gardens that backed onto the canal, chose our favourite barges, watched the swans, signets, ducks and birds as we weaved our way around the many cyclists.

It was an added bonus on Saturday to be serenaded by the Frome Jackdaws Songbirds Choir, a beautiful unaccompanied harmony of female voices.

Did any of us lose any weight? I don't think so – we had to have the essential Mars Bar for energy each day, the muffins for sale from the Alzheimer's Support Narrow Boat "Zephyrus" at half way each day were so delicious that they couldn't be missed and we finished off with a celebratory drink at Honey Street on Monday. So we all enjoyed our walking and would be happy to repeat it but not just yet!

Many thanks to all who sponsored us, we raised almost £ 600 between us, and to Joe and John for driving us to the starting and finishing line.



~Beryl Francis

A VISIT TO WATERLOO

On 18th June 1815, one of the most terrible battles in history took place on the plain of Mont-Saint-Jean. In the words of the Duke of Wellington, Waterloo was 'the nearest run thing you saw in your life'. As a result, the fate of Europe was sealed for years to come. Two hundred years later, we made the Eurostar journey from St Pancras to Brussels to take part in a spectacular commemoration of the Bicentenary. After a quick orientation tour of Brussels, our dinner that evening concluded with the biggest chocolate mousse we've ever encountered. Served in an overflowing knickerbocker glory glass, even the most die-hard chocoholics were defeated!

The next three days were spent on the battlefield. On the first day we toured the French bivouacs. These comprised around 3000 people and 200 horses, who represented French infantry, artillery and cavalry troops, and the soldiers' companions. Later, at Napoleon's farmhouse HQ, we arrived in time to see 'Napoleon' giving a press conference to the TV cameras from his tent. In the afternoon, our visit to the Wellington Museum coincided with a tour being made by two of Napoleon's descendants. That evening we saw the amazing sound and light show 'Inferno'. This was based on Victor Hugo's poem that tells the story of the battle, and it lived up to the promise to be a 'breathtaking visual and musical performance'. With dancers, acrobats and dozens of extras, about 200 to 300 people took part. The special effects included giant inflatable horses that left the stage and came into the audience. The show concluded with an amazing firework display.



On our second day we 'walked' the battlefield with a local guide, climbed the Lion Mound, and visited the Memorial museum. After the afternoon off in Brussels, we headed back to the battlefield for the first of the re-enactments 'the French attack'. The stands seated 50,000 people, and there were additional standing areas. On such a large site it was hard to make out much detail of the action, but the atmosphere was created with over 6000 re-enactors (from over 47 nations), 300 horses, 100 cannons and plenty of noise and smoke. The re-enactment on the third night was billed as 'the Allied counterattack', but from what we could see, it looked like a repeat of the performance the night before! However it was an unforgettable experience.

As complete novices in the world of re-enactment, one of the most interesting parts of the trip was visiting the Allied bivouacs on the third day. Around 3000 people (the highest number, 1156, from Germany, followed by 1153 from the UK) and 150 horses made up the encampment. It was fascinating to see the way the participants carried out their roles. We watched several scenarios, saw the 'Duke of Wellington' ride by, and chatted to the soldiers and their families (the children were also in costume). In the afternoon we visited Hougomont, the farmhouse that was turned into a key defensive position in the Allied line. Dan and Peter Snow were also visiting at the same time. We saw the new memorial and replacements for the gates referred to by the Duke of Wellington when he declared 'the outcome of the Battle of Waterloo depended upon the closing of the gates at Hougomont'.



Although the battlefield only covered 2 ½ square miles, over 180,000 men, 60,000 horses and 500 pieces of artillery took part that day. By the end, over 44,000 were dead, dying or wounded. As Wellington said after the battle, 'next to a battle lost, the greatest misery is a battle gained'.

~ Mary Winterburne

LUNCH CLUB OUTING

On a bright, sunny June day, members of the village lunch club set out on their annual outing. This year the venue was to be 'The Mallards' at Chirton, the home of Tim and Jenny Pape. Having enjoyed lunch at 'The Millstream' at Marden, we set off in convoy led by Richard, who we all hoped knew his way! Having travelled for quite some time along a bumpy, narrow winding track, we eventually arrived at our destination. The one acre hidden garden sloped gently down to the woodland beside the upper River Avon in the Pewsey Vale. On our arrival, we received an enthusiastic welcome from Tim and his wife to 'the Mallards'. Jenny gave us a brief talk about the garden and woodland. She explained how, having bought the property in the '70s, in quite a neglected state, they have spent their time working hard to transform it into a place of interest and beauty for both family and visitors alike. The design of the garden (by Jenny) is informal but encourages one to wander and take pleasure in its colourful borders and vibrant gravel bed by the house. Together with the luxuriant waterside planting and woodland

glades, it has much to offer. The planting includes many unusual species, and there is evidence of careful choices of colour and shape.

Tim has been responsible for the three-acre woodland and his careful management allows you to meander through native trees and shrubs as you find your way along the many paths and through the glades.

Having spent our time exploring this wonderful garden and woodland, we were pleased to be invited to sit and enjoy afternoon tea, with both Tim and Jenny on hand to answer the many questions we had for them.

Now time to find our way back, we once more elected Richard to take the helm and navigate our way home having had a most enjoyable afternoon.

~ Sylvia Baker

NOTE: Lunch club meets the first Thursday of each month in the village hall at 12:15 for 12:30. If you would like to join us, please ring Audrey on **870586** or Richard and Carol on **870635**

THE KIOSK LIBRARY

I expect you have all noticed how smart the Kiosk is looking after being given a new coat of paint! Thanks to the Parish Council for arranging this. As always we sort the books on a regular basis - taking those that have been on the shelves for while to the Mind Shop on Paxcroft and replacing them with newly donated books. A big thank you to everyone who uses the library and donates books - we now have an overflow bookcase in the village hall which is a great help. Probably by the time you read this Gwen will have left the village and I personally can't thank her enough for all the time she put in to make the library so inviting since it first started. Am delighted to say that Beryl has kindly offered to help out - so keep

donating books in good clean condition and of course - keep reading.....

I would welcome any suggestions and comments please

~ Anne **870607**

GREAT HINTON BOWLS OPEN EVENING

The Open Evening held on Monday 14th September was a great success attracting new potential bowlers. The new bowlers mixed in with our regulars, and demonstrated some skilful bowling, which impressed us all. Everyone was keen to get back to bowling after the summer break, and are looking forward to the 28th September when our winter sessions start.
~ Mike T.

PEAHEN

Some of you will remember Peahen who arrived at the Narrows end of the village a couple of years ago, spending her time between Sandy's flat roof, eating Mike and Anne's flowers and wandering around the Cuff's drive.

In the Spring of 2013 she arrived at the other end of the village. By day she wandered around the gardens, clucking and eating the food put out for Debbie's chickens. She was quite tame and would take food from the hand or come when called. If frightened she could just make it to a roof top, but her flying was generally poor – best to dodge her! By night she settled in the hay barn. She laid eggs there, but they didn't hatch and she returned to the other end of the village.

In the Spring of 2014 Peahen was back roosting in the barn and this time she laid eggs on the ground. Fearing a fox would get her she was caught and taken to Lackham College where she would have peacock friends and although still in the wild would be kept an eye on. Peahen is still there and this year laid and hatched 5 eggs. She was temporarily put in a pen with her chicks for safety until they were bigger. A happy ending for a very lonely old bird!

~ Min Squibbs



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWS

A very big thank you to all NHW distributors for passing on the newsletters and forwarding the rural crime information to your neighbours. We had a spate of thefts of electric fencing units and batteries

being stolen directly from local fields which had livestock/horses grazing during spring and early summer. The advice from Police is to try and scratch your postcode into the item as it cannot be removed. We are hearing an increasing amount of internet fraud as well as telephone scams. The general information from the Police is not to give any information out to anybody on the telephone. If they are who they say they are they won't mind you taking their details and phoning them back. Be vigilant using the internet. There are many scams requesting your bank details or money for the release of parcels, lottery winnings etc.

Never respond to any of these communications.

If a "cold caller" is requesting an advance payment or fee, it is a good indication that they are trying to defraud you.

Do NOT pay any fees unless you are 100% sure of what you are paying for.

NEVER disclose your bank details.

If you are new to the village and would like to be alerted by email/text of any local incidents and information from Neighbourhood watch, please either call or email me your details deb.scott@virgin.net

Useful Information

Emergency Calls in the UK - 999

Non-emergency Calls in the UK - 101

Crimestoppers - 0800 555 111

Action Fraud - 0300 123 2040

~Debbie Scott

NHW Area Coordinator 870410