

# Bishop's Tachbrook

## P<sup>arish</sup> Magazine

St Chad's



Issue 1-2016





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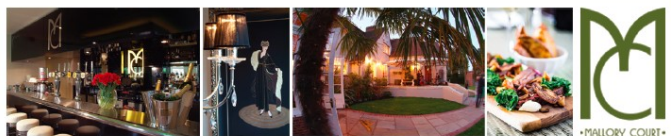
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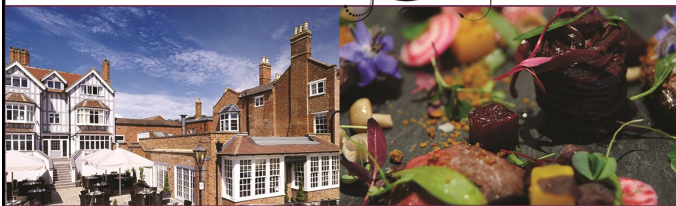
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# What's in this month's magazine

A belated Happy New Year, we hope that the year snuggles into one where your dreams are met and that you get the support and help needed to meet life's challenges.

Bursting into 2016 this month's magazine is a lazy read of 36 pages, nevertheless it contains many gems. There is no alibi strong enough to excuse you from wandering through the molecules of each page. The veneer of parish life is peeled back to reveal the nuggets that contribute to community spirit. Jenny Bevan's in memoriam on Ken Dorning, which appears on pages 32 and 33, is a particularly good example, the BBC would be proud of her journalistic prowess.

As a starting point for a new you in 2016, you may wish to take up Elaine, our Vicar's invitation to practise sacred reading. I hope you are overheard by those who will gain from your insights.

Happy reading.

## St Chad's diary

### 7th February Candlemas

**10th February** Ash Wednesday Service with the Imposition of Ashes 11:15am and 7pm. The 7pm service will be a sung Eucharist.

### 28th February Civic Service 10am

Every Wednesday morning during Lent there will be a service of Holy Communion at 11:15am.

### 6<sup>th</sup> March 10am Mothering Sunday.

#### Church Officers

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Happy New Year! Such a lot seems to have happened since I last wrote for the magazine. Of course we celebrated Christmas and I would like to thank all those who made Christmas at St Chad's so wonderful. We began with a full church for Christingle and the Brownies District Carol Service. Well done Tachbrook Brownies, you really were "Stars"! We then had a fantastic Nativity Festival. There were over 50 Nativities or Cribs on display from all over the world, thank you so much to those who loaned their precious nativity sets and of course those who made them, from Lego to pine cones and conkers! We are hoping to make this an annual event and so if you go anywhere interesting on holiday, don't forget to look for interesting nativities! A massive thank you to Luke and the staff at the Leopard for their support. We had great fun singing carols there. Of course, there was sadness too with the deaths of Ken Dorning and Mac MacGarrick. St Chad's was full for both of their services and I hope that gave some comfort to their families. They were both loved and respected by so many in the village.

What's next you may ask? Well, of course Lent will soon be upon us. Easter is early this year and Ash Wednesday is on 10<sup>th</sup> February. There will be two services, one at 11:15 am and the other at 7pm. At both you will have the opportunity to receive the Imposition of Ashes. On Ash Wednesday people are marked on the forehead with a cross of ashes. The use of ashes, made by burning palm crosses from the previous Palm Sunday is

symbolic. The palms were blessed on Palm Sunday the previous year to celebrate Jesus's triumphal entry into Jerusalem and the ash symbolises His death on the cross. The ash is sometimes mixed with anointing oil, this leaves a good mark but the use of oil also reminds us of God's blessing and of the anointing or marking with a cross at Baptism. As each person is marked with the cross on the forehead the Minister says, *'Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return. Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.'* At some churches the worshippers leave with the mark still on their forehead so that they carry the sign of the cross out into the world. At other churches the service ends with the ashes being washed off as a sign that the participants have been cleansed of their sin. You will be able to do both at St Chad's.

During Lent we will hold our Civic Service. This year it will be on February 28<sup>th</sup> as the following week is Mothering Sunday. All who contribute to our community are welcome.

We will be having a Lent course this year but details are not finalised yet. We will, as in previous years be joining with our brothers and sisters in Churches Together in Whitnash, Warwick Gates and Bishop's Tachbrook. Dates will be published on our Facebook page and the website.

If you can't come to the lent course then can I suggest you do something. Going without something for a while in order to



focus on something more important can be useful, but it is pointless unless it results in permanently changed priorities. So, this year, I invite you to take up an ancient practice which will help you do just that. A practice which acts like a channel to God. It is called **Lectio Divina** - or 'sacred reading'. It's very simple and doesn't require hours of your time, just 10 -15 minutes a day. Of course you can spend longer if you wish!

Step 1: Dust off that old Bible and put a bookmark at the start of St Mark's Gospel.

Step 2: Find a quiet place and time in your day. Turn off your mobile phone.

Step 3: Read a very short section of the Gospel (maybe three verses or so) slowly, and aloud.

Step 4: Pause for a moment of silence and then do it again. Be attentive to any words or phrases which particularly strike you.

Step 5: Allow your reason, imagination and memory to make connections between those words or phrases and your present situation.

Step 6: Sit with your thoughts and feelings and then shape them into a simple prayer.

Step 7: Do it each day if you can, but always come back to it if you miss a day.

May your Lent be a joyous journey of discovery.

## **CYCLE OF PRAYER**

### **Praying for our Community**

In February we will be praying for all who live in

Beale Close  
Bishop's Close  
Bolingbroke Drive  
Bradford Close

We will be remembering those who live in these roads in our prayers during the service each Sunday in February and many of the congregation will also be praying for them during their daily prayers.

If there is something or someone you would like us to pray for please let Elaine our Vicar or a member of the congregation know.

## **THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY**

### **Baptism**

Diane Vine  
*We welcome her into the Christian Family*

### **Funerals**

Kenneth Dorning  
Malcolm 'Mac' MacGarrick  
Alan Alderman  
*We pray for their souls and offer our sympathy to their family and friends.*

## **JOYS & SORROWS**

Do you have any major life events to share? We'd love to hear of births, engagements, anniversaries and significant birthdays. Call Julie on 01926 420826 or email [Julie\\_m\\_thomas@hotmail.com](mailto:Julie_m_thomas@hotmail.com)

Happy New Year and happy new Centre!

The footings and drainage of the St Chad's Centre were completed just before Christmas and by the time you read this the contractors will have been working flat out on the next building phase.



St Chad's Centre Trustees have been on a fact finding trip to Chase Meadow Community Centre to learn from their fit out process. Trustees are keen to ensure the facilities available to hirers meet as wide a range of needs as possible and Chase Meadow is a recent example of a community centre set up and run by a group of volunteers in a successful and forward thinking way. We are looking into details such as what equipment should be provided in the kitchen, how many chairs and tables we will need and how to kit out the rooms to be of greatest

benefit to the greatest number. Trustees will be particularly looking into how we can include as much storage as possible in the fit out to provide valuable space for regular hirers.

Trustees are pleased with the number of people who have been in touch via the

[stchadscentrebtt@gmail.com](mailto:stchadscentrebtt@gmail.com) email address to discuss potential bookings for the Centre. There's been a range of enquiries from fitness instructors, drama groups, musical performers, children's classes and celebration events. If you would like to register your interest please email the Trustees.

The booking system is being worked on so we can take some firm bookings prior to the Centre opening in the summer. We have our first confirmed event which will be held in the autumn. Obviously the details are under wraps at the moment

but we will share more details via the magazine and website nearer the time. If you have any ideas for hosting events at the Centre please get in touch.

**WARNING:** Your image is being recorded! Whilst I knew the CCTV had been fitted I didn't realise it had a message to those wandering around the building site! There have been no further incidents over the Christmas period so hopefully those looking for entertainment have passed their time peacefully elsewhere.



The St Chad's Centre contractors got into the Christmas spirit by helping erect the Christmas tree on the village green. Thanks go to Kevin and Sam for doing their bit for the community.

You'll really start to see the building take shape over the next month so look out for the walls being built and it beginning to look like a community centre!

## Mothers' Union year-end Happenings

Before we start the new year we need to look back at 2015 and especially to our Coffee morning at the end of November. A BIG THANK YOU to all who supported it and helped us to raise an amazing £322.46, of which at least £60 was raised by Kath from the greetings cards she made. As a result we have sent donations to Mothers' Union overseas work, MU General Fund in the diocese of Coventry and, our favourite MU project, AFIA – Away From It All holidays for Warwickshire families in need of a break. In total this past year we have raised over £600 for MU and we only have 9 members!! Without **your** support we could not do it.

We have produced Twiddle muffs for dementia sufferers and continue to produce knitted angels for children who are baptised and decorated wooden spoons for wedding couples. Feb 7<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> is National Marriage Week and to support this we are providing refreshments on 14<sup>th</sup> Feb. for those coming to church for a celebration of Renewal of Marriage Vows (see the Vicar's article). What a way to celebrate St Valentine's Day!! We'll let you know when our next fundraiser is, in the meanwhile may we wish you all the very best of health and contentment in 2016.

Jenny Lister – Branch Leader (Tel. 427922)



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The Parish Council has become aware of severe financial issues that the County Council faces and that is inevitable that cuts to some of our services will follow.

We also know that the Examination in Public of the New Local Plan will be undertaken this year. As part of this final proposals for Gypsy and Traveller will be confirmed. The PC will continue to work on behalf of residents to understand what's being proposed by the district and impacts on the parish. As before, in understanding these complex planning issues, external expertise in fields of planning and law are very likely to be required. To fund this, councillors agreed to raise the precept. For a Band D home this will equate to an increase of 75p per month. This will also ensure that the PC can continue with other important projects such as installing new benches in Warwick Gates and progressively moving forward of traffic management.

On this last point, Cllr. Les Caborn has secured some of the funding to assist with our traffic projects. We are grateful to Les for his continued support. Cllr. Leigh Carter is engaging with County Officers to try and move this parish-wide project forward.

The working parties are now regular events and if you are interested in helping please contact Cllr. Paul Whitwood or the clerk. Not only are they a way of keeping our parish a pleasant place to live they are a way of meeting other residents creating a great community spirit.

## Planning Matters

Land opposite the Leopard, Oakley Wood Road Appeal Decision.

On 6<sup>th</sup> January an appeal against the refusal to grant planning permission for 10 houses on the field opposite the Leopard was dismissed by the Planning Inspectorate. The main reasons for the dismissal were:

1. The detrimental effect on the character and appearance of the locality including the setting of the Bishop's Tachbrook Conservation area and the listed building of the Leopard and Eden cottage. The site is an absolutely essential and intrinsic part of the entrance to the village and the transition from rural open countryside to built-up area.
2. A safe access to the site from Oakley wood Road was not shown and the inspector was not convinced that a safe access could be provided.
3. The effect on biodiversity and any protected species had not been demonstrated
4. There was no proper assessment of possible archaeological impact
5. The site is outside the defined Bishop's Tachbrook settlement area and so conflicts with the Development Plan. In addition, it would conflict with the planning requirement to recognise the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside.

*Continued on page 11*



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## Neighbourhood Plan

Following the last consultation with the community that finished in June and lengthy discussions with the planners, a formal Regulation 15 submission of the draft Neighbourhood Plan has been made to the District Council. It takes into account all the points made by respondents and has been accepted as legal by the District Council so can proceed to examination and the final consultation. All the 47 documents can be seen on the Website

[www.bishopstachbrook.com](http://www.bishopstachbrook.com) and include the appeal decision on the land opposite the Leopard (Document NP13).

### And finally....

Could we please ask residents visiting the graveyard not to park on the private road behind Church Lees.

The damage to the verges along Kingsley Road is being discussed with the County Council.

The path around the solar park is a permissive right of way which is being withdrawn at the end of January. We are writing to the landowner to ask him if he would consider continuing to allow residents to walk this route.

The next meeting is on Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm at Bishop's Tachbrook Primary School.

Any questions please contact:  
Mrs. Corinne Hill, Parish Clerk, Gaydon  
Field's Farm Gaydon CV35 0HF  
Tel: 01926 641220

## Poetry please

Mirror in February—Thomas Kinsella

The day dawns, with scent of must  
and rain,  
Of opened soil, dark trees, dry  
bedroom air.  
Under the fading lamp, half  
dressed -- my brain  
Idling on some compulsive fantasy  
I towel my shaven jaw and stop,  
and stare,  
Riveted by a dark exhausted eye,  
A dry downturning mouth.

It seems again that it is time to  
learn,  
In this untiring, crumbling place of  
growth  
To which, for the time being, I  
return.  
Now plainly in the mirror of my soul  
I read that I have looked my last  
on youth  
And little more; for they are not  
made whole  
That reach the age of Christ.

Below my window the wakening  
trees,  
Hacked clean for better bearing,  
stand defaced  
Suffering their brute necessities;  
And how should the flesh not quail,  
that span for span  
Is mutilated more? In slow distaste  
I fold my towel with what grace I  
can,  
Not young, and not renewable,  
but man.

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December was so mild; Mother Nature chanced her arm and gently nudged things forward. Gnats danced and flies flew so it wasn't surprising to see a Bat flitting about before Christmas and again in early January, out of hibernation, if it ever went in. Hopefully finding enough insects to eat to replace the valuable calories it was using up.

Hazel clumps hung with catkins covered in pollen a couple of months early. Slugs were everywhere, 10 Leopard slugs were on the bird table eating sunflower hearts, doing it at night so they didn't get eaten themselves. If a slug can be beautiful, and why not! The Leopard slug wins; pale grey with leopard-like markings.

Before dawn Robins and Song thrushes are singing, not unusual - no I don't mean the tom Jones hit - what was unusual was a Blackbird also blasting out its velvet melody almost two months early. As it gets halfway to being light the airborne commute begins. Coming in from the north are the gulls, small Black Headed Gulls and a few much larger Lesser Black Backed Gulls. Many groups of about 20 and 30 cross the village having spent the night on water somewhere. Now they head off to work, looking for food on farmland, parks and playing fields. As it gets a little lighter in come squadrons of Woodpigeons from the north west in groups of 100 or more. There must be easily 1,000 Woodies crossing the village each morning at this time of year. One morning a Cormorant flew in a straight line high above all of them. If you are out and about early in the morning have a

look towards the north and you may glimpse the great commute. Every afternoon they all fly back again to their safe places to sleep.

Going back to hibernation, I was working at a Victorian cottage, against the wall was an old cast iron fire surround. Packed behind it was a very large mound of leaves, far too many and far too neat to have blown there, I couldn't resist putting my hand down to investigate. Sure enough there was a small entrance hole and a prickly ball inside - a perfect comfy retreat to sleep the winter away for that hedgehog.

My best bit of Winter so far, apart from there being no snow (well as I write this - sorry kids) was being very close to a Lesser-spotted Woodpecker. Maybe I'm "easily pleased" but I've got this far through my life and never seen one. It was feeding on fat balls, black and white, similar to the Great-spotted but with a red cap, so it was a male. Much of their time is spent high in the treetops, which is why we rarely see them. A little Woodpecker about the same size as a Greenfinch only a touch bigger than a Great Tit - fab!



Hope it doesn't snow now I've mentioned it!



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2015 was Bishop's Tachbrook Brownies turn to host the District Carol Service. During the Service, Bishop's Tachbrook Brownies performed "The Nativity – Story of the Star" showing the birth of Christ through the Stars eyes.

All of the girls worked hard to learn their lines and even got to perform Sparkle & Shine with an added dance routine. They thoroughly enjoyed putting on a dress rehearsal for their parents and having other Brownie units within Whistnash District come to see their performance.

During our Carol Service we held a collection to a local charity Molly Oilly's Wishes. With the help of the church, who also collected for this charity throughout December, we managed to raise a fantastic £546.85. Thank you so much to everyone who donated, this will really help to support the children who are affected by such terrible illnesses.

As the girls worked so hard over Christmas our first week back in January 2016 we went to the Playbox Theatre and worked on our Circus Performer badge. The Brownies got to learn many different

acts including hula hoops, tight rope walking & even got a chance to use the trapeze.

After they had learnt their new skills the girls put on a small performance for their parents and the leaders to watch at the end. They all tried everything, gave everything 100%, learnt new skills and had lots of fun whilst doing it! Bishops Tachbrook Brownies would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year! We have lots to look forward too in



2016. We have our Badge Bonanza Day coming up, the District Swimming Gala and we are all looking forward to this years Pack Holiday to PGL.

We would also like to invite any girls within Bishops Tachbrook village who are aged 5-8 to join us for a fun filled evening of activities on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 6pm. Come and see how much fun we all have at Brownies!

Caroline, Caron, Sally, Steph, Caroline W and Catherine.

If anyone has a daughter who may be interested in becoming a Brownie when she is 7 please contact Caroline Loveday.

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### **Worship at St Chad's**

#### **Sunday**

10am Holy Communion (Sunday Club is held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month)

#### **First Sunday of the month**

8am Holy Communion (BCP)

10am Family Service

#### **Wednesday**

11:15am Holy Communion (BCP)

Are these times convenient for you?  
Would you like a mid-week communion service in the evening or an early morning service? Please let me know, the church is here to serve you and if you find that you cannot come to church on a Sunday but that a Tuesday evening would be great, then I am happy to provide what you need. Elaine



# **Bishops Tachbrook Sports and Social Club** **Spring Entertainment**

## **February**

### **6<sup>th</sup> Feb – Charity Quiz Night**

Raising money for Encephalitis again, come and support this very worthy quiz night and raise some money

### **13<sup>th</sup> Feb – Darren Thomas**

From Meatloaf to Pavarotti, an amazing versatile singer who can turn his voice to almost any style. You won't want to miss Darren

### **20<sup>th</sup> Feb – Guitar Monkey**

An incredible talent, one man and his guitar.

### **27<sup>th</sup> Feb – The Jay Kays**

The Midlands favourite 60's and 70's band are back, playing classic Rock and pop hits

## **March**

### **5<sup>th</sup> March – Drink and Jive**

Drink and Jive are a locally based Rock and Roll band playing covers from over the years. Come down and have a dance

### **12<sup>th</sup> Mar – Bob Marley Tribute**

Time for some classic Reggae. Our Bob Marley tribute has supported Curtis Mayfield, Third World-The Wailers and others and will be reproducing Reggae classics such as One Love, Stir it Up and 3 Little Birds

### **19<sup>th</sup> March – Skittle Night**

A great night of family fun with rounds for children and adults. We'll have a buffet too

### **26<sup>th</sup> March – Insomnia**

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[www.bishopstachbrookclub.co.uk](http://www.bishopstachbrookclub.co.uk)

# Bishop's Tachbrook Calendar

February					
4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday	WI	Recycling	B.T. School	7.45pm	Anne Allan 01926 424135
23 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	History Group	AGM, entertainment, refreshment	St Chads Church	2.30pm	01926 336749
March 2016					
1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday	WI	Falconry with handling the birds	B.T. School	7.45pm	Anne Allan 01926 424135
8 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday	History Group	The Six Wives of Henry VIII	St Chad's Church	2.30pm	01926 336749

Weekly events				
Mondays	Rainbows	Sports and Social Club	6.00-7.00pm	purdieanddoyle@yahoo.com 07828411786
Mondays	Youth Club	B.T. School	6.30-8.00pm	Anoushka76@hotmail.com
Tuesday	Pilates	Sports and Social Club	9.30-10.30am	07769222524
Tuesdays	Over 50s	Sports and Social Club	2-4pm	01926 313020
2nd Tuesday of each month	History Group	St Chad's Church	2.30pm winter 7.30pm summer	01926336749
Tuesdays	Bingo	Sports and Social Club	8.00pm	01926 421621
Wednesday	Brownies	Sports and Social Club	6.00-7.30pm	caroline-loveday@sky.com
Thursdays	Tachbrook Tinies playgroup for 0 to 5s	Sports and Social Club	9.30-11.00am	Elissa 07854427213
1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month	W I	B.T. School	7.45 –9.45	01926 424135
2nd Thursday of each month	Country Dancing	Sports and Social Club	8.00pm	01926 314286
3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month	Parish Council meeting	B.T. School	7.30pm	01926 641220
Sundays	Bingo	Sports and Social Club	8.00pm	01926 421621



## Bishop's Tachbrook Junior Youth Club

Monday 6.30-8pm in the School Hall  
During Term Time Only  
£1.50 per session and yearly  
membership of £2 payable  
in September.

For more information  
contact Kate Underhill on 335144  
kateandgrace@talktalknet  
or come along on a Monday.

We desperately need more adult  
volunteers to come and help at our club,  
if you can spare a couple of hours on an  
odd Monday then please let me know.



## 1st Bishop's Tachbrook Rainbows

If your daughter is aged 5 or 6, free on  
Mondays at 6pm, likes having fun, play-  
ing games, making things and being part  
of a group?

Then Rainbows could be for you!

Rainbows are part of the national  
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If your daughter is interested or you  
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bows@hotmail.com  
or call 01926 888296



Girls aged 5-8

## Brownies

Bishops Tachbrook Brownies would like to invite you to a  
fun night of activities.

Come and meet our current Brownies and see for  
yourself how much fun it is to be a Brownie.

Wednesday 2nd  
March, 6pm at  
Bishops Tachbrook  
Sports & Social  
Club

Please contact  
carolineloveday@sky.com



I ended my December/January Nature Page by saying that in the next Nature Page I would be hoping to see the first snowdrops and I have! The first I noticed were in our garden on 2 January True they were only in tiny bud but since then more have appeared and gradually they are opening fully.

Like me, I expect you have been seeing daffodils since before Christmas. Those gardens with a favourable micro-climate often produce the earliest blooms and keep them longest. Our garden is a late developer slower than the ones across the road. It is probably a bit to do with the way the garden faces, getting the sunlight for most of the day but occasionally this is not the case, perhaps the garden is just more sheltered or other factors are playing a part. The warmer temperatures in December were certainly the reason that many daffodils got the seasons a little confused! Primulas have also been flowering all through the Autumn and are still in bloom.

It was not only plants that have been confused by the warmer temperatures. The Blackbirds which went missing for their moult after a busy breeding season are back in the gardens in pairs sorting territory and possible nesting sites. Perhaps the sudden cold weather has slowed them up a bit, warning them that it's a bit early to start to raise a family.

On these dark mornings as the light increases we see the flocks of gulls off to feed, flying towards Warwick. Soon they are passed by flocks of Pigeons flying in the opposite direction.

At Christmas I was shown the flock of Starlings circling over Brighton before they dropped down to roost under the pier. "We see that happen in Tachbrook though I don't know where they roost," I said. When we returned home I saw a flock circling over Tachbrook and if I am looking out of the window as the light begins to fade I see them each day circling, diving down, flying up, weaving around in a wonderful display. There are not as many as have been shown on television but it is fascinating to watch.



A murmuration of starlings

I spotted one of the bird feeders was empty so went to fill it. It looked in need of a clean so I took it in and gave it a thorough scrub. There it was clean but wet just as a pair of Goldfinches flew in

*Continued on page 23*



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## Linda's Nature Page

---

straight to where the wet feeder usually hangs! No feeder, oh dear! They did a swift about turn then landed on the bird table, looking down puzzled. 'Well it was there!' I dried the missing feeder, filled it and hung it up. I think I've been forgiven as there were up to seven Goldfinches two days later feeding happily.

What about insects? I saw flies and the occasional large bee flying until the middle of December. Even butterflies could be spotted on warm autumn days until late in the season. Of course it is the adult butterfly that over-winters and will emerge in Spring to lay eggs. We nearly stepped on a sleepy one in church and managed to encourage it to move to a flower arrangement. It was so sleepy it was easily encouraged to climb onto my finger but hadn't the energy to open its wings.

The butterfly population is suffering with less of several species each year. We can help by not using pesticides and insecticides in our gardens and growing the plants that provide food for butterflies and caterpillars. The popular Buddleia is a good choice. I also find that herbs such as Marjoram and Sage attract both butterflies and bees. I will be looking out for my first Brimstone flitting across the garden.

Do let us know what you have seen.

## Poetry please

January 1939—Dylan Thomas

Because the pleasure-bird whistles  
after the hot wires,  
Shall the blind horse sing sweeter?  
Convenient bird and beast lie  
lodged to suffer  
The supper and knives of a mood.  
In the sniffed and poured snow on  
the tip of the tongue of the year  
That clouts the spittle like bubbles  
with broken rooms,  
An enamoured man alone by the  
twigs of his eyes, two fires,  
Camped in the drug-white shower of  
nerves and food,  
Savours the lick of the times through  
a deadly wood of hair  
In a wind that plucked a goose,  
Nor ever, as the wild tongue breaks  
its tombs,  
Rounds to look at the red, wagged  
root.  
Because there stands, one story out  
of the bum city,  
That frozen wife whose juices drift like  
a fixed sea  
Secretly in statuary,  
Shall I, struck on the hot and rocking  
street,  
Not spin to stare at an old year  
Toppling and burning in the muddle  
of towers and galleries  
Like the mauled pictures of boys?  
The salt person and blasted place  
I furnish with the meat of a fable.  
If the dead starve, their stomachs  
turn to tumble  
An upright man in the antipodes  
Or spray-based and rock-chested  
sea:  
Over the past table I repeat this  
present grace.

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## We love writing stories!

Our Year 2 pupils (age 6 and 7) are getting to grips with re-telling and writing traditional stories. Mrs Rhodes, our Literacy coordinator and Year 2 teacher explains:

"Year Two is a lovely year to teach. The children put together all they have learnt so far at school and begin to show their individual personalities through their writing. We put a big emphasis on handwriting as a fluent neat joined style is the key to recording all their brilliant ideas."



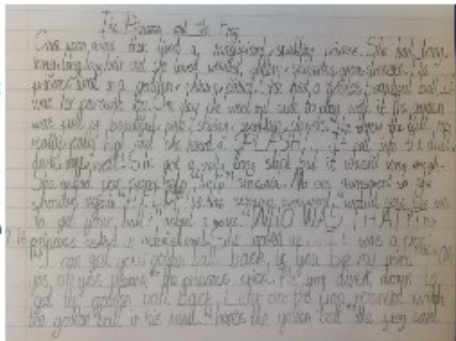
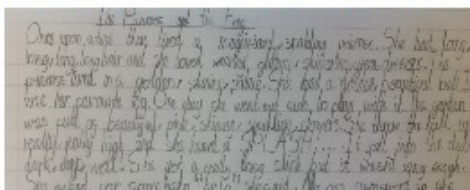
## Feather pencils.

"When your writing gets really neat you can even have a feather pencil!" Sam.

"I've got a feather pencil because I've got neat handwriting now!" Lily.



Using the ultimate Year Two status symbol - a "feather pencil".



## What do you like about writing?

"I just like the feel of joined up writing because then it's quicker." Sophia.

"You can make up your own story and make it even more exciting than the other story." Megan.

"I like making stories for my sister." Noah.

"If you do whisper reading you can check it and if you miss a word you can put it back and then it makes sense." Gabriel.

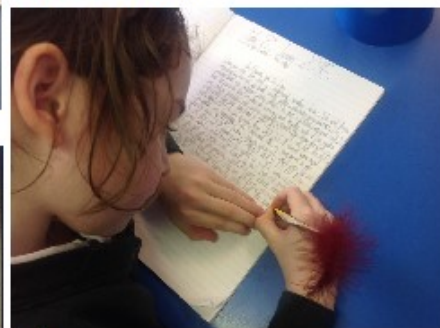
"It's good because you can put adjectives in and stuff." Devon.

"When I write a story it makes me have a picture in my head." Mio.

"When I write it makes me more into the story so I get more imagination." Santi.

"I can write a whole page" Jacob.

"It helps me learn" Lewis.



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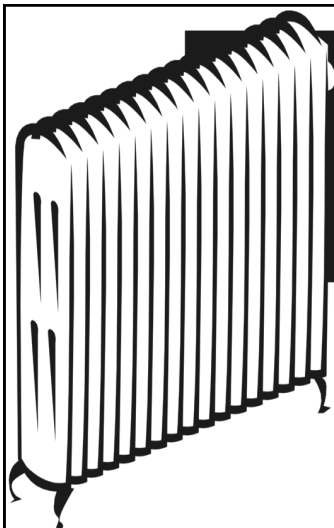
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In December we held our annual Christmas party. You really don't know what you missed. Excellent food, convivial company and hilarious entertainment. We were joined by Gillian Crisp our "executive link" and Jeryl Stone our previous link who together with her husband enjoy coming along. The food was various cold meats, quiches, salads etc. followed by a selection of scrummy sweets. A table quiz amused everybody until the entertainment. This consisted of two readings and a pantomime. Over the years I have seen a few pantomimes but this years rendition of Robin Hood left us speechless. We were speechless due to the fact we were laughing so much. An excellent start to the festive season.

The following week we attended the group Carol service in Lillington. An enjoyable evening with the chance to hear different readings and have a good sing.

We don't meet in January but enjoy a meal at the Leopard when we catch up on all the gossip..... As if !! Forthcoming events include a visit to the Real Tennis Club in Leamington, a talk about Bess the First Lady of Chatsworth, a Cotswold Country Tour, a lecture about research on crops, pests and diseases plus workshops on Beading and Tunisian Crochet. Just a sample of things to come this year.

Early in December on a chilly but dry Saturday morning we planted our centennial oak tree with the help of

County Chairman Margaret Pilkington on St. Chads Green. A big thank you to those of you who came along to support us and to the Leopard for coffee afterwards. I think it has been well watered in now. Also thanks to Ray for digging the hole and putting up the tree guard. My granddaughters now consider it to be theirs and have to check it's okay every time they visit. In May we hope to launch a centennial book of 100 recipes provided by WI members, so come along ladies don't forget to dig out your favourite recipes and let Diane have them.



Members of Bishop's Tachbrook WI, together with County Chairman Margaret Pilkington planted an oak tree to commemorate 100 years since the formation of the WI, on St. Chads Green.

A coffee morning is to be held by Wendy Sankey at 7 Bishops Close on Saturday 6th February 10-12am in aid of Air Ambulance. Why not come along, support an excellent charity and meet us. 2016 could be the year you decide to "give us a go". Give me a ring if you want to know a bit more about the WI.

Anne Allen 424135



**History Group**—The speaker on the 8th March will be Mrs Dixie Atkins who will be talking to us about the six wife's of Henry VIII. We look forward to welcoming members old and new.

**Notice from Pickle**—Dear Friends

A Happy New Year to all my two and four legged friends. I don't know about the rest of you but for me it wasn't a merry Christmas or a happy new year. I HATE FIREWORKS I got scared years ago when a past neighbour let the biggest, noisiest one off, close to the houses. I have double my sedatives now to try and keep me calm which is alright when you are expecting fireworks e.g. New Year's Eve but on Christmas night and on New Year's Day night. I have heard one of my friends was so scared he ran and hid in the saucepan cupboard he was so scared. I had to hide behind my dad, we don't have a saucepan cupboard.

Please spare a thought for people who have cats horses and other livestock. Sometimes it can be too late or too dark to try and get them indoors... not horses in the house ..silly.

Do hope you all got loads of presents. I had a few. I haven't been allowed one of my new toys cos the garden is too muddy and dad has hidden it for now.

Lots of love to you all , Pickle xx

**Country Dancing Club**—2nd Thursday of every month 8pm at Sports and Social Club. Contact Julie Jaggard 314286 All welcome!

Jacki Sanderson was the person who nominated the name Oakley Meadow that won the ballot for the naming of new Bloors' development. She was pleased to read about the how the areas were to be named. She particularly liked the fact that Fox Close is to be named after a man who lived in the house that she and her family have been living in for the last 33 years.

The next deadline for magazine items is 10th February for the March issue. Please send to [BTparishmagazine@hotmail.com](mailto:BTparishmagazine@hotmail.com)

### Red Deer with Beetroot .

Taken from The Game Cookbook by Clarissa Dickson Wright and Johnny Scott. ( I have a signed copy)

900g (2 lb) venison cut into cubes

Seasoned flour

Oil

10 juniper berries, crushed

3 medium beetroot, chopped

1 tbs. red currant jelly

300 ml. (1/2 pint) burgundy or other strong red wine

150 ml. (5 fl. oz.) game stock

3 sprigs thyme

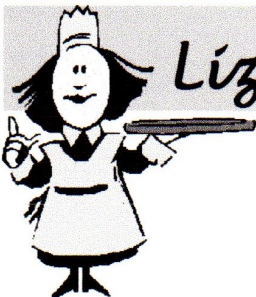
Preheat oven to 170C/ 325F / gas3

Toss the venison chunks in the seasoned flour, heat some oil and brown the meat, transfer to a casserole. Fry the onions in the same pan then add to the venison.

Add all the other ingredients to the casserole. Bring to the boil and put in a slow oven for 2 hours or until the venison is tender. Serve with mashed potatoes or colcannon.

The first time I cooked this I happened to meet Clarissa a few days later and complimented her on the recipe. She explained that beetroot has an enzyme in it that tenderises the venison . It does. !!

*In May the WI hope to launch a centennial book of 100 recipes provided by members. Over the next 3 months we hope to have recipes in the magazine that will feature in the book. Hopefully this will whet your appetite and you'll want the book.*



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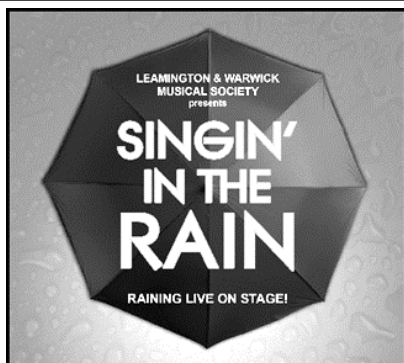
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### **Warwickshire Young Voices**

We rehearse Thursday Evenings during term time at Harbury Village Hall from 6.30-7.30pm. We take all children age 7-16 and offer a free trial session (normal subs £30 per term), We already have children from Bishop's Tachbrook who attend regularly and we would welcome more. Please go to [www.warwickshireyoungvoices.org](http://www.warwickshireyoungvoices.org) for more information.



The old Post Office, Savages Close

## In Memoriam: Bishop's Tachbrook's Nonogenarian

Did you ever see a man on a trike trundling round the village? Then you knew Ken Dorning! Ken celebrated his 90th birthday on 17th September 2015 and entertained a troupe of villagers throughout the morning of the big day.

late wife Dorothy, who was a Tachbrook native, at dancing classes. Ken spoke positively about his time with OS but because it involved moving all the time he didn't think it would be fair to do the job with a child.



In fact he didn't even need to leave his chair until lunchtime because his kind neighbour Diane had made a cake to share with his visitors when they came in. Ken received some lovely cards signed by the great and the good of Bishop's Tachbrook.

Having spent over 50 years of his life living in Bishop's Tachbrook, despite originating from Bolton then Oxford, I wondered what had drawn Ken to our little corner of Warwickshire.

Ken first noticed the name of the village in an Ordnance Survey map when he was sent from Oxford to Coventry whilst working for Ordnance Survey. He thought it was a 'funny name' and decided to visit. It was here he met his

In 1955 Ken moved to Bishop's Tachbrook, initially in a caravan on the Leopard yard and later found a house near Beale Close, called Knob Bungalow, with the Earl of Warwick as his landlord (and where one of his sons, Steve, was born). A new job in Leamington as a rent collector came with a house and so we lost Ken to Leamington for three years because the Earl of Warwick was selling the bungalow for building development – Beale Close! By 1963 Ken got the chance to come back to Bishop's Tachbrook and moved into Kingsley Road. At that time Commander Close was being built and the family who had lived in his house moved to a new house there. Ken jumped at the chance to move back to the village,

eventually taking advantage of the 'Right to Buy' scheme to purchase it.

This period coincided with Ken starting work in the gas industry as a meter inspector. Ken reminisced that it was a job which was 'different everyday; you never knew where you were going'. He 'couldn't work in an office all day'. He did this job for 26 years, retiring in 1990.

When Ken left school they wanted him to go into linguistics but because of his poor eye sight it wasn't the role for him.

Instead, he went into the army as a signaller. This involved receiving Morse code and looking after the sets.

After the first five months he was invited to 'do something different' and spent time on High Speed Automatic Morse.

This works a bit like a typewriter in that you do need to know how to type, but not a typewriter. The messages were on a long strip of paper with holes in.

All of this happened shortly before D-Day and Ken was trained especially for the invasion in 1944. There was a requirement for reliable operators for a different job and Ken was picked along with select other colleagues. He was moved to near Bletchley Park, that famous centre of code decoding, but was at pains to point out he was based at Whaddon, about five miles away, not part of the Alan Turing 'brainy gang'.

Although he did admit it was 'cushy' to have been picked for the role; I think they must have seen something pretty brainy in Ken too!

The role involved all round the clock shifts which allowed Ken to have every fourth day off. He bought a motorbike to allow

him to return to Oxford as it had previously been taking him three hours to do 30 miles on a push bike. That's some commute!

Ken had a thing about motorbikes most of his life, his favourite being 'a very ancient Norton'. Ken described this as 'primitive but reliable, with a side car and I could go up any hill I chose'. Ken got his provisional licence during the war and due to two years experience, got given a licence without having to pass a test.

Around 2000 Ken swapped from four to two wheels due to cataracts. He didn't feel it would be safe driving around on the road and so gave up his licence. He then realised the value of a three wheeler in that it can carry a lot of stuff around and is very safe. This is why today you can see Ken cycling around the village on his trusty trike.

Ken didn't attribute one thing in particular to his prodigious number of birthdays but he did say 'I've done my best to look after myself'.

The biggest change Ken saw in his time living in Bishop's Tachbrook is 'the building'. He estimated it is 'four times the size that it was, and still going on'.

Ken declared that the best thing about living in Bishop's Tachbrook was that 'people are very friendly, you get a good morning in the street and people don't ignore you'.

Shortly after I interviewed Ken for this article he passed away peacefully at home. This article is published in memoriam with the blessing of his family.

R.I.P Ken Dorning 17/09/25 to 30/11/15





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