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What's in this month's magazine

Happy New Year!!

2018 will feature ten copies of our magazine which is distributed to households, old and new, throughout Bishop's Tachbrook parish. Each issue will contain a mix of thoughtful articles, updates on Church and Council matters, news of local clubs and societies, a diary of future events and a range of adverts for local services. We're always grateful for inputs from residents so feel free to get in contact if you want to contribute.

By the time you read this, the roadworks that have been disrupting Bishop's Tachbrook village will hopefully have been completed!! The disruption has obviously been an irritant to many of us, for the village shop it has had a major impact on business. Please support the shop to make sure it can continue serving the community.

This month features a thoughtful article about Lent by Elaine on the next 2 pages. There's a fascinating, yet disturbing, feature on Warwick District Foodbank on page 7.

On page 9 there's an announcement of a performance at the St Chad's Centre called Points of Echo. This is the first commission from the Rural Touring Dance Initiative, a project designed to boost the amount of contemporary dance on offer in rural communities, and is especially designed to be performed in village halls. Quite a coup!

There's a very thorough update on what the Parish Council have been up to that spreads over 3 pages starting on 10. Elsewhere, for those of you who enjoy the sillier side of life, there's some awful jokes, facts about February and Valentine's Day.

Enjoy your reading. If you have anything to contribute or wish to give us feedback please e-mail us at btparishmagazine@hotmail.com

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Lent Elaine Scrivens

I am writing this in mid-January and still feel that I am recovering from an extraordinarily busy period that included Christmas and extended into the New Year as we have a confirmation service in January with 3 of our young people, Matthew, Niall and Fiona and our organist Nicky, confirming the promises made by their Godparents at their baptism.

After thinking for a while about my topic this month I was suddenly struck by how early Easter is this year and that Lent begins in less than 3 weeks! So Lent it is folks!!

This year, Ash Wednesday is on 14th February and as usual we will have 2 services in church. One at 12:15pm and the other at 7pm and both will include the Imposition of Ashes. So what do I mean by this?

I, along with clergy all over the world dispense ashes, usually made by burning the palm crosses distributed on last year's Palm Sunday making the sign of the cross on the foreheads of our congregations. As we "impose" or "dispense" the ashes, the priest reminds each Christian of Genesis 3:19: "For dust you came and to dust you shall return." Okay, not the most cheerful thing to be reminded of but sometimes we need to stop, take stock of our lives so that we can live them to the fullest that we are able to.

So why ashes? There is a tradition in the

Old Testament that as a means of repentance, people would dress in sackcloth and ashes. In the 10th century. the monk Aelfric tied the practice, to the period before Easter, writing, "Now let us do this little at the beginning of our Lent that we strew ashes upon our heads to signify that we ought to repent of our sins during the Lenten fast." By the 11th century, the practice was widespread throughout the church. Apparently in America some churches, ministries and clergy offer "ashes to go," which can range from dispensing ashes on subway and train platforms, on street corners and other urban crossroads. Some enterprising Christians even offer ashes in a drive-thru! You will be pleased to know that I won't be doing that, just the church services!

Of course, then we enter Lent itself. We generally think of Lent as 40 days, but the period from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday (the day before Easter Sunday, sometimes known as Easter Eve) is actually 46 days. This is because there are 6 Sundays during that period and in the early Church it was felt to be completely inappropriate to fast on a Sunday as Sunday is the day when we celebrate Jesus' resurrection. This means that if you are giving up something for Lent, you get a break each Sunday as the Sundays between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday are not really part of Lent! Enjoy!

But I don't really want to think about giving things up for Lent, although if you decide to do this you have my admiration and best wishes – let me know what your plans are! I wanted to encourage you to think about doing something positive in Lent. This can range from making a regular commitment to visit someone who is lonely, if you cant visit maybe a phone call would do. Taking this on in a thoughtful way could make a huge difference to folks who don't get out much.

You could use Lent as many people used Advent this year, to give to the Warwick District Foodbank. I know they were overwhelmed by the generosity of people at Christmas time and grateful for extra volunteers but the work still continues. Supplies of the following are currently on the "most wanted" list. Instant noodles, sponge puddings, long life fruit juice and long life milk, shaving foam, washing up liquid and cleaning products.

Once again we are happy to be a collection point, bring items on Sunday or to the community café on Wednesday between 10:30 and 12.

Whatever you decide to do or not do during Lent, I hope it is a useful time for you as you think about your relationship with God and prepare for Easter.

God Bless

Elaine

OUR JOYS AND OUR SORROWS

Marriage

James Warrilow & Nicola Wicks We offer our congratulations and best wishes for the future.

Funerals

Mary Taylor Richard Shaw We pray for their souls and offer our sympathy to their families and friends.

WHAT'S ON IN ST CHAD'S

14th February Ash Wednesday – Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes 12:15 and 7pm

Lent Course in the St Chad's Centre beginning at 7:30 on Thursday 15th February. We will be watching a film and discussing it. At the time of printing we haven't decided on which film. All welcome

17th February – Craft time at St chad's 1:30 – 3pm in St Chad's Centre. This month we will be making sand pictures and maybe some Mother's Day gifts!

4th March – St chad's Civic Service where we give thank for all of the organisations in our village.

THANK YOU! - DID YOU FIND AN ANGEL?

On Thursday 21st of December, Anne and Ray Allen, my son Adam and myself distributed over 500 angels throughout the village and Oakley meadow, Lisa Balzaretti took on an area of Warwick Gates. The idea was for the angels to be found by the children on their way into their last morning of school.

From the way Social Media lit up on the Friday morning it was a huge success with many wondering if this could become a "Tachbrook Tradition"!

My thanks must go to those who knitted the angels from the lovely ladies who meet on a Tuesday afternoon at the Sports and Social Club, to the amazing women of Bishop's Tachbrook WI., members of the History Society and other friends of mine. One lady, Gwen Hollinshead, who is a member of St Chad's but doesn't attend so often now because she is 92, and lives in Birmingham, knitted almost 200!

I'd love this to become a tradition but we will need more knitters and also people to help distribute the angels. Do you knit? If so, email Elaine and she will send you a pattern. There is also a pattern for those who crochet. People started knitting in February last year! If you can no longer knit but would like to donate wool then please get in touch with Elaine.

I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

Elaine

elaine.scrivens@gmail.com

Tel 428922

CYCLE OF PRAYER Praying for our Community

We are praying in February for those living in Biffin Way Bishop's Close Bolingbroke Drive Bradford Close

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

Butler Close

ADVANCE NOTICE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

A revision of the church electoral roll will take place during the period 4th to 25th March. If you would to add your name to the roll, application forms will be available from the church, the vicar (Elaine Scrivens) or the Electoral Roll Officer (Joan Alderman Tel: 651643). All those whose names are already on the roll DO NOT NEED TO RE-APPLY. Membership of the electoral roll enables worshippers to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

Facts and figures from Warwick District foodbank

Facts and Figures (for 2017)



We provided food for 2926 adults, 1324 children plus a few cats & dogs!



We distributed 42 tonnes of stock- the weight of 5.5 African elephants.





The top three reasons for visiting WD Foodbank were low income, benefit changes/delays and debt.

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* Combined treatment offer only applicable when taken together during a single appointment



Croft Medical Centre – Patients' Participation Group (PPG):

The Group meets every two months for updates and input into administrative changes/developments at Sydenham and the village branch surgery.

Currently there are discussions on proposals for a new service for people leaving hospital; it would work on a locality basis aligned with GP surgeries.

NHS England's proposal to expand the provision of GP services to 7 days a week is another important development. 31 surgeries in South Warwickshire are working together to produce a workable plan for this area and an input to these discussions from patients is important. Croft patients are invited to come along to the next meeting (date displayed on the notice board at the village surgery).

Other GP practices probably have a PPG which their patients can attend to contribute to these discussions.

Next meeting—Thursday, 22nd March at 5.30 pm at Sydenham.

WORLD PREMIERE POINT OF ECHOES

Friday 9th February

Acclaimed director/choreographer Ben Wright's intimate tale of lighthouse keepers, designed especially for village halls, receives its world premiere at the St Chads Centre.

Shake off the winter chill and prepare for an evening of wonder as you are swept away from the cosy surroundings of St Chads Centre to the remote Echo Point lighthouse.

This is an amazing opportunity to experience world-class dance-theatre.

Created as a collaboration between director/choreographer **Ben Wright** and musician/writer **Stuart Warwick**, *Point of Echoes* is a haunting tale of love, death and monsters, set on a lighthouse somewhere off the coast of England.

Book Office: 01926 314 766. Tickets: £12.50 / includes drink and nibbles at the interval.

Running time: 90 minutes plus interval Suitable for ages 14+ Happy New Year, a year which promises to be a busy one for our Parish and the Parish Council. At our January meeting the Parish Council discussed how best we can address some of the concerns residents have raised by taking action. In part this will involve making clear to the District and County Councils where their decisions (or often indecision/inaction) are negatively affecting residents here; however, it will also involve being bold and rethinking what is actually possible so as to finish the year with visible, tangible progress.

January is always a good month for such thinking as it is when the Parish Council sets its budget for the coming financial year and, while there is not the pomp and ceremony of national "Budget Day", this is the time for Councillors to ensure that funds (as well as time and energy) are allocated where they can make the lives of residents and local businesses better. The finalised budget will be available online in due course; in the meantime I have set out the highlights below.

The Parish Council will be providing £500 of funding for the parish magazine this year and has budgeted to do so again next year. With the increased houses in the Parish, the number of copies has proportionally increased and the magazine requires this assistance to keep going. We thank the volunteers for putting together this publication and distributing across our rapidly growing parish.

Cllr. Ray Bullen has been successful in gaining support from the Inspector for requesting that Sharba Homes reimburses the parish for the costs incurred; appeal process for housing on Oakley Wood Road. This was an excellent result and will help fund other work within the Parish.

Residents have requested seven grit bins in the village and two on Warwick Gates; a request unanimously backed by the Parish Council, the cost will be approximately £250 per grit bin. We are very grateful for the engagement of two local residents for campaigning for these. The bins must be on a public adopted highway and must not obstruct the footway; County Highways need to agree the location of the grit bins before the Parish Council is permitted to purchase and install them (the responsibility for filling them will be with the County Council). We are hopeful that this request will be approved by the County Council and Highways; however, we must all be prepared to apply pressure on the matter should they refuse.

The District Council has indicated that they made an error in 2017-18, by overestimating the number of new properties in the Parish and they adjusted their calculation for 2018-19 which will result in them keeping a higher proportion of the Parish Precept than Councillors expected. This was all disappointing news for the Parish Council as we believe all the Parish Precept funds should be retained by and used within the Parish — at present it is not clear that this is the case.

In addition, the District Council has removed the grant towards the grass cutting costs (£2080 in 2017/18) and halved the Council Tax Reduction Grant from £1038 to £519 - we have expressed regret.

The County Council has informed us that they exhausted their budget for repairing vehicle activated signs in October, and so, given the broken sign in the Parish, the Parish Council is now budgeting for expenditure that should be paid for by the County – this is not ideal, but a lot of residents take road safety very seriously and it is important that action be taken. We are also funding a significant number of maintenance tasks that the District and County Councils seem unable to address in a realistic timeframe.

There are plans (and funds set aside) for capital projects in the Warwick Gates area of the Parish and the whole Parish Council is committed to progressing these in 2018.

Residents on Church Lees have received letters regarding suggestions and their views on improving the paved area at the edge of the green; the path to their houses will not be affected. Every year the District Council weeds this area but this year, due to staff shortages, they haven't been able to - nor are they willing to provide funding to improve the area. Our volunteer working party has weeded it twice but the slabs require securing and this is an ongoing task. A decision on how to proceed will be made at the February

Parish Council meeting and funds have been set aside.

From 1 April 2018 the Parish precept, which funds the above tasks and many other projects within the Parish will increase by 50p a month for a Band D property.

The gas works in the village have been very disruptive and seriously affected some businesses as well as causing frustration for residents. Cllr. Leeke has met with the contractor to review the damage to the greens and to ensure that they are repaired to their original standard. The contractor has said that any business that has been affected can apply for compensation; if you would like details please contact the Clerk. We have also been supporting local businesses where possible and we would encourage people to "shop local" as much as possible.

Cllr. Leeke has met with the company that repairs our play equipment. They have agreed that the zip wire is too high and will be adjusting. The gates into the play area will be fixed shortly and signage erected to alert dog owners that dogs are not allowed in the play area. Thanks to the resident who kindly unlocks the gate to allow the engineers to fix the equipment. Please note that we are aware of the mole activity - the mole man will be on-site shortly.

We are actively trying to secure a date from County Highways for the Oakley

Wood Road scheme. In January we were told that the scheme is now with the 'delivery team' and a date should be confirmed shortly. Cllr Leigh Carter and County Cllr. Les Caborn are pursuing this for us.

Repairs to Wychwood Close should take place in February. Residents should receive a letter from County Highways.

The Parish Council has complained about the appalling service provided to Parsonage Close residents in emptying their green bins. No feasible reason has been provided and we understand District Cllr. Day will be taking this matter further. Please note that if your bins are not emptied you must report the matter to the District Council. If you don't report it your neighbours' bins might be emptied but not yours. It has been confirmed by the District Council that even if your bin is outside your property there is no guarantee it will be emptied, if it has not been reported as a 'missed bin collection' (inefficient and bizarre).

It is our understanding that The Horticultural Society has been disbanded. Many of you will recall the Horticultural Shows that were arranged many years ago but unfortunately the Society has had to disband. A member of the Society organises 'the shed' and our Chairman has been in discussions with this member regarding this community service that is provided to the village as the shed is currently on land rented by the Sports and Social Club and the Club has

requested that the shed be moved. The Parish Council has planning permission for a storage building to be erected on the Meadow which should be available at the end of the summer.

Welcome packs are available for new residents. Please contact the clerk if you would like one.

The Meadow masterplan has been completed by our consultant, reviewed by councillors and kindly funded by Bloor Developments. Cllr. Deely with the help of a resident (both of whom we are grateful to) will be meeting with various groups for comments. A public consultation will be held before any work is authorised. County Cllr. Caborn showed councillors a map of proposed works to Harbury Lane. The map included a dual footpath/cycleway funded by developers. This was very welcome news.

Next meeting is on Thursday, 15th February at 7.30pm at St. Chad's Centre all residents are welcome to attend.

Any questions please contact our Parish Clerk:

Mrs Corinne Hill Gaydon Fields Farm Gaydon CV35 0HF Tel: 01926 641220

email:

parishclerk@bishopstachbrook.com/
parishclerk85@btinternet.com





Please join the Friends of Oakley Wood and the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust at the

> Barford Memorial Hall Church Street, CV35 8EN

for a glass of wine and a catch-up on the latest news from the woods followed by a screening of our fascinating trail-cam footage revealing some

Secrets of the Woods

All welcome oakleywood.org.uk

A short AGM with be incorporated into the evening

The kids' zone

Sudoku

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



Why can't you hear a Pterodactyl in the toilet? Because it has a silent pee.



Bad joke time

Q: Where do pencils go on holiday?

A: Pencil-vania.

Q: How do you make a tissue dance?

A: You put a little boogie in it.

Q: Which flower talks the most?

A: Tulips, of course, because they have two lips!

Q: What did the mushroom say to the fungus?

A: You're a fun guy [fungi].

Q: What do you call a fake noodle?

A: An impasta!

Q: Why couldn't the pony sing himself a lullaby?

A: He was a little hoarse.

Q: What kind of lion never roars?

A: A dandelion!

Q: What did one firefly say to the other?

A: You glow girl!

Q: What did one ocean say to the other?

A:Nothing. It just waved.

Q: Why did the tomato blush? A: Because he saw the salad dressing.

Colour me in



Cat in the dark by John Agard

Look at that!

But when you look there's no cat.

Without a purr Just a flash of fur And gone Like a ghost

The most You see Are two tiny Green traffic lights Staring into the night

Say cheese by John Agard

Take a picture of me And let my Mummy see

Take a picture of me Please, please, please

But I don't wanna say cheese And smile

I wanna say ice-cream And SCREAM!

If only I could take home a snowflake by John Agard

Snowflakes like tiny insects drifting down

Without a hum they come without a hum they go

Snowflakes like tiny insects drifting down

If only
I could take
one
home with me
to show
my friends
in the sun
just for fun
iust for fun

John Agard is an Afro-Guyanese playwright, poet and children's writer. In 2012, he was selected for the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry.

Poetry please

Love's Philosophy Percy Bysshe Shelley

The fountains mingle with the river And the rivers with the ocean, The winds of heaven mix for ever With a sweet emotion; Nothing in the world is single, All things by a law divine In one another's being mingle—Why not I with thine?

See the mountains kiss high heaven, And the waves clasp one another; No sister-flower would be forgiven If it disdain'd its brother; And the sunlight clasps the earth, And the moonbeams kiss the sea— What is all this sweet work worth If thou kiss not me?

Sonnett 116

William Shakespeare

Let me not to the marriage of true minds Admit impediments. Love is not love Which alters when it alteration finds, Or bends with the remover to remove: O no! it is an ever-fixed mark That looks on tempests and is never shaken;

It is the star to every wandering bark, Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken

Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks

Within his bending sickle's compass come:

Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,

But bears it out even to the edge of doom.

If this be error and upon me proved, I never writ, nor no man ever loved.



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February Facts

- 1. February is named after the purification ritual Februa, which was a sort of early Roman spring cleaning festival.
- 2. In Old English, February was called Solmonath (Mud month) or Kale-monath (Kale or cabbage month).
- 3. February frequently occurs in lists of the most commonly misspelt words in the English language
- 4. The Americans have trouble with the word February too last year, a press release from the White House consistently spelt it as February.
- 5. February is the only month that can pass with no full moon and 2018 is one such year.
- 6. In the past it was believed that:

If the names of all a girl's suitors were written on paper and wrapped in clay and the clay put into water, the piece that rose to the surface first would contain the name of her husband-to-be.

If a woman saw a robin flying overhead on Valentine's Day, it meant she would marry a sailor. If she saw a sparrow, she would marry a poor man and be very happy. If she saw a goldfinch, she would marry a rich person.

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Bishop's Tachbrook Sports and Social Club

Winter Entertainment

February

3rd February – The Mustard Band

The Mustard Band will be playing a varied set of rock classics from the 60's, 70's and 80's.

10th February – Quiz

Quiz nights are great fun and remember a prize for every team.

17th February – Rob Alton

Rob Alton will be entertaining us singing a mixture of rock & pop hits through the night.

24th February - Muve-On

Muve-On will be playing classic rock covers from The Eagles, Pink Floyd, U2, Coldplay, Stereophonics plus many more. Come on down for a great night.

March

3rd March - Quiz

Gather your smartest friends and head over to test your knowledge against The Judge!

10th March – Southern Cross

Local Rock & Roll band Southern Cross will be here singing a mixture of covers from the Rolling Stones to Blackberry Smoke.

17th March – The Firm

The Firm will be entertaining you with Rock and Roll hits including; The Eagles, Bee Gee's, Rolling Stones, Chuck Berry and much more.

24th March - Race Night

Join us for a family fun night at the races.

31st March – Simply Sarah

Simply Sarah will be entertaining us with Rock & Pop hits.

Annual General Meeting – 16th March 2018 No admittance after 8pm

FUNCTION ROOM FREE TO HIRE

(T's & C's apply)

Please visit our website: www.bishopstachbrookclub.co.uk for details or Telephone: 01926 421621, Email: enquiries@bishopstachbrookclub.co.uk.

You can also visit our Facebook Page: bishopstachbrookclub or call Karen Anderson on 07855709051 for more information.

Bishop's Tachbrook Calendar

What's on in February

Thursday 1st 19.45, **WI, Marton Museum of Country Bygones**, B T School, 01926 336822

Saturday 3rd 09.30-11.30 **1st Heathcote coffee morning**, St Chad's Centre

Friday 9th 19.30, **Points of Echo**, St Chad's Centre, 01926 314766

Saturday 10th 10.00-12.00, Churchyard Gardening, St Chad's Church. 01926 330050

Saturday 10th 9.30-13.00, Parish Council Working Party,

thewhitwood4@btinternet.com

Thursday 15th 19.30, Parish Council Meeting at St Chad's Centre, parishclerk@bishopstachbrook.com

Tuesday 20th 14.30 at St Chad's Centre. **History Group AGM and social**, 01926 885938

Wednesday 28th 10.00-12.00, **Churchyard Gardening**, St Chad's Church, *01926 330050*

What's on in March

Thursday 1st 19.45, **WI, The Partners** of Prime Ministers, B T School, 01926 336822

Saturday 10th 10.00-12.00, Churchyard Gardening, St Chad's Church, 01926 330050

Tuesday 13th 14.30, **History Group, Amy Johnson, an uplifting story**, St Chad's Centre, 01926 885938

Thursday 15th 19.30, Parish Council Meeting at St Chad's Centre, parishclerk@bishopstachbrook.com

Saturday 24th 9.30-13.00, Parish Council Working Party,

thewhitwood4@btinternet.com

Wednesday 28th 10.00-12.00, **Churchyard Gardening**, St Chad's Church, *01926 330050*

Weekly events

Mondays 18.30-20.00 **Youth Club** at B.T School Email: btyouthclub@gmail.com

Mondays Children 19.15-20.15 Adults 20.30—21.30 **Get Cooking** at St Chad's Centre

07956955951 getcooking@hotmail.co.uk

Tuesdays 09.30-12.15 **Little Tinkers Soft Play** at St Chad's Centre, 079117385747 or Facebook

Tuesdays 14.00-16.00 **Over 50s** at the Sports and Social Club, 01926 313020

Tuesdays 18.15-19.15 Pilates for cyclists at St Chad's Centre, 01926 259293

Tuesdays 20.00 **Bingo** at the Sports and Social Club, 01926 421621

Wednesdays 09.15-10.15 **Pilates** at St Chad's Centre 01926 25929

Wednesdays 10.30-12.00 Community Cafe at St Chad's Centre, 01926 259293

Wednesdays 17.00-18.00 **Rainbows** at the Sports and Social Club, 0779 6033471 e-mail:

Carolineloveday@sky.com

Wednesdays 18.00-19.45 **Brownies** at the Sports and Social Club, 0779 6033471 e-mail:

Carolineloveday@sky.com

Wednesdays 19.00 -20.00, **Tai Chi** at St Chad's Centre, 01926 338866

Thursdays 09.30-11.00 **Tachbrook Tinies playgroup** for 0-5s at St Chad's Centre, Tachbrook Tinies on Facebook

Fridays 09.30-16.00 Little Tinkers Soft Play at St Chad's Centre 079117385747 or Facebook

Sundays 20.00 **Bingo** at the Sports and Social Club, 01926 421621

February Nature Page

Steve Harvey

Early morning and still dark outside as a Robin fills its lungs and begins to sing. It pauses to hear if its rivals are still in the same places as yesterday. One by one other robins answer until there are at least 7 singing, all sweet and syrupy, except really they are all singing, "Back off, this is my space!" Even before it's properly light a flock of Rooks make their way over us, about 80 of them "cawing" and flying high. This always triggers their cousins, the Jackdaws who live around the cottages, to launch into the air in an excited flock. They rise and fall in a choreographed flight as they acknowledge the Rooks and

all this before I've even had my porridge.

We've been overdue for a colder winter - cold, wet and even the white stuff - even so some of the Hazel Catkins seem to have "pollened up" a bit early and, surprisingly, two Blackbirds were singing in December and, even more surprising, I heard two Chaffinches blasting it out around Christmas. It's usually February before I hear that treat.

It's certainly nothing to do with the weather, more likely to be the density of numbers. Visiting Blackbirds and Chaffinches putting pressure on the locals to start singing and stake their claim early.



A pair of Tawny Owls call to each other before settling down for the day as the night shift goes off duty. With the weather being so cold and damp it's given the birds a hard time. I've seen two Buzzards sitting with their wings open, trying to dry their feathers just like Cormorants do. A friend told me he had seen a Barn Owl sitting on a hedge in daylight doing the same. Flying and hunting must be difficult, so, I guess there have been some hungry birds of prey out there.

We were woken up at about 2am recently by a pair of foxes doing some family planning. Not a pleasant experience for either of them I understand and the blood curdling screams seem to bear that out. Nature will have its way though.

So many small birds are now constantly feeding in the garden with over twelve species jostling at the fast food Takeaway. I'm saving up to keep them fed. I call it my Twitter Account!

Gorgeous early Snowdrops are flowering, silent stirrings are happening below the ground. Nest boxes and potential nest sites are probably already explored. Everything is poised for the big event that seems so far away - but its not.

SPRING -thank you Lord and bring it on!

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Business: Maricarmenfitness

Year business started: 2017

Tell us a bit about what your business does/classes offered: I am a friendly, highly motivated and passionate personal trainer. On Mondays I run a fitness class at the St. Chad's Centre, this is a circuit type class with varied stations ranging from body weight exercises, resistance type training (dumbbells, kettlebells), abdominal work and HIIT stations.

Suitable for all abilities and all abilities challenged.

I also offer personal training sessions from my studio in Leamington Spa or at a client's choice of location.

Give us a bit of background to the business: Started in 2017. I have always wanted to be personal trainer and, since being off on maternity leave with my little one, I thought what better time to start my own business. So I took the plunge and got my qualification in early 2017 and have started from there really. I have a lot of experience in health and fitness from my own training at the gym and also being a enthusiastic runner, having previously run the 2012 London marathon, many half marathons and 10km races.

How did you get into the business?: I qualified as a level 2 and level 3 personal trainer previously this year and have since

started up my own business working from my studio at home.

What sets you apart from other businesses?: Having recently a baby, who is now 9 months old, I can relate to new mummies who want to get back to fitness and to gain their pre baby body. I am so passionate about health and fitness and making this a high priority it everybody's day to day life, I like to think myself as a good role model for this.

What are your business principles or values: To be 'your best you' and that anything is possible when you have the right tools, set achievable goals and with the correct guidance. I can help you with this.

What made you choose Bishop's Tachbrook to host your activity/class? Good space, sound system and facilities. Fairly new building so in very good condition. Not too far from Leamington town centre.

Where do you see your business in 5 years?: I would eventually like to own my own gym or hire bigger premises. I could then employ my own personal trainers. They would follow my business principles and values in order to make health and fitness a priority for lots of people and for it to be very accessible.

Who is your target market?: Currently, as I am in the early stages of my business, I would like to say I can offer programmes for varied audiences. However, my client base predominately is women and new

The business questionnaire

mummies with babies. I train a few males, husbands/wives. I like to keep my client base varied, I would like to think I can offer programmes to suit different abilities.

What did you do before you ran your business? I am a paediatric nurse currently on maternity leave. I went back to work in January however on very few hours as my passion lies with my personal training, health and fitness. I plan to build my business up over the next 12 months so I am in a position to leave my substantive post in nursing and do personal training full time.

How long have you lived in Bishop's Tachbrook? I have lived in Leamington Spa all my life, so 26 years. What is the best thing about running your own business/your job?: I am a busy wife and mummy to my 9 month old son, therefore running my own business gives me flexibility to work round this and to also fit my training in which is a big priority to me.

What is the worst thing about running your own business/your job?: Can sometimes be quite lonely as I work from home in my studio despite training clients. Sometimes I miss the communication between colleagues in a work place environment.

Email me at hello@maricarmenfitness.com for more information.

Around the world on Valentine's Day

Saint Valentine is the patron saint for a large part of the Lebanese population. Couples take the opportunity of Valentine's feast day to exchange sweet words and gifts as proof of love. Such gifts typically include chocolates boxes, Valentine's Cupcakes as well as red roses which are the emblem of sacrifice and passion.

In the Philippines, Valentine's Day is called *Araw ng mga Puso*. It is usually marked by a steep increase in the price of flowers, particularly red roses.

In Japan and South Korea, women give chocolate to men on February 14, and men give non-chocolate sweets to women on March 14 (White Day).

In the UK, just under half of the population spend money on their Valentines and around £1.3 billion is spent yearly on cards, flowers, chocolates and other gifts, with an estimated 25 million cards being sent.

In Wales, some people celebrate Dydd Santes Dwynwen (*St Dwynwen's Day*) on January 25 instead of (or as well as) Valentine's Day. The day commemorates St Dwynwen, the patron saint of Welsh lovers.

<u>Parish Council Working Parties – Q1 2018</u>

Make A Difference. Join The Team.



20th Jan 10th Feb 24th Mar 9:30 to 13:00

We Need **Volunteers Please**



There are a number of jobs that need doing around the Parish such as clearing undergrowth from paths, trimming trees and general tidying etc. We're fed up with waiting for someone else to do it so we're now helping ourselves! Following the previously successful working parties, we are continuing this in 2018, once a month on a Saturday morning to continue tackling the jobs that need doing in the parish. All tools, equipment and protective clothing will be provided. We really need your help so if you are willing then volunteer by contacting me at the email address below. It's fine to come along for just an hour or for the whole session. Your help would be really appreciated.

Contact Paul Whitwood at thewhitwood4@btinternet.com









Playgroup for 0-4 years
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St Chads Centre, Bishops Tachbrook

Bouncy Castle Baby Area

Toys and activities





Crafts
Nursery Rhymes
Tea/Coffee &
Children's snack

£1.50 per adult 50p per child Term Time Only

St Chads Centre Mallory Road, Bishops Tachbroo



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 Club leader: Gianni Antoniazzi Tel: 07972 824540 btyouthclub@gmail.com 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.



Coffee Morning

9.30-11.30am



Join us for a bacon butty, tea, coffee & cake

Saturday 3rd February

Hosted by

1st Heathcote Beavers, Cubs,Scouts & ExplorersRaising funds for

Central England Rehabilitation Unit

Rainbows and Brownies

Steph Mowatt

On our return to Brownies in September we had a visit from Andy Shaw to teach us the skills of Martial Arts. We learnt all about our fighting stance, basic footwork as well as different types of jabs and kicks. Everyone had great fun and the girls who attend Andy's Kung Fu classes loved showing their Brownie friends their Martial Arts skills.

For our Music Night, Fredy Aburto from Caliche Music and Dance visited us with different types of instruments made from only natural materials – bamboo, goats hooves and animal skin to name a few. The girls got to play the drums creating a fantastic rhythm and we also learnt how to play the pan pipes in groups. Everyone had great fun and enjoyed dancing to the beat of the rhythm and guessing all the different materials used to create different sounds.



We have also had a visit from Fran Barsby this term who taught us how to play the

Harp. Our Harp lesson was great fun and exciting for our Rainbows and Brownies. We learnt all about the different notes each string plays and we even got to play some fun games including sounds of a waterfall. At the end our Brownies had even managed to learn the "Jingle Bells" which they played proudly.

This year we were invited to St John's Church for our District Carol Service organised by Radford Road. They lead a lovely service with fantastic readings and our Rainbows and Brownies loved singing along to all their favourite Carols. We had lots of fun eating nibbles and playing games as this year's Rainbow & Brownie Christmas party. We played musical chairs and musical statues whilst dancing along to our favourite songs with our friends.. Even the leaders joined in for a dance or two!

Bishops Tachbrook Rainbows & Brownies would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year! We have lots to look forward to in 2018; our Brownie Badge Bonanza Day and we are all looking forward to this year's Brownie Pack Holiday to PGL.

Both our Rainbow & Brownie Guiding Groups are currently at full capacity. If you have a daughter aged 3 and upwards who would like to become a Rainbow or a Brownie, please contact Caroline Loveday on carolineloveday@sky.com or register your daughters interest on the official Girlguiding Join Us website.

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

News ...

Trustees welcomed the appointment of Susan Watt who was nominated by the Parish Council as a new Trustee. Susan has been a long-term supporter of the Centre; inspiration behind the entertaining and inspiring entrance hall lights, as well as an active member of various working parties.

Six new tables and 25 chairs have arrived, so the Centre can now seat 75 people on 12 tables. A generous Warwickshire Community Forum grant and funds raised from recent events have enabled this furniture to be purchased.

Children's birthday parties have become a frequent, week-end booking at the Centre, which has prompted Trustees to order a further five new children's chairs, to enable a full class of thirty to be accommodated for birthday parties and other events.

It is nearly a year since the Centre opened – Trustees are delighted with the variety of users and interesting events that have been making the most of the new facilities. A review of the charging structure has been completed and a new simplified scheme will come into effect for all bookings from 1 April 2018. The main hall rate remains at £20 per hour. A 25% discounts will be given to residents of the Parish as well as charities and regular users. Set slots will be available on weekends for parties to assist in making the most use of the Hall. For more details please visit the website.

Watch out for ...

9 February – **World Premier!!!!** Live & Local event Point of Echoes: The first commission from the Rural Touring Dance Initiative. A brand new intimate piece of dance theatre from internationally renowned choreographer Ben Wright. Point of Echoes is a haunting tale of love, death and monsters, blending the tones of a Wes Anderson movie with the eerie dread of The Twilight Zone. "giddy, pensive, vulnerable, uncomfortable, sensual.....mysterious yet playfully alive to the moment" *The Times*

9 March - Tutored wine tasting (save the date, more details to follow)

Could you be a Trustee?

If you're interested in learning more about what's involved in becoming a St Chad's Centre Trustee, please contact our Chair, Carol Gabbitas at stchadscentrebt@gmail.com.

Valentine's Haiku

1

Forget red and blue,
Pizza's the colour of love,
And chocolate too

2

A dozen roses
Will be cheaper tomorrow
Let's celebrate then



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Bishops Tachbrook Leamington spa On Saturday 9th December residents of Heathcote Park enjoyed Christmas celebrations oganised by Green Space Leisure Group

An amazing number of residents and friends enjoyed an afternoon of Fun and Food enjoying donated Christmas Fare supported by mulled wine. Music and a seasonal quiz was played all undercover of a heated (christmassy) space.

The generousity of residents raised £125. 00 for "Dogs for Good" training and support for the physical disabled including autistic children. In addition there were 100 children's gifts donated and wrapped by residents and sent via St. Joseph Church in Whitnash.

A sincere thank you was extended to all including the organisers and residents for a HEALTHY AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



WI Anne Allen

December seems such a long time ago. We were planning entertainment and food for our party. This, as always, turned out to be a great success. The food was plentiful and delicious, guizzes and competitions not too taxing and the entertainment hilarious. A monologue told by Jenny about the problems of a slightly older and well upholstered lady trying to buy a swimming costume had the hall crying with laughter, probably because most of us could relate to the problem. This was followed by a poem about a Christmas tree and then finally the pantomime. This year it was Aladdin with Elaine in the title role. When the princess arrived on stage, I can't have been paying attention because until she spoke I had no idea who it was. Janette in a long dark wig looked totally different. Well done to all the cast on their excellent performance. If you like our Facebook page you'll be able to see the photos and keep up with some of our goings on.

In January because we don't have a meeting, we have a social evening. Again, we had an excellent meal at the Leopard. Only 19 of us were able to make it due to illness and other problems but I think a good time was had by all.

In May we are eating out again but this time we will be aboard the Countess of Evesham enjoying lunch and a cruise as our part in Warwickshire's centenary celebrations. If we hadn't closed briefly a couple of times over the past 100 years we would have been one of the oldest institutes in the county after being first formed in 1921. No, I was not a member

then!! A county official reported after visiting in 1923 "I consider the meeting one of the best I have ever been to, not a 'lady' present, but the real Institute spirit was noticeable the minute one entered the room ". Let's hope this still holds true today. Come along and find out for yourself. I'm not sure what 'spirit' was noticeable but there is usually a cup of tea or coffee available.

Various county events have been arranged. We can attend a Craft Dabble Day learning new skills, attend Serious Science lectures on either Forensic Science, Poisons and whether to purchase an electric car. We have had an early warning about the Centenary Show to be held at Napton in August plus many other events arranged with the centenary in mind. We also have a team entered in the federation quiz .

We are hoping to go to see Oklahoma in April, hold our annual cake, book and plant stall in May , followed by a Pimms and Croquet evening in June. Our speakers over the next few months are varied and interesting. David Fry is from Marton Museum and is visiting in February, this is followed by David Howe whose talk is entitled The Partners of Prime Ministers In April we will learn about the Legend and History of Coffee. May is the month we discuss and vote on the resolutions to be further discussed at the annual meeting in Cardiff. The rest of the year will involve a wine tasting by Waitrose, hula hooping and sign language and learning about the hidden gems of our nature reserve and an actors life. Oh and then it's Christmas again. I'm

sure you'll agree we will be having a busy year ahead.

We also have a successful wine club meeting approximately every six weeks, no we're not experts but we enjoy ourselves, a monthly knitting group, and a book group. We also keep talking about restarting a craft group.

I'm still collecting used postage stamps and bras to take to Bravissimo who donate £1 for every kilo collected to their chosen charity, which, at the moment is Refuge.

New year new start. Don't sit at home reading this and thinking gosh they sound to have fun, come along and find out for yourself. If I can help in any way please give me a ring.

Anne Allen 424135

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NOTICE BOARD



You are invited to a coffee morning on 2nd March 2018 at Bishop's Tachbrook Sports & Social Club. 9.30 to 12noon. In aid of the Brain Tumour Charity.

There will be a raffle card sale.

DOGS TRUST AND AVON CAT RESCUE

A big thank you to everyone who donated, food ,toys, blankets, towels and used stamps for the above animal charities,

Also thank you Brian for helping us by taking the food to the Dogs Trust kennels

Jackie, Lynda and Pat

AIR AMBULANCE

Grateful thanks to everyone that came out, supported and helped raise the sum of £280 for the Air Ambulance.

7 Bishop's Close

COUNTRY DANCING CLUB

We're sorry to have to announce that the village Country Dancing Club has now ceased due to a lack of support.

Including income from the Christmas party the club funds were £92 and before closing the bank account a payment has been made to the local Air Ambulance as requested by Vic ,the club caller for many years.

Our thanks go to Vic for his support for many years. Thanks also go to the Village club who looked after us with excellent facilities.

CHRISTMAS TREE

Tree on the green – thanks to Piers, Alan and team for once again brightening our Christmas by putting up a handsome tree on the village green.

NHS HEARING-AID BATTERIES

The Bishop's Tachbrook Branch Surgery of the Croft Medical Centre is an official stockist of hearing-aid batteries for *anyone* with an NHS hearing-aid. There's no need to go to Warwick Hospital for new batteries – just take along your buff-coloured Record Book to Reception during the village surgery opening times: Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings and Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.



HISTORY GROUP Future Meetings

Tuesday, 20th February (*Note date*) - 2.30 at St Chad's Centre

Annual General Meeting – Programme for 2018 - Social and Refreshments

Tuesday, 13th March – 2.30 at St Chad's Centre

Amy Johnson – An Uplifting Story & insight into her calamitous marriage by Roy Smart



ROAD CLOSURE

Warwickshire County Council will close Oakley Wood Road between Church Hill south junction and Church Hill north junction, to vehicles for hedge flailing works

Monday 12th February



MODEL TRACTOR SHOW

The model tractor show for all ages will take place on Sunday 11th February at the Warwickshire Event Centre. For more details go to www.modeltractorshow.co.uk Look out for Bishop's Tachbrook celebrities and their tractors!



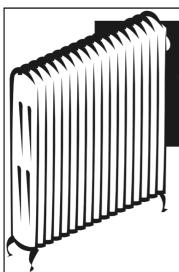
ALLOTMENTS

At the start of the New Year take up of allotments has been strong. But there are 2 plots possibly still available. So anyone interested – and that of course includes all newcomers to the parish, should contact Tony Wilkins on 341237



MARCH MAGAZINE DEADLINE

The next deadline for magazine items is 14th February for the March issue. Please send to items to BTparishmagazine@hotmail.com



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