Neighbourhood News from Hilmarton Parish

BEVERSBROOK - CATCOMBE - CLEVANCY - CORTON
GOATACRE - HIGHWAY - HILMARTON
HOPPINGSTONES - UPPER & LOWER LITTLECOT
NEW ZEALAND - RODWELL - WITCOMB

DECEMBER 2017 - Number 12 - Volume 8

The Parish Council - St.Laurence Church - The School - Goatacre Sports & Social Club - The Chapel - Moviola - Phoenix Group - Smile - Gardening Club - Pre-School & Toddlers - Bell Ringers - The Village Crafters - Breakfast Club - Goatacre Cricket Club

WHAT'S ON IN DECEMBER

*****

Bingo in the Community Room 1st December 6:45pm

*****

Cameo Coffee Morning 9th December in Church 10am

*****

The Duke Supper Club on 13th December

*****

See the Beaufort Hunt on 14th December at Corton Manor 10:30am

*****

Carol Service in Church on 17th December at 6pm with refreshments after

*****

Goatacre Cricket Club Auction at Goatacre Village Hall 20th December at 7:30pm

*****

New Year's Eve Party at the Duke 8pm on 31st December

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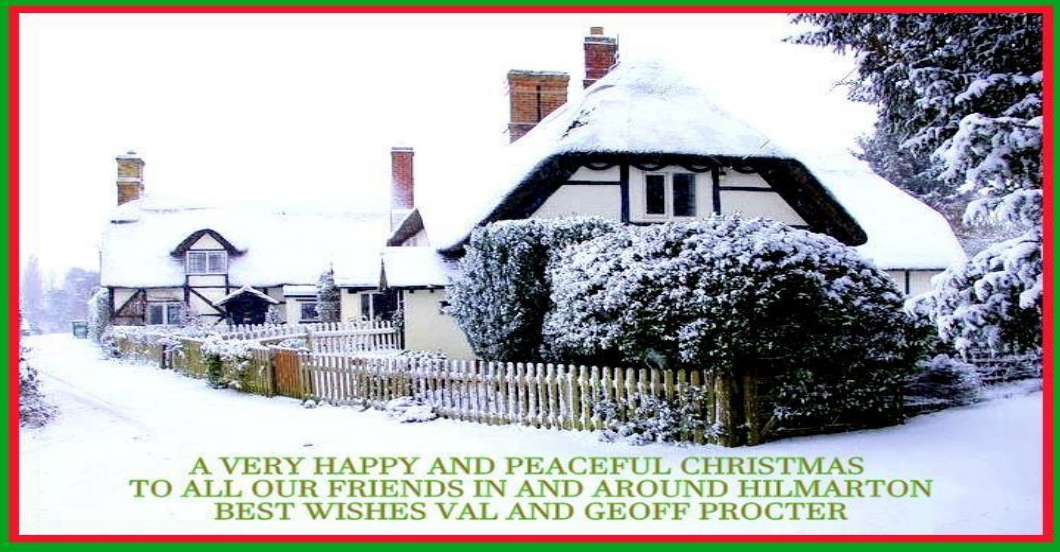
Contact a Councillor, read Parish Council minutes www.hilmartonparish.co.uk

Parish Council Clerk Jacquie Henly Jays Cottage, Compton Road, Hilmarton, Calne, Wiltshire SN11 8SG 01249760401

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO ALL OUR READERS

Thank you to everyone who hand delivers the printed copies to those without email - also thanks to the regular contributors



Our donations this year in lieu of cards will go to Hilmarton Church Hall (Moviola) and World Vision

GOATACRE CRICKET CLUB ANNUAL CHRISTMAS AUCTION

Wednesday 20th December from 7:30pm

Come along to Goatacre Village Hall for a great social evening

'Always plenty of last minute Christmas presents available along with bargains aplenty'

Is this Pat Murphy!!!!

© Can Stock Photo - csp9048331

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BINGO -
Come along to our friendly Bingo game & Raffle All cash prizes. Friday 1st December , 6:45 for 'eyes down' at 7:00pm in the Community Room - Poynder Place. The November Ten Score Club draw will also take place.

TEN SCORE CLUB WINNERS IN OCTOBER
1st No.148 Mel Wilkins -2nd No.193 Peter Delamere
3rd No.4 Steve Stott - 4th No.153 Peter Delamere
5th No.6 Rob Fry - 6th No. 21 Reuben Bisset
7th No.Sheron Wilkins - 8th No.150 Trish Joel
You too can have a chance to win every month - buy a number or numbers for £1 per month per number -£12 enters your number in 12 monthly draws. Contact Mel Wilkins on 760572, 07443940367 email - melwilkins@live.com

Last Thoughts The Blackburn Family left Hilmarton on 29th September 2017.
We have lived here for 29 years, formative years for Alex and Julia and now they have moved on but much of 'who they are' remains here. George and I are moving to be nearer to them and the grand children.
I remember the day we arrived, 2nd September 1988, waiting for the removal van to arrive.
Now sadly one has taken us away!
Lots has happened in the intervening years and we have received great kindness from people, some who are no longer here, but we would like to thank you for helping us to get by. We are moving on, but Hilmarton will always be part of who we are. Rose and George Blackburn.

HILMARTON GARDENING CLUB (HGC) – DECEMBER NEWS

The HGC Christmas Party in November will see the last event of our 10th anniversary year. It has been another very successful year with talented and entertaining speakers and the high-spot for most members being the visit to the Botanic Gardens of Wales. The Committee has tried hard to include a variety of new items the most recent being the collection and juicing of local apples. Should anyone wish to purchase a bottle (75 cl), or 2, at £3 each then please contact Robin Cowell (012149 760675). Of course, the Club is nothing without its members and the Committee wishes to thank everyone for their support throughout the year. There is no HGC activity in December but details of our January 2018 speaker will be circulated.

Gardening Tips for December. The clocks have now gone back and we are faced with those awful, early dark evenings and frosty days. Whatever happened to the 'Lighter Later' campaign? It would seem most people prefer lighter evenings than lighter mornings. Now as we approach the shortest day of the year in December, you will need to keep warm outside with activities such as digging and tree pruning. Have you planted your garlic yet? Hopefully, there are not too many jobs to do this time of year so you will have time for some fireside garden planning.

1.Check your winter protection structures are still securely in place. 2.Check that greenhouse heaters are working. 3.Insulate outside taps and prevent ponds from freezing. 4.Prune open-grown apples and pears (but not those trained against walls). 5.Prune acers, birches and vines before Christmas to avoid bleeding. 6.Harvest leeks, parsnips, winter cabbage, sprouts and remaining root crops. 7.Deciduous trees and shrubs can still be planted and transplanted. 8.Take hardwood cuttings. 9.Keep mice from stored produce. 10.Reduce watering on house plants.

Please note HGC cannot accept responsibility for members use of chemicals, there is no attempt to influence you to be an organic or a chemical using gardener. Tips are simply passed on from experts. The choice is yours, please read manufacturers instructions carefully.

The HGC Committee members wish gardeners everywhere the Merriest of Christmases and Happiest of Gardening in the New Year

Christmas
Cameo
Coffee morning

10 – 12 in the Church
Saturday 9th December

Cakes – delicious, with your
Coffee or tea
Cards and mince pies for sale
Concluding with the

GRAND RAFFLE
- many wonderful prizes
tickets available now from PCC members

ALL welcome

The Beaufort Hunt hounds are meeting at Corton Manor, SN11 8SU on Thursday 14th of December.
All are welcome to come and join Sally and Piers from about 10.30 to 11.15 for a glass of kings ginger, port or soft drink, together with sausages, sausage rolls, chocolates and fruit cakes.

MOBILE LIBRARY
The Library Bus will be at the School Hall carpark in Poynder Place on Monday 27th November at 10:15am

This Newsletter is produced for Hilmarton Parish Council
Private entries may be accepted for inclusion, subject to available space.
Donations are suggested. The donation can go to your chosen Parish Group.
Copy and donation please to Jacquie Henly 760401,Jays Cottage,Compton Road, Hilmarton.

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL VILLAGE CINEMA IN 2018

We mentioned, in an earlier edition of Neighbourhood News, that this year saw the sad passing of veteran film buff Barry Norman. He actually knew of our little cinema in Hilmarton and was heard to say how much he approved of our ambition to bring movies to the community. "*And why not*"?
NB, He insisted he never actually used this catch phrase.
Hilmarton Moviola was set up in 2007, in part, to generate an income to help the survival of the Parish Church Hall after the school moved to its smart new school hall in Poynder Place. We have now shown over 100 recently made feature films and short films. We thank you for your support.
Over the last 10 years, supported by regular moviegoers, the generosity of 'Movie Angels' and the unstinting work of the unpaid volunteers this venture continues, enabling 'Hilmarton Moviola' to show some of the latest feature films.
If you have not been before, please give it a try. There are 75 upholstered seats, a licensed bar for the sale of wine and to help boost the relatively small income a fun raffle and refreshments. We have all the latest equipment provided by Moviola including the most up to date projection and sound systems and a big screen
(See Moviola's website for more information www.moviola.org).
Paul Schilling is the film buff and projectionist who, on film nights, and for 10 years, travels up from his home in deepest Dorset to ensure we have our show.
We are extremely grateful to moviegoers who have 'gone the extra mile' and made generous donations of money and items, these include a refrigerator, 75 comfy seats, blackout curtains, and many raffle prizes. If readers are moved to help to fund the on-going success of our village cinema, please contact us.
Hilmartonmoviola@hotmail.co.uk **or call 01249760312.**
We are in the process of selecting the films for the spring and here are the dates for your diary and to consider when planning another community event:

Saturday 20th January - Saturday 24th February - Saturday 24th March
Saturday 21st April - Saturday 19th May - Saturday 23rd June
Saturday 21st July - No Show in August - Saturday 22nd September
Saturday 20th October - Saturday 24th November - No Show in December

The doors open at 7.00 pm with the show starting at 7.30.

We are hopeful you will continue to support the cinema and encourage more people to come along.

Thank you. The Hilmarton Moviola team.

Complaints have been received by the Parish Council, of thoughtless parking of vehicles on footpaths and grass verges. Please keep footpaths free for pedestrians & disabled, parking on verges only causes unsightly ruts and encourages other to do the same. Thank you.

The Duke Hotel

Gary & Carol would like to wish all a joyful Christmas and a prosperous new year, December is a busy time for all and we look forward to welcoming you at the Duke. We have recently had chimneys prepared for the winter and will have the log fire on the go most evenings.

Supper Club will be on Wednesday 13th of December and have a festive theme, again this will consist of a 3-course meal and a glass of wine, £19.50 places are strictly limited so please call Carol or Gary for a booking

Christmas Parties for family, friends or work colleagues. We will be offering a 3 course Christmas meal with a welcome drink followed by coffee for £24.50, dates available from Mid-November until Friday 22nd of December. (This will require pre-booking)

Christmas Day Lunch - Now fully booked

New Year's Eve To bring in the New Year we will be having a party, numbers will be strictly limited and only open to adults I am afraid. The party will start at 8:00 until 01:00. Supper will be provided. In addition to some music (recorded) there will be a fun karaoke competition.
Tickets will be available from mid-November. There will be a £10 charge (which is fully refundable for drinks on the night)

THE CHAPEL IN DECEMBER		
Sunday 3rd	Family Carol Service	4:00pm
Wednesday 6th	Worship in the week with the Church	2:00pm
Sunday 10th	Service	4:00pm
Tuesday 12th	Coffee Morning	10:00am
Sunday 17th	Carols & Readings	4:00pm
Friday 8th & 15th	Prayer Meeting	2:30pm
	NO SERVICES ON 24th & 31st DECEMBER	

CHURCH CLEANING
Is there anyone prepared to help with the Church cleaning???
Approximately on a two month rota.
We work in pairs, cleaning on a mutually agreed day within a two week period.
If interested, please contact Trish on 760638 - thank you.

On the threshold December 2017

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown." And he replied:
"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way." So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night. And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East."

These words from Minnie Louise Haskins 1875-1957 poem were used by George VI in his Christmas broadcast in 1939. To me this connection came through the film The King's Speech. For some Christian communities and churches December holds a new year moment at its beginning as well as the end. This is because the year's pattern of readings begins on the 3 December with Advent.

The Advent season is a threshold moment – as if we were standing at a doorway, expectant and curious about what might be on the other side for us to encounter. A period of waiting for a refreshed and deepened understanding of God which will be fulfilled in the birth of Jesus and is celebrated in the Christmas stories and school nativities and celebrations of Christmas with friends and families.

Each time I stand in a doorway and knock; or answer my own there is a moment when I wonder if joy or sorrow, peace or conflict are on the other side of the door.

The waiting of a police officer or a grandchild, of the delivery driver or the much wanted are all different. Each threshold moment of a new year or a new job can bring anxiety or adventure; one may wait with fear and trembling or with joyful excitement.

My hope at this season for us all is that whether we anticipate the unknown at the gate of the year with excitement or trepidation we will find the hand of God to lead us, in the hands of friends and neighbours and in the baby in his crib.

Priest in Charge Woodhill Benefice, The Vicarage, Clyffe Pypard, SWINDON, Wiltshire, SN4 7PY - 01793 731134

Rev'd. Rachma Abbott, The Vicarage,Clyffe Pypard, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN4 7PY For Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals or other special services Contact Rev'd Abbott(01793 731134), our Lay Pastoral Assistant, Val Procter (01249 760312), or the Churchwarden John Henly (01249 760401)

DATE	ST.LAURENCE - HILMARTON	OTHER BENEFICE CHURCHES
Sunday 3rd December	**5:00pm Songs & Readings for Advent**	10:30am Benefice Communion - Clyffe Pypard
Wednesday 6th December	**2:00pm Communion in Chapel** followed by tea & coffee	
Sunday10th December		10:30am Benefice Communion - Tockenham
Thursday 14th December		6:30pm Carol Service - Broad Town
Sunday 17th December	**6:00pm Carol Service** followed by mulled wine and mince pies	10:30am Benefice Communion - Broad Town 3:00pm Busy Bees Nativity - Tockenham 4:00pm Crib Service - Clyffe Pypard
Sunday 24th December	**10:30am Benefice Communion**	6:00pm Carol Service - Tockenham 11:15pm Midnight Mass - Clyffe Pypard
Monday 25th December	**10:30am All-Age Service** informal Christmas service	10:30am All-Age Communion - Broad Town
Sunday 31st December		10:30am Benefice Communion - Tockenham

News from the Bell Tower.
There is no half-muffled ringing for WW1 commemorations until March 2018.

Bell ringing practice on Mon 18th Sept was dedicated to Hazel and Graham Moxey with best wishes for their 60th wedding anniversary. Apologies from me as this should have been written in the last report.

We are still looking for new people to join us. Come along on a Monday to see what is involved or talk to any of the ringers. Elaine Leighton (Tower correspondent)

ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN THE JANUARY EDITION BY 16th DECEMBER PLEASE To melwilkins@live.com - 760572 Jacquie Henly, Jays Cottage, Compton Road, Hilmarton. 760401 - jacquie88@btinternet.com or Geoff Procter Breda Cottage, Church Road, Hilmarton 760312 - geoffphilmarton@hotmail.co.uk.ALL ENTRIES IN 'WORD' Format please.

St Peter's, Clyffe Pypard
CHRISTMAS FAIR
Village Hall
8th December
6-9pm

Meet friends old and new over a drink and Christmas food, browse the stalls and just enjoy yourselves. Children's area with good as new toys, books and a racing piggies game !

Pre – order poinsettias which will be collected for you from the grower (Pinewood Nurseries) just before the event – red £5, pink, cream or red with yellow fleck £5.85.

No draughty warehouses or supermarket foyers for these plants ! Last orders by 5th December please. Contact Barbara Davis 01793 739017