

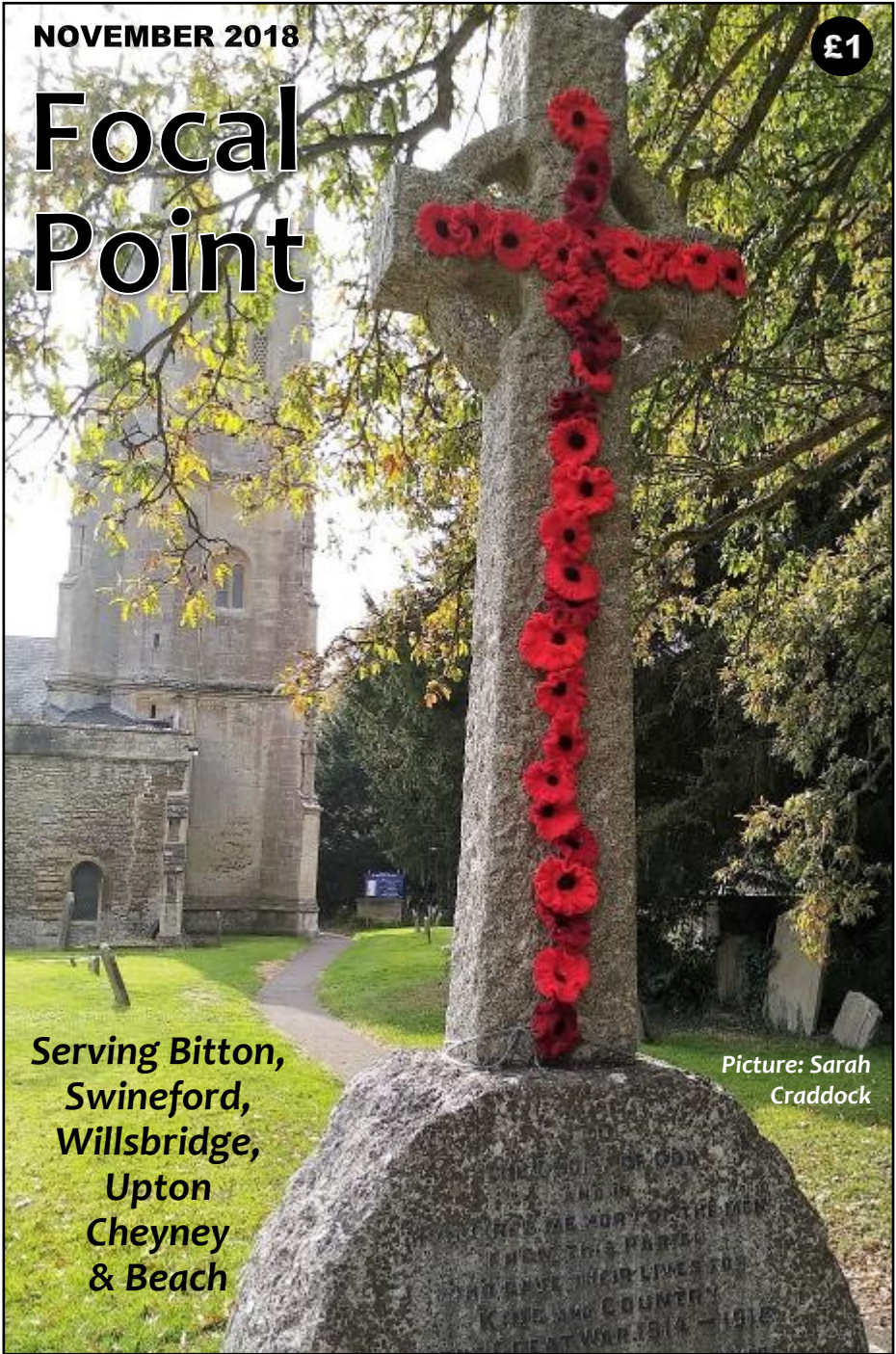
NOVEMBER 2018

£1

Focal Point

**Serving Bitton,
Swineford,
Willsbridge,
Upton
Cheyney
& Beach**

Picture: Sarah
Craddock





**CHARTERED SURVEYORS, VALUERS,
AUCTIONEERS
ESTATE AGENTS & LETTING AGENTS**

**Serving Oldland Common, Bitton,
Upton Cheyney, Swineford & surrounding
villages in the Bristol & Bath areas**

***FREE PRE-SALES ADVICE FROM
PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED STAFF,
UNRIVALLED LOCAL KNOWLEDGE &
COMPETITIVE FEES***

**0117 986 3681
01225 400400**

1 High Street, Keynsham & 489 Bath Road, Saltford

**email: stephenmorris@daviesandway.com
website: www.daviesandway.com**



Your property in Park Lane

Showcase your property to the
lucrative London market



By instructing your local Fine & Country agent, your property will not only be marketed locally and regionally, but nationally and even internationally via Fine & Country's Head Office and Showroom located at one of the most prestigious addresses in the world – 121 Park Lane, Mayfair, London W1.

With over 40ft of window display on Park Lane, we not only reach a lucrative buyers' market other agents cannot, we also market all Fine & Country properties 24/7 through touchscreen technology, enabling customers to browse the details of Fine & Country properties from around the globe, even when the office is closed.

For more information on promoting your property
in our Park Lane office or for a free valuation, please contact:
Fine & Country, 36 Gay Street, Bath, Somerset BA1 2NT
01225 320032 | bath@fineandcountry.com

FINE & COUNTRY

Just **KIM**
*Unisex Hairdressing with
Beauty Room & Solarium*

*188 High Street
Oldland Common
Bristol
BS30 9QQ*

Tel: 0117 932 3539



HRD Hardware

plumbing and electrical supplies
pet foods paints tools gifts
fabric dyes paraffin

20 Westcourt Drive, Oldland Common.
tel: (0117) 932 3068

FOR ALL FOCAL POINT INQUIRIES:

Becky Feather

Editor

Phone: 0117 932 5037

Email: bittonfocalpoint@live.co.uk

Website: www.stmarysbitton.org.uk





FONTHILL
garden centre



A family run business that's been growing since 1967.

www.fonthill-lakeside.com



BATH ROAD, BITTON. 0117 932 3110
OPEN MON-FRI 8.00-5.00 SAT 9.00-5.00 SUN 10.30-4.30

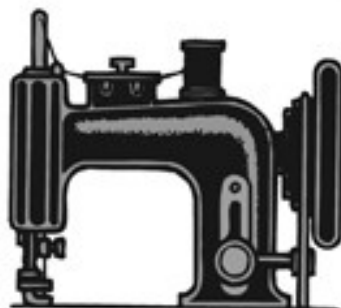


Parker's Sewing Services

Clothing alteration
and repairs

Soft furnishings

Specialist projects
and commissions
undertaken



Telephone Lizzie : 0117 9326662

Mobile : 07837126945

Email : parkerssewingservices@yahoo.co.uk



Soot n Sweep

*For all your chimney
sweeping needs*

All types of chimneys, flues &
AGAs swept and cleaned

Contact Nick Wilcox

07983 215312

01179 492258

NACS qualified & certificates issued



S M Wilkins Electrical Services

- ◆ **FREE QUOTES**
- ◆ **COMPETITIVE RATES**
- ◆ **FULLY INSURED**
- ◆ **SIX-YEAR WARRANTY**
- ◆ **OVER 20 YEARS' EXPERIENCE**

- Testing & inspection
- Landlord certs (EICR)
- Fault finding/repairs
- Fuse board replacement
- Extra sockets/lights
- Cooker/shower installation
- Smoke alarms
- Security/outdoor lighting



Mobile: 0771 218 9118



Email: smwilkins.electricalservices@gmail.com

A small and friendly practice providing
the very best care for animals and their owners

OLDLAND HOUSE Veterinary Surgery

Stephen Pullan, BVSc, MRCVS
103 High Street, Oldland Common, Bristol
Monday-Friday 8am-7.30pm: Saturday 10-12am
Tel: 0117 932 3100



Absolutely Feet

Caring for your feet, in your own home.

Professional treatment of corns, callus, fungal infections, painful or thickened nails, diabetic foot care, nail trimming etc.

Joanne Nash MCFHP MAFHP

Insured & Registered Foot Health Professional

07881 530600

absolutelyfeet@hotmail.com

Hanneley Welding Limited

For all your Welding & Fabrication
requirements

Eastover Works, Golden Valley Lane, Bitton

Tel: 0117 932 2647

Email: martin@hanneywelding.co.uk

Want to advertise in Focal Point?

**We can help with your
artwork at no extra cost.**

**Give us a call on 0117 932 5037
to find out more**



OUR PRESENT TO YOU THIS CHRISTMAS

**BITTON
MILL**
Ask about
our bespoke
'Move In' packages

- Superb new homes in delightful Bitton, close to Bath and Bristol
- Make a brand new home yours this Christmas, with the added bonus of our excellent Move In packages
- Visit us today to find out more about our stunning homes and great offers

BITTON MILL BRISTOL BS30 6HJ

2, 3 & 4 bedroom homes from £265,995

01173 216 589

lindenhomes.co.uk/bittonmill

**Linden
HOMES**

Photograph shows typical Linden homes. Interior may include optional upgrades or extras available at additional cost. Prices and details correct at time of going to press.



JOIN US AL FRESCO IN THE FRESHFORD, OLD CROWN & CROSS GUNS GARDENS FOR OUR POP UP RESTAURANT EVENINGS; FEATURING BESPOKE SEASONAL MENUS PREPARED & COOKED BY OUR CHEFS USING A VARIETY OF OPEN FIRE COOKING METHODS.

ADVANCE BOOKINGS ONLY. WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS ON SELECT DATES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

23RD MARCH - FRESHFORD
25TH APRIL - CROSS GUNS - VEGAN SPECIAL
23RD MAY - OLD CROWN

27TH JULY - FRESHFORD
19TH SEPTEMBER - CROSS GUNS
26TH OCTOBER - OLD CROWN



The Old Crown Inn

Kelston
Bath
BA1 9AQ
01225 423 032
info@oldcrownkelston.com
www.oldcrownkelston.com

  OldCrownKelston



The Inn at Freshford



The Hill
Bath
BA2 7WG
01225 722250
info@theinnatfreshford.com
www.theinnatfreshford.com

  InnFreshford
 InnatFreshford



Cross Guns Avoncliff

Bradford-on-Avon
Wiltshire
BA15 2HB
01225 862 335
info@crossgunsavoncliff.com
www.crossgunsavoncliff.com

  CrossGunsAvoncliff
 CrossGunsAvoncliff

ROY PREDDY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

2 Cossham Street, Mangotsfield BS16 9EN (0117) 9562834

We are at your service 24 hours a day
We will help and guide you every step of the way
We will guide you through our choice of funeral plans
We can help and advise you choose a memorial
We are members of the National Association of Funeral Directors

Our other Bristol businesses can similarly help you -

Roy Preddy - Kingswood (0117) 9446051

TB & H Pendock - Hambrook (0117) 9566774

Stenner & Hill - Shirehampton (0117) 9823188

R. Davies & Son - Westbury-on-Trym (0117) 9628954

R. Davies & Son - Horfield (0117) 9424039

R. Davies & Son - Bishopsworth (0117) 9641133

Whitchurch FS - Whitchurch (01275) 833441



Part of Dignity Ltd, a British Company

#EverythingProperty

Andrews

Where are you on your property journey?

In the know



or in the dark?

Choose an agent who'll provide upfront and honest advice, from start to finish.

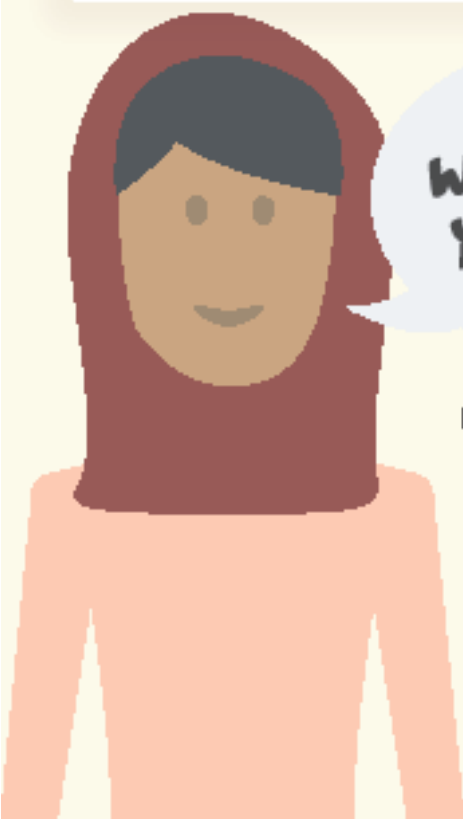
Communication builds trust
Andrewsonline.co.uk/everythingproperty



Longwell Green
Sales 0117 911 6902

You've got the skills to **foster...**

you may not know it yet



"I WISH WE'D DONE IT YEARS AGO"

Fatima, Foster Carer

Become a foster carer with South Gloucestershire Council and make a real difference.

We're looking for foster carers for children of all age groups. If you have a spare room, childcare experience and the time, we'd love to hear from you.

☎ 01454 866423
✉ fostering@southglos.gov.uk
www.fostersouthglos.org.uk



USEFUL CONTACTS

Bitton AFC

(Western League Premier Division)
www.pitchero.com/clubs/bittonafc

Bitton AFC Juniors

Contact: Dave Fletcher
Tel: 0117 932 2521
Email:
fletchandcarol@btinternet.com

Bitton Archers

Shoot at Bitton AFC
www.bittonarchers.com

Bitton Bellringers

Practice night Mondays
Tower captain: Sue Jay
Tel: 0117 932 2424

Bitton Combined Charities

Contact: Ken Gibson
Tel: 0117 932 2122

Bitton Community Choir

Contact: Nicola Bennetts
Tel: 0117 932 4696

Bitton Cricket Club

Bitton Recreation Ground
3 Saturday senior teams, 1 Sunday senior team and 5 youth teams
bitton.play-cricket.com

Chairman: Tim Dyer
Tel: 0117 985 9139

Bitton Flower Arranging Club

3rd Tuesday afternoon of the month at St Mary's Church Hall
Contact: Janet Ballinger
Tel: 0117 932 4728

Bitton Gardening Club

St Mary's Church Hall, 3rd Monday in the month (plus garden visits)
Email: b.hetzel@btinternet.com

Bitton Ladies Football Club

Bitton Recreation Ground
bittonlfc.weebly.com/

Bitton Lunch Club

Last Thursday of each month
Contact: Jill Gibson
Tel: 0117 932 2122

Bitton Parish Council

www.bittonparishcouncil.co.uk
Clerk: Sharon Robbins
Tel: 01454 868 102
Email: bittonpc@blueyonder.co.uk

Bitton Parish History Group

www.bittonhistory.org.uk
Secretary: Mike Gates
Tel: 0117 932 8777
Email: mg122@btinternet.com

Bitton Pre-School

www.bittonpreschool.com/
Tel: 0117 932 6042
Email:
bittonpreschool@googlemail.com

Bitton Road Runners

Every Tuesday & Thursday - everyone welcome!
www.bittonroadrunners.co.uk

Bitton Sports & Social Club

Tel: 0117 932 3222

(More overleaf)

USEFUL CONTACTS

Bitton Village Residents' Association

www.bvra.uk

Contact: Andrew Ward

Email: andrew@wardandrew.com

Bitton WI

Second Monday of the month at 7.30pm at St Mary's Church Hall

Tel: 0117 932 2059

Flicks in the Sticks

Free film nights in St Mary's Church Hall on the 3rd Friday of the month, September to April (not December)

Email: b.hetzel@btinternet.com

Girl Guide HQ, Cherry Gardens

Guides, Brownies & Rainbows

Contact: Gill Boyes

Tel: 0117 970 8056

Email: gill.boyes@blueyonder.co.uk

Kingswood MP: Chris Skidmore

www.chrisskidmore.com

Tel: 0117 908 1524 (Constituency)

Tel: 0207 219 7094 (Westminster)

Email: chris@chrisskidmore.com

Royal British Legion

(Bitton & Oldland branch)

Contact: Jeff Dando

Tel: 0117 932 2608

Email: jeffjeffdando@gmail.com

Scouts: 34th Kingswood/1st St Mary's

Beavers meet Monday evenings at St Mary's Church Hall. Cubs & Scouts Thursday evenings at The Meadows Primary School

Contact: David Harris

Tel: 0117 932 7755

Email: djaharris@hotmail.com

South Gloucestershire councillor for Bitton: Erica Williams

Tel: 0786 018 1215

Email:

erica.williams@southglos.gov.uk

St Mary's Baby & Toddler Group

(Wednesday mornings at St Mary's Church Hall)

Contact: Ali Smith

Email: alismsith241@gmail.com

St Mary's Church

www.stmarysbitton.org.uk/

Vicar: Rev Jeremy Andrew

Tel: 0117 967 2724

Curate: Rev Anika Gardiner

Tel: 0117 932 5305

Churchwardens:

Barbara Merritt

Tel: 0117 932 3926

Jacqui Harris

Tel: 0117 937 4706

St Mary's Church Hall

Bookings secretary: Jill Gibson

Tel: 0117 932 2122

Email:

kenandjill@gibsonuk.freeserve.co.uk

The Meadows Primary School

Tel: 0117 932 2203

Upton Cheyney URC

Minister: Rev Meryl White

Tel: 0775 914 6645

Email: Meryl.white@btinternet.com

Churches & services



UPTON CHEYNEY URC

Elder: Muriel Williams
0117 961 6843

Minister: Meryl White
0775 914 6645

Sunday services are at 3pm

November 4	Bible Study led by Meryl White
November 11	Remembrance Service led by Meryl White
November 18	Service led by Stephen Newell
November 4	Service led by Alan Tabard

In addition there will be a coffee afternoon on Tuesday 27th from 2pm

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Vicar:
Rev Jeremy Andrew
The Vicarage, Warmley
0117 967 2724

Ordained minister:
Rev Richard Humphrey
Splinters
Kenilworth Drive
Willsbridge
0117 949 0502
Continued overleaf



Lay ministers:

Ken Gibson, 8 Church Road,
Bitton
0117 932 2122

David Bailey, Westover,
Bath Road, Bitton
0117 932 8949

Churchwardens:

Pete Midgley
30 Kenilworth Drive, Willsbridge
0117 932 6898

Jacqui Harris
29 St Anne's Drive, Wick
0117 937 4706

Message from the minister

It was a cold November morning and a storm was brewing from the east, a fitting metaphor for a visit to someone who has vivid memories of the Second World War.

I knocked on the door of a modest little cottage in a village nestling in the Gloucestershire countryside. I had arranged to meet a veteran of the war to get some second-hand experience and stories for a university essay; I forget the title now, but something to do with a 'Theology of Remembrance Sunday' and attempting to explore "what was going on in the minds of those who gather around the war memorials of the country, and what they thought they were doing".

I was meeting an ex-RAF bomber pilot who, in spite of his exemplary service (he received the Distinguished Flying Medal) was, like his cottage, rather more modest. "We were only doing what was expected of us... getting on with the job in hand... because the alternative for our country was unthinkable," he said as he told his story of the war years. There were many of them too: humorous, serious and profound reflections on man's inhumanity to man, about comradeship, about physical and mental survival and of course, memories of those lost - being promoted to squadron leader after two weeks on the squadron simply because of the loss rate of aircraft and crews.

"What are we doing on Remembrance Sunday?" I asked, and

it was certainly clear what this pilot had been doing over the years, remembering his comrades, reflecting on the necessity of war and its futility. There was no triumph in his answer, no pride in himself, only a pride in sharing life in extremis with those who didn't make it home. And then he said it: "When we are gone, we should stop doing this. When there is no one left who remembers those days, we should stop remembrance and assign this war to the history books and get on with the future we fought the war for."

Two things struck me. The first was that in spite of all his experiences of war, he was still hopeful. Certainly, hope is a theological virtue that the Church should work hard at recovering, and to be hopeful in life is to put your trust in something bigger, wider and deeper than ourselves. For the Church, our hope rests in the salvation bought by Jesus Christ himself that has given us an eternal future. This pilot was hopeful that all that was sacrificed, all that was done, all that was achieved in war had given us a future, a freedom and a new beginning. He was certainly hopeful for his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

The second thing that struck me was that whilst he could tell of his reflections on Remembrance Day of the war that he fought in and the people close to him that he lost, this was not the only thing going on. Indeed, each generation discovers their own wars and lessons from wars. We are slow to learn the lesson, quick to violence and slow to make peace.

This is why we gather on Remembrance Day, for these two reasons: to live in hope because we remember why there is still a future, and to spare a thought for those who continue to put themselves in harm's way in the pursuit of peace. May this centenary year help us to remember to live hopefully and continue to work for peace.

With every blessing,

Rev Jeremy Andrew

Services at St Mary's in November

Sunday, November 4	10.30am: Parish Communion
Sunday, November 11 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY	8am: Holy Communion 10.30am: Family Parade Service, followed by lunch at Avon Valley Railway 6.30pm: Harvest Evensong with The Ammonites
Sunday, November 18	10.30am: Morning Worship
Friday, November 23	9.30am: Celtic Communion, followed by coffee and cakes
Sunday, November 25	8am: Holy Communion 9.30am: Family Café Church

Coffee morning raises over £1k!

The Macmillan Coffee Morning organised by Pam Hacker and Marlene Gallop in St Mary's Church at the end of September raised the grand sum of £1,067.62.

They are very grateful to everyone who supported in so many ways and they have also received many comments on the lovely, friendly atmosphere, music and busy chatter.





St Mary's Matters

We celebrated Harvest Festival on 14th October. This is a special time of year, especially in a rural setting like ours.

It was lovely to have a good number of people in church for the family service in the morning and Ken reminded us in his talk that we should thank both God and those who do the growing for the bounty of our harvest.

Thanks are due to those who worked hard to beautifully decorate the church, produce the harvest loaf and to everyone who brought gifts of food and toiletries for donation to the Sisters of the Church in Bristol.

Twenty-six of us then headed up to Manor Farm for a harvest lunch. Thanks to everyone for making us welcome there. Finally, we were fortunate that the Ammonites were willing to come out of retirement to lead our sung Evensong.

Our next concert will be given by the U3A swing band on 17th November at 7.30pm, entitled 'On the Edge'. More details can be found on page 30 and on our website - <https://www.stmarysbitton.org.uk/>

We will be privileged to host an historic Remembrance Service on 11th November marking exactly 100 years since the end of the First World War. Everyone will be welcome.



Pete Midgley

**Pete Midgley
Churchwarden**

St Mary's Family Café Church

Sunday 25 November at 9.30am

This relaxed and informal service takes place on the fourth Sunday of each month.

It is aimed at families with primary school and pre-school aged children although everyone is very welcome.

There is a café feel to it with refreshments available throughout .

Our November story will be about 'The Lost Coin'

St Mary's flower rota

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| 3 November | No volunteers |
| 10 November | (Remembrance) Judith Butson |
| 17 November | Judith Butson |
| 24 November | No volunteers |



From the parish register

16th September

Baptism

Alice Chinnock

6th October

Wedding

Mark Collins & Kirsty Hooper

Marking 100 years since the end of the First World War

At the 10.30am service on Sunday 11th November St Mary's will welcome the Bitton & Oldland Branch of the Royal British Legion, MP Chris Skidmore, the Chair of Bitton Parish Council Cllr Jane Allinson, Cadets from the Army Cadet Force and members of the St Mary's Bitton Scout Group.



During the service there will be an Act of Remembrance around the village war memorial in the churchyard where wreaths will be laid. Trumpeter Mark Wilkins has again promised to be with us.

For the month of November there will be a garland of 32 knitted poppies on the memorial (*see Focal Point's front cover*) – one for each of the 32 Bitton residents who died during World War 1. Our thanks to Janet Ivens, June Long, Jacynth Baber and Sarah Craddock for this tribute.

Ken Gibson

Ringling out for peace

St Mary's bellringers will be taking part in 'Ringling out for Peace' during Remembrance Sunday as part of the nation's 'Battle's Over' tribute.

They are planning to ring for the church service as normal and again at 12.30pm and hope to support the other local churches to ring during the afternoon.



Upton Cheyney remembers

As well as the knitted poppies on the war memorial at St Mary's Churchyard, seven will be placed on the war memorial at Upton Cheyney for those who did not return from the 1914-1918 war.

A total of 55 men from Upton Cheyney, Beach and Golden Valley were sent to fight, of whom seven gave their lives.

Following the Service of Remembrance and Prayers for Peace at 3pm on Sunday 11th November at Upton Chapel, there will be tea at 4pm to which everyone is welcome.



News from Upton Cheyney URC

The door to the toilet has arrived! Sounds a little like the announcement of this year's Beaujolais Nouveau parachuting into Upton. Still some cosmetic work to complete but now functional and most importantly, private as well.



As one door closes another opens! We have selected the company to install the heating in the chapel. Completion could still be a couple of months away so the question is, will it be ready for Christmas?

The Quiet Day and Harvest Café Church were once again very successful. As usual the collection will be going to Christian Aid. We have also been pleased to welcome Sue Cossey and Michelle Bates to lead our worship. Sue is now one of our pastoral advisers and it has been too long since we last invited her to Upton.

This being the 100th anniversary of the end of the Great War, I have taken a little time out to think about the final days. It was in one of those days that my Great Uncle Ormond was fatally wounded by a shell. The detail description in his medical record does not make pleasant reading.

On the wall of the chapel is a small memorial plaque for the local people who fell in the war. Indeed there are a few more not recorded there at all.

However, none of the names has a Christian name. I wonder how many we can find out in the next couple of weeks. Somehow a Christian name brings them closer to home.

Stuart Turner

Keep warm, healthy and save money this winter

Did you know that you can get free energy efficiency advice that will help you stay warmer and healthier in your home, and that there are grants and funding available for heating, boilers and insulation?

Paul Sheridan, from the Warm & Well team from Severn Wye Energy Agency, attended South Gloucestershire's Council Community Engagement Forum at St Mary's Church last month.

The Severn Wye Energy Agency charity has a vision of a bright, secure and sustainable future, free from fuel poverty.

Their advice line - 0800 500 3076 - covers South Glos and Gloucestershire.

It is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm offering advice from simple changes you can make to save energy, grants for insulation or heating and switching energy supplier to info on renewable technologies.

Call to speak to one of their friendly advisers who will be able to discuss your circumstances and let you know if you may be eligible for financial help.

The website is warmandwell.co.uk/

Free central heating

Central heating can help you keep warm, stay healthy, and lower your heating bill.

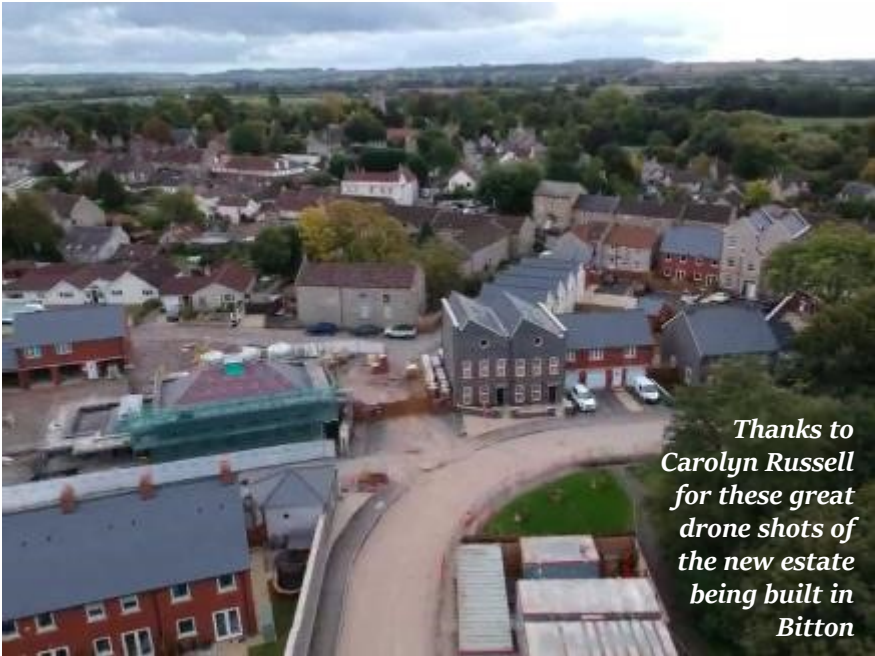
You can upgrade your home with a central heating system installed absolutely free in time for next winter.

If you are living without central heating in your Gloucestershire or South Gloucestershire home, contact the Warm and Well team today to register your interest

0800 500 3076 or text WARM to 83010

warmandwell.co.uk/heating
[@warmandwell](https://www.facebook.com/warmandwell)
severnandwell@severn-wye.org.uk

Focal Point, November 2018



Bitton Parish History Group report

Eighty of us packed North Common Village Hall for a wonderful film made by David Noble and his friends Steve and Sue Brown.

When Dave said they had edited the film down from three hours to just over an hour, I began to get worried whether we would all get fidgety, but looking around I could see all eyes were glued to the screen, where so many old friends, neighbours and family told the story of Oldland Common since the 1940s.

The evening was bursting full of anecdotes about school life, the local shops, pubs and sports. My favourite part of the film was to see the Whitsun processions that were such important events in the year's calendar.

I shouldn't call it a film, because it was really a musical, in which so many people in Oldland Common recreated 'life as it was', bringing back childhood memories. Please let me know if you want a copy of the DVD. Thank you so much, Dave, Steve and Sue and to everyone who took part in the original production.

Our next meeting is on 6th November, when Bill Douglas will introduce us to the history of the world-famous Douglas motorbikes. First manufactured in Kingswood from 1907, some 25,000 were constructed for military use in the First World War.

Our venue will be Kingswood Heritage Museum at 7pm for 7.30pm, so that we can also see their fine display of historic Douglas bikes.



Mike Gates

BITTON GARDENING CLUB

Invites you to

Our next meeting

on

MONDAY 19th November

in the

Church Hall, Church Lane, Bitton

Doors Open 7.15pm. Meeting Starts 7.30pm.

Our speaker at this meeting is

ROBERT HARVEY

who is a renowned

Photographer, Author and Traveller

The title of his illustrated talk is

Travels in Search of Remarkable Plants

Robert is a passionate traveller and photographer as well as a keen gardener and his beautifully illustrated talk will cover his worldwide travels and the interesting and unusual plants he has found along the way.

For more information contact Bridget Hetzel at

b.hetzel@btinternet.com or

just come along to the meeting

Free to members

New members and guests always welcome

Bitton WI report

We attended the federation annual meeting at Weston-super Mare in the newly refurbished Winter Gardens. The first speaker was Graham Dynes, from Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, with one of the dogs. He told us how they were trained and who would benefit from one.

The guest speaker in the afternoon was Eleanor Stewart who gave a fascinating talk on her life as a nun and midwife. She was entertaining and has written several books.

At the end of September we attended the Kings Chase group's autumn meeting at Fisher Road in Kingswood. We were welcomed by June Thorne, who told us that she had been let down by the demonstrator at 9.30 that morning, too late for a replacement, so she stepped in and did three beautiful flower arrangements which were entered into the raffle. A delicious tea was then served.

Our monthly meeting started as usual with announcements and forthcoming events, then our president Ann Coales introduced the speaker David Gray, head gardener at Edington Priory estate. He has won gold medals at RHS shows and is a judge on the trade stands.

His talk was about growing in containers. You can grow almost anything in pots and he brought lots to show us. He explained that metal pots are not good as they are hot in the summer, burning the roots, and cold in winter, but they can be lined with polystyrene and it is important to have feet to circulate air.

The next meeting will be on Monday 12th November which will be our annual meeting with entertainment. The flower club topic on Tuesday 20th will be a Christmas decoration.

Jean Hook

Major concerns over traffic

With many locals already very worried about the volume and speed of traffic using the lanes in and around the Golden Valley, B&NES Council's plans to establish a clean air zone for central Bath have raised concerns about the implications for our area.

There is currently a public consultation into the proposed CAZ which would involve motorists paying £9 to drive in the city if their vehicles do not meet low emissions criteria.

It is due to come into effect in late 2020 and the western edge will be set at Royal Victoria Park on the Upper Bristol Road and just beyond Oldfield Park on Lower Bristol Road.

Concerns were raised at the recent Community Engagement Forum held in Bitton that the plans will see a rise in the number of vehicles using the lanes and A431 and crossing the river at Newbridge to avoid paying the charge.

The consultation is open until 26th November and you will have received details through the post about how to have your say.

We'll have more on local traffic concerns next month.

Bitton in Bloom winners

A presentation evening was held at the end of September for the Bitton in Bloom competition 2018.

Among the floral awards given out by the parish council was for Best Small Business Award which went to Oldland Veterinary Surgery. Oldland Dental Practice was second and Avon Valley Railway third. The Hollybush won best pub, with the White Hart second and the Lock Keeper third. Best school was St Anne's, Cherry Garden second and Redfield Edge third. The Meadows was highly commended.

There's a list of all the winners on the council's website.

ST MARY'S CHURCH, BITTON
presents



U3A SWING BAND
'ON THE EDGE'

Big Band Music and
Swing Favourites



Saturday November 17th at 7.30

Admission £8.00

Tickets from Jenny Harris

Tel: 07970 325927

Bitton Village Residents' Association

Invites you to

Flicks in the Sticks

on

Friday 16 November
when we will be screening

Darkest Hour

**starring Gary Oldman, Lily James &
Kristin Scott Thomas**

This thrilling and inspiring true story begins on the eve of World War Two when Winston Churchill must negotiate a peace treaty with Nazi Germany or stand firm to fight for the ideals of liberty and the freedom of a nation.

With the threat of invasion, an unprepared public, a sceptical King and his own party plotting against him, Churchill must withstand his darkest hour, rally a nation and attempt to change the course of world history.

Doors open 7.30pm. Film starts 8pm.
The Church Hall, Church Lane, Bitton
Drinks will be available from the licensed bar,
choc ices will be served in the interval and there
will be time to chat with friends.

Admission is FREE

Festival noise monitoring

As went to print, noise from the FEAR festival at Avon Valley Adventure & Wildlife Park in Keynsham was being monitored by environmental health officers.

Last year there were complaints that the noise from FEAR was so bad that some people living on the other side of the River Avon in Bitton could hear it over their TVs.

It could also be heard at Swineford and Upton Cheyney and further afield.

Before the festival, the park's owner assured residents that he had taken action to reduce the impact with a new event audio system that has been in place since January. He predicted an overall 50% reduction in the sound emanated from the site during the nine-night festival in the run-up to Halloween.

October's quiz answers

Here are the answers (with the alternative allowed in brackets) for last month's quiz about famous British scientists and inventors. The editor apologises for repeating clue No. 4 and clue No. 10. (It should have been R- - - - H- - - -). As a consequence, no one was able to get all 20, but several got 19.

1. Joseph Priestley, **2.** Charles Babbage, **3.** Trevor Baylis, **4.** Richard Trevithick, **5.** Edmond Halley, **6.** Barnes Wallis, **7.** Brian Cox, **8.** James Dewar, **9.** Isaac Pitman, **10.** Robert Hooke, **11.** Clive Sinclair, **12.** Abraham Darby, **13.** William Caxton (William Cullen), **14.** James Dyson, **15.** William Herschel, **16.** Ada Lovelace, **17.** Charles Macintosh, **18.** Patrick Moore, **19.** Joseph Lister, **20.** Henry Fox Talbot.

Well done to Alan & Sue Murtagh, Pam & Jon Booth, Mary Younie, Florence Nesbitt, Jenny & David Harris, and Jan Wookey & Diane. The prize-winner this month is Florence!

The November quiz

This month's quiz comprises cryptic clues to Bristol districts.

The deadline for entries (also adverts/copy) is **15th November**.

Send to The Editor, 18 Church Road, Bitton, BS30 6HH or email *bittonfocalpoint@live.co.uk*

1. Where lipsticks are made?
2. Chocolate Prime Minister?
3. European 1st letter
4. Inter the fowl
5. He acquired his patch of land
6. Mend road
7. Compass point on traditional drink
8. Fire up the cleric!
9. Sounds like weight of tree captured
10. Resting place for church
11. Capital of Vermont
12. Socialist plot
13. Water-operated structures
14. Make wobbly descent?
15. Home for haddock?
16. Replenish weight
17. Regal mahogany, for example
18. Ancient territory
19. Linked to fearsome creature
20. How one likes to be greeted

Name:

Contact:

ALPHABETICAL INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

ACCOUNTANTS

Norton Tax Shops Ltd (page 43)

BUILDERS

Wilton Building Contractors (page 35)

CARE HOMES

Collingwood (page 37)

CHILDCARE

South Gos fostering (page 12)

CHIMNEY SWEEPS

Bristle Chimney (page 36)

Soot n Sweep (page 6)

CHIROPODIST

Absolutely Feet (page 8)

COMPUTER SERVICES

David Harris (page 42)

DECORATING

Steve Painter Decorating Services
(page 37)

ELECTRICAL

SM Wilkins Electrical Services
(page 7)

ESTATE AGENTS

Andrews (page 11)

Davies & Way (page 2)

Fine & Country (page 3)

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Alderwick (page 38)

Roy Preddy (page 11)

GARDEN CENTRES

Fonthill (page 5)

GENERAL STORES

HRD Hardware (page 4)

HAIRDRESSING

Just Kim (page 4)

HOUSE BUILDERS

Linden Homes (page 9)

MOTORING

Bitton Motor Company (back page)

MC Car Body (page 42)

OVEN CLEANING

Pro-Oven Cleaning (page 41)

PLASTERERS

Matt Bressington Plastering
(page 41)

POST OFFICE

Oldland Common Post Office & Mace
(page 38)

PUBS

Crown Inn (page 10)

The Upton Inn (page 40)

TAILORS

Parker's Sewing Services
(page 6)

TIMBER

Bendrey Bros (page 39)

VETS

Highcroft (page 39)

Oldland House (page 7)

WELDING

Hanney (page 34)

WILTON Building Contractors

- Design and Build
- Building Maintenance
- Renovation
- Refurbishment
- Roofing

K P Wilton & Son Ltd

11/12 Brighton Place, Kingswood, Bristol BS15 1QY
Tel: 0117 967 1207

E-mail: info@kpwilton.co.uk



Chimney Sweep

Based locally in Keynsham

Bristle Chimney

Professional chimney sweeping service

Fully trained and registered member of the
Guild of Master Chimney Sweeps

Contact Hugh on

on 0117 9868936

or

07824 508758



www.bristlesweep.co.uk

**MANY OF OUR ADVERTISERS
HAVE BEEN WITH US HERE AT
FOCAL POINT FOR YEARS!**

**TO FIND OUT ABOUT OUR VERY
REASONABLE RATES,
CALL BECKY ON 0117 932 5037**



Collingwood care home for the elderly

We have an extension
with an additional seven luxury
bedrooms, all with underfloor heating,
large fitted wardrobes and
en-suite shower rooms.

Make an appointment with
Wendy or Julie
and see them for yourselves!

78a Bath Road, Longwell Green
Bristol BS30 9DG
Tel: 0117 932 4527

Steve Painter Decorating Services

A family business for three generations offering professional
exterior and interior painting and decorating services locally

- ❖ Traditionally trained
- ❖ Quality workmanship
- ❖ Paperhanging specialists
- ❖ Friendly and reliable
- ❖ Competitively priced
- ❖ No VAT added

**Contact Steve on 07853 250035
or 0117 956 5190**



E. C. Alderwick & Son Ltd
Funeral Directors

Serving Bristol since 1945

Kingswood - 11 Regent Street, Kingswood, Bristol, BS15 8JX

Tel: 0117 967 3609

Hanham - 71 High Street, Hanham, Bristol, BS15 3DG

Tel: 0117 935 3746

Oldland Common Post Office & Mace

171-173 High Street

Tel: 0117 932 3159

oldlandpostoffice@btinternet.com

Open from 7am, seven days a week

FULL LOTTERY & SCRATCHCARDS
NEWSPAPERS, GROCERIES, PHOTOCOPYING,
CARDS & STATIONERY, OFF LICENCE,
DRY CLEANING SERVICE, FRUIT & VEG
NEW-STYLE MAIN POST OFFICE
FREE TO USE ATM



@oldlandpostoffice

@oldlandpo



www.oldlandpostoffice.co.uk

Bendrey Bros

Sawmill & Timber Retailer

- A family run Sawmill & Timber Merchant since 1880
- Fencing and landscaping materials specialists
- Quality decking, framework & balustrades
- Quality graded building timber in stock
- Huge range of landscaping sleepers
- Timber path edging & raised beds
- Garden and agricultural gates
- Quality wooden garden furniture & arches

Opening Hours:

Week days:
8.00am -
5.00pm

Saturday:
9.00am -
12.00 noon

www.bendreybros.co.uk ☎ **0117 9674382**



The sawmills, Bath Road, Bridgeyate, Warmley, Bristol, BS30 5JW

Outstanding care for Very Important Pets

- ♥ Open 6 days a week, plus evening surgeries
- ♥ 24-hour emergency service
- ♥ Specialist services and facilities
- ♥ Over 60s Club and 10% off day
- ♥ Home visits
- ♥ Free nurse clinics

Longwell Green Veterinary Centre

formerly known as Lucas Vets

1 Court Farm Road, Longwell Green, Bristol BS30 9AA

Call 0117 932 3660

www.highcroftvet.co.uk

AN INDEPENDENT VET-OWNED PRACTICE



FREE FIRST CONSULTATION
FOR ALL NEW PETS*
with this coupon. *Conditions apply.



The Upton is a traditional country inn serving great food. Our menu is constantly changing to keep things fresh and new.

We have something for everyone, from modest plates for smaller appetites to a special meal out at the weekend, plus our famous Carvery on Sundays.

We want to give you a warm welcome and hope very much that we'll see you soon.

We have something happening every day of the week. Horses and dogs welcome!



The Upton Inn
Brewery Hill
Upton Cheyney
BS30 6LY



0117 9324489

www.uptoninn.com

For bookings and information



0117 932 4489

Matt Bressington Plastering Services Friendly & Reliable



All types of Plastering Rendering Pebble Dashing

Dry Lining Coving

Fully Insured Over 25 years experience

Competitive Rates Free Quotations

Tel: 0117 9830108 Mobile: 07905 474 966

Email: matt_bressy@yahoo.co.uk



PRO OVEN CLEANING

Local & Independent

32 Coombes Way
North Common
BS30 8YP

Your LOCAL Oven cleaning specialist
SHAUN THORNHILL
is now trading as 'Pro Oven Cleaning'

OVENS ○ HOB'S ○ EXTRACTOR'S ○ MICROWAVE'S ○ AGA'S ○ BBQ'S

 07401 820660

shaun.proovencleaning@gmail.com



www.pro-ovencleaning.co.uk

Pro Oven Cleaning



UNIT 4B

**M.C.
car body**

**Private & Insurance work undertaken
Welding to MOT standards
Loan Car available
(0117) 960 3286**

**M.C.
auto repairs**

UNIT 4D

**MOT Testing (Class 7, Class 5, Class 4)
Servicing and Repairs
(0117) 947 7405**

**Kingsfield Lane, Longwell Green Bristol BS30 6DL
REAR OF HOMEBASE**

Problems or need advice with your PC?

Affordable, professional and personal service for small businesses
and individuals

Technical support ~ Installation and set-up ~ Virus removal ~
PC optimisation ~ Advice on buying the right equipment and software ~
Tuition ~ Repairs



**Call David Harris on 07974 286314
or email: DJACHARRIS@HOTMAIL.COM**

Special rates for seniors



Are you.... Self Employed?
A Company Director?
A Landlord?
An Investor?

Then we can help!

We offer: Accurate high quality work
Competitive fees
Up to date advice
Friendly qualified staff
Local offices in Keynsham & Kingswood
Help to reduce paperwork
Help with 'Making Tax Digital'

Please call us on **0117 9860960** to arrange a free appointment.



[Website: www.nortontaxshops.co.uk](http://www.nortontaxshops.co.uk)

Bitton Motor Company

Bath Road Bitton
Bristol BS30 6HY



MOT
Testing Centre



Cars Bought and Sold

Servicing Repairs Engine Tuning
Welding Tyres Exhausts Cam belts

Telephone: (0117) 932 8686