



*The Newsletter for
Clungunford
Volume 26 • Issue 2
November 2022*

THE GUNNAS GAZETTE



To laugh after Covid!!!

Holmes and Watson: The Farewell Tour!

by Stuart Fortey

Holmes and Watson are brought to life by Julian Finnigan and Dominic Goodwin as they re-enact one of the detective's most baffling unrecorded cases - *The Case of the Prime Minister, the Floozie and the Lummock Rock Lighthouse!* It's an affair upon whose outcome the security of Europe once hung by a thread, and shrouded in secrecy until now. The case has finally been approved by the government for public disclosure. It is understood that Mr Holmes has been entrusted by Her Majesty with the conveyance to the Tower of London of the fabled Satsuma Stone, stolen from the crown of William of Orange in the seventeenth century, and only recently discovered in Europe. One can only be thankful that Professor James Moriarty, the Napoleon of crime, fell to his death at the Reichenbach Falls. Or is he still alive, planning another deadly strike as he lurks, unseen, in the wings...?

Written by Stuart Fortey, Directed by David Robertson it's fast paced entertainment and will provide many a titter! This is your final chance to catch Holmes and Watson as they embark on their farewell tour. Don't miss them. It's elementary!!

CLUNGUNFORD VILLAGE HALL

7.30pm Friday 25 November

Tickets: £12 per person, £6 concessions, £30 for a family

Available on 01588 660152 or online at <http://www.artsalive.co.uk>

Dates for your Diary

11 th November	Sacred Space – St Cuthbert's
13 th November	Remembrance Service- St Cuthbert's
18 th November	Flicks in the Sticks – Finding your feet
25 th November	Arts Alive -Holmes and Watson -Farewell Tour
26 th November	Robert Bunting Organ Concert – St Cuthbert's
29 th November	Wales V England World Cup match
3 rd December	Annual Wine and Wisdom Quiz
9 th December	Sacred Space- St Cuthbert's
9 th December	Flicks in the Sticks- Elvis
11 th December	Elders Christmas Lunch
15 th December	Carol Service – St Cuthbert's
18 th December	Christmas Poetry- St Cuthbert's
24 th December	Crib Service – St Cuthbert's
24 th December	Christmas Eve bar night
31 st December	New Year's Eve bar night and hog roast
29 th January	Burns Night Supper

More information on clungunford.com

Regular events in the village hall:

- Bar is open every Friday night from 19.00-22.00 with a 2-course meal available 1st Friday of every month.
- St Cuthbert's Cafe every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 10.00 – 12.00.
- Bike Night on the first Monday of the month 18.00-20.00

Parish Elders' Christmas Lunch

Those of you among our more senior residents should by now have received your invitation to this year's Christmas Lunch on **Sunday 11th December**, hosted by the Village Hall Trustees. I would be grateful if you could return your reply slips to me as soon as possible, so that I can inform the caterers of final numbers.

This is a very pleasant afternoon with a free, 3 course Christmas lunch served in the Village Hall by volunteers. The qualifying age is 66 years in line with the UK retirement age. Please note that those previously invited will continue to be invited. If you fit the age criteria (maybe you are not on our age radar or perhaps you are new to the Parish) and would like to attend this year, then please contact me as soon as possible.

Elizabeth Lyster (Secretary)

Phone: 01588 660152

E mail: lystere@btopenworld.com



The England World Cup matches will be shown in the hall starting with:

England v Wales

29th November

19.00

Further matches will be shown if they qualify, please monitor the clungunford.com web site or the notice board outside the Village Hall.

Farm Born and Bred

Further adventures as a small child!

My Grandfather rented Beckjay Farm comprising 330 acres. He employed 6 men, and also worked on the farm himself.

At 7.25am the men all lined up on the yard, and my grandfather would open his bedroom window and shout out the orders for the men for the day. Work started at 7.30am and my grandfather would join them later. Work stopped at 9am for "bait" (like a second breakfast) for 1/2 hour.

Lunch was from 1 - 2pm. The day ended at 5.30pm, but on Saturdays work stopped at 12 noon. The stockmen had to work on Sundays as the animals needed caring for every day. Overtime was paid for Sunday working, and during the harvesting when work carried on into the darkness, weather permitting.

The Shepherd tended store lambs, which were destined to be fattened up for slaughtering for meat, and about 180 breeding ewes. The other workers helped the Shepherd when necessary, such as shearing, drenching and lambing time.

The Cowman at the time looked after about 70 cattle, some of which were cows with their own calf. Other calves were bought in from dairy herds to be adopted by the cows. The cows had too much milk for just one calf. There were also other outlying Hereford cattle which were not housed indoors, but had access to covered sheltered buildings. These cattle calved outdoors. Today most cattle are brought indoors for the winter months. The Cowman thought he had done well

if he finished his chores by teatime! Nowadays the work is done before breakfast

The Waggoner looked after the horses. My grandfather had three shire horses. Duke and Dragon were big grey horses. Duke was a "gentleman" with a superb moustache and very lazy. Dragon was a hard worker to compensate. The other horse was Tom, brown and smaller than the greys. He was a gentle horse, my grandfather's favourite and mine too. I used to sit in the field with Tom lying down with his head in my lap, such a quiet nature. At the end of the day's work I was hoisted onto Tom's back to ride aloft back home to the stable.

Also employed was a Tractor Driver: as mechanisation came in this was a necessary progression after a tractor was purchased. Eventually the two grey horses left the farm, but Tom was kept doing light work until he "went over the rainbow bridge!"

The other two employees were General Farmworkers: these men turned their hands to anything that was needed.

All the men were married and lived in the cottages at Beckjay. One of the perks of the job was having a pigsty at each cottage, where they could keep their own pig to fatten and kill.

Free skimmed milk was available to each cottage. The wives used to line up, chattering, at the door each morning after the milk had been separated, a task undertaken by my mother or aunt. The wives would hand over their milk cans and these were filled from the bucket of skimmed milk by the separator.

If they wanted full cream milk, the wives had to let my grandmother know in advance so that the milk could be

held back from being separated. There was a payment for this milk.

The women in my house used to have hens which provided eggs. They also made butter, and this with the eggs were sold to the workers' families

Free wood was available which the families had to go and collect themselves. I would see the wives hauling piles of branches and driftwood, tied up, which they would find around the river bank, especially after floods had subsided.

I'm sure that swedes would find their way into the cottages from time to time, and nothing was said. M.E.B.

Sister B would like to share some lessons learned from patients:-

Swallowing batteries does not give you energy.

If something gets stuck in the hay baler, don't try to push it through with both arms.

Most cows aren't meant to be ridden, and even if they are, they probably don't like jumping fences.

Don't try to trim the top of your hedge by lifting up your lawnmower.

Do not use wood glue to secure your dentures.

Don't iron naked.

Do not brace the pneumatic nail gun against your crotch while reloading it.

Never pee on an electric fence.

Flicks in the Sticks at Clungunford Village Hall

Friday 18th November 2022 at 8.00pm

Finding Your Feet (cert 12)

When Sandra discovers that her husband is having an affair, she seeks refuge with her older sister Bif. Sandra is a fish out of water next to her outspoken, serial dating sibling, she reluctantly goes to the community dance class, where gradually she starts finding her feet.... and romance.

Starring: Timothy Spall, Joanna Lumley, and Imelda Staunton

Director: Richard Loncraine Drama

Friday 9th December 2022 at 7.30pm (PLEASE NOTE EARLIER TIME)

Elvis (cert 12)

ELVIS Explores the life and music of the 'King of Rock n Roll', Elvis Presley, seen through the prism of his complicated relationship with his enigmatic manager, Colonel Tom Parker.

Starring: Austin Butler, Tom Hanks, and Olivia DeJonge

Director: Baz Luhrmann. Drama

Entrance £5.00 Adults £3.00 Children

Licensed Bar, Ice creams, raffle (donations welcomed),

good car parking

Tel: 01588 660781 (Maureen)

(maureenrooney2012@gmail.com) or 01588 660159

(Keith) for bookings and enquires.

We now show all our films with subtitles.

We advise booking, and request cash only at the Box Office. Card payments accepted at the bar.

In the Garden

A cloudy day in Clungunford and I've been cutting down the grass I allow to grow tall in summer around the fruit trees in my garden.

The rest of the grass in my garden, that which I keep relatively short, seems to have got over the period in the summer when we had high temperatures and almost no rain at all, followed by lower temperatures and sporadic rainfall.

The reason most of the grass in the garden has recovered from the drought is because most of it is one sort or another of fescue, *Festuca rubra* subsp. *rubra* which have rolled leaves and are more drought resistant than most.

The parts of my garden where bent grasses (*Agrostis tenuis*) predominate have more dead patches still than those area where fescues predominate, and one area of the garden where the lawn was bent grass alone, appears to be dead.

It probably isn't. I was an up and coming parks department officer in 1976, the year of the great drought, responsible for a number of sports and ornamental grass areas which we weren't allowed to water because of the drought.

The sports pitches in particular were a mixture of fescues and bents chosen for their ability to withstand hard wear when cut very short, and because each favoured soil conditions the other didn't, so that the mixture would survive better under stress. They all seemed dead when the drought finally broke, but all eventually recovered, though the bents took a lot longer than the fescues.

In the garden look out for the drought resistant *Gleditsia triacanthos* 'Honey Locust' with its attractive bright green feathery foliage, which turns clear yellow in autumn.

Brian Taylor

More exciting than Tolkien's Middle Earth stories concerning Hobbits trying to overcome the Lord of the Rings?

More inventive than the tales told about the warring families and their allies inhabiting Westeros in the Game of Thrones?

The e-book version of The Time Portal by Brian W Taylor is available from Amazon.

Get your copy and you'll know the answer to the question!

Postcard from Africa

I have written about the impact of climate change on Africa on previous occasions and I make no apologies for returning to the issue on this occasion. Apart from the polar regions, Africa is undoubtedly the continent that is most seriously affected by the consequences of climate change and the lives and livelihoods of millions of people are at risk due to increasing temperatures and erratic rainfall patterns. Africa has made a minimal contribution to the causes of climate change but has the fewest resources to respond.

When I first went to work in Kenya in the 1970s, I was told that the farming year was divided into clearly defined seasons: the long rains, which lasted two months, from mid-October to mid-December, followed by summer, lasting until March. The short rains came then, lasting about 6 weeks, followed by “winter” which lasted until September, when it began to get warmer in preparation for the arrival of the long rains again in mid-October. It was not quite true that you could set your watch by the start of the seasons, but it was always within a day or two of October 15th when the long rains started. Farmers knew when to cultivate and when to plant – they could sow their seeds with confidence in early October, rain would come and they would have a crop to produce a harvest that would keep their family fed for the following year.

The situation is very different now. Rain comes when it is not expected and fails to come when it is. No one can tell the farmers if rain falling out of season is an indication that the entire season is changing or if they are a few isolated showers. If they plant out of season, will the weather be appropriate to grow and ripen the crop and produce an adequate harvest? Years of experience and accumulated local knowledge are all being dismantled within a generation.

Somalia, occupying much of that part of Africa that juts out on the northeast corner and known as the Horn of Africa, is currently suffering its worst drought for more than 40 years. Even in a good year, Somalia is a difficult place in which to make a living. It is not in the path of any rain-bearing wind, nor subject to any monsoon. Apart from along the two river valleys, the land is semi-arid savannah: dusty and barren, the natural vegetation being mostly stunted, thorny scrub. It is not a place for farming, but most of the population of nearly 17 million people manage to eke out a living here. They lead a nomadic existence, moving with their herds of livestock from one area to another according to the availability of grazing. They are the hardest of people, surviving on the most basic of basic necessities, but now, with no significant rain having fallen for more than 3 years, their physical and mental reserves are exhausted. The vast majority of their livestock have died and there is nothing else for them to fall back on. There is no milk, the most important food for the children and so serious child malnutrition is on the rise. Health centres are overwhelmed. The outlook remains bleak, and even if

rain patterns stabilise, it will take many years for herds to rebuild to the level where families can be self-sustaining. Britain has claimed in the past that it wants to be a world leader in the fight against climate change – we have a new Prime Minister and a new government and we don’t know yet if they will maintain this aspiration. The granting of approval for more drilling for oil and gas in the North Sea and the reopening of the discussion about fracking suggests the previous administration at least was considering backtracking. The test will come at next month’s global conference on climate change – COP 27, to be held in Egypt. Partly for the sake of Britain’s credibility internationally, but more importantly for the sake of the lives of millions of people in poorer countries around the world, we must hope that it does not renege on commitments that were made at COP 26. It has been said that a butterfly fluttering its wings on one side of the ocean may cause a hurricane on the other. A most appropriate adage with respect to climate change. *Rob Rees*

Parish Church News

The Revd Martin Quayle, Vicar for the Parishes of the Middle Marches Benefice, can be contacted by email at office.middlemarches@gmail.com. Should you need more information about services, events etc, please contact our Church Wardens, Michael Jones (tel: 01588 661145, email: mpjt51@hotmail.com) or Edward Gledhill (tel: 01588 660485, email: edward@aegledhill.co.uk). The planned Services for St Cuthbert’s Church, Clungunford in the Middle Marches Benefice for July and August 2022 are as follows:

Sunday 13 November	10.50 am	Remembrance Sunday
Sunday 20 November	10.00 am	Morning Prayer
Sunday 27 November	11.00 am	Holy Communion with Rev Martin Quayle
Sunday 11 December	10.00 am	Family Service
Thursday 15 December	6.30 pm	Carol Service
Sunday 18 December	10.00 am	Morning Prayer
Saturday 24 December	6.00 pm	Crib Service
Sunday 25 December	10.30 am	Christmas Day Holy Communion with Rev Martin Quayle

St Cuthbert's Diary Dates

Advent Course – 4 weekly session starting on Tuesday 1st November – 7pm

Our Advent study course this year is following the Sycamore 'Pathway'. Sycamore is an informal course about the Christian faith and its relevance for life today. It is designed to give the opportunity to meet other people, share ideas, explore your beliefs, and think about questions that really matter.

Each session involves a short thought-provoking film about the big questions of life and the central beliefs of the Christian faith. The four sessions are;

- The search for happiness
- A God who speaks?
- The Bible
- The power of prayer

The first session will be held on Tuesday 1st November and all are welcome.

If you would like more details, please contact one of the Church Wardens

A focus on Special Services leading up to Christmas

Just to bring to your attention some special services which will take place over the next few weeks.

- **Remembrance Sunday** is the 13th November. The service starts at 10.50 and includes the reading of names of those from the Parish who gave their lives during conflicts, and a minute's silence at 11.00. If you would like to have the name of someone special to you read out during the service, please contact one of the Church Wardens.
- The **Carol Service** this year will be on Thursday 15th December and will include both secular and sacred Christmas readings as well as a selection of Christmas Carols.
- The **Crib Service** is one of the most popular services of the year. Though it is aimed at the younger generation it is a service that is fun for all and a wonderful start to Christmas!

St Cuthbert's Café dates for November and December

Thanks go to everyone who contributed to the **Big Coin Count** that was held at St Cuthbert's Cafe on 13th October. The magnificent sum of £430 was raised, and this has already been sent to LAMB, the charity for which we were fund raising. LAMB is a Christian medical charity, running a hospital and outreach programme in northern Bangladesh. Our contribution will be used for paying the medical expenses of people who are particularly badly off and who otherwise would not be able to afford the costs of medical treatment.

Just a reminder that St Cuthbert's Café is in the village hall every 2nd and 4th Thursday from 10 am until 12 noon. The dates for November and December are;

- Thursday 10th November
- Thursday 24th November
- Thursday 8th December
- Thursday 22nd December

Rob Rees and Sara Giffen organise the Café but all help is appreciated by providing a hand on the day or baking cakes! If you would like to help please contact Rob or Sara.

Sacred Space

Please see the poster later for more details. If you would like to know more about Sacred Spaces please contact Annadreda@icloud.com

The Christmas Poetry Special – Sunday 18th December at 3pm

Anna Dreda will lead this now annual event. See poster later for more details.

.....and other news

Harvest Supper and Quiz

The Harvest Supper at St Cuthbert's was well attended with over sixty people from around the Parish. The celebration included past harvest reminiscences from Jim Basin, a poem read by Liz Roberts and written by Robin Bywater who died earlier this year, accordion music from Phil Trewinnard, singing from Tim Hughes and the James' Junior Choir who were appropriately dressed as fruit and veg!



The Quiz was put together by Shropshire's finest quiz masters, Barbara and Bob Bates! Eight teams battled against each other in the Harvest themed Quiz which was won by the team, 'Persons of Quality,' followed by 'Home and Away'.

As is customary at Harvest, all the windows were dressed by members of the flower team to an exceptional standard.



Clun Valley Music

We were very pleased to welcome *Clun Valley Music* back to St Cuthbert's in what were two exceptional concerts. Both concerts featured *Jongsun Woo (piano)*, *Luba Tunnicliffe (violin)* and *Richard Tunnicliffe (cello)* playing varied programmes with pieces by Bach, Shostakovich and Beethoven. The evening and lunchtime concerts were both well attended by a very appreciative audience.



Quinquennial Survey

Every five years churches are subject to a survey which is paid for by the Diocese but carried out by an independent surveyor. Caroe and Partners have carried out this service for St Cuthbert's Church for several past surveys. Our Quinquennial Survey took place on the 11th October and we are now awaiting the report. The surveyor was Jane Chamberlain who knows the Church having carried out the last Survey. We can say that Jane was happy with the general state of the building which, among other things, she described as 'welcoming'. The tower is our current concern and something that we are aware is in need of pointing and, possibly, strengthening. We expect comments to this effect in the Surveyors Report.

Church buildings in general are expensive to maintain and even minor repairs can challenge the finances. We have recently been through electrical and lightning conductor updates to ensure that the building meets the standards required by our insurers. In addition to this, members of the Church have helped with clearing French drains, repairing pathways and weatherproofing woodwork. There is a list of work that we continue to focus on. We are very fortunate in that the 100 Club helps significantly with meeting the cost of work to the fabric of the building.

Though the Quinquennial is something that generates a degree of apprehension with Church Wardens and Treasurer, it is also a very useful check which highlights not just issues but also the priorities that need to be assigned them. As such, it is something to be welcomed.....we think?

Weather and the Missing River Teme

During the very dry summer of 2022, when I recorded only 39mm rain in July and 17mm of rain in August, the River Teme at Leintwardine dried up to a few pools. I first noticed this in July. This has happened for a short time in previous years but this year there has been no flow since then and there is still no flow in October. Fortunately, the River Clun does not seem to dry up, so the River Teme below the confluence does have water in it. The Environment Agency measures the River Teme flow below Leintwardine bridge, so, on 17th October recorded a level of 0.257m, which, although well below the usual range of 0.32-1.2m is at least some flow.

As before the confluence with the River Clun I found no flow in the River Teme, I wondered where the water had disappeared. On 15 and 20 October at Bucknell bridge there were a few pools downstream but a completely dry riverbed upstream. However, on 17th October at Stow bridge and in Knighton the river was flowing, albeit at a very low level. This was after a reasonably wet September with 61mm rainfall at Hopton Heath (which is about average for the month) and a fairly wet early October, with 47mm up to the 20th (suggesting that the monthly total will be about average).

Where did the water go between Stow and Bucknell? The geology of the area is in the upper Ludlow beds of the Silurian Series, which are mostly shales, so it is unlikely that the river just disappeared underground. Was it extracted for irrigation? This was possible in the summer, although I have no evidence for it, but is unlikely in the autumn. Is it a coincidence that two miles downstream from Stow bridge is the Radnor Hills water bottling plant? This gets its water from a deep aquifer (possibly in the Wenlock limestone?). Could this have an effect on the surface water table in the Ludlow shales? I do not know the answer but it is an intriguing question. Back to my usual weather report, September was warm with a mean maximum temperature of 19C but not as warm as September 2021 (when it was 21C). October has also, so far, been warm with a mean maximum temperature up to the 20th of 16C and only one day of frost (on the 11th). Today (20th) has been foggy with drizzle for most of the morning but the atmospheric pressure is falling and more rain is expected in the next few days. *Mike Tucker*

The Gunnas Gazette by email

We are making genuine progress in reducing the number of printed copies of *The Gazette* delivered.

However, there is still more that can be achieved, so if you can receive your Gazette by email, please sign up to do so by sending an email to gunnasingazette@aol.com.

Just remember, you will be able to read the *The Gazette* in colour by signing up for the digital edition.

The 100 Club

Winners for September:

1. (£60) Andrew Benton
2. (£30) Sophie Cook for Cressida
3. (£15) Elizabeth Hughes

Winners for October:

1. (£60) Philippa Rollason
2. (£30) David Roberts
3. (£15) Jonathan Starkey

If you would like to join (£5 per month by standing order), phone Maureen Rooney (01588 660781) or Mike Jones (01588 661145) or Jim Bason (01547 540782).

The Parish Council

At our last meeting in September the principal item on the agenda was formally to forward £2,000 in CIL money to the Village Hall Trustees to disburse on play equipment.

At a subsequent meeting we approved proposed tree works at Rectory Court, the subject of several applications necessitated by the trees being in a conservation area.

Our next meeting is on 9 November 2022 at 7pm. This meeting will be held live in the Hall. Interested members of the public, as ever, are welcome to attend. Parish matters before (or after) the meeting may be raised with Jen Honour, our Parish Clerk, via clungunfordparishcouncil@gmail.com or directly with me. *Jonathan Roberts*, Chairman (01588 660673: jonathan.roberts@morgoedestates.com).

*Merry
Christmas To
All Our
Readers and
A Happy
New Year*

Christmas Poetry Special

Clungunford Church Sunday December 18th at 3pm



Join us for our annual poetry reading event as we share our favourite seasonal poems ~ old and new, secular and sacred, wise and funny ~ to tell a story of Christmas.

Enjoy festive nibbles and warming mulled wine in this beautiful candle-lit church, while celebrating the magic of midwinter.

Tickets are £10 per adult, children free.

SACRED SPACE



There are just two more Sacred Space gatherings this year in St Cuthbert's Church, Clungunford.

We will meet on Friday 11th November, 6 ~ 7 pm, with the theme of PEACE and on Friday 9th December, 6 ~ 7pm, with the theme A CHILD IS BORN.

In Sacred Space we come together to share an hour of music and silence. We play Sacred, classical and inspirational music and each piece is followed by a short period of silent reflection: it is beautifully calming!

All are very welcome and there is no charge. Any enquiries to annadreda@icloud.com.

Pilgrimage ~ Glastonbury Abbey to Wells Cathedral

Our walk began at the Chalice Well Gardens at 10 o'clock on a misty, calm morning following a lovely shared meal in a Glastonbury pub the night before. There were ten of us in the party ~ Anne and Eddie; Mike and Isabel; Christine and Robert; Catherine and Stephen and Hilary and I. Nine of us would be walking, Stephen was off to Weston-Super-Mare, well someone had to!

The walk started with a steep climb up the wonderful and magical Glastonbury Tor. There were plenty of stops to 'look at the view' but we soon recovered our breath, and Hilary and I (as tradition demands) danced 'Winds on the Tor' around the tower on the top.

From then on, for just under thirteen miles, we traversed lanes and tracks, paths and fields with many obstacles to overcome en route ~ decrepit stiles; electric fences; a hippie encampment in the woods and mud, mud glorious mud! All was managed with great good humour, though, and our coffee and lunch breaks in various churches along the way were opportunities to rest our feet and enjoy each other's company.

For most of the walk we could see the Tor in the background, standing proud on the horizon, and almost seeming to point our way. And at one very special point, we had the Tor behind us and the magnificent Wells Cathedral in front, where we had this poem to hand ~

What we call the beginning is often the end
And to make an end is to make a beginning.
The end is where we start from ...

We shall not cease from exploration
And the end of all our exploring
Will be to arrive where we started
And know the place for the first time.

(from Little Gidding, by T S Eliot)



The end of our exploration (with the most amazing timing possible) was to arrive at Wells Cathedral as Evensong began. The Sweelinck Chamber Choir from Amsterdam were the guest singers and the forty-five minutes of sung and said prayer in the beautiful quire was surely a most perfect way to finish our pilgrimage.

(We were also incredibly lucky that the Gaia installation was still in place, it is on tour around the UK ~ do try to see it if you can.)

The end of our group experience was a delicious meal (with Stephen safely back from his seaside jaunt) at Ask Italia in the market square. With wine and conversation flowing, our thoughts turned already to next year's walk ... watch this space!

Anna Dreda



Village Hall News.....

WOW.....

exciting news



Our favourite pie-man and general feeder, otherwise known as Matt, is moving business premises. He's been based at Ludlow Golf Club for some time and is moving on from there. Can you guess where to?!?

5 points to those who guessed Clungunford Village Hall kitchen!

This is great news in terms of making good use of the kitchen and earning some regular income for the hall, but also the opportunities for exciting foody events - Matt has loads of ideas; carvery, pensioner's lunches, themed meals, so watch this space. And if you have any ideas, let him know.

If any of you are users of the kitchen, thinking of the church twice a month, me for bike night once a month and any other events that may arise; do not worry - Matt is totally happy to share his space and offer help if required.

Here's looking forward to an exciting new partnership (and lots of lovely grub!)

*Christmas
and
New Year*



I know it's really early but I wanted to offer these before everyone made other plans.

Last year we had a really good Christmas Eve do. Madelene baked a selection of complimentary nibbles and there was a superb atmosphere in the bar. Part 1 of my cunning plan is; let's do it again!

Part 2 is this: New year's eve can often be a bit of a damp squib so why don't we all get together in the hall for New Year. Matt will do his legendary hog-roast (I've had several of these and they are world class) for £20 per head. I've got Angus lined up to organise music, Max and I, and any other helpers will run the bar. We can see in the new year on the big screen. Bring family and friends, should be a cracking night.

We have to limit numbers to about 100 so you need to let me know on a first come, first served basis if you'd like to come and give me a £10 per head deposit to confirm your place.

Yeah, I know it's still summer.....



We're growing a library in the hall - a selection of second hand books of all kinds. Donations to Air Ambulance gratefully received.



Bike night is becoming increasingly popular - over 50 bikes last time! Of course I realise it's mostly down to the world class bacon rolls!!

If you like bacon, or bikes and want to join in with a sociable bunch of people, come along on the first Monday of the month from 6.00pm. Bike not necessary!!



Wine & Wisdom! (Christmas Quiz to you!) is scheduled for 3rd December. Teams are a maximum of eight, £6 per head. There will be further details nearer



Table tennis takes place on Tuesdays from 2.00 to 4.00. £3 includes tea/coffee, biscuits and coaching if you'd like it.

If anyone would like to be kept up to date on a weekly basis with news of bar/hall activity, you need to join my email group. Send me a message to d_wilkinson@btinternet.com and I'll add you to the group. All messages go out as private so your email address won't be visible to anyone else.