January 2023

PARISH CHURCH & COMMUNITY NEWS

£1.00 per month (£7.50 annual subscription)

Stone ❖ Dinton ❖ Ford ❖ Upton ❖ Hartwell ❖ Bishopstone ❖ Aston Sandford (Part of the Wychert Vale Benefice)

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January

PARISH CHURCH & COMMUNITY NEWS

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June



May

September



March







November



April



August



December

WYCHERT VALE BENEFICE CONTACTS



Benefice Rector

Revd Cassa Messervy

Associate Rector		
Revd	A A A	
Canon	Sec. and	
Dr Phil	MARK	
Groves	I VOV	



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HP17 8RR

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Revd Clare Joyce		Email: revclarejoyce@gmail.com
Treasurer Steven Kennell	Email: treasurer@	estonedintonhartwell.com

St John the Baptist, Stone	
Richard Smith Trainee Licensed Lay Minister	richard.smith@stonedintonhartwell.com
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Churchwarden		
St Peter and St Paul,	Dinton	
Rosemary Jackson	Innisfree, New	01296 748655 07751 393377
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Churchwarden		4nick.morgan@gmail.com
Laura Macpherson		lauramacpherson52@gmail.com

For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please contact the Parish Administrator at the Benefice Office, St Mary's Centre, Station Road, Haddenham, Aylesbury HP17 8AJ or email: office@wychertvale.org or office@haddenhamstmarys.org

Front Cover image: 2022 Parish Magazines through the year

Editorial -

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." PROVERBS 3:5-6

It would have been hard last January to have predicted the events of the year. so much has happened that was unlooked for, unexpected and unplanned. I sometimes think of this poem at New Year.

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.

It was written in 1908 by Minnie Louise Haskins but not published until 1912. Originally called "God Knows", it became famous when read out in the Christmas Broadcast by George VI in 1939. The then princess Elizabeth, aged 13, had given the poem to her father, George VI.

At that time no-one knew who had written it. Minnie heard the poem being talked about and thought the words sounded familiar.

What this year will bring is a mystery. Holding the hand of God is a good start.

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Parish Services and Calendar

January 2023	St John the Baptist Stone*	St Peter & St Paul Dinton	Stone Methodist Chapel	St Michael & All Angels Aston Sandford
Sunday 1 January Christmas 2	10.30am Family Worship	10.00am United Benefice Service at St Nicholas, Cuddington	11.00am Worship	
Sunday 8 January Baptism of Christ	10.30am Family Communion	3.00pm** Parish Evensong	11.00am Worship	
Sunday 15 January Epiphany 2	9.00am Mattins 10.30am Family Worship	10.00am Morning Worship	11.00am Worship	11.00am Holy Communion
Sunday 22 January Epiphany 3	10.30am Family Communion		11.00am Worship	
Sunday 29 January Epiphany 4	11.00am Joint Service at Stone Methodist Chapel		Covenant Service with Holy Communion	
Sunday 5 February 3 before Lent	10.30am Family Worship	9.00am** Holy Communion	11.00am Worship	

^{**} Please note change of service time at St Peter & St Paul, Dinton – until further notice. Changes/more details can be found on the churches' noticeboards and the website

Parish News is a community magazine for the residents of **Stone**, **Dinton**, **Ford**, **Upton**, **Bishopstone**, **Hartwell and Aston Sandford**. We welcome news, announcements by societies and clubs, and articles on local and other issues. We do not charge for charities or personal notices such as weddings, baptisms or acknowledgments and welcome advertising by local businesses.

Letter from Aston Sandford

The post-Christmas period in Medieval England

In his book *Going to Church in Medieval England* (Yale, 2021) Nicholas Orme has a chapter on *The Seasons and the Year* in which he examines the period from Christmas to Candlemas. Immediately after Christmas Day there were three days of Church festivals – St Stephen on 26th December, St John the Evangelist on 27th December, Holy Innocents on 28th December - and then the festivals of the Circumcision of Christ on 1st January, and the Epiphany on 6th January.

It seems that in wealthy households in medieval times the period from Christmas Day to Epiphany was effectively a holiday known as 'Christmas Rule'. Gifts were given on New Year's Day rather than Christmas Day – which may I suppose have originally been, or perhaps became, a continental tradition, New Year not being a Christian Festival - in France and elsewhere in continental Europe New Year is traditionally more prominent a celebration than 25th December. Christmas Rule was a time for performing carols and dramas, carols being songs in English (or English and Latin mixed) to which people danced. Carols had religious themes but were not used In church. Those twelve days were not entirely the preserve of the wealthy – the few serfs who could afford to take any time off did so as well.

From 13th January or later the Church numbered Sundays as 'first', 'second' etc 'after the octave of Epiphany' and the next few weeks were known as the season of Epiphany. Christmas could thus be seen as lasting till Candlemas on 2nd February – or even later in February depending on when Easter fell that year. I had a schoolfriend whose family always kept their Christmas tree until Candlemas as there were no 'no drop' trees in those days by Candlemas their tree always looked rather sad. These days a tree kept till Candlemas still looks quite handsome.

We think of Candlemas as a Festival of Light, something to cheer the long winter, but then it was celebrated additionally as marking the purification of the Virgin Mary, 40 days after the birth of Jesus. Orme tells us that from at least the end of the 10th century this was a major Feast requiring attendance at church and the bringing of candles by both adults and children. Orme's book reproduces a painting of c



1550 showing a medieval scene of men, women and children (and dogs) carrying the obligatory candles to church. It was the duty of each parishioner to bring a candle, and to bear it in procession 'as though they went bodily to church with our Lady' according to description. A C14th writer tells us that waxen images of animals

were also brought to Candlemas, and they were burnt after blessing in the belief that the blessing would be extended to the beasts themselves.

The candles to be used in the church over the coming year were blessed, sprinkled with holy water and exposed to incense and thus regarded as holy objects – but there is evidence of widespread practice, much frowned upon, whereby the incumbent regarded at least some of the candles as being for his own use, to light his own house. And there were instances of parishioners refusing to relinquish their candles - one can hardly blame them if there was doubt as to their final use.

Marilynne A Morgan, Treasurer, Aston Sandford

Dinton Stocks

In the 16th century, the vestry, a committee of parishioners chaired by the church's incumbent, was becoming the key body in parish government. Its responsibilities embraced civil as well as ecclesiastical affairs and included keeping the peace, dealing with vagrants, mending roads, and destroying vermin. These important roles of the vestry continued until Parish Councils were introduced in the late19th century.



Maintaining instruments of punishment, such as stocks and whipping posts, was therefore part of the work of the vestry, and sometimes stocks were set up by the churchyard wall. A few have found their way into the church as historical curiosities, like this set in Dinton, which is kept in the church porch.

Malefactors – drunks, rowdies, vagrants, and scolds – were often put in the stocks for a while, the mixture of shame, inconvenience, and discomfort being a punishment and a way of detaining people until they calmed down or sobered up.

There is one other curious thing about these stocks there are five holes, and an odd number of holes does not seem to go with the usual human complement of two feet.

Simply Walk in Stone, Haddenham & Dinton

Come suited & booted for whatever the weather To **Simply Walk** for an hour or so in the countryside Just come to our walks throughout the year from:

Methodist Chapel, Eythrope Road - STONE

Wednesday: 11th - 25th January

Bradmoor Farm (rear) car park, Stanbridge Road – **HADDENHAM**

Wednesday: 4th January

Seven Stars PH, New Road - DINTON

Wednesday: 18th January

We meet in the morning for 10.30 It's friendly, fun and **free**A New Year's resolution? It's easy...
Join us for a walk and coffee or tea!

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Visit www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/simply-walk Or call Fiona Broadbent on 01494 475367.



STONE, HADDENHAM & DINTON SIMPLY WALK DATES 2023			
MONTH	STONE	HADDENHAM	DINTON
January	11 th -25 th	4 th	18 th
February	8 th -22 nd	1 st	15 th
March	8-22 nd	1 st -29 th	15 th
April	5 th -19 th	26 th	12 th
May	3 rd -17 th -31 st	24 th	10 th
June	14 th -28 th	21 st	7 th
July	12 th -26 th	19 th	5 th
August	9 th -23 rd	16 th	2 nd -30 th
September	6 th -20 th	13 th	27 th
October	4 th -18 th	11 th	25 th
November	1 st -15 th -29 th	8 th	22 nd
December	13 th -27 th	6 th	20 th

A reminder that magazine subscriptions are due for 2023

*****Please note revised instructions for BACS Payments*****

We hope that you enjoy the magazine and will wish to continue this year.

The annual subscription, which covers 12 issues January to December, costs $\pounds 7.50$

You can make your payment via the following methods:

1. Pay by bank transfer to:

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If paying by bank transfer please include a reference to your address only when making payment eg 12HighStDinton' as this will enable us to reconcile the payment with a delivery address. No other details are required in the reference.

Or

2. By cheque payable to:

'Stone, Dinton & Hartwell PCC'

If paying by cheque please return payment to your distributor or send to David Pickup at 12 Roundhill Stone HP17 8RD

(Please include a note of your name and address with cheques so we can reconcile payments made.)

Please let me know of anyone else who would like to take the magazine:

. ioaco ioa in a
Name
Address
Email/telephone (optional)

Thank you David Pickup Editor

Goodbye to the Stone Local History Group

On Monday December 5th 35 members and friends gathered at Stone Village Hall for our Christmas meeting, and a Special General Meeting.



After drinks and nibbles, we listened to an excellent talk by Paul Chamberlain on the aftermath worldwide of not only the Battle of Waterloo but the effects of extraordinary climatic happenings worldwide, including the massive volcanic eruption of Mount Tambora in the Far East. On the morning after Waterloo, Sunday June 17, 1814, 40,000 dead lay on the battlefield, which

became a horrendous tourist destination. There were many thousands of prisoners and displaced persons through the world.

The volcanic eruptions and the worldwide distribution of dust resulted in extreme weather conditions worldwide including changes of temperature, (snow in June in Europe) and low temperatures in winter. It was a very complex talk, but most interesting.

After the talk we held the Special General Meeting. Pat Horn gave the financial report and warned that we would no longer be financially viable after this year.

Both the Chairman and Secretary/Programme Secretary have resigned after 20 years of service, and although many efforts had been made to replace them, no one has come forward, so a decision has been made to dissolve the Group.

In order to do this, we required a show of hands from members including officers in favour of the proposal. This was almost unanimous, so the Group was closed. We regret this, but are grateful to all the support we have received over the last 23 years

THE LATE QUEEN

Last year we marked the passing of the queen locally, nationally and around the world.

It was a uniquely historic time.

It was an opportunity to reflect with pride and gratitude and look forward with hope and confidence for the future.



Book of Condolence, St John the Baptist, Stone

Stone Methodist Chapel Eythrope Road, Stone HP17 8PH

Minister: Revd. Keith Edwards Tel: 01296 423363 ulysee798@gmail.com



Village contact: Mrs. Sue Spinks Clowesbourne, Upton, HP17 8UA royandsue1@btinternet.com 01296 748369

The Chapel with heart, at the heart of the village WELCOME TO WORSHIP EACH SUNDAY @ 11 a.m.

Village friends continue to be prayed for week by week. During January and following an alphabetical list of village streets we will pray for the families of Griffiths Acre, Haggar Street, Jefferies Road and Lee Crescent. Please leave any prayer requests in the letter box on the Chapel porch, anonymous if you prefer.

The New Year is traditionally a time for making resolutions – sometimes deciding to make changes in our life-style or diet, to take more exercise: that sort of thing. Or perhaps we might resolve to be more charitable in our giving or more regular in

our church-going. We make a promise, if only to ourselves, although It's a moot point as to how long these resolutions last! But the intention is always good – the idea of making a fresh start

idea of making a fresh start.

John Wesley took the idea of promising to make a fresh start and evolved a Service where everyone could renew their discipleship. He called this a *COVENANT SERVICE* because it celebrated the Covenant or promise God made to his people the Israelites to be their God, and in the coming of Jesus this promise was extended to all believers.

The Covenant between God and His people is not a contract in which God and human beings agree to provide particular goods and services for each other! It's not something we have to do to create a relationship with God because God has freely and graciously made it possible. Rather, the Covenant is the means of grace by which we accept the relationship and then seek to sustain it – living within the loving relationship that God freely offers.

It is a challenge: God is committed to us – are we prepared to accept that and commit ourselves to God in return?

This is a New Year Resolution with a difference. Come to the **COVENANT SERVICE on JANUARY 29**th and prepare to be challenged. Remember – God is already on your side!

May the New Year be a blessed and peaceful one for our nation and for the whole world



Note new time on Tuesday
EVERY TUESDAY
11.00AM – 1.00PM

Cakes, traybakes, crumpets, hot soup and rolls

SATURDAY 7th JANUARY

10.00AM - 12 NOON including Breakfast Rolls

JUBILEE PAVILION STONE RECREATION GROUND

RUN BY ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, STONE THE LOCAL CHURCH IN THE COMMUNITY, SERVING THE COMMUNITY

For the whole community to meet friends, make new friends or just come and enjoy the Park while having a cuppa.

Happy Substitute Day

Bank Holidays seem to be like buses. You wait for ages then several come along together! This year in particular we seem to have a full share of bank holidays bunched up together.



May has three:

1 May Monday Early May Bank Holiday

8 May Monday Bank Holiday for the coronation of King Charles III

29 May Monday Spring Bank Holiday

The extra one is for the coronation.

I am not complaining about extra time off of course but then there is nothing until 28 August Summer Bank Holiday. No holidays after that until Christmas when we have two next to each other.

The first Bank Holiday was Boxing Day 1871, and a Bank Holiday then meant literally a day when banks were closed. If you owed money that was due to be repaid on 26th December 1871 then the creditor would have to wait until 27th, so I suppose you got an extra day free credit.

In February the following year there was a national Thanksgiving Day, when no work was done, for the recovery to health of Prince of Wales from typhoid.

Readers of the local press in Aylesbury in 1872 had to be reminded that Easter Monday was a holiday and banks would be closed. Some local businesses notified the public that they would close on the Bank Holidays. Nowadays, shops advertise holiday special deals and opening hours. It seemed to take about a year for Bank Holidays to be seen as general holidays and not just when banks were shut.

This year we do not have a Bank Holiday on New Year's Day because 1st January is a Sunday. Monday 2 January New Year's Day which is known as a substitute day.

Enjoy your substitute day!



Tuesday 'Café in the Park' is evolving......

With Winter coming bringing its colder mornings – we have decided to change what we offer at the Tuesday Café in the Park.

For the winter months we will be changing our opening times to.......

11.00am - 1.00pm

We will be offering a choice of homemade soups with bread/rolls to warm everyone up (as well as still having yummy cakes, cheesy crumpets, hot drinks, etc.)

We want to offer a simple, wholesome, healthy lunch for everyone in a warm welcoming place — in the dreariest, darkest months of the year.

As always there will be no charge so everyone can come and enjoy (although donations are accepted)



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STONE WITH BISHOPSTONE AND HARTWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Your Council, Your Services, Your Parish



The Stone with Bishopstone & Hartwell Parish Council is made up of up to nine Councillors and currently two part time clerks. We represent the 1150 households and the 2122 residents on the register of electorals.

We are responsible for the Parish Assets which include, the War Memorial Recreation Ground, along with the playground, exercise equipment, car park and Jubilee Pavilion, St Johns Play Area, St. John's Burial Ground, Eythrope Road Cemetery, Village Pond and Whitechurch Close open areas.

If you wish to become a Parish Councillor, please check our website sbhpc.org and look for the agenda's in the documents section you will see we discuss various items and typically each item would be led by a Parish Councillor. You can volunteer to lead any of these items or any Parish Projects which are progressing. We currently have one vacancy and if you are interested, please contact the clerk on clerk@sbhpc.org. Current projects include replacing the four remaining wooden noticeboards, a revitalised five-a-side pitch and providing a hard standing car parking surface down at St. John's Sports and Social Club.

Our current voluntary Parish Councillors vary in the time they are involved from a couple of hours per month to several hours per week, how involved you wish to be is up to you. This financial year we will meet ten times on a formal basis. The majority of the formal monthly meetings are held at the Jubilee Pavilion on a Wednesday evening starting at 19:30 for a maximum of two and half hours. Once a year we meet in the Village Hall in Bishopstone.

The Parish Council has made savings over the last year of approximately £15,000 and have agreed to budget these savings into Section 137 grants in this Financial Year. These grants are available for any purpose within the Parish as long as they benefit some of the Parishioners. Please contact the clerk on clerk@sbhpc.org for more information. Two grants have been made this year which funded five new picnic benches at St Johns Sports and Social Club and two new lawn mowers at St. Johns the Baptist Church.

The HS2 Road Safety Fund have kindly agreed to fully fund a new Speed Indication Device (SID) which will replace the one currently on the Oxford Road. The old unit will be repositioned on the Bishopstone Road in Stone by the Stone House care home.



On Sunday November 13th approximately 120 people gathered in the War Memorial Recreation Ground and another 25 in Bishopstone at the Memorial to remember those that paid the ultimate sacrifice.

This was truly a village affair as those taking part were locals as we gathered not just to remember those that paid the ultimate sacrifice but it was also recently the 100th Anniversary of the WMRG Gates being unveiled and the recreation ground being purchased by Stone Villages for the recreational use of the village in remembrance of those that did not return from war.

The service in Bishopstone was led by Rev. Sue Smith with wreaths laid by Councillor Skeet and Councillor List and the names of the fallen read by Councillor Cantle.



In Stone the service was led by Cannon Rev. Phil Groves. Wreaths were laid by Wing Commander Alison McLean on behalf of the veterans, Claire Swidenbank 1st Stone Brownies on behalf of the young people of the Parish and Councillor List on behalf of the Parish Council. The last Post was played by local musician Lee Buckingham and readings were done by members of the community both young and old. The names of

the fallen were read by Councillor Cantle.

I felt this was a fitting memorial of the village to remember those from the village who died to provide the democracy and way of life we all enjoy today.

Clive Corbould Chair Stone with Bishopstone And Hartwell Parish Council

Ukraine

We continue to pray for an end to the conflict and for all those affected by the terrible impact of war.

There are various ways we can all help. The Bucks County Council offers some resources through the following weblink:

https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/community-and-safety/helping-hand-for-ukraine/making-a-donation-pledge-support/



Our new 'What's On' diary is a new feature in the Parish Magazine (see inside back cover) to keep you updated with events, classes, meetings, etc in the local community. If you would like your event or class listed (free of charge) please email details to: david@pickupandscott.co.uk

WELCOME TO FOURTH TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP MEETING at METHODIST CHAPEL 24th JANUARY @ 2.30 p.m.

Bring along a favourite poem, reading or prayer to share with friends for a cosy, friendly afternoon

Followed by SANDWICHES, TEA AND CAKE

MEET

MAKE



FRIENDS

FRIENDS

EVERYONE WELCOME

STONE THURSDAY CLUB meeting in the Methodist Chapel on the SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH at 2 p.m.

is for the over-60s - especially those who live alone or find it difficult to get about -



IF THIS IS YOU, MAKE IT YOUR
NEW YEAR RESOLUTION
TO COME ALONG EACH MONTH

On JANUARY 12th it will be



down as Kathy calls

for our BINGO SESSION

then the excitement of finding a on the BRING & BUY STALL



followed as always by delicious sandwiches, cakes and tea

FOR TRANSPORT PLEASE CONTACT DEE JAMES: 74767

JANUARY BLUES? TIRED AND WEARY?
JANUARY NEWS? COLD AND DREARY?
BRIGHTEN UP! LIGHTEN UP!
GOOD CHEER IS ON THE WAY –IT'S TIME FOR ANOTHER
CHAPEL BOOK DAY!



BOOKS GALORE ARE IN OUR STORE WHAT GOOD NEWS! COME AND CHOOSE.... ON

SATURDAY 20th JANUARY, 10.30 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.at METHODIST CHAPEL, Eythrope Road

and.... EVEN MORE GOOD NEWS...TASTY TOASTIES are available all day along with tea, coffee and biscuits

All funds raised go towards funding a ramp for easy access to the Chapel for those with mobility difficulties

Parish News 18 November 2022







January

Waterperry Gardens have been delighting visitors for years with 8 acres of inspirational gardens nestled in the Oxfordshire countryside. Enjoy winter walks and see the gardens turn into a spectacular vision as the frost spreads across the grasses and trees and the mist winds around the garden and the Riverside Walk. The garden is at its most dramatic state in January as it is cut back for the winter and prepares to burst into new life with Snowdrops in February.

The plant centre, housed within the ancient walled garden offers plant connoisseurs the chance to buy more unusual varieties of shrubs and herbaceous plants. Waterperry is not just for garden lovers, the Gallery and Gift Barn house beautiful artworks by British artists alongside home, outdoor living and gift ideas. Waterperry's Rural Life Museum is packed with quirky ephemera and the Saxon Church within the grounds is complete with its original 13th century stained glass windows and Waterperry House conducts tours of their stunning contemporary frescoes each Wednesday and Friday afternoon.

The Teashop prides itself on producing delicious home cooked meals using locally sourced ingredients, not forgetting the tasty selection of cakes available every day!

Waterperry Gardens, Nr Wheatley, Oxford, OX33 1LA

www.waterperrygardens.co.uk

Parish News 19 November 2022



A CELEBRATION CONCERT

The Society welcomes new members. Join us at the Church on Fairford Leys for our Tuesday evening rehearsals from 7.30 to 9.30. We shall be rehearsing "Creation" by Haydn in January for a concert performance at St Mary's on Saturday 1^{st} April 2023.

Parish and other websites

Church	https://stonedintonhartwell.com/
Stone with Bishopstone and Hartwell Parish Council	http://www.sbhpc.org/
Jubilee Pavilion	http://www.sbhpc.org/Jubilee- Pavilion/Jubilee-Pavilion-Home
Dinton with Ford and Upton Parish Council	https://www.dinton.org/
Dinton News	https://www.dinton.info/
Benefice Website	https://www.wychertvale.org/
Oxford Diocese (The Church of England serving the people of Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire)	https://www.oxford.anglican.org/
Church of England	https://www.churchofengland.org/

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Should you contact any of our advertisers, please mention the Parish News.

Should you be interested in advertising your services in the Parish News, please contact Sue Unwin (sunwin1958@hotmail.com or 07760 177599).



Join the Haddenham Community Library Volunteers

Are you looking for a new opportunity to work with a friendly group of people and bringing your knowledge and skills to support the community.

Maybe you are interested in books, helping people find information and resources. Then consider joining the wonderful team of volunteers at the library and support your local community.

Being a library volunteer gives you the opportunity to meet new people, develop new knowledge and skills, and support and interact with a range of people from the community to build a vibrant community space.

Volunteering has many benefits including gaining new skills and knowledge, making a difference in the community and continuing to develop your sense of purpose and general wellbeing and improving brain functioning. It can also increase your career opportunities.

To apply drop into the library and speak with the library manager or email librarymanager@haddenhamcommunitylibrary.org.uk

Looking forward to you joining us.

WE NEED YOU! NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

Do you have 1-2 hours per month available to help out on a voluntary basis with delivery of the Parish Church & Community News to residents in your area?

For more information, please contact David Pickup on 01296 748170 or email david@pickupandscott.co.uk.



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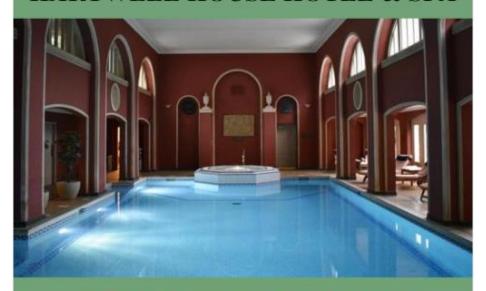
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JANUAR	RY 2023
1	Church Services (see page 4)
2	
3	Café In the Park (see pages 12/14)
4	Simply Walk (see page 7)
5	
6	
7	Café In the Park (see pages 12)
8	Church Services (see page 4)
9	
10	Café In the Park (see pages 12/14)
11	Simply Walk (see page 7)
12	Stone Thursday Club (see page 18)
13	
14	
15	Church Services (see page 4)
16	
17	Café In the Park (see pages 12/14)
18	Simply Walk (see page 7)
19	
20	Chapel Book Day (see page 18)
21	
22	Church Services (see page 4)
23	
24	Café In the Park (see pages 12/14)
	4th Tuesday Fellowship Meeting (see page 16)
25	Simply Walk (see page 7)
26	
27	
28	
29	Church Services (see page 4)
30	
31	Café In the Park (see pages 12/14) ck with event organisers if meeting/events are going ahead. If you would like to list yo



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