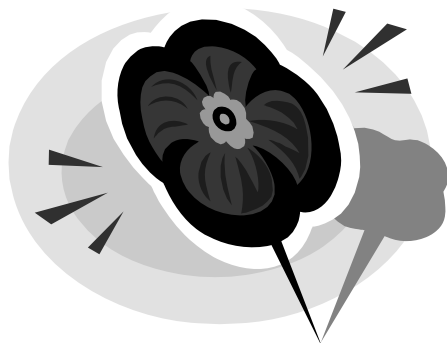


Poulshot Village News
November 2010



The Raven Inn

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Lunch served 12 - 2pm

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Poulshot Village News

is put together by Nina Jeffries and anyone else who would like to help, and distributed to all houses in the village by a lovely team of helpers. Help, contributions, reports, opinions and articles are very much welcomed. While we will always aim to include all shades of opinion and interest, we reserve the right to select and edit where appropriate. We also aim to provide a network and record of what's going on in the village, as fully as possible, so please let us know if there is anything that you would like publicised in advance or reported on afterwards. The intention will be for the magazine to float through your doors in the first week of each month, so contributions need to arrive about ten days before that. We look forward to hearing from you.

Contact us -

e-mail - poulshotnews@btinternet.com ;

by post - 3 Sillington Lane, Poulshot, SN10 1TD

Contributions for next issue in by 20th of the month please

Advertising

Poulshot Village News is happy to accept adverts, indeed relies on them to fund production costs. Publication of an advert does not constitute an endorsement for that product or service. Adverts may be taken as a full, half or quarter page, at a cost of £40/£25/£15 respectively, to run for the full year of the magazine. Subscribing to an advert in the magazine will automatically get you a listing on the Poulshot web site - www.poulshot.org.uk

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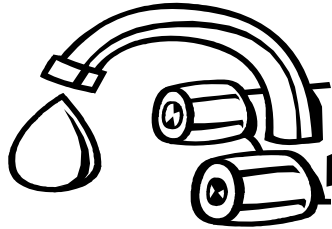
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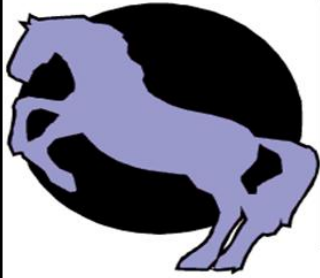
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Outside users - £8 an hour

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e-mail - jackie.pohnert@gmail.com

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Village Contacts

St Peter's Church -

Priest in Charge - Revd. Renée Coulson 827285

Churchwardens

Mrs Paulette Bremner-Milne 828527

Mrs Janet James 724944

PCC Secretary - Mrs Kate Amery 827172

PCC Members -

Mr Nicholas Hunloke (Treasurer) - Lady Kate Hunloke (Deanery Synod) -

Mrs Angela Bullen - Mr Chris Saunders - Mrs Dot Wood - Mrs Joyce

Arnold (Deanery Synod) - Mr Brian James

Organist - Mrs P De Belle

Parish council

Chairman - Mr Nicholas Hunloke 828333

Clerk - Mrs Maggie Goodenough 827205

clerk@poulshot.org.uk

Meembers - Mrs Sue Aldridge - Mr Joe Baber - Mr Geoff
Collett (Vice Chairman) - Mr Steve Housby - Mr Nicholas Hunloke -
Mr Malcolm Nixon - Mr Tim Nixon

Local Councillors

Kennet District Cllr Jonathan Seed 850 696

e-mail jonathon.seed@wiltshire.gov.uk.

Farmers Club

Mr Richard Francis 828232

Mother and Toddler Group

Mrs Clair Waldron 828602

Poulshot Ladies Club

Lady Kate Hunloke 828333

Village Hall -

Chris Saunders 827290

Bookings - Jackie Pohnert 827046

Village Trust - Chairman - Mr Nicholas Hunloke 828333

Secretary- Mr Peter Cleverly 827242

Members - Mrs Diana Gravina (Vice-chairman) -

Mr Brian James (treasurer) - Mrs Pam Langton (Archivist)

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WILTSHIRE NUMISMATIC SOCIETY
PROGRAMME 2010

Hon. Secretary Pam de Belle 01380 828453

Mr R. Jeffrey 01225 703143

Verity Jeffery Telephone Number 01225 703143.

November 15 - Annual General Meeting

December 10 - Christmas Dinner at The Raven Poulshot -prior booking
only - see Pam for details

Poulshot Ladies Club Dates for Diary

November 16th Village Hall 7.30p.m. - To be arranged

December 14th 7.30 for 8pm - Christmas Dinner at The
Raven. The menu for either two or three courses will be
distributed in due course

NOTICES FROM PARISH COUNCIL

VILLAGE GREEN

TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF EVERYONE USING THE
VILLAGE GREEN PLEASE ENSURE THAT
ANY POSSIBLE HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES
ARE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PARISH
COUNCIL

CONTACT numbers are available from the reverse of the magazine.

YOUNGSTERS OF POULSHOT

??WHAT DO YOU WANT IN YOUR VILLAGE??

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL IS LISTENING!

PLEASE CONTACT Mandy Housby or Teresa Ollerhead

Future Council Meetings

2nd November 2010

4th January 2011 1st March 2011

ST PETER'S CHURCH - Future dates for diary

CAROL SINGING AROUND THE VILLAGE

Monday 20 December Please come along and join us as we sing carols in the lead up to Christmas. You don't have to have a great voice, but you will need the ability to singing with gusto! We will finish at the Village Hall for mince pies and mulled wine.

CAROL SERVICE

Friday 24 December On Christmas Eve, St Peter's Church will be having a Carol Service at 6 pm. We look forward to welcoming you and please stay afterwards for sherry and mince pies.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

For the first time for many, many years we will **NOT** be holding our Christmas Bazaar. Over the past years, the numbers of people, especially children, have dwindled and the PCC has decided not to hold the bazaar this year. On quite a few occasions, dates have clashed with Rowde School and for obvious reasons the children want to go to school events with other friends. We may decide to hold the Bazaar again in the future or perhaps something else Christmassy!!

Church Flower Rota

Nov 7th Mrs Mandy Housby

Nov 14th & 21st Mrs Suzie Quinn

ADVENT - No flowers

CHRISTMAS - All Helpers please

Allotment available

in the Green Gardens

**Please contact Maggie Goodenough, Parish Clerk,
if you are interested**

01380 827205 / e-mail clerk@poulshot.org.uk

Poulshot Feast - Many Thanks

[originally received for the last issue but mistakenly omitted
by slightly demented editor ... apologies, Nina]

On behalf of the organisers, I wish to thank everyone who contributed to the Poulshot Feast on 11 September. As anyone who attended will realise, a large number of people gave freely of their time in order to ensure the day was successful, and for this we are extremely grateful.

The principal aim of the Feast was to share in and celebrate the life of the village and the surrounding area. We were blessed with good weather, the attendance was very good, and there was a happy atmosphere throughout the afternoon. Visitors joined in the active demonstrations, and the varied displays of artwork, old and new vehicles, cookery, food and wine, all seemed to generate interest and enjoyment. The recreational activities on The Green were well supported, and there were good numbers of entries in the friendly competitions, many of a high standard. All this suggests we achieved our principal aim.

The Poulshot Supper Feast in the Village Hall in the evening was also well attended, and everyone present seemed to enjoy the relaxed and informal atmosphere. So a big thank you to the "Soup Ladies" for the excellent food and service.

A secondary, but important aim, was to raise funds for the two charities, Help For Heroes and Wiltshire Air Ambulance. Most activities were free, and where there were charges these were kept to a minimum to cover costs. However, as we hoped, people gave generously, and over a thousand pounds was raised to be shared equally between the two good causes. Again, many thanks to all who contributed, but I would particularly like to mention the two young cadets from Worton (Jake Wilshire and Sean Cannon) who gave up their time to go round with the collection boxes.

So, all in all, this was a successful day which spoke well for the village and the area. As a new event, there are, no doubt, things we could have done better, and any views on this are welcome. However, thanks to very many people, we can be well satisfied with the day's work Well done, everyone!

Brian Arnold.

In Accordance with the provision of the Local Government Act 1972 you are hereby summoned to a meeting of Poulshot Parish Council to be held on Tuesday 2nd Nov 2010 at the Village Hall 7.30pm

MEETING AGENDA

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. Declaration of interests

Open Session

3. Minutes of meeting held on 7th September 2010 confirmed by all Councillors, either at meeting or prior to, as a true and accurate record of events and signed on 21st Sept 2010.

4. Matters Arising:

- a. Pippin Homes Development - Update
- b. Village Green Risk Assessment - Tim Nixon
- c. Village Green - Steve Housby to report on Course attended.
- d. Parish Steward - Geoff Collett to report
- e. Ponds - up date from Village Trust
- f. Playground safety inspection report - Sue Aldridge to report
- g. Community Area Partnership - Tim Jalland to update council.
- h. Community Speed Watch Scheme - update
- i. Sintons Insurance - Update
- j. Trees on Green - Work to start November/December
- k. Playground Survey - Steve Housby to report
- l. Lackham Vintage Society - Date for 2011
- m. Fibre Optic Broadband - Progress so far

5. Finance - a Parish Council to approve payments

Payable	Net	VAT	Gross
M Goodenough (Clerks Salary October - November 2010)	190.83	0	190.83
Mazars - External Audit	140.00	24.50	164.50
Simon Franklin - hedge cutting	335.00	58.63	393.63
Society of Local Council Clerks - Course CPD Common Land (S Housby)	95.00	16.62	111.62

b Current balance sheet and payments.

c Date for budget meeting to be arranged, November 2010.

12. Planning: - Applications received between meetings

E/10/1226/TCA	Poulshot Village Trust	Dankay Cleverly	Work to trees beside ponds at Manor Farm and Green Lane Pond
E/10/372/FUL	Mr J Dyke	Belle Vue Farm, Poulshot Road, Poulshot	Erection of Calf Shed and hardstanding
E/10/1356/ADV	Messrs Hues	Land off A361, Poulshot Lodge Farm	Erection of advance warning signage for farm shop
E/10/1291/FUL	Mr M Reader	21 Poulshot Road,	Ground floor side extension to garage and first floor extension, new dormer windows to front elevation.
E/10/1303/TCA	Mr D Bullen	Middle Green Farm, 26 The Green	Works to trees consisting of a 30% crown reduction to copper beech and felling of a eucalyptus.
E/10/1325/FUL	Mr C Saunders	Rowans, 7 Barley Hill Lane	Change of use of land from agricultural to domestic.

14. Date of Next Meeting to be confirmed as 7.30pm on Tuesday 4th January 2011 at the Village Hall.

The Raven Inn

This is the year that was!

Nathalie and myself have been at the helm of the Raven Inn for one year and what a year its been. From our opening night to our first Christmas, New Nears Eve to the Horses Holiday we have seen it all.

The first thing I must say is how welcoming the regulars and people of Poulshot have been. Susan and Philip left some very big shoes to fill and it was made easier by all the support we received from all of you.

We had some highs this year with our Curry & Karaoke night, (or how to murder an Abba song), Pasty making competition, (won by yours truly) and of course our Caribbean Night (thanks to Nathalie and her rum punch) but we promise this " you ain't seen nothing yet" On the 5th November we are having our first years party with a hog roast after the Fireworks on the Green (all profits to go into the Poulshot Fireworks fund) and later on in the evening a Karoake.

We will also be holding several events to be held on Sunday evenings over the winter so please check the notice board in the pub for details. Please note our new Opening times on the Cover. We would like to thank you all again for your generous support over the last year and we look forward to your continued support in the future. We feel that it will be a year of financial uncertainty but please be assured that myself, Nathalie and all our staff will do our utmost to make your time spent at The Raven Inn as special.

See you soon and thank you all once again

Jerry.

ALABARÉ INCLUDE

Alabaré Include are here to provide support for those suffering mental health and emotional difficulties, aged 18 upwards. On referral we will allocate a one-to-one worker who will work with you to assess how we can enable you to improve your quality of life. We will also be running a Befriending Service and various activity groups. Referrals can come from anywhere - yourself, your GP, a family member - we will even take a referral over the phone!

We also need Volunteers for the activity groups and for the Befriending Service (training and expenses given).

Call 01380 738602 for more information, a referral form or just a chat. Or e-mail us at enquiries@alabare.co.uk

Broad Band Access In Poulshot

Last month I discussed the reasons for poor broadband speed in our area, I also discussed some potential solutions. Since then British Telecom has announced significant investment proposals for rural areas, unfortunately the Seend exchange is not yet on the list approved for improvement. As you know our exchange at Seend covers Seend, Bulkington and Poulshot, therefore it will be very important for us all to cooperate in persuading BT that we should have some priority.

Our Parish Council is at the moment deciding how to achieve some form of campaign to put forward our cause and I hope that by the next magazine there will be some news on that front. I have been contacted by several of you in Poulshot, but also by some in Seend and Bulkington; all the comments are so far positive and I hope that many more of you will express your interest, please contact me in the meantime BT is trying to gauge interest itself, they have an on line voting system to pick the next exchanges to be upgraded, the more votes we have the more likely we are to be upgraded. Can I ask you all to vote please by going to the following web site. <http://www.racetoinfinity.bt.com/>. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact me. mike@mai-wilson.co.uk

Mike Wilson

POULSHOT LADIES' READING GROUP

Following our previous good read , " The Road Home" by Rose Tremain, we shall be discussing quite a different novel when we meet on Tuesday, November 30th, 7.30p.m. in the hall. Our chosen book, "Dancing Backwards" by Sally Vickers, is her most recent book and the Independent review describes it as " Absolutely compelling. An all pervading psychological astuteness and peerless story telling."

Well I thoroughly enjoyed it as I have all her books. If you would like to come along and join in, please do; if you would like to read the book before you come, phone Jackie on 827046. The evening lasts about 90 minutes including a hot drink before we decide on our next GOOD READ.



Light the
night.

Poulshot bonfire
6pm on the green
Friday 5th November

**Make a Guy and enter it in
the competition.**



POULSHOT VILLAGE TRUST: BIG TREES PROJECT UPDATE

DIGGING HOLES TO PLANT TREES

At the last Village Trust meeting the Chairman, Nicky Hunloke, advised that, since the fields on either side of Hay Lane would have no growing crops during the next week or so, we should seize the opportunity to dig the holes we would need for tree planting in the hedgerows later in the year. The following Monday, 20 September 2010, local contractor Ollie Coles brought his auger digger to Hay Lane and all the holes were dug.

PLANTING THE TREES

On Wednesday 6 October 2010, Simon Richardson of the Community Payback scheme met a few of us to discuss the work involved in planting and to assess Hay Lane's suitability as a workplace. The workers will be men who have been ordered by the Court to do a specified number of hours community service. We have asked for their help to plant, stake, put on guards, and tag, the tree whips that will be going in this November. Simon will supervise and ensure the workers achieve a good standard of work and behave responsibly.

BUYING THE TREES

Ben Hamilton has offered to arrange the sourcing of the oak, ash, and large-leaved lime tree whips, together with stakes and guards, for the Big Trees Project.

FUNDING

Feedback from Tim Jalland is that the Area Board has agreed a grant of £1,489 - an additional sum that allows the Village Trust to complete Phases I and II of Poulshot's Big Trees Project.

For further information contact the Big Trees Project Leader:
Peter Cleverly, Secretary Poulshot Village Trust, at
petercleverly@btinternet.com

Help tomorrow take shape

2011 Census coming to a letterbox near you

On 27 March 2011 all residential households in the United Kingdom will be taking part in a census. Since 1801 a day has been chosen every ten years for this purpose (except in 1941 during the war). The census provides an excellent source of information about the population. This enables central and local government, health authorities and many other organisations to identify need for housing, education, health and transport services for years to come.

Did you know that supermarkets use census statistics to work out the kind of foods they need to sell to keep local communities stocked up with their favourites? Water companies use the census data to plan the pipes for clean and wastewater - to make sure there's enough for everyone. Fire brigades and the police use census data to help communities, putting fire alarms and crime prevention measures in specific areas. The benefits are far reaching.

The census statistics also feed into the allocation of funding for local authorities and play a major part in identifying need for local services in communities, so it is crucial the population estimate is as accurate as possible. When the questionnaire envelope comes through the door you'll easily recognise it by the purple 2011 Census logo. Take care of it. If, like many people, you want to complete the questionnaire online, your individual internet code is on the front of the questionnaire.

The 2011 Census doesn't want anyone to fall behind - so there is a wide range of help options available (such as language guidance booklets, large print format, Text Relay and census field staff on hand, as well as online help and telephone call centres).

More information about the 2011 Census can be found at:
www.census.gov.uk

Rowde Primary School

Good support for the World's Biggest Coffee Morning

Last month we held a coffee morning and managed to raise over £200 for the Macmillan Cancer Support Charity. Many parents enjoyed having a chat, coffee and slice of cake as well as the opportunity to buy from various stalls. A special thanks to Goughs Solicitors, Chocoholics and Pheonix Cards and everyone else who supported the event.

Harvest Festival

A lovely service was held at St Matthews Church on Friday 8th October. All the children were involved with each class presenting their work through reading, poetry, art and singing. There were many fruit, vegetables and food offerings, which were distributed by the Year 6 children to local OAPs living in Rowde and Poulshot.

Book Week takes on an international theme

During the first week in October, the children had the opportunity to discover and learn about different nationalities and countries as part of the annual Book Week. Several parents and grandparents came into school to read to children's books in different languages. An Indian Dance Day was also arranged to allow all the children to take part in workshop sessions where they learnt different dances, signs and played games. Mrs Taylor, the School Cook, served one of her delicious curries for lunch on the same day. The Rowde School Association (RSA) organised their autumn disco to support Book Week and encouraged the children to dress up as their favourite book character. Lots of imagination and creativity was involved with the costumes and everyone had a great time playing book themed games. All money raised was invested in new books to support reading levels across the school.



Autumn Walk

The new Reception children along with Year 3 went on a walk to the grounds of Rowdeford School to collect leaves, moss and other natural artefacts for their autumn display. Luckily they took advantage of the warm weather, and apart from a few tired feet, much fun was had by all.

Finally... Thank you to everyone who donated to the Bag 2 School collection. Again we had a good response, and will let you know how much was raised.

Deanne Elsdon

Wander through a
**Winter
Wonderland**

Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th December

4pm to 8pm

Brook House, Bromham

kindly hosted by Mark Wilkinson OBE

Wander through a magically lit garden ... find Father Christmas at home in his grotto ... explore the pantomime trail ... decorate the Christmas tree ... feast on delicious goodies ... cuddle a Christmas donkey... ...come along and join the fun!

Entry: £10 a car Father Christmas: £2.50 (gifts for all)

Queries: Contact elizabethfrearson@hotmail.co.uk

ROWDEFORD CHARITY TRUST (No: 1088605)

Supporting Children with Special Needs in Wiltshire

The Wiltshire Air Ambulance

Arrangements already having been made to donate half the proceeds from the Poulshot Feast (£520) to the Wiltshire Air Ambulance, as the two village survivors of a helicopter pick-up from the Green, Geoff Collett and I were invited to present the cheque at Police Headquarters in Devizes. Neither of us have any recollection of our respective flights and Geoff had already stated his wish to see the helicopter and thank those most involved in rescuing him. I had visited before but there are always questions that you would like to ask about how the service operates.

So it was that at 5 p.m. on Friday October 8th 2010 we stood, together with Brian Arbold, beside a very shiny well maintained helicopter. After the handing over of the cheque, photographed by a policeman and Brian's son Matthew, we were able to have a good look round and ask many questions.

The first thing that strikes one is the apparent limited space inside. The crew seem to think that it is quite adequate, and say that transfer from the front seat to the rear poses no problem. However, the stretcher is loaded at a 45 degree angle and then straightened up inside, with the patient's feet disappearing towards the tail section. There is a seat for the paramedic beside the patient and various pieces of equipment (including a defibrillator mercifully) across the width of the fuselage high above the patient's legs. When there is an emergency call a land ambulance will attend the incident and assess the situation because the air ambulance is only summoned and used in life threatening situations. In such cases the paramedic will be attending the patient in flight, most usually around the head and torso. The crew always consists of the pilot, a police observer and the paramedic. On Geoff's pick-up the policeman was 'bumped-off' the helicopter in Poulshot as there was a trauma doctor who arrived by car and flew with the pilot and paramedic to Frenchay Hospital in Bristol. The policeman returned to Devizes in the Doctor's car.

Flying times are approximately six minutes to Bath Royal United Hospital and nine minutes to Frenchay - wonderful when time is of the essence. The helicopter advises the hospital of its estimated time of arrival and any critical information about the patient. Usually there is a reception detachment waiting for the landing.

What a tremendous asset for our county this service is. Alongside police funding, its continuation is completely dependent upon fundraising amongst the community and charitable donations. Why this has to be is a favourite theme of our own villagers Keith and Pauline Day who have helped to raise thousands of pounds for the Air Ambulance. I hope no-one reading this article has to be rescued by the helicopter but be assured - if the need arises, it sure is comforting to know it is there. I definitely owe my continuing life to it (nearly seven years on) and Geoff feels the same. It is a wonderful service and such brilliant professional people operating it. Please support it at every opportunity.

Finally - Geoff is recovering slowly but steadily. Another success story for the helicopter!

P.S. If anyone has any tips on how to wash and dress by lunchtime using only one hand, Geoff would love to hear from you! Alan Webber

From the Vicar ...

Communication's a great thing, ain't it? Following my letter last month I was told exactly how the confusion arose! Ah well, as my husband used to say to me, "You're not often right, and you're wrong again!" I'm used to that - not much has changed over the years! So, ruffled feathers restored and, moving on ...

... but, no. I don't want to move on without publicly acknowledging (again) the hard work of the main organisers of the Feast weekend, Brian and Joyce Arnold. I think it was hugely successful. I do hope that many others gave really good feedback after the event. It was another great community-building occasion for the village - one of many that I've very much enjoyed with you all in the past year. Praise the Lord - and praise be to all those on the ground who made them happen! Now I've done it: I've said "thank you" again.

That puts me in mind of an incident that took place while I was away with my family recently. I chose Butlins simply because I knew there was such a lot on offer for little children. You see, Stanley, my little 2 year old grandson is really active. He's always busy, always moving and always in a hurry. At the age of 2, he's already realized that there are so many exciting things to do and see and experience in this incredible world God has given us and he was beginning to find out that a lot of fun things happened right there at Butlins.

One day Stan rushed into the kitchen in search of a mid-afternoon snack. Hurriedly, he said to his mum: "Orange, Mum, Orange!"

PJ, my daughter, quickly peeled and segmented a Clementine and handed it to him in a bowl. He grabbed the fruit and turned on his heel to rush back out of the kitchen. But before he took very many steps, his mum said: "Stanley, come back. What are the magic words?" Well, he screeched to a halt, turned back around and said: "Please! Thank You! You're Welcome! God Bless You! And I Love You, Mummy!"

At this point, he got a second treat!... a big cuddle!

The magic words PJ was looking for were "Thank you.", of course. But she got more than that... but those were the words she was looking for... because PJ knows how important it is... for us all - to learn how to stop and say thanks."

And that leads me to think of the story of the ten lepers that Jesus healed (Luke 17:11-19). It was last Sunday's Gospel reading. Only one of those lepers took the trouble to turn back and to say "thank you" to Jesus. Doing just that makes all the difference in the world. The leper received far more than a simple healing - his whole life was changed: Stan received far more than his "orange". Our own thanks affirm people. Expressing our thanks creates a warm, "feel-good" factor for both the recipient, and for the giver. They encourage greater things. With this in mind, "Thank you", and God bless you!

Renée

... and while on the subject of "Thank you's" ...

The annual Service for Remembrance Sunday will take place on 14th November at 10.50, as usual. However there will also be an opportunity to say "thank you" to those whom we love and see no longer, at a special **Service of Commemoration** to be held at **Seend Church** on **Sunday 31st October** at **6 pm**. It will be a reflective kind of service, with an opportunity to light a candle in memory of a loved one. Please either add their name to the list at the back of church, or let a churchwarden know.

For those who have had a family funeral in church over the past year, you should be receiving a written invitation to the service. However, this service will, of course, be open to everyone across our three parishes, irrespective of when the death occurred. The service will provide an opportunity to speak privately with the vicar or a pastoral assistant, and everyone is warmly welcome to come to the Vicarage for a drink and a chat afterwards.

Renée

100 Club Draw

October

1st Prize	Caroline Tadhunter	£25
2nd Prize	Jackie Herridge	£15
3rd Prize	Sue Aldridge	£10

November

1st Prize	Rosalie Stevens	£25
2nd Prize	Diana Gravina	£15
3rd Prize	Ian Brothers	£10

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SEEND AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

Our September talk was by Karen Johnstone talking about the garden of the late Geoff Hamilton. It was an interesting and informative talk illustrated with lots of slides and showed how the layout of the garden had to take into account walkways for cameras and how it has developed since.

This month we were visited by Peter Biggs and his father to talk about plants for winter interest in the garden. He brought lots of plants to illustrate his talk and quite a few had changed hands by the end of the evening. The principles of planting for winter colour are to buy plants that provide flowers or berries in the winter months; evergreen leaves, particularly glossy or with the underside of a lighter colour; plants with coloured stems; or plants that have an interesting shape, either naturally or that can be pruned to shape. A list of plants would take up too much space but garden centres always have seasonal displays to help with choosing.

The competition for a vase of plants for winter interest was won by Jeni Raby-Cox. We were very grateful to Jackie Chalke for allowing us to use the school hall for the evening where we were made very welcome. Next month, November 9th, Mike Bowden is going to talk on The Rowdeford Charity Trust and the Victorian Walled Garden. The competition will be for a savoury snack (which will then be part of our refreshments). If there are any members who would care to help our Christmas meeting with a reading of a seasonal flavour please let Carole or Sue know.

WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR NEWS FROM JONATHON SEED

I pen this article for your Parish Magazine as the Comprehensive Spending Review which will affect all our lives unveils and we will all have seen the detail by the time you get to read this. There is no doubt that the Coalition Government must get our national finances in order after the mess that they were left in by the outgoing Labour Government. This exercise in national housekeeping will have serious effects on local government and we are expecting a 25% cut in our funding over the next three years but we still hope to keep Council Tax at its current rate for the next two years. To do this will involve pain and the Council has just announced 240 management redundancies and we can expect further job losses. Wiltshire Council remains determined to maintain front line services and to continue to invest in the future of Wiltshire. We simply could not achieve this had we not become a Unitary authority last year and a quick peep over our County border will show just how deep cuts will bite when we see, for example the much smaller, Somerset County Council announcing 1500 job losses only last month.

So just how will all this affect us locally and what can we expect for the future? It is certain that services will be delivered in different ways but with more local say and involvement. Education, health and social services are already showing the way for this new localism as part of the new Big Society. We are very lucky in the Melksham Community Area that your Councillors have taken the lead in securing massive investment in the delivery of local services through a new single site campus. The Council will draw down from the current nine council owned sites in the Melksham area to one site and use the capital and annual expenditure efficiencies to invest in brand new buildings to deliver more and better services locally. Within the next three years over £11million will be spent on a new swimming pool, a new leisure centre and a raft of associated services in brand new buildings for our community use. So, although we will all have to tighten our belts, at least we can look forward to this "once in a lifetime" leisure and other investment in our area. For this I hope our children will thank us.

Jonathon Seed

The Wednesday Group

The Wednesday Group met on 13th October to discuss the question 'Equality and Fairness, Attainable or Desirable?' I very soon came to the conclusion that that was about as far as my report would go, as we struggled with the definitions of both Equality and Fairness, but in the end we did, unusually, reach a sort of conclusion.

Equality was the first hurdle to be overcome, and that was simpler than at first appeared. Parliament has passed legislation to outlaw discrimination and to ensure that everyone has an equal opportunity to succeed in life. But while we all agreed that at birth, 'All men are born equal', that's where equality ends. From birth we all develop into different human beings - different by gender, age, colour, race, intelligence, ability, both mental and physical and in so many other ways. We can't choose our parents and how we are brought up, or our schools, and both parents and schools all differ to some degree or other - it seemed to us that Equality is simply not Attainable, and so we considered Fairness.

Again, the definition of Fairness presented a difficulty. It is very much a subjective judgement depending on individual interpretations of what is fair and what is not, interpretations that develop from our earliest days and that change as we develop and learn to consider the position of our fellow men and women. Without doubt, Fairness is something that we all take into account in all our dealings with others but assessing what is fair and what is not fair comes down to personal decisions and the only way that is going to change is by evolution and not by legislation. And so we came to the conclusion that Fairness is Desirable and, hopefully, Attainable.

This is only a brief summary of what was a difficult and wide ranging discussion and I apologise for not including everyone's arguments - to tell the truth I'm not sure that I followed them all, but then I don't think that I was alone!

Next month, on Wednesday 10th November, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, we shall consider the question: 'What is the Role of the Church in a Secular Britain?' Come and join us.

Church Services November 2010
Poulshot, Seend and Bulkington

Sunday 7th November

9.30 a.m.	All Age Worship	Bulkington
11.15 a.m.	All Age Worship	Seend
6.00 p.m.	Evensong	Poulshot
	Sidesman: Mr C. Saunders	Reader: Mr B. James

Sunday 14th November

10.50 a.m.	Remembrance Service	Poulshot
	Sidesman: Mr N. Hunloke	Reader: Col. C. Langton
10.50 a.m.	Remembrance Service	Seend
10.50 a.m.	Remembrance Service	Bulkington

Sunday 21st November

9.30 a.m.	Parish Communion	Bulkington
11.15 a.m.	Parish Communion	Seend
6.00 p.m.	Parish Communion	Poulshot
	Sidesman: Mrs J. Arnold	Reader: Mrs Y. Baber

Sunday 28th November

9.30 a.m.	Family Communion	Poulshot
	Sidesman: Mrs S. Quinn	Reader: Mrs J. James
11.15 a.m.	Family Communion	Seend
6.00 p.m.	Family Advent Carol Service	Bulkington

Sunday 5th December

9.30 a.m.	All Age Worship	Bulkington
11.15 a.m.	All Age Worship	Seend
4.00 p.m.	Benefice Christingle	Seend
6.00 p.m.	Evensong	Poulshot
	Sidesman: Mr F. Wood	Reader: Mr M. Hues

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