

The LYDDEN



Issue 589 January 2024



News / Features / What's On / Community Information



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LYDDINGTON and WANBOROUGH



In the United Benefice of Lyddington, Wanborough, Bishopstone and Hinton Parva



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Having lived in Wanborough most of my life and sold many properties in the area, I offer a truly independent and personal service.

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With excellent schools and an abundance of pubs and restaurants, it is a joy to live and work in the area.

For all your property needs, please give me a call.

DEAN ARMSTRONG- WILDE

The Lyden Magazine – January 2024

Dear Friends

A couple of months ago, I wrote about the process the four churches in Wanborough, Liddington, Bishopstone and Hinton Parva are currently undertaking to choose a name that might represent us as one locality. In the new year, we will be considering combining into one administrative body (Parochial Church Council) under the name of the Wellspring Villages. We will be asking for views from people throughout the four villages to decide if this is the right course of action for us, so watch this space!

The reason Wellspring Villages was chosen was based on two main factors. First, the obvious! Throughout this area, there are many springs and wells, including in our churchyards! I went for a beautiful walk over Charlbury Hill last week and was constantly seeing and hearing the trickle of running water. It was beautiful. The name feels like it really represents something about this part of the world.

The second reason is a bit deeper. Wells and springs give us water, something that is essential for life, but also symbolic of other and less obvious needs. This comes up throughout the bible. In Proverbs, the writer says “Wisdom is the wellspring of life to one who has it, but folly is the punishment of fools” and “The words of the mouth are deep waters; the wellspring of wisdom is a gushing stream.” (Proverbs 16: 22 and 18: 4) When Jesus meets a woman by a well in Samaria, he says “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” (John 4: 13-14) We need water to sustain life, but we also need those other things that come from God alone.

I am really pleased about this choice of name and it is the basis for our prayers as we move forward: that God will grant us wisdom, a wellspring of life that gushes up to eternal life.

Kind regards
Rev'd. Chris Hunter

curate@wroughton.com
01793 814987

A prayer for all our needs:

Lord God,
we pray “Give us today our daily bread”.
Give us what we need this day,
inspire us with wisdom
to reject what we do not need,
and give us the yearning for those things
we need not for the body but for the soul.
May the water of life,
from deep wellsprings,
burst within us to eternal life.
Amen.



Church Services January 2024

For the Benefice of Wanborough, Lyddington, Bishopstone and Hinton Parva

Date	Time	Church	Service
Sunday 7 th January 24	10.30am	St Swithun's, Hinton Parva	Holy Communion
Sunday 14 th January 24	10.30am	St Andrew's, Wanborough	Holy Communion
Sunday 21 st January 24	10.30am	St Mary's, Bishopstone	Holy Communion
Sunday 28 th January 24	10.30am	All Saint's, Liddington	Holy Communion
Wed 31 st January 24	7.30pm	St Andrew's, Wanborough	Licensing of Rev'd Stephen Paynter

Front Cover

The front cover picture was taken by Paul Robson while walking up The Hollow. He said it's called a Fogbow or White Rainbow. It's similar to a traditional rainbow, forming from sunlight interacting with water droplets in fog, mist or cloud rather than interacting with raindrops as it does in a classical rainbow.

Many thanks Paul for sending your photo to us. If you have a photo that would be suitable for the front page please e-mail it to lydenmagazine@gmail.com.

Dates for your Diary - January 2024

Date	Event	Time	Location
Wed 3 rd January	Liddington Parish Council meeting	6.30pm	Liddington Village Hall
Wed 10 th January	Gardening Club AGM	7pm	Bishopstone Village Hall
Thurs 11 th January	WI	2pm	Wanborough Village Hall
Sat 13 th January	St Andrew's Bell Tower Recruitment morning	10.30am	St Andrew's Church
Sun 14 th January	Deadline for Lyden articles	5pm	lydenmagazine@gmail.com
Sat 20 th January	Farmer's Market & Community Café	9am	Wanborough Village Hall
Sat 20 th January	All Saints' Bingo	7pm	Liddington Village Hall
Mon 22 nd January	Wanborough Parish Council meeting	7.30pm	Wanborough Village Hall
Thurs 25 th January	Lyddington Fete Committee organising committee meeting	7pm	Liddington Village Hall
Sat 27 th January	Ward Councillor surgery	9am	Wanborough Village Hall
Wed 31 st January	Deadline to submit your completed Lyden questionnaires	5pm	

In addition to the above dates

Wanborough Coffee morning every Thursday at 10.30am at The Brewer's Arms

Bridge Club every Friday evening at 7pm at Hinton Parva Village Hall

Freedom Church 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month

Save the Date - Future events in the Benefice

Date	Event	Time	Location
Sat 10 th February 24	Children's Valentine's Party	4pm	Liddington Village Hall
Mon 12 th February 24	All Saints' Coffee morning	10am	
Fri 14 th & 15 th June 24	Wanborough Beer Festival		The New Calley Arms
Sat 15 th June 24	Lyddington Fete		
Sat 17 th August 24	Wanborough Show		Church Meadow

If you have a village event that you would like to advertise so that we can all save the date e-mail details to lydenmagazine@gmail.com.

The Old Boilers News

Please note, the date has had to change for the 6th Wanborough Beer & Cider Festival to Friday 14th & Saturday 15th June 2024. Please save the date.

By the time you read this publication The Old Boilers will have donated more funds to great causes from last year's Wanborough Beer Festival.



- Coffee & Cake Club at the Brewers Arms. The Old Boilers picked up the tab, one Thursday in December. Merry Christmas to all.
- We provided a 72 pint, barrel of beer to every pub in the village for Christmas. Enjoy everyone.
- We were asked to match the meat raffle donation, at the New Calley Arms, for the RNLI of £500 (Royal National Lifeboat Institution) which we were delighted to pledge.

So, on behalf of The Old Boilers we wish every reader a very happy, prosperous, and healthy New Year.

And do put our Beer Festival in your diaries, we have some great things planned.

Kind regards Barry

On behalf of The Old Boilers.



Wanborough Farmer's Market

We hope you have had a wonderful Christmas and we wish you all a Happy New Year .

The next Farmers Market will be on Saturday 20th January.

New Year , new traders and lots of our regulars.

We hope you can come along and join us for a fun morning.

See you there 9am to noon.

Lorna Naseem

07903 210 505 or lornanaseem@gmail.com



Community Café - Farmer's Market

Stroke can be life-changing.

It can happen to anyone of any age and affects everyone in different ways depending on where it takes place in the brain, and how big the damaged area is. Here in Swindon, Stroke Support runs a Group that meets for mutual support, help and advice. Built on friendships and fun, it is a safe and supportive space to try things

again, to learn more about stroke and self-care and to build confidence as survivors rebuild their lives after stroke and it relies on financial donations.

Pop down to the Community Café, for coffee, tea and a homemade cake on Saturday January 20th and you can make a donation to help keep this valuable service, thriving.



****(And if you would like to be part of the Coffee morning team, please, please get in touch with either Lorna or myself – we could do with an extra hand from time to time!)* **

Thanks, Jo Pearse (07780718880)

The Old Boilers trip to Winchester

Another fabulous day trip to Winchester Christmas Markets was organised by The Old Boilers on Saturday 25th November.

The main area of the Christmas markets is located behind the Cathedral, and with many other shops and markets along the High Street, you are spoilt for choice. In addition if you are not up for shopping there were plenty of other historic areas that you could explore, including a nature reserve (Winnall Moors) only a short walk from the centre. A big thanks to the Old Boilers for organising.





WANBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council's Update – January 2024

Parish Councillor Profiles

After introducing your new councillors in the November issue we thought it would be nice for you to get to know your current serving councillors too. This month the profile is for the Vice-Chair of Parish Council – Councillor Omar Mirza.

My name is Omar Mirza. I am currently vice chair of the council and was elected as a councillor a year ago. I have lived in the village for over 14 years with my wife, two daughters and our cockapoo. I am keen to give back to the community so have been a Wanborough Primary school governor previously, as well as a mentor to young people from diverse backgrounds helping them progress their careers. I am passionate about inclusion, diversity equality and access for all, with a particular interest in gender and as an ostomate myself, in disability matters. I enjoy long dog walks in the beautiful countryside that surrounds us. My other big passion is live music and I try to go to as many concerts and festivals as I can. (Recommendations on acts to see are always welcome!)

As a councillor, I am keen that all (not just the loudest) residents voices are heard by the Parish Council, that decision making by the Council takes all residents voices into account and that we do all we can to nurture our friendly and welcoming village community and character.

Parish Councillor Vacancy

Wanborough Parish Council has a vacant seat for a Parish Councillor and now wish to Co-opt someone onto the council.

Are you looking for a new challenge?

Do you want to make a positive difference?

Would you like to influence decisions that affect your community?

You will need to be able to attend monthly Parish Council meetings which are held on a Monday evening, plus spend some extra time working on areas of specialism and smaller committees.

You will need to confirm that you meet one of the following criteria:-

- You are registered as a local government elector for the parish;
- You have occupied as owner or tenant any land or other premises in the parish during the whole of the 12 months before the day of co-option;
- Your main or only place of work during the 12 months prior to the day of co-option has been in the parish; or
- You have lived in the parish or within three miles of it during the whole of the 12 months before the day of co-option.

To express interest or for more information, please contact the Parish Clerk. E-mail–Clerk@wanborough.info

Parish Council Elections

Swindon Borough Council will be changing its election cycle in 2026 to whole council elections once every four years and parishes were given the option via a consultation to harmonise their election cycle with the borough benefit from cost sharing. A response to this consultation was discussed and provided at the Full Council Meeting on Monday 27th November where the council unanimously agreed to harmonise with the Borough Cycle. This means that there will be no Parish Council Elections in 2024. The next election will be 2026.

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting is due to be held on Monday 22nd January 2024 at Wanborough Village Hall starting at 7.30pm. All residents are welcome to attend.

Sarah Hardwick – Clerk to Wanborough Parish Council.

Parish Website www.wanborough.info

Clerk's email clerk@wanborough.info

Clerk's telephone number 07588 769829

Lyden Magazine

If you would like to submit an article to be included in next month's Lyden, then please e-mail your contribution to the Lyden by the 14th of the month prior to the following month (by 14th January for February's magazine).

Lydenmagazine@gmail.com We are always keen to hear from you.

Your Ridgeway Borough Councillor update - Gary Sumner:
Ward Surgery is January 27th 9-10.30 at Wanborough Village Hall

Happy New Year

Planning: At the time of writing this article I am attending Planning Committee to support the application for the new Church school at **Redlands Grove**. At the last meeting members raised an issue about an additional pavement in the school car park and this has now been resolved so I'm hopeful that it will be approved and begin construction to complete September 2025. This is important as new residents will have to drive their children to schools either in Wanborough or Covingham or further afield – putting more cars onto our roads and not adding to the new community.

I will be objecting to the Foxbridge South planning application for 320 homes and a 'mixed use hub' (this is on top of the 200 homes at Foxbridge North which was already approved at appeal). My problem with this is that there is now to be no primary school for this new community at all as the inspector didn't think one was justified for 200 homes, and wasn't obliged to consider the other half of the development.

This will make it an unsustainable community where all trips to school will likely be by car and not as the 'New Eastern Villages' was designed with 'walking neighbourhoods'.

I'll update in the next edition if I was successful in getting the application refused.

Council Motion: I submitted a motion to Swindon Borough Council for the Council meeting on the 23rd November, asking the new Labour Administration to strengthen the protection of the 'Area of Non Coalescence' (in effect the green belt) around our village to prevent additional development beyond the New Eastern Villages from coming closer.

The motion was voted down without debate as they said we can all participate in the 'Local Plan Review' next summer and there may be developments on greenfield sites they would support.

Kite Hill resurfacing works – following observing myself and a resident raising concerns with the quality of the surfacing works I requested a site visit from the Project Manager and Highways team. We met on site this week and walked the length of the works. They explained that the material used 'Ultralayer' is used as any imperfections will be corrected in warmer weather as the surface softens. Some areas had been heat sealed by the contractor following a call back and the remainder they are confident will not be a problem. There is a 1 year warranty on the re-surfacing and they will inspect again next summer before the warranty expires. Overall comments have been very positive.

School Safety Zones – Wanborough & Bishopstone: The consultation for Wanborough has finished and the one for Bishopstone will end on the 2nd January. The 20mph zone for The Beanlands will also have a final formal consultation and we will be looking at Kite Hill/Church Road again.

Please call me on 01793 790814 or email me: gary@ridgewayvillages.co.uk

Ridgeway Villages website: www.ridgewayvillages.co.uk



Freedom Church,

Wiltshire (part of the Free Methodist Church) would like to wish all our readers a very happy and healthy New Year.

Whatever this New year does bring we want you to know that we are praying for you and that you have a Father in heaven who loves you.

Jesus, God's son, came to earth to show us the way to the Father and to offer every single person the gift of eternal life.

Many of you may know the scripture from John's Gospel Ch. 3 verses 16-18 "This is how much God loved the world: He gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life. God didn't go to all the trouble of sending his Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. He came to help, to put the world right again. Anyone who trusts in him is acquitted; anyone who refuses to trust him has long since been under the death sentence without knowing it. And why? Because of that person's failure to believe in the one-of-a-kind Son of God when introduced to him." This is taken from The Message Translation.

Our prayer is that 2024 may be the year that YOU find the life that God promises. A life with meaning, purpose and fulfillment.

You are welcome to join us for worship in Wanborough village hall on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month at 10:30am

or if you would just like to chat about the Christian faith over a coffee /pint contact Lou on 07548371982



Liddington Parish Council

SEASON'S GREETINGS

The Parish Council hopes that you have all had a relaxing and enjoyable break over Christmas and a Happy New Year.

A REVIEW OF 2023

The Parish Council were pleased to complete the new platform at The Trigpoint on Liddington Hillfort, which we are obtaining a plaque for. Hopefully you all agree it looks excellent and it is worth a walk to see it.

Liddington Parish Council were pleased to end the year with two new Councillors in 2023, Andrew Poppleton and Jake Sturgess both of whom have brought different skill sets to the PC.

We currently still have vacancies on the Parish Council so if you would like to have a say in how the village is looked after then why not consider joining the Council.

To qualify you will need to have resided or had your principal place of work in the parish, or within 3 miles of it, during the whole of the 12 months prior to co-option. To find out more, please email the Clerk at parishclerk@liddington.org or alternatively, speak to one of our Councillors.

As a Parish Council we have been trying to improve the parish's environment and this is with thanks to our Grounds Maintenance Contractor – Adams & Watt Ltd who do a tremendous job.

The Parish Council continue to try and do what they can to improve the community.

Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 3rd January 2024 please note the earlier start time of 6:30pm, this is now the new meeting start time going forward, in the Village Hall. Residents are welcome to attend. Please note the section where the public can speak is to be held at 7.00 pm in the Main Hall.

Alternatively, if you would like to raise an issue or ask a question, please contact the Clerk, via parishclerk@liddington.org

Laura Evans, Clerk to Liddington Parish Council

Saturday 20th January 7:00 p.m

~
@ Liddington Village Hall

~
Family & Friends Bingo Night

~
Snacks & Licensed Bar

+
Raffle



£6/ book; All proceeds go towards the maintenance of All Saints, Liddington.

To reserve a table & for more information: email: lvhymas@btinternet.com Tel: Mandy 791396

Liddington 100 Club

The winner for November is Sid Bishop - congratulations Sid.

I hope you all had a merry Christmas and I wish you all a happy New Year .

[Caroline Tams](#)

Waiting for Gordo

I served on the Liddington Parish Council twenty years ago when Gordon Wilson was chair. It was fun and frustrating - until the latter got the better of me.

The fun was the Parish Plan. We'd an inaugural public meeting. I invited the pub landlord at that time to speak for ten minutes on why the pub should be named the Village Inn when villagers weren't welcome. He opted out of speaking but when he saw the negative feedback from villagers he relented, allowed children in, removed "reserved" on every table, and opened a shop that sold morning papers. It was a good result for the landlord and the village.

I collected feedback from the teenagers for the Plan. We made a short movie, "Waiting for Gordo," a nod to Samuel Beckett's play. The teenagers were great, now adults themselves and they still talk about it.

Frustration at getting things done in a timely manner is the lot of parish councillors. I admire them for their patience, more patience than I have. At one meeting we discussed flooding on Purley Road. Letters were exchanged with Swindon Borough. Nothing happened, twice. Irritated, Gordon, Sid Bishop and I met at the flood with picks and shovels. We dug a trench in an hour and that was the end of the it.

The Liddington logo was designed by Gordon and I got a poem out of it. It's a tribute to Gordon for years of being chair and for his public service. And as you're still on the PC, Gordon, can I tell you the flood is back.

www.mauricespillane.co.uk



As with all things Possible

The stained glass window,
the one you made yourself
of Liddington Hill,
sits on the off-side of your house
like a surprise, reflecting the hill
into our quiet village.

I turned my car there one night,
watched the light inside
compete with the foraging moon,

the solace of a private view.
Your vision of course,
your persistence, hewn

by fingers that imagined colour
on a drawing board within
the randomness of black tracks

and forged a collection of memories
from coloured glass
into a pastoral parallax.



News from All Saints'

Many thanks to everyone who came to the Christmas Fayre on Saturday 9th December, it was a very successful event. Picture of Father Christmas who very kindly attended on the day.

Future events

1. Friends & Family Bingo Night on Saturday 20th January at 7pm at Liddington Village Hall. Please see poster on page 8 for further details.
2. Children's Valentine's Party on Saturday 10th February from 4pm to 6pm at Liddington Village Hall, more details next month.
3. Lyddington Village Fête on Saturday 15th June. Please come along to the first meeting of the organizing committee on Thursday 25th January at 7pm at the Village Hall. Please come along with your ideas!

All fund raising events raise money for the All Saints' Church.

Coffee mornings - Please note

Lyddington All Saints' Coffee mornings the Village Hall: there will be **no coffee morning in January**. We will be moving them to the second Monday of the month. So the first coffee morning for 2024 will be Monday, 12th February at 10:00 a.m.



News from The Bell Towers

The church bells of Wanborough and Liddington will hopefully have been rung over the busy Christmas period for all of the Sunday and Christmas services, as we have done for many years. However, the small and enthusiastic band of ringers needs to grow so that we can continue the ancient art of campanology in our churches in future years.

We are looking for new recruits, including younger learners aged from 10 upwards, who live in Wanborough, Liddington, Hinton Parva or Bishopstone. You don't have to go to church to ring bells.

Bell ringing is a truly local, national and international hobby, with bells rung in 21 other towers in the Swindon area, throughout the UK, and in countries as far afield as France, Australia, New Zealand, the USA, and Canada. Bell ringing is good physical exercise and can be mentally challenging. Our magnificent bells are easy to ring, and sound superb.

Interested? We are holding a Recruitment Morning on Saturday 13 January, 10.30 am at St Andrews Church, Wanborough, see advert below. Come along and have a go! **Tony Pullan, Tower Captain** 01793 790904



Church Bell Ringing

Something different. Why not give it a go

New Year - New Hobby

Exercise your brain, and your body

St Andrews Church, Wanborough

Saturday 13 January 2024

Interested? Come along at 10.30 am

Tour of the belfry - see how a bell is rung - and have a go.

Tony Pullan, Tower Captain, 0774 5011 788 tony@wanboroughringers.org.uk

TENNIS CLUB UPDATE

Happy New Year to all of our members and Wanborough residents. We hope you had a relaxing time with family over the Christmas, and are now keen to hit the tennis courts. To help play continue through the dark nights whilst keeping our costs down, we had new LED lights installed on courts 1 and 2 last year. Since then, we have had them re-adjusted to ensure that they are working at optimum angles and levels.

Junior Tennis

Becky has had a very busy time with the Juniors, between the Halloween party and then the Under 11s Christmas Tournament; results will be announced next month. We are delighted to announce that WTC has been given funding to ensure our parent and toddler group can continue indoors throughout the winter. This is the only session of its kind in the county and is open to all parents/guardians with children aged 18m to 3 years old. Sessions take place Mondays 10-10.30am and cost £5pp.

Well done to club junior Nathaniel who represented Wiltshire at last month's u8 county cup event in High Wycombe! He played at the top of the order which is a fantastic achievement, hard work pays off.

Thank you and well done to the U8 Juniors who represented Wanborough at the recent Wiltshire tennis festival, Thomas, Mark, Olivia & Betsy did the club proud and had a good experience of playing matches and being in a more competitive environment.

2024 LTA Advantage Wimbledon Ballot

Don't forget to opt in to the LTA Advantage Wimbledon Ballot - the deadline is 14th January with balloting starting early February. To opt in, you must be over the age of 11, sign up to the LTA advantage membership - either Fan+, Play+[free] or Compete, and set Wanborough as your affiliated club. Further details are available on the LTA site:

<https://www.lta.org.uk/major-tennis-events/grand-slams/wimbledon/ballots/>



BISHOPSTONE AND HINTON PARVA WI

The November meeting of your local WI was a busy evening. As well as having a very interesting talk from Andrew Foley who is the West Oxfordshire's Area Ranger for the National Trust there was a special celebration during the second part of the evening.

All the members were delighted to be able to celebrate the 90th birthday of Doris Brown who lives in Bishopstone and who has been a WI member for a very long time.

The large gathering of members were very happy to toast Doris and celebrate her birthday with wine and a special, beautifully iced birthday cake. The evening ended with a rousing rendition of 'Happy Birthday'.

The January meeting of the WI will take place on

11th January 2024 at 2:00 p.m. in Wanborough Village Hall.

The talk will be given by Trish Wells on Awe and Art of the Pharaoh's Nile.

The February meeting will take place on

8th February 2024 at 2:00 p.m in Wanborough Village Hall.

Karen Roberts and Karen Hawkins will talk about Improving Balance and Preventing Falls.

New members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining our WI please e mail Jan Chapple.

janatwan@icloud.com



CHISELDON LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 17th January 2024 in the Church Hall at 7.30 p.m. when the subject is "The Home Front in World War 2", presented by one of our regular speakers, Bill King. Bill is sure to give us an informative and entertaining evening. If you want to find out more about what was happening at home with campaigns like "Dig for Victory" and the activities of the Home Guard and Air Raid Wardens then come along and join us. Many women also took manufacturing jobs and farm work (The Land Army) to take the place of men who had been called up for the armed services. It was also a time of rationing of food, fuel and clothing amongst other things.

Membership subscriptions are £20 per year, with the subscription year starting in October. Visitor fees for non-members are £5 per meeting. The schedule will be published on the website (see below).

Our website www.chiseldonlhg.org.uk contains news of forthcoming meetings as well as general information on the History Group and local historical links and information. Other events will be published here when available.

Chiseldon Museum

The museum is now closed. It will re-open in April

Elaine Jones (01793 740784) Keith Parsons (01793 741346)



SWINDON & DISTRICT SAMARITANS TURNING THE BLUES INTO BREWS IN 2024

Brew Monday is a Samaritans takeover of 'Blue Monday' – the third Monday in January which is often dubbed 'the most difficult day of the year' (although there's no scientific evidence to back this up). From 15 January we'll be encouraging everyone to get

together for a cuppa and a catch-up.

At Samaritans we know there's no such thing as 'Blue Monday' and that feeling low isn't just reserved for Mondays or any random day in January... so we're saying *out with the blue and in with the brew!*

For Brew Monday 2024, Swindon & District Samaritans are inviting everyone to hold a Brew Monday to catch up over a cuppa – it's such a lovely way to check in with the people you care about. It doesn't matter if it's a Monday morning or a Saturday night, or if you're drinking green tea, black coffee or orange juice! It also doesn't matter if you catch up in person, virtually or over the phone. If you're sharing a cuppa and listening, then you're helping to make a difference in beating the winter blues.

Now, more than ever, sharing a cuppa is more than a drink – it's about reaching out, checking in and staying connected.

As well as reaching out to family and friends for a cuppa and a chat it's also possible to raise vital funds for Swindon & District Samaritans to help ensure there's always someone there for anyone who's going through a tough time.

People can donate whatever feels right to them. If they want to, they can bring their own cuppa & cake whilst donating what it usually costs. A donation of £5 is all it takes to cover the costs of Samaritans answering a call for help.

If you need to know more – please reach out to: swindon@samaritans.org – and if you brew up to chase those blues away and can support Swindon & District Samaritans at the same time, please donate via our website:

<https://samaritanscommunity.enthuse.com/swindonanddistrictsamaritans/profile>

Samaritans are always here every hour of every day of the year – talk to us any time you like, in your own way, about whatever's getting to you:

T: 116 123 – calls are free E: jo@samaritans.org



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Get to know

Your Community Policing Team

Wiltshire Police

YOUR FORCE, YOUR AREA

- Meet your local Community Policing Team (CPT) police officers and PCSOs
- Find out about crime stats in your area
- Learn about local policing meetings and events
- Read the CPT priorities
- Contact us

SCAN HERE

Swindon CPT
North, East & Rural
<https://bit.ly/3NY7nqUe>

Ladies Who Lunch

“ But they said it wouldn’t rain!”

The wail came from the back, as plastic macs and clingy anoraks were unrolled from bags slung purposefully across shoulders for this adventure. Not so much of an adventure, surely: a three mile walk in beautiful countryside followed by lunch.

Don’t rely on the satnav, they’d said. What was actually in the email? Ah yes, park in the road near the pub. Which pub? Is this the right pub? Is this the right road and can you get out of your side into the nettles or should I move forward a few inches? Oh, that’s more of a ditch now. Bit soggy. Sorry. Still, those boots are waterproof.

It had been a tense start, meeting up in three cars, and white van drivers with loud horns had seemed surprisingly tetchy as the group of women meandered round two narrow corners before reaching the safety of a footpath. “ This is the steepest bit”.

And it was. Nobody puffed and panted out loud. It wouldn’t do to show weakness when they’d hardly started, but the capital letters on the notice at the top of the hill seemed to shout loudly enough to give them a moment’s breather:
STRICTLY NO PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY.

“ Does that mean us? Surely we can go up here? It’s on the map. Look”

It did mean them. A vehicle hurtling towards them slewed to a stop and the driver pointed (several jabbing times) to a woodland path they’d managed to miss. Retrace their wet steps with a sigh. “ This is really pretty, isn’t it. Watch your feet. Tree roots.”

Oh yes, pretty in the woodland, but woodland can be dense with brambles and who wants to get torn to pieces, they said. Retrace steps once more. Sigh again, but quietly this time as the view was better from this angle, and after all, they were going down now, not climbing.

Through the village, along the road and here are some very imposing gates. “ Surely the footpath goes up this drive, doesn’t it? It just looks a bit, well, sort of private. Perhaps we’d better not.”

A zippy little car drew up to the gates with a swoosh. Enviously (and somewhat disconsolately, it must be said,) the group watched. Ah well, nothing to lose.

“ Excuse me, we were just wondering if.....”

“ Oh yes, the path is right there at the side. It goes directly in front of the White House there, our house, you see, and you’ll find a sign to follow. I’m so sorry, my dears, but I can’t see my way to offering you all lunch today. Goodbye.”

Was it the plastic macs? The muddy boots? The general air of dejection? Or did the Lady Of The Manor actually have a sense of humour? And who had moved the sign from the edge of the road ? Public Footpath. For the public.

Never mind. They were clearly trustworthy enough to use the key in the box to open up the chapel in the middle of the field . What treasures lay within! Coffin lids, floor tiles, brass wall figures, and two silent stone effigies bearing witness to the passing of hundreds of years. Turn the key carefully to lock the evidence of past lives safely away.

The stones may have been silent. The walkers were not. Bits of past and current lives were shared. Holidays and lofts and gardens and children and courses and other walks, other days. And of course, are we nearly there yet, I’m dying for a coffee.

Priscilla’s Kitchen was a welcome sight.” Goodness me, we’ve walked five miles, what with all those extra sections. Not bad for ladies of a certain age. “ Not all the ladies smiled at this phrase, but they certainly all smiled at the sight of food and drink and a table to sit round in a bright atmosphere of welcome.

Ladies Who Lunch. And they did.

Waste and Recycling collection

We apologise for getting the dates the wrong way around for the new Waste & Recycling in December’s issue. Dates for January are:-

Recycling & Food Waste: Wed 3rd, 17th and 31st January

General Waste & Food Waste: Wed 10th & 24th January

All missed collections can be reported on SBC’s website, www.swindon.gov.uk just search on “missed collection”.

We did another cycling trip !

I suppose it was inevitable.

After having been taken in by the idea that from the Alps to the Mediterranean would be 'simply downhill' (well, in the long run it is, but in practice there's a bit more to it than that) our cycling adventure in September '22 with two good friends way exceeded expectations. So we planned another.

This year we went a bit further, took a bit longer and followed 2 major routes, connected by a 3rd. So in short, we started in Vienna, followed the Danube to Passau and from there took a connecting route to Salzburg where we joined the Ciclovía Alpe Adria Radweg to the Adriatic coast (Italy).

One of the many questions we've been asked (after 'Why?') is about the bikes we used – did we hire them? (no) were they electric? (no) and so how did we get them to Vienna? It turns out many airlines will take bikes in the hold (boxed obviously) and we find this is easier than trying to travel with them by train. Once again Mitchells supplied us with the cardboard boxes new bikes had been delivered to them in, and with some jiggery pokery (front wheels off, handlebars rotated, tyres deflated...) and plenty of duct tape they were loaded onto our flight in Stanstead and we retrieved them a couple of hours later in Vienna where we met our friends who had taken 3 flights to get themselves and their bikes from British Columbia, Canada to Vienna. The other FAQ is about our luggage when cycling, was it transported for us each day? No, the men are brave and carry panniers – we travel as light as possible but even then, the panniers are heavy!

So it was on a rather disappointingly damp and drizzly morning at the very beginning of September 2023, that with some trepidation, we worked our way through the city centre's cobbles and cycle lanes during the morning rush-hour. But once alongside a canal leading us to the river (Danube), away from the traffic and noise, the drizzle ceased, the day brightened and yes, we were off!

The Danube *isn't* blue but as Europe's 2nd longest river, flowing over 1,700 miles through 10 countries, it's very wide. Travelling west, when we weren't on the banks of the Danube, we passed through picture postcard Austrian towns and villages, often with cobbled streets and onion topped churches whose bells rang out in unison (well, almost), painted houses with geranium filled window boxes, castles, vineyards and monasteries in what turned out to be beautiful weather. It was relatively flat too – a bonus!

There was always some slightly nervous anticipation to see if where we'd booked for the night lived up to the write up and reviews. We usually stayed in small rustic hotels though we spent one memorable night in a somewhat quirky castle; our room keys allowed us to view the rather eccentric collection of suits of armour, stuffed birds and animals and gun displays all very unexpected, but part of the adventure.

On a 'rest day' (i.e. do the washing and sightsee while it dried) we stayed in Airbnb's. Our first rest day was in Passau, the imposing ancient town stands at the confluence of the Danube, the Inn and the Ilz; it was an exciting spot to explore with its castle high up on a hill offering spectacular views, and pretty squares in which to sit and sip.



From there we followed the Inn towards Salzburg and this is when the landscape changed and the mountains came in to view – and the route got hillier. Lush green meadows, towering rock faces, crystal clear lakes fed by tumbling streams, Tyrolean chalets with more geranium filled window boxes, cowbells, church bells, occasionally passing through dormant ski resorts. Stunning. We loved our day in Salzburg; climbing up to the fortress set high on a hill above the town offering spectacular views in all directions. In the town itself we recognised scenes from the Sound of Music, enjoyed mouth-watering apple strudels and walked miles. Maybe more of a change than a rest after all! The 3rd cycleway of the trip would lead us through the Alps to the coast, so not surprisingly there were some challenging climbs over the next few days in particular up to the old spa town and ski resort of Bad Gastein built into a steep mountainside. A few miles further on, we took a 10 minute train ride through a tunnel saving us thousands more feet of ascent. On the other side of the tunnel our route took us across the border into Italy (totally unmanned by the way!) and through more stunning scenery, now with welcome stretches of downhill! One day our route

followed a disused railway line taking us through 13 long tunnels – some only lit by motion activated lights, others were unlit; scary!

Villach with its nearby lake side beach, Udine with its lovely piazza and Aquilae with astonishing 9th Century mosaics, were just some of the fascinating ancient towns and villages we came through as we headed towards the coast at Grado, our final destination, 554 cycled miles from Vienna.

So on arrival, we paddled, took the customary celebratory photographs before locating our last Airbnb of the trip where we spent 3 days luxuriating in the warm glow of achievement, swimming, resting and eating. The food, the wine and the coffee were all good!

Would I recommend it? a resounding Yes!

Would we do it again? Carpe Diem; it seems Sicily is beckoning.

Jo Pearse



Lyden Magazine

The Lyden magazine first started, we believe, in December 1974, so 2024 will be the 50th year since it was first produced. We are aiming to run a series of articles in 2024 looking back on how the Lyden started and snippets of old magazine articles to celebrate the 50th Anniversary in December 2024.

We are therefore asking if anyone has any old copies of the Lyden that they can share with us. If you have please get in contact with Angela - Lydenmagazine@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you.

The Lyden magazine, produced in conjunction of the PCC (Parochial Church Council), has for many years raised funds for St Andrew's Church. It is a great form of communication and brings the community together.

Today the Lyden magazine has a small committee of volunteers who organise the monthly production of the magazine, in addition there are many other volunteers who very kindly deliver the magazine to you each month.

As a thank you to all those who deliver the magazine, on Saturday 18th November the Lyden committee organised afternoon tea with plenty of homemade cakes and invited all the helpers to come along. It was a lovely afternoon and a great way to thank everyone who helps.



Lyden Magazine Questionnaire

We are always looking to make improvements to the magazine, so we are keen to gain your feedback. We are therefore asking if you can all please complete the questionnaire to help us gain a better understanding on what you would like to see included in the magazine.

You can either:-

1. Complete the questionnaire in the centre pages, pull out the centre pages and post to either:-
 - The Brewer's Arms pub (box inside the pub)
 - The Old Post Office (High Street), post through the letterbox
2. Complete the questionnaire online by using the QR code.
3. If the QR code doesn't work for you, you can also go to the website www.wanborough.info where there is a link to complete the questionnaire online as well.

Closing date for the questionnaire is 31st January 2024

Many thanks

Lyden Magazine Team



Lyden Magazine Questionnaire

Over the past 4 years The Lyden Magazine team have made several changes to the magazine and we hope you enjoy receiving it each month. We are keen to gain your feedback to help us continue to improve the magazine.

Please answer the following questions, confirming your name and postcode.

All information provided will remain anonymous and will only be used for the purpose of the Lyden Magazine team to look at how they can improve the service they currently provide.

1. How do you receive the magazine?

Hard Copy (delivered through the door)	
Soft Copy (via e-mail)	

If you receive it as a hard copy would you be interested in receiving it via e-mail:

Yes	
No	

2. Do you manage to read the magazine each month:-

Yes	
Some-times	
Never	

3. What articles do you like to read in the magazine:-

Articles	Very Interested	Interested	Not Interested
Vicar's Letter			
Calendar – list of dates for events in the villages			
Parish Council update			
Ward Councillor update			
News from local clubs & societies			
Local walks			
Adverts for local events			
Hobbies – such as gardening etc			
Historical information			
Centre pages – photo gallery of village events			
Contact information			

4. Do you have any ideas of what else you would like to see included in the magazine

5. The magazine is currently 32 pages long and we aim to keep the advertising pages to around 30%.
Do you think this is about right?

Yes	
No	

6. Please let us know any other ideas you have on how we can improve the magazine

7. Please confirm your name and post code. This information will not be shared and will only be used to confirm where you live.

Name	
Postcode	

Many thanks for completing this questionnaire
Lyden Magazine team

Not so much an adventure more a way of life.

And so, we come to the end of my adventures in the Lyden. Thank you for following me. Thank you for your comments. Thank you for your asides. Thank you for sharing some of your adventures with me. And a special thank you to Angela, the Lyden editor, for her continuing patience in waiting for me to skid in just outside the monthly deadline.



When Lorna Naseem dared me to write a year of what I was up to I thought her both endearing and mad. But it worked and I won and now who will take up the challenge and follow on the tradition? I must admit it's been fun and as someone who can never remember dates it helped me to realise the advantages of a diary or journal.

Thanks to this platform, I've been able to chronicle the progress of Big Breakfast Plus. It's a charity that has grown in need thanks to the cost-of-living crisis, food poverty and more and more people being forced to live in accommodation without decent cooking facilities. We are now open every morning and need to fund raise regularly to enable us to continue for as long as we have to. Most of all we could not exist without our 64 volunteers four of whom live here in Wanborough. We also receive regular local giving donations from many of you too. We are celebrating our second birthday since relaunching after Covid at the end of January. It's going to be a very special moment.



The Lyden is such a useful magazine that inevitably brings us all closer. I have learned so much about our village, it surrounds, and its people. So many talented people so much to share. So, my new challenge is to ask all of you to share a story or an interest, hobby, or your skills to let everyone know why

Wanborough is special. Make the Lyden the most looked out for monthly magazine highlighting all our talents.

I would like to learn more about how you can successfully run a business in Wanborough despite the constant mess of road works and road closures. I would like to learn more about how all the talented artists in our community set up their open studios; how they find a market for their beautiful pictures and crafts. I'd love to learn more about charities you support, where and why you volunteer for them. The list is endless. Wanborough along with Bishopstone, Liddington, and Hinton Parva are home to some of the most talented writers, artists, performers, cooks, health trainers and sports people as well as all those all-round organisers. Let's be hearing from you either in a one-off article or by hosting a regular page.

When you read this, Christmas and 2023 will be over and we will be greeting a new fresh 2024. Let us in all our different ways make it a great year here for us and for our children and our children's children.

You can stay in touch with me at Charlotte@bigbreakfastplus.org.uk or donate via our website bigbreakfastplus.org.uk. £5.00 provides a freshly cooked breakfast and all the extras all served in a warm and friendly environment.

Charlotte Mannion

Walk of the Month - The Ridgeway, Wayland's Smithy and Ashdown House



Ashdown House

You can either park in Ashbury or there are small car parks either side of the road on The Ridgeway, marked on the map with the green marker point. This is where I would recommend parking if there is space.

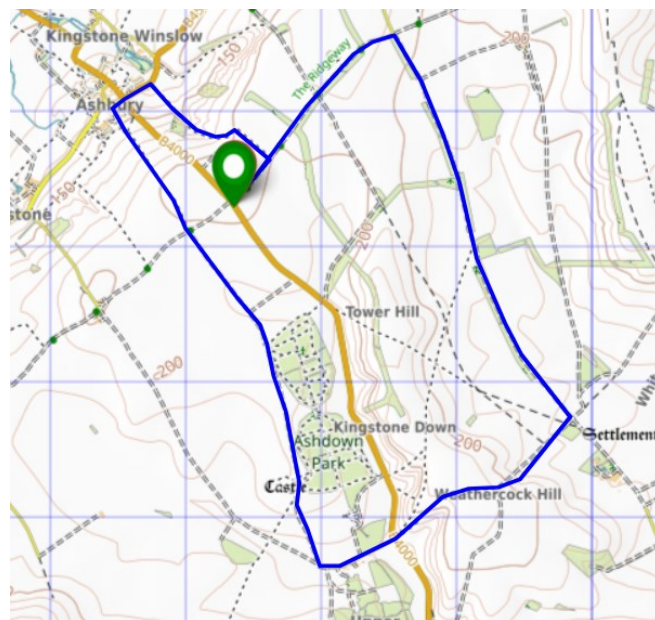
This is a lovely walk to Waylands Smithy on The Ridgeway and then across fields towards

Ashdown House

This is a 7 1/2 mile walk, intermediate level and good walking shoes are recommended.

If you are unable to walk this distance then an alternative option is to park at Ashdown House and walk around the grounds which are very nice at different times of the year, especially when the Bluebells are out in late spring.

Also recommended is a walk around Alfred's Castle (an Iron Age hill fort) located to the west of Ashdown House. Hopefully you can see "castle" marked on the map next to Ashdown Park.



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I read a fascinating article in last month's Telegraph (Saturday 11th November) about the need for flood resilient and weatherproof gardens. There is no denying that we're experiencing weather extremes. In parts of UK, plants now have to cope with temperatures as low as -20C and as high as +40C along with prolonged drought conditions. "2023 is predicted to have been the hottest year on record", not to mention the deluge of rain from more frequent storm events. "6 out of ten wettest years have occurred since 1998". RHS Wisely garden manager Sheila Das sums it up nicely "water is often in the wrong place at the wrong time!"

Note to self: Dig a very large pond for water capture and plant a lot of trees for shade.

For the love of gardening:

Building a sustainable garden for a changing climate

Here's a few tips to help make your garden more resilient to our changing climate:

- Invest in water butts – the more the merrier!
- Ditch the fake grass. 1 in 10 UK gardens now have 'garden carpet' – their microplastics leak into the soil, and they can't take up rainwater.
- De-pave your garden- try to create more permeable surfaces for water to drain away.
- Create rain gardens by keeping the undulations rather than flattening them out, create areas for water to pool instead of eroding your soil when there are downpours. Dig out low lying areas to create ponds and expect them to be either full or dry, surround with marginal bog plants which survive rising and falling water levels.
- If your garden is prone to heavy flooding, consider raised beds, they'll stop your prize plants from drowning in mud.
- Plant trees, they mitigate flooding through their root network while their canopies slow the rain's path onto the ground.
- Plant plants! More plants in our gardens will create healthy soil which is, ultimately the best water butt we have.

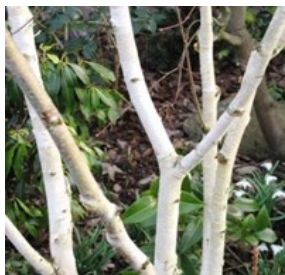


Resilient Garden at RHS Hampton Court

Resources: Book: Tom Massey RHS Resilient Gardens

Plant Spotlight:

www.janepearsondesign.com (07811 367320) for further information & to book a private garden consultation with Jane



Birch (Betula)-all



Crab Apple (Maulus)-



Sweet Gum (Liquidambar)

Look for plants that can tolerate extremes of temperature, here's some to get you started:

3 Small to medium resilient trees



Iris sibirica



Bulley's Primroses (Primula)



Coneflower (Echinacea)

Resilient plants

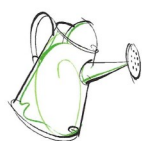
Readers Q&A

"Should I cut back my *Verbena Bonariensis* plants before winter sets in? They're about 1m tall.

Leaving the foliage in place offers some frost protection and helps you see where the plants are in the border. The seedheads are a valuable food source for birds and the stems provide shelter to overwintering insects. You could venture outside and cut back any over long and broken stems now, but I'd suggest leaving the rest for a good spring trim.



Verbena bonariensis



Bishopstone and District Garden Club

Our second session with Jane Pearson on garden design is yet happen at the time of writing this, but I am quite sure everyone will have come up with some superb designs to work on in the spring. More on all that

next month.

I feel a few photos might help to cheer us through the winter months, while ordering our seeds, planning our gardens and generally looking forward to the new growth in the spring.

Less of this:-



and more of this:-



Diary Dates

Wednesday 10th January 2024 Bishopstone Village Hall 7pm : AGM

Details to be circulated nearer the event.

The programme for next year is in the making and all the speakers and dates will be revealed at the AGM.

In the meantime I wish you all a very HAPPY NEW YEAR and look forward to seeing everyone for an exciting programme of talks in 2024.

Marion Peck

Lyden Magazine

Did you know that you can receive the Lyden via e-mail?

Interested then please e-mail: lydenmagazine@gmail.com for further information

We also have an archive of previous copies on the website www.wanborough.info.



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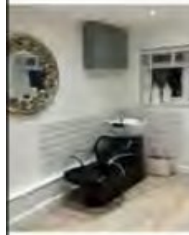
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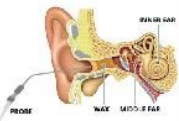
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Confessions of an Antiques Dealer No. 8

By the beginning of 1969 it seemed that I was destined to hop from one Antique shop set up to another, as I searched in vain for a suitable outlet for my treasures and a more permanent home, but none of the opportunities on offer to me were in any way ideal. So, for the time being I was dealing on the move, mainly selling to the few customers that I had acquired since I started out in 1965. This wasn't all bad, however, for moving around rather than sitting in a shop would create different chances and may allow me to develop new contacts within the trade. So it was that another encounter set me on a different course and eventually would see me travelling abroad again.

I had made the acquaintance of a lady called Olga in one of the watering holes in Clifton; she was introduced as an artist who struggled to find fame or fortune and in order to earn a living had to resort to colouring antique prints for Frost and Reed, the renowned Art and Print dealers who were based in central Bristol. Sometimes she didn't get the colour quite right or the paint crept over the edges, so Olga had amassed over time an enormous pile of prints that were rejected by Frost and Reed. These "seconds" Olga sold from time to time in order to raise a bit of cash. One night over a pint or two we discussed the print trade worldwide. Olga informed me that hunting and sporting prints were very popular in Spain. As she had a large quantity of these, I reasoned that a bulky folio could be taken to Spain quite easily and I saw the potential for a trip to the continent, especially as I had been told by my Portuguese friend Nito that I needed to visit Albufeira in the Algarve in southern Portugal before the tourist hordes descended on the place following the opening of an airport a few years earlier. So, a decision was made. Olga had agreed that we should split the proceeds of the print sales once reasonable travelling expenses had been taken into account.

The summer of 1969 would be spent selling Antique prints and doing a bit of travelling around the Iberian peninsular. I decided to offer the chance of a trip to some friends and persuaded four of them to join me and we would share expenses. Now all I needed was some suitable transport, so I managed to find a van owned by a firm of builders in Clifton. It was a Bedford Dormobile which the builders had converted and used for carrying builder's materials. I bought it from them for £40. I reckoned that the profits from the sale of the prints would more than cover the costs and a pleasant summer would be spent abroad. So, in April 1969, we set off for Spain. We travelled through France and crossed over the border into Spain. At this stage we held a meeting to discuss our route. A slight change of plan was agreed! We would divert to Marrakesh in Morocco once we had reached the southern coast. We took the ferry from Algeciras to Tangiers and I drove down to Marrakesh, encountering a dense swarm of locusts on the way and some scary Moroccan drivers!

After a few days in Marrakesh, we stayed in Casablanca on the way back. Tense moment there, when we were chased out of a dodgy hotel at dawn by several knife wielding men who wanted to rob us! Fortunately, we reached the van and sped away before they caught us! We were pleased to leave that hotel, especially as there was a scorpion under the bed in one of our rooms! Pleased also to be back in Spain where we travelled to the Portuguese border and crossed a river on a small ferry (I think it was a chain ferry). On to the Algarve and the fabulous unspoilt beauty of the fishing village of Albufeira where we spent a few days and nights in the company of the local fishermen. We were having such a great time that I had almost forgotten the main purpose of the trip; the sale of a large quantity of Antique prints to interested dealers in Spain! Onwards then, taking the very scenic route up through Portugal and stopping eventually in the Basque country in Northern Spain.

I decided to try selling the prints in San Sebastian. I had no knowledge of what dealers to approach, so I just drove into the city, parked near the centre and started walking around with my folio under my arm. I found a small antique shop after an hour's fruitless searching. The owner knew a little English, so we were able to understand each other. As well as the Hunting and Sporting prints, I had some Antique prints of Spanish towns which Olga felt may be of interest. The owner of the shop tried not to be too excited, but I could see that he was very keen to buy. Anyway, he bought the lot! I'm sure that I could have asked more, for he didn't even haggle! I was happy, because even allowing for expenses, I came away with a clear profit of around £450, quite a lot of money in those days. I would be giving Olga half, but still a good day's work! With a spring in my step, now we headed for home and a well-deserved rest from our travels.

This time the van made it back with us, that was a good £40 worth! Time perhaps to start looking for another outlet; soon the search for another antique shop would begin in earnest.

Stay tuned!

Lyden Magazine Team

Soraya has recently left the team due to other commitments and we thank her for all her help over the last year.

We are pleased to welcome Suzi Olsen to the Lyden Magazine Team. Suzi will be helping us with the Social Media notifications for the Lyden and also looking at how we can improve our communications with residents.

Welcome to the team Suzi we are pleased you are able to help.

LYDEN MAGAZINE CONTACTS

Editorial:	Angela	e.mail - lydenmagazine@gmail.com
Advertising:	Lorna	email - lydenadvertising@gmail.com
Subscriptions / Distribution:	Jean	email - lydensubs@gmail.com
Announcements:	Suzi	email - lydenannounce@gmail.com

Please note: Copy date for the next Lyden is 5pm on 14th January 2024. Please send your articles to e-mail Lydenmagazine@gmail.com



There are Books of Remembrance in All Saints', Liddington and St. Andrew's, Wanborough. If anyone wishes to have a name recorded there, please contact a Churchwarden.

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