

the DYDDI digest

taken from what is thought to be the 7th century origin of
Didmarton's name Dyddimaertun, believed to mean the
boundary (maere) farm (tun) of a Mr Dyddi

March 2023 – no. 568



THE 100 club – Absolutely no apologies for using this
photo again—see page 16

**Didmarton's local newspaper incorporating
Leighterton, Boxwell and Sopworth**



DIDMARTON'S RUBBISH & RECYCLING COLLECTIONS

Thursdays 9th and 23rd – Food waste bin

Thursdays 2nd and 16th & 30th - All bins

MARCH DIARY DATES

Wed 1st – St. Davids Day—there be Dragons

Sat 4th – Beaufort Races—there be horses and dogs p6

Fri 10th – Rural Cinema—there be people p5

Sat 11th World Plumbing Day—seriously it exists

Sun 12th—National plant a flower day—let's see your photos

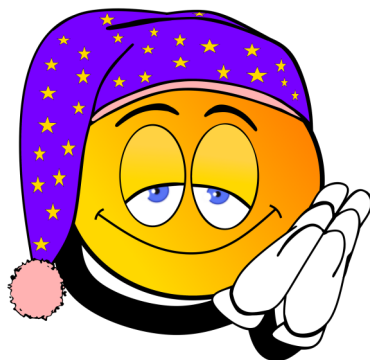
Fri 17th—St Patricks Day—there be Shenanigans

Sun 26th—Clocks go back—there be sleepy people

MARCH THE THIEF OF TIME

Sunday 26th March

Clocks **SPRING** forward
taking an hour away
until Autumn brings it
back to us.



Contact the editor editor@dyddi.co.uk

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Phoenix, Tetbury surgery – 01666 502303

Police – to report incidents – 101

Tolsey Surgery, Sherston – 01666 840270

Tetbury Hospital – 01666 502336

Oldbury Garage – 01454 537016

Dyddi editor – 07833 433337 / editor@dyddi.co.uk

Parish council, John Hammond – 01454 238373

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS – didhallbookings@gmail.com



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU

22nd March—Summer Copeland-Eccles

Aries, the zodiac symbol for the end of March into April. The constellation is most visible in the month of November (odd). To find Aries, **look for a crooked line of three bright stars not too far from the Pleiades star cluster**. The stars of Aries lie along the zodiac, the path the Sun and planets appear to follow across the sky during the year. Using the Stargazer app at 6.30pm it's Dunkirk direc-

BABYSITTING CONTACTS

Elizabeth Darbyshire – 07702 693100

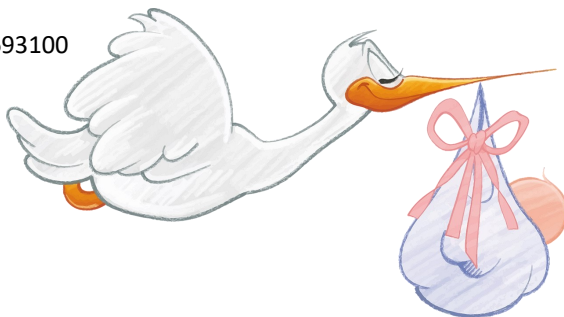
Bailey Jones - 01454 232985

Joe Turner - 01454 238235

Henry Yandell - 07719 304445

Francesca Goodwill -

07483 839082/07972783679



I'm so Dyddi—My Head is Spinning!

A Note From Me—The New Editor

Wow, what a month (week!) what a learning curve that was!! A huge thank you to the wonderful contributors who take so much time and effort to ensure we have a wide range of content. Thank you also to Carole who I last saw running down the drive waving and shouting 'Have fun with it!' and I have to say now the initial month is done and with so much support and kind words I think I will.

While this issue might be not be as chocka as previous ones rest assured as I start to get my feet under the table / desk it will soon take shape, to which end your contributions, feedback and ideas are most welcome and should be emailed to **editor@dyddi.co.uk** before the 15th of every month.

For those of you who do now know me I have been in the area for about 15 years, mainly in Sopworth but moved to Didmarton in 2020, about a week before lockdown, so I didn't get out much! I am also the resident web-designer and aim to improve the Dyddi's on-line presence. Currently you can view the Dyddi on the Village Hall website.

www.didmartonvillagehall.co.uk/#Dyddi

So, pop the kettle on or pour a glass of something nice and enjoy the March edition of the Dyddi Digest be it print or digital.

Roxzanne Fox-Roberts

editor@dyddi.co.uk

VERA RICH 1924-2022

Thank you for all the kind words and cards at the passing of my mother. We would like to say a special thank you to Carol, also Lynda and John who have been a big help to me and my family.

Stephie Tuck



DIDMARTON'S RURAL CINEMA

THE LOST KING

Comedy / Drama

STARRING STEVE COOGAN & SALLY HAWKINS

DIRECTED BY STEPHEN FREARS

Friday 10th March—Doors at 6.30 for 7.30 Show

Cash Bar

The Lost King' is the life-affirming true story of a woman who refused to be ignored and who took on the country's most eminent historians, forcing them to think again about one of the most controversial kings in England's history.

To confirm your seat please contact Jenny, 01454 238358,

jennybody@btconnect.com Book in advance if you can please

Tickets £5 on the door—**We now have a card machine!**



Richard III was King of England from 26 June 1483 until his death in 1485. He was the last king of the House of York and the last of the Plantagenet dynasty. His defeat and death at the Battle of Bosworth Field, the last decisive battle of the Wars of the Roses, marked the end of the Middle Ages in England.

The car park where King Richard III's remains were discovered a decade ago has failed to sell at auction.

Beaufort Races & Country Fair

Saturday 4th March

Come and join us on Saturday 4th March to enjoy some great racing and lots of family entertainment. Gates will open at 9.30am, with Pony Racing starting from 11.30am. The main race-card starts a bit later than in previous years at 1.00pm with at least 6 races programmed.

In between the races there will be plenty of tradestands to browse including food outlets and a bar with live music from D'Artagnan.

Additional entertainment includes a family entertainment area, and a family fun dog show kindly sponsored by Sherston Boarding Kennels Ltd. Entries will be taken on the day, with multiple classes starting at 11.30am, including 'The Dog The Duchess would most like to take home (kindly judged by Her Grace, The Duchess of Beaufort). The Championship will take place at 2.45pm.



2022 was the 75th anniversary of the Beaufort Races. The Queen Mother visited in 1954 and actually had a runner who finished second in the Members in 1957.



A R T S C E N T R E

HIGHLIGHTS FOR MARCH AT THE GOODS SHED

- March 4** **Tango Siempre:** Time to tango to music from the slums of Buenos Aires to the golden age of elegant salons - and if you don't want to dance you can just listen! Tickets £16. 7.30
- March 15** **Playtime:** The Last Baguette Company offer 2-6 year olds a fun mix of play-acting, craft and music. The one-hour sessions are free thanks to Tesco's Community Grants. Booking essential. 10-11
- March 18** **TJ Johnson:** one of the UK's best blues and jazz singers he's backed by his group of top class London musicians to sing a blend of music combining jazz, blues, soul, country and gospel. Tickets £15/£10 under 25. 7.30
- March 25** **Music for Miniatures:** A baby friendly concert where there's no need to sit still and dancing is encouraged. Enjoy 45 mins of live classical music with your children. Adults £6/Children £4/£15 Family of 4
- March 25** **Rautio Piano Trio:** One of today's finest chamber ensembles will be playing Beethoven's Pastoral symphony and Schubert's Trout Quintet £15. Tickets £22/£16 for under 25s. 7.30

For information about our weekly afternoon concerts, cinema showing and talk and to book tickets please see our website:

www.shed-arts.co.uk

TECH TALK

Facebook Privacy Check-up.

Not just the editor! If you have any specific topics you want me to cover simply email at:

editor@dyddi.co.uk



So last month I preached (no apologies) about the amount of personal information we give away through answering random questions on Facebook. We also talked about what other people can see about you when they view your profile. This month we will look at some privacy basics.

So the first thing we are going to do is a **Privacy Checkup**. Top right, click on your profile picture and select 'Settings & Privacy' followed by 'Privacy Checkup' (on desktop). Here, you can find a step by step walkthrough of your current settings covering—Who can see what you share—How to keep your account secure—How people can find you on Facebook—Your data settings on Facebook—Your ad preferences on Facebook.

Who can see what you share. Click on this option to check your profile information, posts and stories and blocking settings. To change any of the information simply click on the grey box and make your selection. Once happy click Next.

Now you can decide who sees your posts. Always remember that you can also change this on individual posts. Simply click they grey box below your name when you post.

Did you know you can limit your audience to just you, your Facebook Friends, or Custom lists that you create. (for example you can create a family list, acquaintances list, or work list. Go to facebook.com/friends and click on Custom Lists to get started).

The next thing you can do is block people from seeing your posts, tagging you or adding you as a friend. Simply click on 'Add to blocked list'. Powerful!!

Hopefully you are now starting to feel a bit more in control and I hope safer.

Roxzanne Fox-Roberts—info@allaboutsites.co.uk—Web-designer

LEIGHTERTON PRIMARY SCHOOL



Each term our whole school focuses on a school value and this term our value is 'kindness'.

At the beginning of the term, Mrs Pocock led an assembly about kindness and we watched a film clip about people being kind to each other. Several other assemblies have been about kindness and we have discussed what we think kindness is and how we can show it in our daily lives.

In our school hall, we have a large 'Kindness Tree' on display, which is bare at the beginning of the school year. Every week, during our Celebration assembly, when our families are invited to come in, pink hearts are awarded to children and carefully placed on our 'Kindness Tree' as blossom. Each pink heart has the child's name on it and there is a sentence written to say why it has been awarded. Children feel very proud when they are awarded a kindness heart. Any person in school, from the teaching team, lunch break supervisors, breakfast and after school club team and children, are able to award pink hearts for kind acts and we love it when there are lots to give out in assembly. During the year, the 'Kindness Tree' gains more and more pink heart blossom and it looks amazing.

We currently have vacancies at school for a part time teacher and a part time teaching assistant. If you would like further details about either of these positions, please contact the school office for more information.

If you would like to find out more or come and visit us at Leigherton Primary School, you are very welcome to contact the school office on (01666) 890273 and we will be delighted to show you round at a convenient time. We do have some spaces available in some of our year groups. Further information about school is also available on our website - www.leigherton.com



We are all very proud of our Kindness Tree

DIDMARTON TODDLERS

Just to keep everyone up to date, CDC as part of their 'Build Back Better Councillor Scheme' (via Stephen Hirst) last autumn awarded the group £2,000 for upgrades to equipment both inside and outside for toddlers and young children.



Inside, new tables; mats, wooden kitchen, small climbing frame/slide and hard foam 'House' bricks have been already bought, one or two things still to get.

Outside, you will already be aware that the bark surfacing in the Toddler area has been installed and more recently a small Bridge. The Climbing Frame also been donated by a private village resident.



We still have about £500 to spend, so the area by the Fort will have new bark soon and we hope to put an activity trail on the tarmac area. All fun things to do.

Toddlers meet on a Thursday morning 10 to 11.30 and led by Sam Lambert and Mrs Sue (Cook) For more details T: 01454 238 222

Brian Cook

YOUR MIND & BODY MATTERS

Feeling the very best you can – this month, cold shower benefits

Nutrition and Exercise.

Science has been showing how different men and women are in their nutrition needs. We know that men need more calories than women, women also have higher vitamin and mineral needs than men - iron and calcium are of particular importance; for example, premenopausal women need 18mg of iron compared to 8mg for men due to the blood loss associated with menstruation.

Females in their reproductive years need carbs as do men but with women's brains, if they perceive they aren't getting enough nutrition particularly carbohydrates, needed for the production of a hormone that is responsible for reproduction, it then goes into energy saving mode. So carbohydrates are

Recent studies show if you train after you've been fasting it increases cortisol which then promotes fat storage and decreases the availability of building block for other hormones, also running also can release the stress hormone cortisol which can stay in your body for a few days after so notice your mood if you've been doing any distance running.

Carbohydrates help us to maintain a healthy immune and stress response to exercise. When exercising, make sure you eat within an hour of exercising to aid a Weight, nutrition and exercise is quite controversial as we hear the new buzz "diet" or "exercise fad" but we really have to be careful especially premenopausal and use our common sense rather than look for a quick fix.

As always quality foods matter, watch fat intake, focus on good plant based fats i.e. avocados, nuts seeds, and eat less processed fats. Try intermittent fasting although research is now showing that it suits men better than women. Know your weight, body composition, your cholesterol, blood pressure and blood sugars, being aware of these is taking responsibility for our own health and helps to improve our health along with being aware of any changes.

My next Brunch Club is on the 1st April, please get in touch if you are interested in joining us. You can call me on 07745 024021

Sunday Dinners—Done Proper!

Top tips for making the best Sunday Lunch /
Dinner ever!

Have a cooking tip to share?

Email editor@dyddi.co.uk



Best Crackling Ever

Cut the skin from the joint. Pat dry, sprinkle with salt and leave in the fridge preferably overnight. Put into a hot 220 oven for 20 minutes or so and ta-dah!

Best Roasties in the World

Peel and chop potatoes (Maris Pipers are my favourite), make them as close to the same size as possible. Boil until soft. Drain and stand on a rack until they are cold (keep a good distance between them so they can cool as quickly as possible). Heat goose fat in a hot oven (200), when sizzling add rosemary and garlic to taste. If the fat is hot enough the herbs will sizzle as they release their oil. Add the potatoes covering in the fat. Leave them to cook turning only once. Serve the crunchy fluffy delights!

Awesome Mash (not a Sunday roast standard but any excuse!)

Never boil potatoes for mash—they hold too much water rather make jacket potatoes in your oven / air-fryer. Scrape out the potatoe (leave some skin on for a more rustic mash. Add butter—lots and lots and lots of butter and mash to your preferred consistency. Add salt & pepper to taste.

Over salted the gravy / sauce?

You can add lemon juice, lime juice, or apple cider vinegar to salty food to help neutralize the saltiness. A tomato product, such as tomato sauce or tomato paste, will also work since tomatoes are acidic.

J.J.'S GARDENING BLOG – *looking forward to Spring*

Well, spring seems to be on it's way. The snowdrops have spread their whiteness and delicate blooms at last. The daffodils, primulas and hellebore are making an effort too. This of course means little weeds are appearing also. Put on the gardening gloves and remove the weeds. On a sunny day with loose soil it is very enjoyable and probably very good in the 'stretch and bend' zone.

It's also the latest time to mulch the beds and to prune the roses. Please notice that you weed the beds first, do not be tempted to cover the weeds thinking that you will smother them. The little blighters will revel in the food you have provided and will appear stronger and larger than before.

The Shed. It needs a review: have you got some sacks of soil, new ones have got moreumph than old. Tools, are they sharp? Pruning saw, secateurs, hoe?

It is rather frustrating to go outside to garden only to discover that the tool needed for the job is blunt. And don't forget the gardening string.



Check the ties on the trees and make sure the stakes are not rubbing. A tree which has been in the ground for two years can have the stake removed.

Evergreen shrubs can have a trim up. If your box has died from blight or whatever, try something else. Remove the dead box and refresh the planting area with compost/rotted manure, replant, try any of the small leaved eponymous, and water well.

As a guide: anything in a pot can be planted at any time. But try and be sensible, a warm soil will be more successful than a north easterly weather forecast.

Lawns could have a light trim to tidy things up on a dry day.

The daffodil symbolises **rebirth and new beginnings**.

It's one of the first flowers to bloom at the end of winter, announcing the beginning of spring and signifying the end of the cold, dark days. Less commonly, daffodils may also symbols of creativity, energy, resilience, forgiveness and vitality.





This month's meeting is Friday 10th-
March 2023:
Three Generations of Gardeners at
Kiftsgate
by Vanessa Berridge

Clippings

We had two enjoyable activities in February. A site visit to Melcourts Compost followed on from last year's talk by Technical Manager, Nicki Wright. Members were given fascinating insights into the production processes of peat-free compost as well as a complimentary bag of finest all-purpose. We also welcomed Mike Hinwood, describing a typical year in the business of growing plants on a commercial basis at family-run Foxley Road Nurseries.

Cuttings

Vanessa Berridge is Head Gardener at Kiftsgate, near Chipping Campden. Three generations of women gardeners from the 1920s to the present have created one of the loveliest gardens in the country with stunning views from the top of the escarpment. Not to be missed!

New members from Sherston and surrounding villages are welcome: £15 single £25 joint U18's free. For membership form and full programme contact our Secretary: sherstongardeningclub@gmail.com From May onwards, club meetings will be on the first Tuesday of each month, British School Room, doors open at 7.00 for 7.30 start.

Connections

RHS Malvern Spring Show 2023: If you're lucky, there may still be a handful of tickets left for the coach on Friday 12th May. The all-in price (bus plus show entry) is £40 per person. Just contact our secretary to find out if you can join us. An enjoyable day with no parking worries, as well as space for some horticultural purchases.

The Sherston Gardening Club Facebook page is a useful source of information, photographs and news. You can join the group, even if you're not an SGC member (though we hope you'll be motivated to join us!)

Community

BLOOMING SHERSTON We are delighted that the new seasonal planter is flourishing outside the

Co-op on the High Street. Massive thanks to Sherston Parish Council for the £600 grant towards its purchase and to Melcourts who donated the peat free compost. We are also pleased to announce a second grant of £500 from the

Mid Counties Co-op to be used to enhance Sherston with new areas of planting. This is a great start but could become even better with wider community involvement. If you are interested in finding out more about these initiatives and maybe joining a new BLOOMING SHERSTON team of green-fingered locals, then please come to an Open Meeting at the Angel on Saturday 25th March at 10.30. All are welcome. Enthusiasm for improving Sherston's appeal is the only requirement!

Calendar

The 2023 SGC Programme of talks, visits and dates can be seen on our Facebook page.

March 10th: Special Plant Fair, Charlton Farm House (SN16 9DS) £6 entrance to garden, fair and refreshments. 10am-2pm. www.thegenerousgardener.co.uk

March 25th: BLOOMING SHERSTON Open Meeting, 10.30 at the Angel Cafe

April 14th: AGM. Great opportunity for new members to join.

May 2nd: 'Where the Wild Flowers Grow: My botanical journey through Britain and Ireland' by published author, Leif Bersweden.

May 12th: Malvern Spring Show Visit.

June 6th: 'The Art of Plant and Seed Hunting' by Penny Jones, Chief propagator at Westonbirt Arboretum.

July 7th - SUMMER SOCIAL at the Garden House, Westonbirt (Courtesy of Mr and Mrs Turner). There will be no Meeting in August, returning on 5th September.

Cold-Fighting Tea

As we all seem to be suffering try this to help banish those sniffles

3 cups of water / Juice of half a lemon / 1 Cinnamon stick / 3 slices ginger / 1/4 tsp cloves / 1/2 tbsp turmeric / pinch cayenne / 1 tbsp honey (or to taste)

Add all the ingredients (NOT the honey) to a pot and bring to a boil. Once boiling reduce heat and simmer for 10 minutes. Add honey and stir. Pour through a strainer and drink while warm.





The February draw took place at the DVHCC meeting held on January 31st in the Village Hall.

The winners were:-

1st Prize	£20	Carol Flewellyn	2nd Prize	£15	Evie & Sam Jones
3rd Prize	£10	Sam Hardy	4th Prize	£10	Ed Glew
Sue & Sue					

Didmarton 100 Club

Our 100 Club year ends on April 30th and we are beginning to organise the collection for 2023/2024. Once again we would like to thank Amanda, Jackie, Janet, Nic and Susie in advance for playing their part in collecting your subscriptions.

A big thank you to all of you who are already members and we hope that we can count on your support in the coming year. We also look forward to welcoming new members who have recently moved into our village and would like to support our activities.

What is the 100 Club?

The Club was established over 30 years ago to raise funds for the village, whilst giving you the chance of winning a monthly prize. The money raised from subscriptions is split between providing prize money and giving a donation to the DVHCC to use for any projects that they see fit.

Over the last year we collected £1,736.00 with about half being given back in prize money and the Didmarton Village Hall & Community Committee (DVHCC) benefitting by the same amount. So the money raised through your support of the 100 Club amounts to a very substantial donation being given to the DVHCC to spend as they see fit for the benefit of the community.

How much does it cost?

The cost is £12 per person per year and this is collected annually, that is £1 per month or 25p a week. The cost of the subscription has remained the same for 30 years and must be one of the few things not to have seen a price increase in all this time. We also welcome pets into the club. At present we have 9 dogs and 1 budgie as members with several of these winning this year. What a wonderful way to include your pet in village life. All pets are welcome of course, not just dogs!

What can I Win?

A draw is held every month and we try to do this at a village event if possible.

At present we have 4 prizes each month of £20, £15, £10 and £10 with a special Christmas draw of up to 10 prizes. Prize money is reviewed every year and depends on how much money we raise so the more people that join the more money we collect and the more prize money is available to be won. This year we are also planning an extra draw in May to celebrate the King's coronation.

PLEASE HELP US TO MAKE THIS OUR BEST YEAR EVER you could be one of our lucky winners!

HOW DO I PAY MY SUBSCRIPTION? IMPORTANT INFORMATION.

We are looking to collect your subscription for 2023/24 during the coming weeks.

This remains at £12 and can be paid in 3 different ways.

Bank Transfer

To help with the efficiency of the collection, we are asking that as many of you as possible pay by Bank Transfer especially if you used this method last year. Our bank details remain the same.

Lloyds Account Name: Didmarton 100 Club

Sort code: 30-91-99 Account number: 77225368

and please include your name and address as reference!

Cash or Cheque Please complete the form on the next page and return your subscription, as either cash or cheque (payable to Didmarton 100 Club), in an envelope to your **NEAREST COLLECTOR**.

Our Collectors are:-

Amanda Hathaway, Windways, The Street
Farmhouse, The Street

Susie Jones, Old Manor

Jackie Crewe, 16 St. Arild's Road
Street

Janet Bowers Broadbent, 35 The

Nic Holden, 19 Chapel Walk

Sue Cook, 54 The Street

Sue Hammond, 6 Bertha's Field

To ensure that you are included in the May 2023 draw it would be helpful if payment could be made by March 30th.

If you are unable to pay by any of the above methods, please do not worry as our collectors will be out and about during March and April knocking on doors to personally collect your money either as cash or a cheque.

We hope that those of you who are new to the village will consider joining the Club. If you would like more information please contact Sue Cook on 238222 or Sue Hammond on 238373.

Thank you everyone in anticipation of your much needed support.

Please see next page (17) for Membership renewal.

How many ones are between 1 to 100??

"C" is the Roman numeral for 100.

A person who lives to be 100 is called a centenarian.

The sum of the first nine (9) prime numbers is 100.

The sum of the first 10 odd numbers equals 100.

There are 100 letter tiles in a Scrabble game.

SUPPORT THE DIDMARTON 100 CLUB

20223/24 Membership Renewal

(for payment by Cash or Cheque)

If you would like to join or renew Membership at £12 per individual, please cut out the completed form and return it, together with your payment in an envelope to your nearest collector.

Thank you for your continued support.

I/We would like to join/renew membership of Didmarton 100 Club and enclose cash/cheque (made payable to Didmarton 100 Club), being the subscription for 2023/24.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

, Friday through some unexpected events.

For help/queries please contact

Sue Cook 238222 or Sue Hammond 238373

VICAR'S LETTER *March 2023*

Dear Parishioners,

We are now in Lent. If you come to church you should find that the liturgical colour has changed to purple, reminding us of those words of Isaiah in his first chapter:

‘Come now, and let us reason together,
saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet,
they shall be as white as snow;
though they be red like crimson,
they shall be as wool’.

Purple is the colour of penitence. Penitence for bad actions, harmful words, negative thoughts.

Perhaps we are sometimes guilty of avoiding such things, maybe we excuse ourselves by saying “it’s not my fault”, or pointing the finger at someone else and saying “it’s him - not me”.

Our society is very good at finger-pointing. Whenever anything goes wrong, it is always someone’s fault. Someone must be blamed. Someone must be held to account. Are we becoming a blaming culture, which easily happens if we stop being honest and reflective about ourselves.

Lent is a time to reflect on our own failings and knowing that as soon as we do, and we own up to them, God meets us and forgives us. And if God forgives us, we should forgive ourselves. And there should be no need for finger-pointing.

With my best wishes,
Richard

Rev Richard Thomson

Priest in charge, Withymoor Vicarage, Old Down Rd. Badminton GL9 1EU
Benefice website: www.badmintonbenefice.com

[Email: revrichardthomson@gmail.com](mailto:revrichardthomson@gmail.com)

Tel. 01454 219236

CHURCH OF ENGLAND BADMINTON BENEFICE

March Sunday services – conducted by Rev. Thomson unless stated

5 th Lent Begins	Lasborough 9.30am Matins Churchwarden led Hawkesbury 9.30am Parish Communion Didmarton 11.15am Matins Acton Turville 3pm Said Evening Prayer
12 th	Lasborough 9.30am BCPHC Rev P Cheeseman Leighterton 11am HC 1928 Little Badminton 11.15am Matins Hawkesbury 5pm Evensong
19 th	Didmarton 8.30am BCPHC
Mothering Sunday	Hawkesbury 10.30am Family Service, Lent theme Sopworth 11.15am Matins Acton Turville 3pm Evensong
26 th	Lasborough 9.30am CWHC Little Badminton 11.15am Matins HC Hawkesbury 5pm Evensong

LENT 2023

Wednesday mornings during Lent, Richard Thomson (Vicar) will be holding an on-line Bible reflection, at 9.30 am and encourages you to join him: the link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7381120380>



Didmarton Congregational Church

Knowing the Future



How prepared are we for what lies ahead of us?

Somethings we can expect while others things come unexpectedly; such as the earthquake in Turkey and Syria, if they had known they would have been prepared.

God want us to be prepared for the future that lies ahead of us.

Jesus Christ was fully prepared for the events at the climax of his life on Earth, he knew the cost for him, to pay the penalty of our sin for us on the cross and he was prepared to pay it out of love for His father God and love for us, who are loved by Him and His Father. He was prepared to undergo the horrors that awaited Him and the joy of being raised from the dead to provide eternal life for those of us who will surrender our lives in faith to Him.

Not only was Jesus prepared for the future but he wanted his disciples to be prepared for what he was about to do and its repercussions for them. In St. Mark 9 vs13 we read Jesus his disciples saying "The son of man is delivered into the hands of men and they will kill him and shall rise the third day" but the disciples do not understand and were afraid to ask him. Do we understand the relevance of the death and resurrection of Jesus for our lives? Jesus wants us to be personally prepared for the climax which is coming to everyone sooner or later, for all will come face to face with death and after that The Judgment.

Romans 14 tells us "We shall all stand before the the judgment seat of Christ and every knee shall bow to me" said the lord. For it is to this end Christ dies and rose again that he might be lord of the dead and the living.

Are we prepared for that coming day? It may be soon when he comes or we may have to lay down our lives first, but whenever it comes we need to be prepared. Matt 7 vs 22 Jesus says some will plea "In thy name I've done many wonderful works" but Jesus will reply "I never knew you depart from me you that work iniquity"

How can we be prepared? It is by now confessing our sins to the lord and coming to know Jesus as the one who paid the price of sin for us personally on the cross and turning from sin receive him as the Lord of our life now.

How gracious it is of the Lord to give us the opportunity now to come to know him personally and not just to know about him. "The Lord is not willing that any should perish but all come to life" Knowing the future enables us to prepare. May we each be wise and be prepared today for our tomorrow.

SUDOKU by Neil Fozard

For the uninitiated

Each row, column and 3x3 box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9

EASY !!

			5	3		2		7
						6	1	
	7			2	4			
	6		8				3	
			3	7		4	8	
	1	7			3			6
		9		4	2			
4	3					9		

NOT SO EASY !!

								8
			9		1		5	
			6	8	7	4	9	
	7	6			4			5
		8			2			1
	5	9			8			3
			3	7	5	8	6	9
			8		9		3	
								7

Answers to the February quizzes:

'Easy'

4	3	8	5	2	9	1	7	6
6	9	2	7	3	1	4	5	8
1	5	7	4	8	6	2	3	9
7	1	9	2	5	4	6	8	3
2	8	4	3	6	7	5	9	1
5	6	3	1	9	8	7	4	2
8	2	1	9	7	5	3	6	4
3	7	6	8	4	2	9	1	5
9	4	5	6	1	3	8	2	7

'Not so Easy'

5	9	4	7	8	2	6	1	3
6	8	2	3	1	9	7	4	5
7	1	3	5	6	4	2	8	9
8	5	6	9	3	1	4	2	7
9	2	1	4	7	6	5	3	8
3	4	7	2	5	8	9	6	1
4	7	8	1	2	5	3	9	6
2	6	5	8	9	3	1	7	4
1	3	9	6	4	7	8	5	2



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