

# Minal News

**Christmas may be different this year, but we will still be celebrating the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

As you know Minal Church always looks lovely at Christmas and I do hope you can join us. Please note that some services will be ticketed this year due to COVID restrictions.

Rev. Chris Smith



Sports and Social Club  
Church News  
Village Hall  
Gardening Club  
Book Club  
Parish Council News

## We wish you all a Very Happy Christmas

**Please come and Celebrate at Christmas with us**

**Carol Services.** This year there will be two Carol Services on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm and 7pm. (Families with children will be given priority for the 5pm service). Don't miss out! Please call Gordon to book your place so we can maintain social distancing.

### Christmas Day

Please do come along to the 9.30 am Christmas **Family Service** with Holy Communion.

All are welcome but you will need to reserve your space. The maximum at any service will be about 50. So please do email [gordonpepper55@gmail.com](mailto:gordonpepper55@gmail.com) for reservations and more information. Or telephone him on 01672 511073.



## TOOL SHARPENING SERVICE COMING TO MINAL

VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK

FRIDAY DECEMBER 4TH - 10AM TO 3PM

KNIVES, CHISELS, CLIPPERS, HOES, SHEARS,  
SECATEURS, SAWS, AXES AND MORE

£5 AN ITEM- DISCOUNT FOR 10+ ITEMS

## Beware! Scammers are operating locally

They contact people by email, text or phone and claim to be a person you can trust and try to get you to disclose personal details. They could say that they're from your bank, utility company or even the Police. They sound genuine because they have information about you. They keep the subject on the phone line as much as possible so there is no time to think or check what is being asked for with anyone else.

Typically, they will encourage you to take urgent action and ask you to verify new payees, transactions

Your bank would never ask for your pin number, banking details or ask you to transfer funds for 'safekeeping'.

Never give out personal information or transfer money Please check with family, someone you know or call 999 or 101 if you are contacted. There were some very convincing conmen and women in our village recently preying on the vulnerable.

## The village facebook page

[www.facebook.com/MinalCommunity](https://www.facebook.com/MinalCommunity) is certainly earning its keep now. In recent weeks it's helped to find accommodation for a member of the eventing team at Mere Farm, distribute loads of free stuff from a house move, encouraged visitors to the church and reconnected people with lost property, please give the page a like and get involved with connecting the village on social media.

# Whats happening in Minal?



## CHURCH DIARY December 2020

**St John the Baptist Minal**  
Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December  
9.00 am Service

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December  
5pm and 7pm Christmas  
Carol Service (you will  
need to book your place)

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December  
9.00am Morning Service

24<sup>th</sup> December **Sadly No  
Nativity at the Village Hall  
this year.**

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December  
**(Christmas Day)**  
9:30am Christmas Family  
Service with Holy  
Communion (you will need  
to book your place)

To book your place email  
[gordonpepper55@gmail.com](mailto:gordonpepper55@gmail.com)

**St John the Baptist  
Church is open every  
day from 9.30 am to  
4.00pm.**

All village organisations  
have suffered  
financially due to lack  
of fundraising and  
income in 2020. If you  
would like to donate  
please do contact one  
of the representatives  
below.

## Werg gates now fitted to Coombe farm

The Parish Council have obtained another grant from the Area Board and will be installing gates on mild 15 and into Savernake Forest above Coombe Farm.



In this second lockdown should anyone need help with shopping, walking the dog, a phone chat or if you have to self isolate there are volunteers in the village who are willing to offer help .  
Contact Sue Hine Tel: 01672 512847

## Volunteers Required

**The Village Hall committee** is still looking for a secretary to join the team that does a valuable service for the village in running the hall.  
[robbailey1@aol.com](mailto:robbailey1@aol.com)

## Could you be a Parish Councillor?

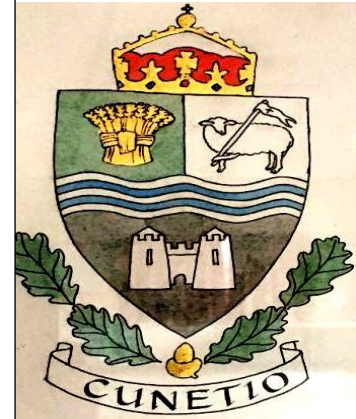
Do you have a desire to help and become involved in your community?  
Could you provide a voice for residents?  
Do you have knowledge of the local area?

Do you have skills and knowledge that could help the council?

Are you interested in local current affairs?

We have a vacancy on our friendly Parish Council and are looking for someone new to join us.

It doesn't matter if you are new to the area, have lived here a long time or have never thought of becoming a parish councillor. For more information contact the clerk Sue Hine Tel: 01672 512847  
Email: [clerk@mildenhallwiltshire.org.uk](mailto:clerk@mildenhallwiltshire.org.uk)



## VILLAGE HISTORY

**Our Village History** . In Roman times, Mildenhall was called Cunetio, which was a trading centre for the surrounding area. A junction of roads from some of the major cities in the area e.g. Bath, Winchester and Cirencester. It was surrounded by stone walls, and was split into two or three sections Upper and Lower Cunetio and the 'suburb' on Black Field. Upper Cunetio was near where Folly Farm is today, while Lower Cunetio was where Mildenhall itself is today. In the 4<sup>th</sup> century, Cunetio was probably a marketing centre for a group of villas, possibly even a Mansio (a Roman version of a mansion), and stayed like that all the way into Saxon times.

In October 1978, a hoard of coins numbering 54,951 was found, dating from between AD 260 and 275. This was, at the time, the biggest hoard of coins found in Britain; almost half of them came from the independent empire created in Gaul (now France) by Postumus in 260. Coins of that kind are unusual to find, making the 'Cunetio Treasure', as it is called, very different indeed from most hoards. (Wiltshire Community history – Wilts Council)

Major trades in the parish, especially around Mildenhall, consisted mostly of farming and milling, with wood cutting and dealing in the woodland areas. There were other miscellaneous jobs, too, ranging from shopkeeper, blacksmith, beer retailer, to shoemaker, carpenter, dress maker, basket maker, thatcher, dairyman and cow-keeper. The village crest displays these trades but no official description can be found thus far. We continue to investigate.

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Newsletters are in various points in the village and please take a few copies and drop them though your neighbours' letterboxes if you think they might not be getting out to pick up one. If you have any articles or information you would like to add to Minal News please email [robbailey1@aol.com](mailto:robbailey1@aol.com)

Thank you from your editing team: *Gilly Price, Rob Bailey, Derek Moss, Milly Carmichael, Clive Scholefield, Sue Hine*

Please visit Minal website [www.mildenhallwiltshire.org.uk](http://www.mildenhallwiltshire.org.uk) for more info