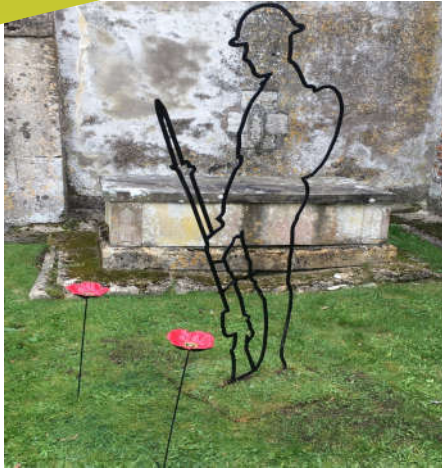


November

2020



Lest we forget

Tommy is back on parade outside of the church. Shortly after Remembrance Sunday he will be repositioned on the triangle at the top of Church Lane in order more passers-by can see him.

Tales from the riverbank

You might have thought that all that rain earlier in the year would have been good for our river. Sadly, this is not the case; the deluges swamped the Marlborough sewage treatment works which for weeks released raw sewage into the river. At the same time enormous amounts of run-off rich in fertiliser flowed off fields into the river which ran chocolate brown for weeks. The effects are still there as the silt and algae starve the invertebrates of oxygen and it will take time for the river to recover. It's also perhaps not a place for wild swimming!

New Minal Website!



Work is under way on the new improved Minal website. Watch this space! In the meantime here is the Minal Coat of Arms. Perhaps next issue we can find what it means.

Sports and Social Club

Church News

Village Hall

Gardening Club

Book Club

Parish Council News

Gardening Club



Gardening club, pictured above suitably socially distanced, have been planting more spring bulbs around the village. There are 500 more crocus bulbs shared out near the village hall and on the cricket field too now (round the edges and under trees, not on the crease!) They'll be flowering, hopefully in February, and will be welcome early forage for Queen bumblebees emerging from hibernation.

Public Footpaths through the Minal Sports Field

This is a reminder that the public is entitled to use the public footpaths on the Minal Sports Field. However people using the footpath on occasions when sports activities are ongoing are asked to keep their dogs on leads and under control and be particularly aware of junior sports players. In the next few weeks the footpath running parallel to the water meadow will be marked and kept clear. However in the interests of safety and to minimise disruption, the public may instead choose to walk across any other part of the sports field (except the cricket pitch). Dog litter should be picked up at all times. There is a bin at the main gate entry to the field.

We thank you for this ongoing spirit of mutual cooperation between multiple users to the overall benefit of the community.

Whats coming up in Minal?



CHURCH DIARY November 2020

St John the Baptist Minal is now open for prayers every day from 9am to 5pm.

Times of services in November
9am on 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Sundays with an act of Remembrance on 8th November.

Sponsored cycle ride

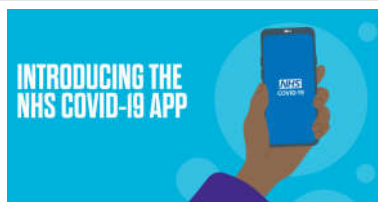
David Fishlock 78 and his grandson Reuben 20 would like to thank all of you who supported them in the Ride & Stride for Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust. They cycled a total of 35 miles and visited 26 churches traveling west through the Kennet Valley to West Lavington and then back through Grafton and Wilton to Ramsbury and back home. They raised a total of £2,248. Well done.

Remembrance Sunday is on 8th November. The service in Minal church will be as close as possible to normal. The names of the Fallen will be read out and the bell tolled for each of them followed by a two minutes' silence. A prayer will be said for 'Tommy' outside the church's door. The organ will play the traditional hymns. We are not allowed to sing but the words will be on the service sheets so we can hum them quietly to ourselves. **Note it will be at 9a.m.**

Christmas Carol Service, It is hoped that there will be two carol services, one at 5pm and the other at 7pm on Sunday 13th December. Because numbers are limited admission will only be by ticket and to get them please contact Gordon Pepper gordonpepper55@gmail.com or text 07790001069.

Sir John Sykes

Sad news that Sir John Sykes has died. John had a great love for Minal church, he and Sue worshipped there for many years and John was Church Warden with emphasis on the fabric.



The NHS COVID-19 app is part of a large scale coronavirus (COVID-19) testing and contact tracing programme called the NHS Test and Trace service.

The app will be used, alongside traditional contact tracing, to notify users if they come into contact with someone who later tests positive for coronavirus. A QR poster will be in the Village Hall

Minal Book club

We meet in The Horseshoe at 8pm on the last Thursday in the month

At our November meeting (on the 26th) we will be talking about "The Husband's Secret" by Liane Moriarty

If you enjoy reading and sharing books, come and join us; you would be very welcome
Please contact Deirdre Watson on 512729 or dwatsonweavers@gmail.com

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.

The local police are keen that villages should re-introduce **Neighbourhood Watch** schemes and a coordinator is needed.

For more details on both call Rob Bailey 01672 512363

If you would like an email copy of this Newsletter then please email robbailey1@aol.com. To comply with GDPR Regulations we need your permission to email you. Your email address will only be kept for the purpose of distributing the Newsletter.

Newsletters are in various points in the village and please take a few copies and drop them through 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

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