



THE POULTON EYE



COMMUNITY - NEWS - INFORMATION



The Poulton School Infants Class, 1920

In this month's Edition:

Memories of Poulton School

Ups and Downs on the Farm

Foiled Again...

The Bees are Back!

March Must Dos in the Garden

Crime Prevention Advice from Gloucestershire Police

The Poulton Spring Clean - Saturday 22nd March

Curry Night Flavour in Favour at the Village Hall

Welcome to the March 2025 edition of the Poulton Eye

It has been interesting learning about Poulton School, and comparing village life in the 20th century to that which we live in the 21st... two things leap out - firstly that the people who lived in the village almost all worked here, on the very fields that surrounded them, and secondly that it was a really self-contained community, whose members needs were largely met within the village. Even in the 1950s, the village boasted a school, shop, post office, garage, petrol station, village hall, sports ground, pub, it's own policeman and it's own nurse.

Now, of course, the pendulum has swung in completely the opposite direction - bigger is better, centres of excellence provide better care and expertise, commuting to work is only marginally offset by working from home (thank you COVID?!) and all Poulton children commute to school. All of these things bring choices and opportunities that former villagers would not even have dreamed of.

The village school played a part in starting this change through offering bright working class children a chance to 'better themselves' - through grammar school scholarships to Cirencester Grammar School. Those who showed less academic aptitude went to Farmors, where they were prepared for an apprenticeship or to work in a trade. Many Poulton families from the past bear evidence that children who entered a trade often did better than those who went on to further education and entered a profession.

The link between these different generations is the age-old hope of every parent - that their children will have a better life than they do. Let's hope that will be true for the children who live in Poulton today.

Please do feel free to contact us with comments or contributions. Our deadline is 15th of March.

Rosie and Lizzy - poultoneye@gmail.com

**COWLEY
& SON LTD**

Est 1871

**INDEPENDENT
FUNERAL
DIRECTORS**

01285 653298

Triangle House, 62 Victoria Road GL7 1ES

www.cowleyandson.com

24 hours a day, 365 days a year

Interest free pre-payment funeral plans

LET OUR FAMILY CARE FOR YOUR FAMILY



Golden Charter
Funeral Plans



MESSAGE FROM THE RECTORY & CHURCH DATES FOR MARCH

Dear Friends

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (5th March) when some of us will be reminded of our mortality when ashes are smeared in the form of a cross on our forehead and the following words said: "Remember that you are but dust and to dust you shall return". These words hark back to the story in the Book of Genesis when God took dust, breathed life into it and formed the first man – Adam.

Being reminded of one's own mortality is sobering and can be something of a jolt; and we British are not very good about talking about death and dying; or the span we have to live here on earth. And perhaps we sometime need that reminder or jolt to get us to consider how we want to spend the time we have left on this earth – for we can take it for granted and drift along.

Lent is a time of reflection and laying things down and picking things up. Perhaps we might use these 40 days of Lent this year to think about the life we lead. What we want to do; how do we really want to be with and for others – and ourselves? Who do we want to see? Where would we like to go? And what legacy would we like to leave – for our family, for our community, for ourselves?

A great gift to leave your family would be some directions as to what you would like to happen after you have gone – what sort of funeral would you like? What music and words matter to you that might be played, sung or spoken at your funeral? Write it down and let your loved ones know where it is.

Lent is a time when we are encouraged to have a bit of a spiritual, mental and physical 'spring clean'; be reminded that we have a life to live to the full in knowledge that one day we all shall die. Seize these 40 days and live them!

And remember – dust can be transformed into diamonds!

Yours as ever – John

The Rectory, Ampney Crucis, Cirencester, GL7 5RY | 01285 851309 | ampneyrector@gmail.com | www.ampneychurches.info

CHURCH SERVICES FOR MARCH

Sunday 2nd March <i>Sunday before Lent</i>	8am 10am 10am	Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion Word and Worship	Ampney Crucis Down Ampney Harnhill
Wednesday 5th March <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	6pm	Holy Communion with Ashing	Driffield
Sunday 9th March <i>1st Sunday of Lent</i>	8am 10am 10am	Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion Word & Worship	Poulton Driffield Harnhill
Sunday 16th March <i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i>	8am 10am 10am	Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion Word & Worship	Ampney St Peter Ampney Crucis Harnhill
Sunday 23rd March <i>3rd Sunday of Lent</i>	8am 10am 10am	Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion Word & Worship	Harnhill Poulton Harnhill
Sunday 30th March <i>Mothering Sunday</i>	10am	Family Service for Mothering Sunday <i>A jolly family-friendly service - bring your mother, godmother, grandmother!</i>	Ampney St Peter



*The weather may change, but we
don't!*

Open for Lunch and Dinner

Wednesday to Saturday

&

Sunday Lunch

*We look forward to welcoming you, your
friends and family*

DOWN ON THE FARM

Last time we spoke to Charles, he was pleased that he and many other farmers had managed to get their winter wheat drilling done early, a rare luxury in recent years. But farming is never that simple. Then came Storm Bert—a brutal deluge that left crops rotting in the ground.

“It was at the wrong stage, and it wiped it all out,” Charles says matter-of-factly. “That’s just how it is—nothing to do but take the loss and move on.” Charles isn’t alone. Across the country, farmers are grappling with significant financial losses—the cost of seed, time, and spray all down the drain. Replanting isn’t an easy fix, either. With wheat out of the picture, Charles will have to pivot to spring barley or durum wheat—both of which are less profitable.

It’s been two years of the same story. Last autumn was too wet for drilling, and then spring was no better. The result? The UK is now importing more wheat than it has in years. If spring crops go in well, farmers might recover some losses. But if it’s another washout, Britain’s grain market will continue to suffer. “So maybe we should all drink beer instead of eating bread,” Charles jokes.

Flooding from Storm Bert wasn’t just an issue for crops, it affected livestock too. Most of Charles’s cows are safely indoors, but a small group is still outwintering near London Road. “They’re on free-draining ground, so they can stick it,” he explains. “Wouldn’t work on the heavy clay at Hannington—they’d have to be inside.” It’s a big cost-saver. These cows, pregnant and not milking, are being fed through bale grazing, a method where silage bales are placed in the field and the electric fence is moved inch by inch each day. If you’ve ever wondered why large black silage bales sit in fields, that’s why—the cows are slowly working their way across the field and through the feed. They seem to be very happy and healthy outside. The team watch very carefully for any foot problems which they may incur but the ground is hard enough on Poulton grazing land to make this a rarity.

For those housed indoors, it’s business as usual: daily feeding, and clean straw bedding. The whole yard is cleaned out once or twice a winter - it’s a two-day job that farmers try to tackle during a dry or frosty spell to avoid tearing up the ground with heavy machinery. Whilst there are advantages to keeping the cows inside, there are cons too; a greater chance that they might catch pneumonia or other conditions, with the spread of any disease being more rapid given the animals’ confinement. Keeping good airflow is really important.

Spring Plans and Cropping Challenges

Though winter is a quieter period, everything is gearing up for spring drilling. The ground needs to be cultivated as soon as it’s fit to work, with farmers anxiously watching for a dry spell. Spring barley can go in from mid-February; peas need warmer ground, so won’t be drilled until April.

Everything depends on the weather! But in the meantime, cropping plans for the year ahead are being finalised, alongside the endless paperwork required for acceptance onto the government’s agri-environment schemes. That’s proven a bureaucratic nightmare and getting registered has been “unbelievably complicated.”

Lambing, Scanning, and the Impact of a Tough Autumn

By March, it’ll be lambing time, so the usual warnings about dogs disturbing sheep come into play. Please do make sure your dogs are on a lead anywhere near the pregnant sheep.

Charles scanned his ewes in January, with a 175% result—a solid number, and slightly higher than last year. No empty ewes and no triplets, just a balance of singles and twins which is the best result.

Last year there were five sets of triplets which requires much more intervention when they are born as the third needs to be given to another ewe to look after.

Howard, another of the local farmers we talk to in this column, lambs slightly later than Charles and didn’t have such luck. Cold, wet conditions in late October and early November when his rams were out with the ewes likely reduced fertility. Ewes need rising nutrition levels, but in those conditions, “everything was wet and slushy, no matter what they were eating.”

And it’s not just sheep that struggled.

Turnip crops have had their worst year in 15–20 years; slugs consumed 30% of the whole crop, while the cold, wet October stunted their growth. This is another blow for winter feed supplies, which will have to be topped up by buying in additional feedstuff.



Take time for the things that matter

Investing a little time in
tax planning now will help
you reap the rewards in
your retirement.

Use your tax relief before 5 April.

Discover the rewards of one-to-one financial advice

Jane Davidson
DipPFS
Principal

01285 850567
jane.davidson@sjpp.co.uk
www.davidsonfinancialplanning.co.uk

Associate Partner Practice

**St
James's
Place**

Davidson Financial Planning is an Appointed Representative of and represents only St. James's Place Wealth Management plc (which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority) for the purpose of advising solely on the group's wealth management products and services, more details of which are set out on the group's website www.sjp.co.uk/products. The 'St. James's Place Partnership' and the titles 'Partner' and 'Partner Practice' are marketing terms used to describe St. James's Place representatives.

SJP Approved 19/02/2025

SJPI5322a_DS BI (10/24)

DOWN ON THE FARM

On the Bright Side

Cattle and sheep prices are soaring, says Charles. The phrase “up horn, down corn” has never rung truer. While crop prices struggle, cattle and sheep prices are currently reaching near-record highs:

- Beef prices have soared past £6 per kilo deadweight, up from £4.30 just two years ago.
- Sheep prices are near their highest levels ever.

But these prices reflect a shrinking industry. The UK's beef herd has fallen by 50,000 cows in just two years as many farmers have abandoned suckler beef production after years of unprofitability.

Would Charles expand his herd? It's not that simple. “What we're killing now was conceived nearly three years ago. It's not a tap you can just turn on.” More cattle means more housing, which means big investments in new sheds. One alternative is keeping more cows outside in winter, but that can only be achieved if there is enough dry land available.

Right now, many farmers aren't keeping heifers for breeding, but are selling them for slaughter instead. The choice farmers have to make is whether to capitalise on current high prices or to invest in breeding stock and hope that the market holds in 3 years' time, when their offspring are ready for slaughter? It's a gamble.



Health Checks and the Nail-Biting TB Test

For pedigree breeders like Charles, buying new cattle is risky for a number of reasons, but primarily as new stock can introduce disease into a disease-free herd. Charles takes steps to mitigate the risk by buying bulls only from accredited high-health herds. These herds are extensively tested each year.

For Charles, March means testing time for his own herd, a very anxious time for any farmer. First comes the TB test and then tests for:

- BVD (Bovine Viral Diarrhoea)
- IBR (Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis)
- Leptospirosis
- Johne's Disease & Mycoplasma

Failing TB or testing for a higher risk level on the Johne's test or for Mycoplasma would be a major blow. Customers want a high health herd and if your stats drop, your status drops and prospective buyers fall away, so the stakes are high.

Looking Ahead

As winter winds down, the farm waits on the weather. A dry spell will kickstart spring drilling, while a mild spring will help lambing and calving. But after two challenging years, nothing is guaranteed.

For now, plans are made, machinery is ready, and eyes are on the skies.

Rosie Arkwright in conversation with Charles Horton



don't forget...

THE CLOCKS GO FORWARD 1 HOUR ON
SUNDAY 30TH MARCH





TANNERS SOLICITORS LLP

City expertise in the heart of the Cotswolds

Tanners Solicitors LLP
Lancaster House
Thomas Street, Cirencester
Gloucestershire GL7 2AX

T: 01285 659061
F: 01285 655603
DX 39409 Cirencester
E: law@tanners.co.uk

www.tanners.co.uk

Protecting Our Beautiful Land: A Thoughtful Approach to Land Use

As the MP for South Cotswolds, I'm deeply committed to preserving the beauty and vitality of our landscape while addressing the needs of our community. Our countryside isn't just a backdrop - it's the heart of our heritage and a crucial part of our natural world. Balancing housing needs, food production, and renewable energy with biodiversity protection and landscape preservation is a complex challenge, but one we must tackle head-on for the future of our region.

The Climate and Nature Bill I introduced to Parliament as a Private Member's Bill may not have fully blossomed into law, but it bore fruit in the form of important commitments from government ministers on crucial environmental measures. This keeps nature restoration and climate action firmly on the agenda, and I'll continue to work closely with the government to push for stronger, more effective environmental policies.

Agriculture shapes our landscape in fundamental ways, and I'm dedicated to amplifying farmers' voices in Parliament. Recent budget changes, particularly regarding inheritance tax on farmland, have added financial uncertainty to an already challenging situation for many farmers. I'm actively collaborating with the National Farmers' Union (NFU) and local farmers to champion policies that support sustainable food production while protecting our natural heritage.

Farmers are the true custodians of our countryside. With the right support and incentives, they can adopt nature-friendly practices that maintain soil health, protect water sources, mitigate flooding, and enhance biodiversity. This approach will not only preserve our landscape but will ensure its vitality for generations to come.

I firmly believe that local communities should have a strong say in decisions affecting their environment. That's why I've been actively opposing projects like Lime Down solar park, which simply doesn't fit our landscape or community needs. While I fully support renewable energy, large-scale projects must be planned thoughtfully, respecting both local landscapes and the people who call them home.

To address concerns about land use, I recently organized a Westminster Hall debate about solar farms on agricultural land. Solar power is crucial for our renewable energy future, but its implementation must be carefully considered. We need to explore alternative solutions, such as installing solar panels on the roofs of all new homes, advocated in Max Wilkinson MP's Sunshine Bill, to avoid unnecessarily sacrificing valuable farmland.

Beyond Parliament, I regularly engage with local environmental groups and community initiatives, such as Sustainable Sherston, Wiltshire and Gloucestershire Wildlife Trusts, and Kemble Community Gardens, working tirelessly to protect our countryside. From tree-planting projects to rewilding efforts and conservation schemes, these grassroots movements play a vital role in shaping our land's future. Their knowledge and passion are invaluable resources that I'm committed to supporting in every way possible.

The decisions we make today will define the future of our landscape. I believe in a balanced, forward-thinking approach—one that respects our rural heritage, prioritises nature, and ensures that our land is used wisely and fairly for generations to come. Together, we can create a thriving South Cotswolds that future generations will look upon with pride and appreciation.





CHAMBERLAIN WINES

Hello. My name is Mark Chamberlain, and I have lived in Poulton with my family for more than ten years. If we haven't met, you may have seen me walking the dogs around the village!



I am an Independent Wine Merchant. I have almost twenty years' experience in the Wine Trade, including living and working in Saint-Emilion. I have run my own Wine Merchant's business for more than a decade.

I list wines from all over the World, and in a wide range of styles: crisp, dry whites; richer, fuller bodied whites; pale and refreshing Provençal rosés; light, supple reds; full-bodied fruity reds; luscious pudding wines; an array of sparkling wines including some excellent Grower Champagnes; a selection of ports and sherries; classic Clarets, Burgundies, Riojas and Barolos; lots of interesting wines from off the beaten track. In essence, anything that I like and I think represents good quality and good value for its type and origin. I don't list anything I wouldn't drink. And I always try to be amongst the most competitively priced for the wines I list.

I don't have a shop, but I do offer a range of traditional Wine Merchant services – expert advice, naturally; free local home delivery (or I can send wine anywhere in the country using a reliable courier service); glass loan for events; gift boxes. If I don't stock a wine or style you're looking for, I will do my best to find it for you. In short, all you could want from a Wine Merchant, on your doorstep!

As I live in the village, Poulton residents get 10% off the list price of any order.

If you want to see a list of the wines I have currently, join my local email list, or have any other questions, please do get in touch: mark@chamberlainwines.co.uk or on the mobile, 07894 528 580.

All the best!

FOILED AGAIN!

The Cotswold Writers' Group meet in Down Ampney village hall every Tuesday morning at 10.30. A subject is drawn at random from a hat and we have about half an hour to write something. Then we read our efforts to each other, then have a cup of tea!
This was one member's interpretation of the subject Foiled Again.

World Book Day

or

The scourge of all mums of primary school aged children

Gone are the days when Mums cobbled together a costume from an old sheet and a cardboard box. Tesco have a range of costumes for this event and no child would be seen dead in a home-made outfit.

Buzz Lightyear, The Tiger who came to Tea. All demand an expensive costume from Tesco or that other source of all necessities and even more un-necessities of life- Amazon.

The school gate mafia would be there, casting their critical eye on the other children's outfits and smugly showing off their offsprings' expensively procured costumes. Little Cinderellas in elaborate ballgowns, or velvet-clad Little Lord Fauntleroy's- the finest that Harrods could supply.

Maggie led a busy life. A single parent (good riddance to that useless apology for a man. The Other Woman was welcome to him). A demanding full time job with the NHS, child minding arrangements for little Marcus. After school clubs, breakfast clubs, drop offs and pick ups. She wasn't the most organised person and frequently forgot that it was the day to remember PE kit or dinner money. So when she woke up to another hectic day her mind flipped through it's usual checklist. Buy food for the evening meal. Arrange a baby sitter so that she could do the night shift. Book the car in for its MOT. Through the myriad things-to-do list buzzing through her mind came a little voice. Mum. It's world Book Day.

ARRRGH

Too late for Mr Amazon to come up with the goods. No Cat in the Hat. No Ebenezer Scrooge. No Scarecrow.

Quick. Quick. Think. An astronaut. Surely there is a book about an astronaut. Well, if there isn't there jolly well ought to be. A space helmet from a cornflake packet covered in foil. Her silver lame jacket that had been hanging in the wardrobe for years. (when would she wear that again for a glam night out?). A backpack from the large economy size dog biscuit box covered in foil. Wellies – covered in foil. Hooray for that bargain mega roll of kitchen foil.

He made a passable astronaut. Thoroughly Baco-foiled again!

By
Pam Varey



Justin Rundle

Painter & Decorator

07970 296579

justinrundle@hotmail.com



Local & Trusted

Cotswold Friends needs you!

Cotswold Friends provides Community Transport across Cirencester and needs more Volunteer Drivers.

Local charity Cotswold Friends has been providing Community Transport to elderly and vulnerable people in the North Cotswolds since 1978 to combat loneliness and isolation.

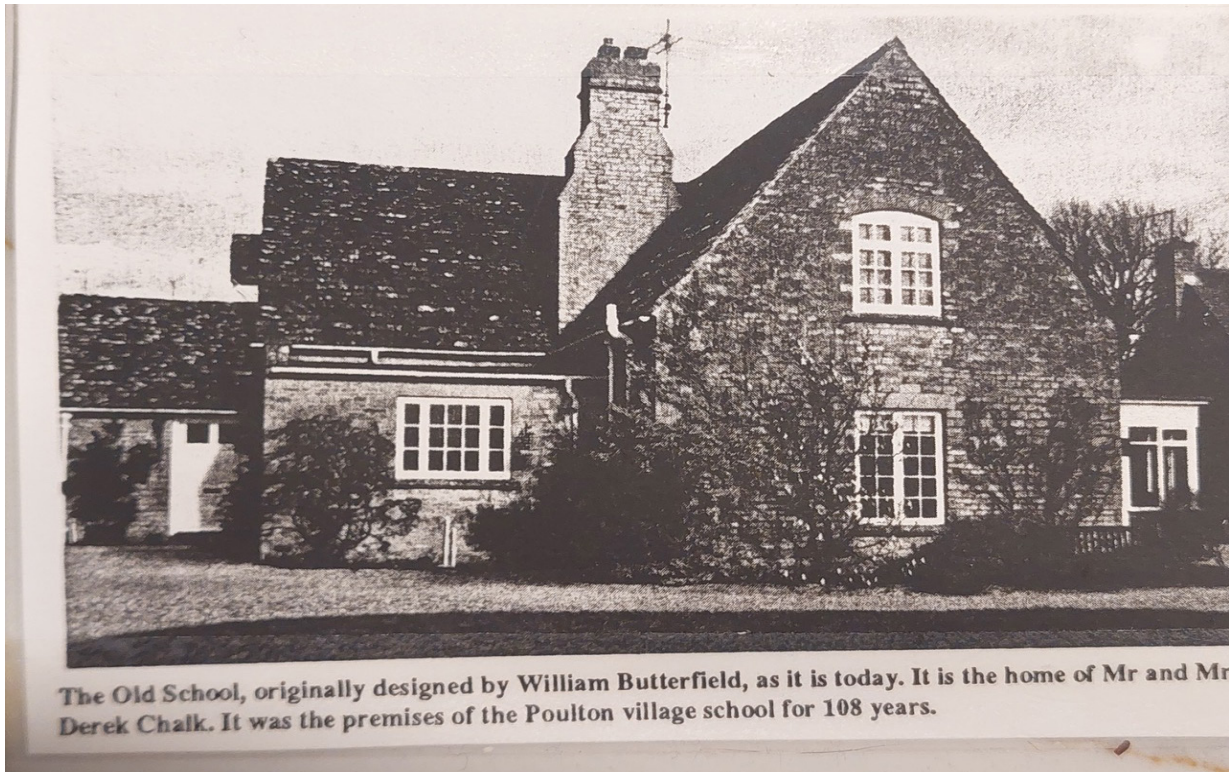
They began to expand into Cirencester and surrounding areas (from Rencdomb to South Cerney, Sapperton to Poulton and many places in between) after the pandemic and have seen the demand for the service grow year on year. Their incredible team of volunteers take clients anywhere they'd like to go; for medical or social appointments – to see family and friends, to the hairdresser, shops, doctors, or the hospital. And they'd love you to get involved.

Becoming a Volunteer Driver is a wonderful way to meet new people, bring a smile to someone's face, get more involved in the community and be part of the inspiring team of Cotswold Friends volunteers with events throughout the year to celebrate one another.

You can give as much or as little time as you have, from a few hours a month to several hours each week – it can be very flexible.

If you'd like to find out more or to apply to become a volunteer, please contact their lovely Volunteer Manager on 01608 697007 or email volunteering@cotswoldfriends.org

MEMORIES OF POULTON SCHOOL



Poulton School was built in 1872, on land generously donated by Mrs Mary Tombs, who lived in the Manor House. The following year, 1873, saw the arrival of St Michael and All Angels Church just opposite the school. Church and school were strongly intertwined at that time; until 1870, when a law was passed compelling children to attend school, the only education available to most children was provided by the church through Sunday School.

Poulton School was built to hold 101 children, most of whom would be the sons and daughters of Poulton families whose parents worked on the land, in the service of the "big house" families, or were blacksmiths, butchers or bakers.

Pupils would arrive at 09.00 and the day would begin with an assembly; prayers, a bible reading and a hymn. Boys and girls would sit separately for lessons, which would focus on the "Four Rs" – Reading, wRiting, athRithmetic and Religion. They would use a slate to copy their numbers and letters from the blackboard. Punishment might be caning or being made to wear a 'Dunce's hat'. Playtime would see the children playing with hoops, skipping ropes, spinning tops and marbles. Oh, and football, using an inflated pigs bladder as a ball!

By the time the school closed in 1980 there were just 22 pupils.

We talked to Richard Butt, one of the few former pupils who still live in the village, who was kind enough to share his research, photographs and memories of Poulton School.

Richard's research leads back to the 1920s, when the school's roll was dominated by the children of 2 Poulton families – the Jobbins' and the Johnceys. Three Jobbins brothers (and their families) lived in the village and ran a building firm. Oscar Jobbins worked from the builders yard on Bell Lane where Trevor Carr's workshop now stands.

In 1929 Kathleen Jobbins became the first Poulton School pupil to pass the exam for the prestigious Cirencester Grammar School, followed by her brother Eric a few years later. Entrance to the grammar school was a major achievement; through its (1/3 of pupils) free places scheme, it offered an academic education to the most talented pupils. Grammar schools were intended to offer children from working class backgrounds an opportunity to go into professions and/or have careers opportunities. Going to grammar school enabled social mobility which had not previously been available to most children in Poulton.

May Johncey also passed the exam and in time developed her own career as a teacher, working at Powells in Cirencester. Her diary records that the Poulton School teachers were "Mr Franklin and his sister Miss Franklin, who taught the seniors, and Miss Tanner, who taught the infants. All the children came from the village. After the Franklins left, Mr Webb arrived to teach the seniors. We were taught dancing, knitting, sewing and embroidery. At playtime we played hopscotch, skipping, hoops and tops."

May's brother Bill and sister Ena went on to school at Farmors in Fairford, which provided education geared towards children going into a trade.

MEMORIES OF POULTON SCHOOL



The Poulton School Infants Class, 1920

The Infants Class of 1920 had 25 young children in it, all of whom lived in the village with their parents.

The majority of their parents worked on one of the village farms - incredibly there were at least 9 (Poulton Hill, the Priory Estate, Butts Farm, Ranbury Farm, Poulton Fields, Ready Token, Hartwell Farm, Sunhill Farm, Quarry Farm).

At the beginning of the 1950s, Janet Ayres joined Poulton School. It became something of a family affair; one of the teachers, Miss Jones, came from Wales and lodged with Janet's family, while Janet's mother took on the job of cooking school lunches and supervising the playground. Mrs Ayres continued as school cook for many years, receiving an award for her dedicated service upon her retirement. She was helped by another mum, Mrs Johncey, and was eventually replaced as cook by yet another village mother, Mrs Morse.

In 1953 Richard Butt started at the school. Miss Crowker, the longtime headteacher, was still there, assisted by Miss Mayne. "You stayed in the infants for 2 years and then moved up into the seniors" recalls Richard. "Miss Crowker retired when I moved up to the seniors and Miss Vatcher took over. She was a very religious lady". Longtime headteacher Miss Crowker had lived in The School Teachers House, just next door to the Old Rectory. Church and school were closely intertwined, and Richard recalls (with a slight grimace) "We spent a lot of time in the church - whenever it was a saint's day or a religious event - Corpus Christi or whatever, we would have to go to church. It got a bit much!"



Infants from Poulton School - 1950s - photograph courtesy of Fraser Evans (back right)

MEMORIES OF POULTON SCHOOL

He has happier memories of the playground, where he played marbles, conkers and collected football cards. Lessons were focused on arithmetic, reading and writing, but he also remembers nature walks to the Priory, using the footpath across Englands, "looking for different flowers and so on". He doesn't remember playing sport at school – "it was bad timing that Englands and the cricket pitch were established next door to the school only around the time when the school closed".

Richard's dad drove him to school in his car each morning, sometimes picking up Ernie along the way. He remembers a close village community inside and outside school hours; "We used to meet up outside school – Brian Cooper had a bike and would cycle out to see us. Edwards Stores was a particular mecca. The mothers always used it too, and it was a real hub of village life. "What you got for tuppence?" we used to say when we went in."

Village life centred around the seasonal workload, church services and regular events such as the weekly winter bingo nights in the Village Hall (the days before TV meant dark nights were long), for which the vicar provided a microphone system! Another highlight of the winter season was the nativity play, which was performed in the village hall (you can see the stage we know so well in the background of this picture below left).



Back Row L-R Edward Winter, Philip Morse,,Peter Telling, Peter Morse, Michael Ash,
Middle: Freda Winter, Janet Ayers
Front: Marian Morse, Margaret Smith, Cherry Knox

1950's

What stands out is that even in the 1950s, although the number of schoolchildren has reduced (corresponding with a reduction in the number of workers required to work the land), many of the pupils were still tied to farming and in-service jobs. Almost all had at least one parent who worked in the village.

Surnames that we now hauntingly recognise on the war memorial are seen on the school roll just a short generation after the end of the Second World War. Other names are familiar to this day - Morse Roofing Contractors, Jobbins builders being 2 examples. Many of us today recognise the names of the houses which they lived in, although few properties are now be occupied by farm or estate workers.

The village was a self-contained community. In the 1950s, in addition to the school and church, it had a shop, post office, garage and petrol station, village hall, sports ground and at pub. Although villagers had cars you could meet day-to-day needs without leaving the village. The existence of The Police House and The Nurses House on London Road evidence how thriving and self-sufficient the Poulton community was.

The school closed in 1980. By this time, parents could choose which school their children would attend, so Poulton children no longer automatically went to Poulton school, but might instead go to Fairford, Meysey Hampton, Down Ampney or Ampney Crucis schools. After the closure, remaining pupils were taken by minibus to Fairford Primary School.

With thanks to Richard Butt, Janet Ayres' family and Mark Ranger for generously sharing their memories and/or photographs.

We would love to hear from anyone else who has photographs or memories of their Poulton schooldays that they would like to share. All will be added to the Poulton Photography Project and Archive which is available online.

Lizzy Roughton

Custom Travel works with many well-known travel brands, and the list below is just a small selection. Whether you're planning a beach escape, cruise, city stay, mountain adventure, escorted tour, villa stay, or something more adventurous – ***we've got you covered!***



OFFICIAL BOOKING AGENT

WHY BOOK WITH YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT TRAVEL ADVISOR?

- GUIDANCE & ADVICE
- EXPERT KNOWLEDGE
- CONVENIENT & HASSLE-FREE
- COMPLETE BOOKING SERVICE
- ASSURANCE & ADDED SECURITY
- ABTA / ATOL PROTECTION



BOOK FOR JUST
£60
 DEPOSIT
PER PERSON

FREE IN-TRIP
ANY MODIFICATION
MILLION PROTECTED
TRANSFERS
24/6



Approved agent









































& many more

Contact Kristina & Claire: 01793 828002

Enquiries@customtravel.biz

MEMORIES OF POULTON SCHOOL



Poulton School 1950's

Back Row L-R: Richard Butt, David Anthony, Trevor Shaw, Brian Cooper Ian & Malcolm Woodcock.

Next Row: Wendy Gardner, Iris Anthony, Christine Osbourne, Rosemary Messenger, Bernice Robb, Janet Brewin, Patricia Trinder, Irene Messer, Ruth Brewin, Violet Anthony

Next Row: Johnnie Randall, Anthea Hackling, Jennifer Anthony, Sarah Warren, Miss Hilda Mayne, Miss Vatcher, Phyllis Ayers (cook) Stephen Hook, Michael Hackling, Andrew Morse Kenneth Anthony, Tony Winter.

Front Row: Shirley Winter, Bunny Lavin, Susan Painter, Anne Whitehill, Heather Whitehill, Marion Johncey, Richard Jelfe

David, Jennifer, Kenneth and Violet Anthony were part of a big family who lived and worked at Poulton Hill Farm.

Brian Cooper's dad was butler to Major Mitchell at Poulton Priory, where his mother was the cook. Brian still runs Poulton Football Club to this day!

Ian and Malcolm Woodcock lived at Ready Token.

Wendy Gardner lived at the Police House. Her dad, PC Gardner, was the first village policeman.

Christine Osbourne lived in Apple Tree Cottage.

Rosemary Messenger lived with her family on the London Road.

Bernice Robb came from the farm at Sunhill, where her dad worked.

Janet and Ruth Brewin lived at Hartwell Farm.

Patricia Trinder's dad also looked after the cows at Poulton Fields. She had 2 brothers, Kenny and Timmy, who also went to Poulton school. They lived in cottages on the farm.

Irene Messer's dad was gardener at Poulton Fields – she would be Caroline Edwards' auntie.

Johnny Randall came from Quarry Farm on the way to Ampney St Mary.

Anthea and Michael Hackling were the children of Sonny Hackling, who was the shepherd at Poulton Fields while the Wigrams were there.

Sarah Warren came from Honeycombe Leas.

Steven Hook came from Hartwell Farm.

Andrew Morse was part of the 3 Morse families living on West View; Basil at number 2, Cyril at number 3 and Bill at number 4.

Tony and Shirley Winter lived at Poulton Hill Farm.

Bunny Lavin lived at Spring Bank; her father was an airline steward

Susan Painter lived at 6 West View.

Alan and Heather Whitehill - twins who lived at West View. Their parents are buried in the churchyard; flowers are left on their graves to this day.

Richard Jelf lived on the Butts, where his father and uncle ran Butts Farm. There were other Jelfs in the village who also attended the school

Fraser Evans' father was the chauffeur at Poulton Fields.

John Ash was part of another big Poulton family, with 3 Ash families living in the village. His uncle ran the village shop.

Offering IT and Audio-Visual sales & support and established for over 16 years.

We can help with all aspects of your home and small business technology, from computer support to designing and installing a complete home WiFi and Audio-Visual setup we have you covered.

- Complete home WiFi setup & troubleshooting
- Virus & Spyware removal & prevention
- Home Office & Home Working setups
- Sales of PC, MAC, printers and all IT peripherals
- iPhone, iPad and tablet sales & support
- Computer upgrades & troubleshooting
- Supply and installation of Smart TVs
- Authorised SONOS dealer

Please contact us and we will be more than happy to help.

01285 750277- iain@computersolutions.me.uk

digital home:

SONOS
THE WIRELESS HI-FI SYSTEM



tado°

certified installer

CANTON
pure music

NETGEAR
Connect with Innovation™

KASPERSKY



CRIME PREVENTION ADVICE FROM GLOUCESTERSHIRE POLICE

Following an unwelcome number of burglaries in the village, we thought it would be helpful to summarise the latest police advice on securing your property. You can also sign up for local Gloucestershire Police crime alerts via: <https://www.yourcommunity-alerts.co.uk>

Keeping your property visible

- Lower fences at the front around one-metre high are preferable to high fences as they allow for a clear view over the top and don't provide cover for anyone wishing to hide.
- At the rear and sides, taller fencing is recommended to prevent easy access.
- Trellis, thorny plants, or a suitable anti-climb topping such as plastic spikes make it difficult for anyone climbing over a fence or gate.
- Planting prickly or barbed shrubbery along boundaries and fence lines acts as an effective natural barrier.
- Gravel driveways and paths will make sure you hear anyone approach.

CCTV

- By using well-defined boundaries as a basis, CCTV can be a valuable tool. However, it doesn't prevent a crime from being committed and does have limitations.
- CCTV linked to a smartphone will alert you to someone crossing your boundary.
- Most importantly, CCTV is no substitute for good quality physical security such as secure doors and windows.
- Some cameras work by day and by night, and record when they detect movement. Some can be remotely viewed from a smartphone.
- Position cameras where they are best able to obtain good quality facial images. Could you recognise or identify someone from the footage?
- There is legislation for home CCTV use, so always seek advice from an accredited installer first to ensure your system complies with the law.
- Place signage up warning that CCTV is in use.
- For advice and approved suppliers of CCTV visit the National Security Inspectorate and the Security Systems and Alarms Inspection Board.

Alarm Systems

- Consider an accredited burglar alarm system with audible alarm boxes mounted high at the front and rear of your home. Two visible audible alarm boxes are better than one. Mount them at the front and rear of your home, high up to resist tampering.
- There are three types of burglar alarm, varying in capability and cost:
 - Monitored – Once triggered, an alarm company or designated key holder can check to ensure it isn't a false alarm.
 - Unmonitored – This type, once activated, will sound a loud alarm designed to scare off an intruder and alert neighbours but they are reliant on someone such as a neighbour checking the house.
 - Auto Dialler – This system, once activated, alerts pre-programmed key holders with either a text or a phone call.
- The police will typically respond to a burglar alarm if requested to do so by a monitoring company but are less likely to respond to an unmonitored alarm.
- If you have an extension to your home remember to extend your burglar alarm coverage as well.
- Burglars have been known to use ladders to access upper windows that appear to be unlocked. This is to avoid intruder alarm sensors on the lower floor. To help protect your property from this approach, you should extend any alarm sensor coverage to upper rooms.
- Signage is an effective deterrent if used with an active alarm system.
- For advice and approved suppliers of alarms visit the National Security Inspectorate and the Security Systems and Alarms Inspection Board.

Lighting

- **External** lighting is a good deterrent and is recommended at doors as it makes it safer for you when coming and going after dark.
- A clear, low white light that activates at dusk to dawn is ideal for lighting a yard and garden and allowing any person to be clearly seen.
- Check to make sure that trees and plants do not obscure your lighting. It's recommended that you regularly cut vegetation back.
- Take care to position these lights so that light pollution doesn't annoy your neighbours.
- Use an automatic plugin time switch to operate **internal** lamps or lights at pre-set times when you're away.
- Energy saving LED bulbs are best as they do not use as much electricity, last longer than conventional bulbs and do not generate heat, reducing fire risk.

Further Information/Useful Websites

<https://www.immobilise.com> - National Property Register

<https://www.securedbydesign.com> - Police recommended products

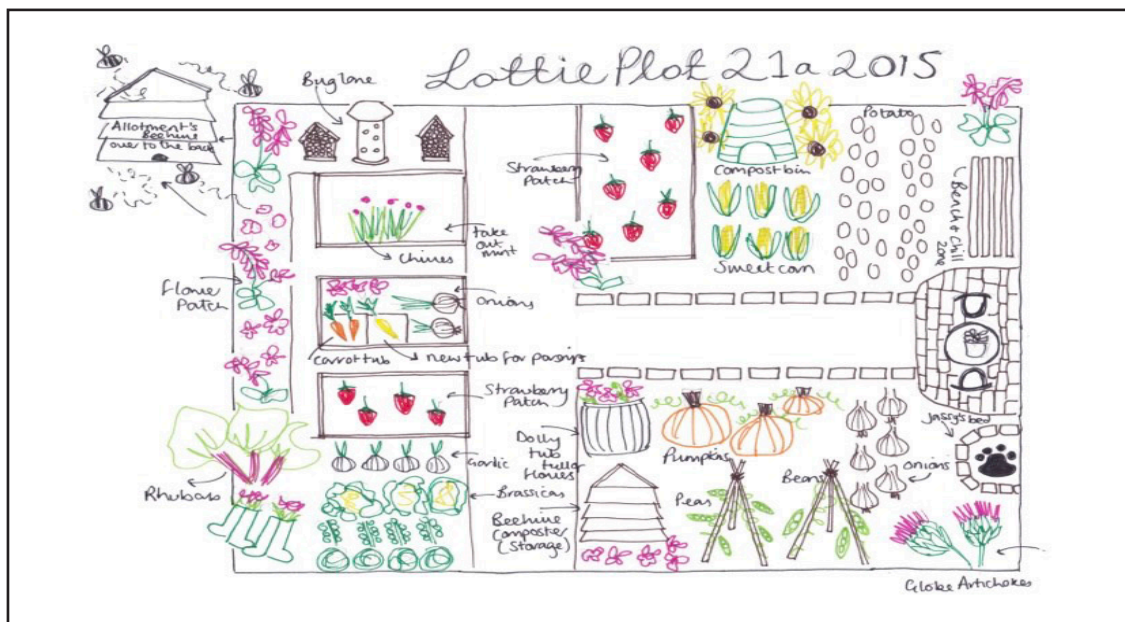
<https://www.nsi.org.uk> - quality standard approved security firms and providers

Save the date - Saturday March 22nd

Poulton Village Spring Clean



- This is an annual event to help keep our village and the surrounding countryside looking beautiful.
- Joining your fellow villagers in collecting the rubbish from the surrounding roads and lanes, especially the plastic rubbish which unfortunately accumulates every year and will never degrade
- **When:** Saturday March 2th 1.30 – 4pm (Sunday afternoon as last resort if the weather is really atrocious on Saturday)
- **Where:** Meet in Village Hall at 1.30 pm to collect litter picking gear and your allocated route map
- **How:** Come wearing your own high visibility, weather-proof clothes and gardening gloves. We will provide litter pickers and bags. The council will collect the rubbish left in the village hall car park on Monday.
- **Safety:** You are responsible for your own safety. Picking is most safely done in groups of 2 or 3 all on the **same side** of the road with one looking out for traffic. We will organise groups depending on who turns up
- **Tea:** We will be providing tea and cakes afterwards in the village hall
- **Remember** to mark where you leave the full litter bags on the map of your route and return this to the village hall so we can collect at the end of the day
- **Email:** If you can help please email me (robin.spiller123@gmail.com) so I can plan and ensure we cover all the routes
- **PS** If you cannot make Saturday but would like to take part please email me and I can arrange for you to collect litter pickers and bags from the bench outside my back door Ashbrook House, Ashbrook Lane just off Bell Lane any time in the preceding week
- Hope to see you there Robin Spiller



It seems that the more fast food chains proliferate and the more ultra-processed food sits on our supermarket shelves, we see almost in parallel a growing desire to reconnect with nature and to eat local, sustainable, healthy, real food. And here in Poulton, there is exciting news on this front! One of our allotments has become available and can be taken over immediately! You'll need to be quick, because it won't hang around for long. So if you want the chance to grow your own fruit and veg (and improve your physical and mental health at the same time) then hurry!

Contact Caroline - 01285 850429 / pfactrustees@gmail.com

The Hive Awakens

It was a miserable cold February day with low cloud when the sun came out, just for about 30 minutes, and it warmed up a bit. I had noticed some hazel catkins releasing their pollen when I brushed against them so I thought I would go and look at my bees. I have 4 hives at present each with their quite distinct characteristics. Two are quite small and would be lucky to get through the winter unaided so I helped them along this January with some high energy fondant, made of solid sugar. The other 2 are substantial, they both have two brood boxes and the largest one has at least 20kg of honey stores. One was quiet but the other buzzing! I was amazed and thrilled to see that there were dozens of bees hovering around the hive. They come out and, facing the hive, hover there getting their bearings. They do this many times, each time going a little further and then coming back. This is the way they ensure that they can recognise the land marks to allow them to return safely, since without the hive they will die.



Most bees at this time of year are “winter bees”. Their main job is to keep the hive warm, so they don’t go out foraging but stay in the hive eating honey from their stores. However, the bee gut is no different from ours and as the winter progresses the unabsorbed food residue and colonic bacteria build up, distending the rectum until it virtually fills the abdomen. At some stage they must go out to defecate as they are very careful to keep the hive clean. Most of the bees outside the hive were probably taking advantage of the warm weather to get themselves comfortable! However, amongst this cloud of bees there were a few coming back with the pollen basket on their back legs laden with bright orange pollen, most likely from the snowdrops (see the beautiful photo above by Kiri Stuart- Clark) which are everywhere in Ashbrook Lane.

Winter bees don’t eat pollen as their diet is mostly honey so the fact that they are out collecting pollen means they have brood to feed and that means the queen is laying! During the cold of late October, November and December the queen bee slows down her laying and often stops altogether. This is because the bees need to form a cluster (see left) as the outside temperature falls below 14oC. The queen is protected in the centre of the cluster which is kept at around 20 oC by heat generated from fibrillary contraction of the flight muscles, which generates heat without any movement of the wings. The bees pack themselves very tightly together to reduce heat loss. An outer mantle of bees arrange themselves with their heads pointing inwards and their body bristles matted together like felt, thus producing an excellent insulation coat which reduces heat loss from the cluster. As the outside temperature falls the cluster becomes tighter and tighter and seems impossibly small but once the temperature rises the cluster relaxes. Provided it is not too cold bees can break from the cluster to reach the honey stores which may be 2-20 centimetres away as the honey on the frame the cluster is nearest to will soon be exhausted. The problem comes if it is too cold and they cannot break from the cluster to get the stores, they can then die of what is known as “isolation starvation”.

Early in January the queen starts to lay a few eggs, stimulated by the lengthening daylight. She needs to do this early since the main aim of any hive is to reproduce and this involves swarming. The odds are stacked against successful reproduction and most swarms fail to create enough stores to survive the next winter. Success depends then on swarming early to allow time to build up stores from nectar which is only available in quantity during April to July. This requires upwards of 40,000 bees which is only possible if the queen starts laying early. A good queen can lay up to 2000 eggs per day, a rate which is carefully controlled by the resources available since raising grubs needs the hive temperature to be raised to 35C which takes a lot more energy. This can be seen by the rapid increase in the rate of weight loss of the hive when grubs appear and need feeding. She cannot start laying at the maximum rate in January as the hive would soon run out of food and would not be able to keep so many grubs warm so the rate has to be carefully controlled depending on external temperature and availability of food. If the colony signals to the queen there is plenty of food and conditions are favourable she increases her rate of lay but produces smaller, less well provisioned eggs, relying on the nurse bees to make up for the smaller egg size by more feeding. If conditions are unfavourable she will lay fewer but larger eggs which can cope with less food.

Food for brood is mainly provided from a combination of pollen and honey, so-called “bee bread”. The bees make this by chewing off some pollen and some honey and mixing it in their mouth before feeding to the grubs. For the first few days the eggs need a richer mixture, “royal jelly” which nurse bees produce. Its secretions contain everything needed for rapid growth - protein, glucose and vitamins. Ordinary workers only get it during the first 3 days of life, which is why they are smaller and grow more slowly than queens. The pollen can come from stores but these need replenishing by foraging. If things go smoothly the colony size should increase exponentially in late March and April peaking in early June, the best time to swarm. So late February and early March are critical times in the hive’s life. With increasing brood driving greater energy needs while stores are steadily diminishing. Bad weather at this time of year is make or break so I am going to take no chances and give them a bit more fondant the next sunny day when I can safely open the hive. However when the sun next shines I can look forward to seeing those bees collecting the beautiful yellow pollen from the crocus and hazel and the bright orange pollen from the snowdrop all with a promise of the summer to come.



Are you interested in a Garden Club in Poulton?

Please join us for an informal chat about setting up a garden club in our village – whether you are an experienced gardener or a complete beginner – all are welcome!



**Poulton Village Hall
Monday 24 March
from 7.30pm**

**Drop by and join us for a glass of wine
and share your ideas.**

We look forward to seeing you

Please let Jackie or Helen know if you are planning to come
Jackie.pigott1@btinternet.com or helenharesign@outlook.com

Only Local timber!

Oak

Cedar

Ash

**CUSTOM
WOODEN
SIGNS**

You choose the wording, the wood, the colour (if any) and we will cut, carve, finish and deliver in as little as a week.

Barnsley Park, Cirencester - Call/Whatsapp 07838 720598

GARDEN NOTES

March in the garden

Folklore has it that March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb. To sum up this month's weather in one word, it is changeable.

Even without the vagaries of the weather, it has to be one of the most exciting months in the garden. The beds are already filled with daffodils, hyacinth, primroses and polyanthus, while in the hedgerows, the blackthorn is veiled in blossom. Spring officially arrives on March 21st - the equinox - and by March 30th, when the clocks go forward to British Summer Time, we will have almost 13 hours of daylight.



Although anything tender needs a few more weeks of warmth in the greenhouse/on a sunny windowsill, it is usually OK to start sowing hardy seeds outdoors given the right conditions. The dilemma, of course, is judging when those 'right conditions' are here.

Instructions on seed packets are so broad, they don't take account of local fluctuations. As a rule of thumb, once weed seedlings start popping up the soil is warm and dry enough for sowing. Another method is to scoop up a handful of soil and give it a gentle squeeze: if it feels cold and sticky, seeds will struggle to sprout and root, but if it feels crumbly and lukewarm, the time is right. Alan Titchmarsh once suggested an old trick was to drop your trousers and sit on the soil. If it felt chilly on the nether regions it was too cold for seeds - more of a rule of bum than thumb, that one. Better perhaps to stick with the first two methods... or invest in a soil thermometer.



I will be trying something different with my vegetables and cut flowers this year. We have built a couple of new beds using the 'no-dig' technique. This involves knocking together a shallow timber frame to act as edging and setting it directly on the uncultivated ground - in our case weedy turf. The only spadework is to remove visible pernicious weeds like docks, dandelions, brambles and nettles before spreading a couple of layers of overlapping cardboard inside the frame. The cardboard is topped with 10-15cm depth of compost and the seeds are sown directly into it.

No-dig guru Charles Dowding says by the time the roots reach the cardboard it will have decomposed enough to allow them to flourish, while most of the remaining weeds and grass remain smothered. Any that make it through will be weakened and can be pulled up. The only other maintenance is an annual mulch of compost, he says.

The chief benefits of no-dig, beyond saving your back, are that the soil is healthier, needs less watering and yields bigger and better crops. The theory is that not disturbing the soil structure allows worms and other soil creatures to remain in balance and the network of beneficial mycorrhizal organisms to stay intact, so plants gather nutrients and water more effectively. Field trials have had great results and it is said to work well on Cotswold brash and clay. I've used the cardboard and compost technique before, but never on unbroken ground. **Has anyone else in Poulton had success with no-dig? If so, please share your experience by emailing me via poultoneye@gmail.com.**

To do in March

- Make sure your mower is ready for action. A dry day in March is the perfect time for the first light trim to tidy and encourage root growth before regular mowing resumes next month. Reseed any bare patches around the end of the month.
- Snap the seedheads off daffodils and other spring bulbs but let the leaves die back naturally to strength the bulbs for next year.
- Get a head-start on weeds - hand pull any growing through shrubs and perennials and tackle open areas with a hoe.
- Prune early flowering shrubs such as winter jasmine once the blooms fade. Cut back the old leaves of hellebores to prevent disease and get a better view of the flowers.
- Chit seed potatoes. Plant earlies from the middle of March and second earlies towards the end of the month.
- Plant onion and shallot sets, covering them with fleece or netting to stop birds pulling them up.
- When conditions are right(!) sow hardy annuals like anchusa, calendula, clarkia, larkspur and nigella direct in their flowering positions. Plant plugs of sweet peas.
- Veg seeds to sow outdoors under cloches or in pre-warmed soil - artichoke, beetroot, broad bean, Brussels sprout, cabbage, carrot, cauliflower, parsley, parsnips, radish, rocket, spinach and winter lettuce.
- Under cover - sow tomatoes (last chance), plus other tender vegetable like cucumber and aubergine. Also half-hardy annuals such as impatiens (busy lizzie), cosmos, gazania, lobelia, marigold and petunia.
- Plant lilies and summer-flowering bulbs.
- Plant or move roses, shrubs, climbers and perennials.



Poulton Hill

ESTATE



£29.99

Say Thank You With Our Mother's Day Duo

Buy online or visit our cellar door to pick up your duo offer.
For opening times and to purchase our award-winning wines and spirits, please visit:

— www.poultonhillestate.co.uk —

Think Local, Drink Local

Think Local, Drink Local

FROM THE CELLAR DOOR

Say thank you with our special Mother's Day Duo

March is when we say thank you to our mothers for the amazing jobs they do. This year Mothering Sunday falls on March 30th, and if you want your mum to have a special treat why not give her our Mother's Day Duo? The duo comprises two bottles of Poulton Hill Estate's white wines: one award-winning Bacchus 2023 and one Awkward Hill 2023. You would normally pay £37 for this duo, but we are offering it for only £29.99 throughout March.

Our Bacchus 2023 is pale gold in appearance, with notes of elderflower and stone fruit on the nose. Peach, pear and guava are at the forefront of the palate, with hints of minerality, giving it a long, clean and crisp finish. This aromatic, well-balanced wine can be enjoyed on its own, with seafood pasta, white meat and Thai cuisine.

Poulton Hill Estate's Awkward Hill white wine is pale straw in appearance with a delicious nose of apple blossom and subtle herbaceous undertones. The palate is dry, crisp and wonderfully balanced, bursting with peach, pear and creamy apple, which leads to a long, clean and satisfying finish. This wine is perfect to drink on its own or with pasta dishes, Thai cuisine, seafood and cheese.

You can buy the Mother's Day Duo on our website at <https://www.poultonhillestate.co.uk/wines-and-spirits/>, by phone on 01285 850257 or from the Cellar Door in Poulton. Additional charges will incur if the duo is couriered.

World Vermouth Day

March 21st is World Vermouth Day. This fortified wine has its origins in the Ancient World as both the Ancient Greeks and the Romans made fortified wines with herbs and spices. The modern version of vermouth originated in Italy at the end of the 18th century and has more recently become the fashionable craft spirit of the moment, with some drinks experts predicting it could overtake gin.

Poulton Hill Estate has produced a very limited-edition English Vermouth made with a blend of our Phoenix, Bacchus and Seyval Blanc grapes. The eye-catching label art shows a Phoenix in flight, a nod not only to the grape but also to our local town of Cirencester, which has the Phoenix as its heraldic symbol. It is complex, well-rounded and semi-sweet, and robust enough to enjoy over ice or as an addition to cocktails.

It has notes of orange and vanilla at the forefront with a hint of fig leaf, gentle warmth of caramel from tonka beans and a refreshing finish from juniper. We only produced 400 bottles of this vermouth so don't miss out! You can pick up a bottle from the Cellar Door in Poulton at the special price of £25 or you can purchase it online from our website here: <https://www.poultonhillestate.co.uk/wines-and-spirits/english-vermouth/>.

English Tourism Week

Living in the Cotswolds means that we are used to tourists coming from all over the world to visit this lovely part of the country. At the vineyard we like to welcome national and international visitors, but we also love to see our friends and neighbours visit the vineyard to enjoy a glass of wine in our beautiful surroundings.

English Tourism Week runs from March 14th to 23rd, and we would love you to show your support by popping in for a chat, or to enjoy a glass or share a bottle of wine with your family and friends. Our opening hours are Tuesday – Friday, 9am to 4pm and Saturday, 11am to 3pm. Our staff will be on hand to chat about any of our wines and spirits.

Natalie Murphy



POULTON VILLAGE HALL

POULTON
VILLAGE
HALL
EST. 1991

Thank you to all who came to the Curry Evening on 31st January. Some 50 villagers enjoyed an authentic home cooked three course Indian Supper, all of which was inspired by Poulton residents, Priya & Sanjay and their desire to convey their feelings about the village and the welcome and friendship they have enjoyed since moving here.

Priya set the menu for the evening and was ably helped by Nicki from the Village Hall team in the planning and organising, along with of a team of assistant chefs, to help prepare & cook and then serve on the night. It involved a lot of work, time and effort from a number of people, but it was a lovely evening with wonderful food and all who came had a very enjoyable time such that there was a call for this event to be repeated !!

Our thanks go to Priya & Sanjay and to Nicki, Sue S, Sue A, Cheryl, Sue W, Suzanne & Helen for their superb cooking skills and to Ed & Jackie for the quiz.



Film Nights at Poulton Village Hall

On first & third Tuesdays of every month

Tuesday 4th & Tuesday 18th March

Contact poultononeandnines@gmail.com to receive notification about each film.

POULTON
VILLAGE
HALL



BOOKS, BICKIES & BEVERAGES –“BBB” VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING

All Welcome

Every Month on the first Saturday

NEXT ONE on SATURDAY 1st MARCH

From 10.30am to 12.30pm

- Join us to meet and make friends over a cup of coffee/tea and a biscuit (or two!)
- Pre-loved books on sale (50p), including children's books (20p), all donated by villagers
- Proceeds go towards the running costs of the village hall.



FAREWELL TO REVEREND CANON JOHN SWANTON

After nearly 14 years of service, Reverend Canon John Swanton will be leaving his role as our Vicar. John has given his time, energy, and care to the parish, supporting the community through weddings, funerals, christenings, pastoral visits, services, school events, and church administration. His dedication has been invaluable, and he will be greatly missed.

John's final service will take place in Poulton on Easter Sunday, 20th April

If you would like to contribute to a leaving present for John, please donate to the PCC account using the details below:

Account Name: PCC | Sort Code: 60-05-41 | Account Number: 04479521
Reference: John/Leaving

We will ensure that your name is in the card that accompanies his gift.

**Thank you for helping us show our appreciation
for John's many years of service.**

Poulton Eye Newsletter	Poultoneye@gmail.com Editors: Rosie Arkwright, Lizzy Roughton
Poulton Village Website	www.poultonvillage.co.uk
Poulton Facebook Page	https://www.facebook.com/groups/959278000806216/?multi_permaLinks=4503302606403720
Poulton WhatsApp Group	Please contact Rachel Hutchinson to be added to group; 07557 006623
St Michaels and All Angels Church, Poulton	Vicar: The Rev'd Canon John Swanton 01285 – 851309; ampneyrector@gmail.com Church Wardens: Lizzy Roughton - pryorlizzy@gmail.com ; rosie.arkwright@icloud.com
Village Hall	Available to hire for parties, wedding breakfasts, clubs or meetings - poultonvillagehall@gmail.com
Playing Field & Allotment Charity (PFAC)	pfactrustees@gmail.com
Post Office	In the Village Hall. Tuesday 1.30 – 3.30
Parish Council	Chairman: Simon Collyer-Bristow scb@crfc.co.uk Clerk: Heather Harris poultonclerk@gmail.com
District Councillor	Lisa Spivey: lisaspivey4@gmail.com
MP - South Cotswolds Constituency	Dr Roz Savage MP: roz.savage.mp@parliament.uk
Poulton Action Group (solar farm)	poultonactiongroup@gmail.com .
Refuse Collections	Food bin weekly Thursday 7am. All other bins & bags on alternate Thursdays.
Poulton Football Club	www.poultonfootballclub.co.uk
Poulton Cricket Club	Club Secretary: Will Bathurst w.m.bathurst@gmail.com www.poultoncricketclub.co.uk/
Poulton One and Nines	Films in the village hall every 1 st and 3 rd Tuesday of the month. Contact poultononeandnines@gmail.com
Books Bikkies & Beverages	Village get-together 1 st Saturday of each month, 10.30 – 12.30 Poulton Village Hall Judith – 01285 851230
The Falcon Inn	www.falconinnpoulton.co.uk email: bookings@falconinnpoulton.co.uk 01285 850878

The Editors and The PCC produce this publication for the community of Poulton. No liability can be accepted by The Editors or The PCC for any losses, however caused, arising from or in connection with this publication. The Editors and The PCC reserve the right, at their discretion, to amend or exclude any articles submitted for publication. The contents of published articles and advertisements and any views expressed are solely the responsibility of their authors and in no way represent the views of The Editors, The PCC or the publisher. The Poulton Eye is printed by YouLovePrint.co.uk.