



# THE POULTON EYE

COMMUNITY - NEWS - INFORMATION



## Welcome to the 2022 December edition of the Poulton Eye

### IN THIS MONTH'S EDITION:

**Christmas Events for All**

**COP27 and Farming**

**Modern Slavery - would you spot it?**

**Poulton Profile - Vicar John Swanton (continued)**

**The Poulton Photography Project**

**Fantastic Fungi**

**Update from Ukraine**

Gathering the articles for this month's newsletter, I tried to work out whether there was a theme running through them. Last month we focused on the Cost of Living - but with Christmas coming, it doesn't seem like the right time to be spelling further doom and gloom in these pages - and there is enough of that in newspapers and wherever you look/listen/log on.

This month, I just couldn't see an obvious theme or even a link between all the content. I came to the conclusion that maybe that's not a bad thing. After all, we are a diverse group of people, living different lives - we just happen to be living them in the same location. Of course we could be more diverse in many ways, but that's a debate for another day.

For now, it simply seemed amazing that our small community could generate articles on issues large (COP27, modern slavery) and small (fungi and amaryllis) - and perhaps that is in itself a theme, or at least a link. We live in a small community that is part of a bigger whole. That bigger whole is made up of the small building bricks that are local communities. That's why local communities matter.

With all the community events planned over the next few weeks, we will have plenty of opportunity to celebrate with our community, friends and family. Happy Christmas!

As ever, we hope that you find something to interest you, and we welcome contributions from all.

Rosie and Lizzy

Editors, Poulton Eye  
poultoneye@gmail.com

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## MESSAGE FROM THE RECTORY



Before the paling of the stars,  
Before the winder morn,  
Before the earliest cock crow,  
Jesus Christ was born.

A Christina Rossetti Christmas poem starts with these words, and we are pointed towards the stable of Bethlehem. Was it a cave or a timber structure? In a sense it doesn't matter. What does is the knowledge that the birth of Jesus marks new life for humanity and creation. You don't need me to tell you that the idealised scene presented in most representations of the Nativity doesn't bear much relationship to the actual birth of Jesus. What most seek to do is to lead us to an understanding of the light which Jesus brings into the world – the light of God's love for each one of us.

When St. Francis of Assisi introduced the first crib using live people and animals in 1223, he wanted to remind everyone what Christmas was really about. He was concerned that too many people were drawn to the materialism of the age – not focusing on the things that really matter. If you pop into our churches over the Christmas season, you will find a crib scene – a gentle reminder that the baby Jesus at the heart of the scene transforms the tinsel and lights of Christmas into the knowledge of the ultimate reality of God's love for each and every one of us.

We see so much in the world which shocks and shakes us at present. Yet the birth of Jesus assures us of one unshakeable truth: that Emmanuel' – God is with us – with us in each of our situations – something to celebrate and give thanks for. We are all called to be signs of hope in a troubled world.

Wishing you a peaceful Christmas and joyous New Year

Yours as ever - John

The Rectory, Ampney Crucis, Cirencester, GL7 5RY | 01285 851309 | [ampneyrector@gmail.com](mailto:ampneyrector@gmail.com) | [www.ampneychurches.info](http://www.ampneychurches.info)



### POULTON DEFIBRILLATOR DETAILS

THE YELLOW DEFIBRILLATOR BOX IS LOCATED ON THE OUTSIDE WALL OF THE VILLAGE HALL, ON THE PUB SIDE

THE CODE IS **C159X**

or PHONE 999 AND THEY WILL GIVE YOU THE CODE



6pm Sunday 18th December, Poulton Church



With mulled wine & stollen - All Welcome!

## Poulton Quiz Night

Friday 9th December.

Quiz Night, Auction & Raffle  
Fish and Chip supper

In aid of local cancer charity The Focus Support and  
Information Centre and the Poulton PCC

Dave Smith from The Falcon is currently undergoing cancer treatment and has found the centre to be a huge help to him.

We hope that Dave will be able to join us on the night.  
Email [rosie.arkwright@btinternet.com](mailto:rosie.arkwright@btinternet.com)

## CHURCH DATES IN DECEMBER

Saturday 26th November	6pm	<b>Advent Eve with the Blue Note Choir</b> <i>Advent Gathering with seasonal readings, carols by candlelight, mulled wine and mince pies</i> <i>Dress warmly, wear wellies and bring a torch!</i>	Ampney St Mary Church
Saturday 3rd December	7.30pm	<b>Choral concert with The Burford Chorale</b> <b>Choral Favourites and Seasonal Songs</b> <i>Tickets £15 on the door</i>	Down Ampney Church
<b>Sunday 4th December</b> <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i>	8am 10am	<b>Holy Communion</b> <b>Parish Communion</b>	Ampney Crucis Down Ampney
<b>Sunday 11th December</b> <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i>	8am 10am 11am  6pm	<b>Holy Communion</b> <b>Parish Communion</b> <b>Service of Dedication of RVW Window</b> <i>Ticketed event - please contact the vicar for tickets</i> <b>Carol Service with the Cantores Choir</b>	Poulton Driffield Down Ampney Church  Ampney Crucis
Saturday 17th December	7pm	<b>Carol Service with the Cirencester Town Band</b>	Ampney St Peter Church
<b>Sunday 18th December</b> <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>	8am 10am 6pm	<b>BCP Holy Communion</b> <b>Parish Communion</b> <b>Carol Service with the Poulton Singers</b> <i>Traditional carols and Seasonal readings, with mulled wine and stollen afterwards. All Welcome!</i>	Ampney St Peter Ampney Crucis Poulton Church
Wednesday 21st December	5pm	<b>The Harnhill Nativity</b> <b>With a live donkey and a 'real' baby Jesus!</b> <i>Help us to bring to life the Nativity Story as we act it out. Come ready dressed as a shepherd, king, angel, sheep or donkey!</i>	Harnhill Church
<b>Saturday 24th December</b> <i>Christmas Eve</i>	3pm 5pm 11.15pm	<b>Crib Service for children of all ages!</b> <b>Carol Service</b> <b>Midnight Communion</b>	Down Ampney Church Driffield Church Ampney Crucis
<b>Sunday 25th December</b> <i>Christmas Day</i>	10am 10am 11am	<b>Christmas Day Communion</b> <b>Famiy Carols for Christmas Day</b> <b>Traditional Prayer Book Communion</b>	Down Ampney Poulton Poulton
<b>Sunday 1st January</b> <i>New Years Day</i>	10am	<b>Parish Communion</b>	Down Ampney



# 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](mailto:mark@chamberlainwines.co.uk) or on the mobile, 07894 528 580.

All the best!

# THE POULTON PROFILE

In October we ended the first part of our profile of our vicar, The Reverend Canon John Swanton, Rector of the South Cotswolds, with John and Nicola marrying, and John being Assistant Director of Housing at Waverley Borough Council. He was dealing with the homeless, housing applications and building more affordable housing in villages. He also looked after 5000 council houses, 4 shops, 700 garages and 9 sheltered housing schemes for older people.

However, we mentioned that he had been accepted for training for ordination, studying part-time at the Ministerial training school at Sarum Theological College in Salisbury. Increasingly John says he wanted to become a full-time vicar and when he became 50, realized if it was going to happen, that he needed to do something about it. Nicola and John had had a daughter, Eleanor and she was at an age where they had to decide whether to move so she could start secondary school or move after her GCSEs. Luckily for us, Nicola saw the advertisement for the Cotswolds job and the rest is history.

Eleven years on, John continues to do fantastic work. Being a vicar involves a huge amount of effort which may not always be visible to people. Of course there are the services and events we all see but beyond that, there is a huge amount of activity which goes on behind the scenes.

The role John likes best is leading worship. He also very much enjoys taking weddings and feels a real satisfaction in taking funerals because it is the last thing families can do for someone and is a very important rite of passage. Another real positive of the job is being able to do good by stealth. In other words, the days of the vicar and partner going around the benefice with a basket of goodies for the poor has gone by the wayside but there is still often the opportunity to make a difference in a really positive way quietly and unobtrusively. John says it is a genuine privilege to be able to help in that way with practical as well as spiritual interventions.

During the week, tasks include pastoral visiting, preparing for weddings, funerals and baptisms. Funerals and burials take up more time than you might think because of the administration involved. Dealing with church bureaucracy is very time-consuming, particularly trying to raise funds for major pieces of work.

The role of the Vicar in both of the C of E primary schools in the Parish, at Down Ampney and Ampney Crucis, is also substantial. Dealing with the fabric of church buildings is constant and challenging as the Church of England tussles with the viability of owning so many ancient and beautiful churches, many of which are crumbling, along with falling congregations.

There isn't much down time. Vicars only get a Monday off. On average John gets around 10 phone calls a day requiring action and assistance. Pastoral visits happen most days of the week and there is lots of evening work because so many things happen in the evening, including public meetings, Church Councils PCC meetings, and often, fundraisers.

Different years bring different opportunities. 2022 is quite busy with activities in Down Ampney to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Ralph Vaughan Williams. There was also the Jubilee in June with a number of different village events and activities.

There are also lots of one-off events, like a Buckingham Palace Garden Party, being Chaplain to the Worshipful Company of Farmers this year and through the 47 Air Despatch, having an invitation to Arnhem to take part in the 75th anniversary service in Holland. John has come a long way since the early days in Southampton. He reflects that his Mum would be beside herself with delight to know he and sister had become a Vicar and a teacher. He imagines her stopping everyone in the street to tell them that all three of her grandchildren are now doctors.

The great thing is, John says, that he really likes what he does, and that if you have a job doing what you enjoy, it's a way of life. He adds that he can only do what he does, because he is so well looked after by Nicola.

We say a huge thank you to John and Nicola for all that they do in the Community, seen and unseen and hope they will be here for many years to come.

**John Swanton in conversation with Rosie Arkwright**



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## LOCAL SUPPORT AVAILABLE



### **From the Trustees of Poulton Playing Field and Allotment Charity (PFAC)**

This month, we wanted to remind everyone that, in addition to our role of managing Englands and planting the Queen's Green Canopy trees, we have a remit which allows us to provide support to any villager who is in need, distress or hardship, especially as a result of the current cost of living crisis. In fact, this was the main purpose of the charity when it was originally set up.

In this beautiful part of the country, it's sometimes easy to feel isolated from the day-to-day struggles that many people are facing, but even in Cirencester, the Food-bank is more in demand than it has ever been. More than 50% of its food provision is going to children.

Our aim is to encourage anyone in need to open up and ask for help. We don't have huge reserves to dip into, but we might be able to help with things such as school uniforms, school books, clothing or a minor repair of some kind. All grants made are "one offs" - we are not allowed to commit ourselves to ongoing support, nor are we permitted to provide support which should come from public funds.

We may be able to help, even in a small way, and if we can't, we can try and point you in the direction of other support out there. If you feel that help is needed, please submit your requests in confidence to [pfacrustees@gmail.com](mailto:pfacrustees@gmail.com)

# THE HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT SCHEME

The Government, working through county councils has set up a scheme called the Household Support Fund. Cotswold Friends is working in partnership with Age UK Gloucestershire and our local councils in supporting them to distribute shopping vouchers and other support to clients who we believe would benefit from support with the cost of living in the coming months. This funding is time limited and is expected to only be available through the early Autumn. If you feel this will benefit yourself or somebody you know then please call our Support Services Team for a discussion. If you are finding it difficult at present to keep up with bills, payments, and general daily living, we could offer some short term support.

CONTACT: Jessica O'Hara, Support Service Co-Ordinator

[www.cotswoldfriends.org](http://www.cotswoldfriends.org) | 01608 692187

## DOWN ON THE FARM

This month we're going to focus on some of the issues at COP 27 from a local farming perspective. Farmers and agriculture generally come in for a lot of flack at this and other environmental summits but there are no easy solutions to our current environment problems, many of which are consumer driven. Whilst people are very happy to say and think the right thing about the environment, how much do these worthy sentiments translate into real action when it comes to food buying choices?

Nowadays we expect to be able to buy exotic foods all year round, rather than being limited to local, seasonal produce. But if we want to eat avocados (which cannot be grown in the UK) all year round, they need to be transported here - with all the environmental implications that brings. So it's our choice, but it is not a choice we want to make. How often do we justify buying anything 'because it's already here'? I know I do. I also know that such justification is just an excuse because I like eating avocados whatever the season. Of course, if avocados weren't available, I would perfectly well manage without.

And of course this poses a problem for retailers - if one decided not to sell avocados, would their customers simply go to an alternative shop that did have them, and would their business survive? There is an impossible squaring of a circle here because what people say they are committed to in terms of reducing their environmental impact isn't actually what they choose to do when it comes to buying choices. Yet as the implications of climate change become ever more apparent, should we be forced to 'do the right thing'?

Anyway, enough speculation from me, and back to Charles and the problems discussed at COP. It is unlikely the western world will moderate its demands, he says. There is also much less money sloshing around in the developed world than there was, and this means that where we would have helped out the rest of the world cope with problems largely created by us, we can no longer afford to do so.

The war in Ukraine has diverted all the attention and resources available and pushed up the price of basic food for countries which rely on the big exporters to feed them. Russia is, Charles says, using the grain agreement for shipping as a fairly blunt weapon of war. There are around 150 grain ships waiting to go into Ukraine to deliver goods and pick up mostly wheat and sunflower seeds for cooking oil. But they still can't get in. It is not just physically arriving, but as you can imagine, it is also very difficult to get insurance for ships voyaging into Ukrainian waters. Often the price quoted by Lloyds of London is more than the cost of the ship and the contents being exported. The result is that farmers in Ukraine are now sitting on 2 years' worth of grain. It is agricultural constipation, says Charles. Harvest 2021 was due to be shipped out but most of it didn't go because the war started in February and they couldn't get the ships in. Roll on a year and another harvest and they still can't get the ships in so now there are two years' worth of grain stock and nowhere for it to go. Farmers are putting up temporary structures or covering goods in plastic but it is a real problem for them.

Climate change, too, has a huge impact on decisions made at COP27. Factors bigger than Ukraine are making positive change more difficult to achieve. Let's look at one factor - food exports. Most nations produce just enough food to feed their own population; only a small number of countries export food. Countries that can't produce enough food rely on imports. But the availability of imports has been drastically affected by climate issues:

- Australia – having had appalling droughts for several years in a row, for the last three years they have experienced appalling floods, leaving many crops under water and spoiled - significantly reducing exports
- South America has the opposite problem and current drought has reduced harvest sizes - again reducing exports

We have all noticed the change in weather 'patterns'; our dry spells are longer and drier. Now it is raining, it is more extreme than we are used to. The effect on food production is significant and means that those nations who relied on imports can no longer do so.

A further factor affecting discussion at COP27 is that food has been too cheap for too long. Government policy has dictated that for the last 20 years, food has been produced at cost or below cost. This is, ultimately, unsustainable. Many predict that the era of over-cheap food is now at an end. Producers have had to become more and more efficient and cut more and more corners in order to remain in business, but there is a limit beyond which they cannot go. Vast dairies, for example, have been created to provide economics of scale while almost all small dairy producers have gone out of business.

This issue isn't welcome and doesn't help any of us this winter as we budget more carefully than ever. But it is important to highlight the problem, and to face the fact that there are no quick fixes and that food has been unsustainably cheap for too long.

## DOWN ON THE FARM

Farmers have to look at long production cycles and long-term investments. One of the old pieces of farming lore, which Charles prides himself on following, is that a farmer should live as if they are going to die tomorrow and farm as if they were going to live forever. Long-term planning is essential; you have to look after the land and continually put back in to the soil what you have taken out.

Finally, and looking forward to Christmas - and our traditional Christmas meals - we have to mention avian flu because it is a huge topic which has been only lightly covered in the national press. You may have noticed that there are fewer pheasants about this year. That is because bird flu has meant that it is difficult or impossible to import young pheasants.

Avian flu has been and continues to have devastating effects. Poultry farms raising birds for meat have been severely affected. All of them, including local farms have had to embark on a massive security operation to make sure that no wild birds can get into the flock as well as maintaining exceptionally rigorous hygiene routines, using tonnes of disinfectant, constantly changing overalls every time they enter poultry areas. If ONE bird in a flock gets avian flu, the Ministry will cull all the stocks. Think of Bernard Matthews, with hundreds of thousands of birds. All would go if just one caught avian flu. Government compensation is available but does not cover the actual financial losses. Some companies have packed up or gone bust already because of the virus.

The situation is also very difficult for egg farmers - those who breed chickens for eggs rather than meat. Free range chickens haven't been able to go outside because of the virus. Technically you are now unable to buy a free range egg because all chickens have to be shut in to avoid catching avian flu. Do think about those egg and chicken producers because there is a huge mental strain attached to this situation for people who make their living this way.

The Cotswold Water Park makes us more at risk of avian flu in our neighbourhood because the lakes are a haven for migrating birds over the winter. Waxwings and fieldfares from Northern Europe have already arrived. So watch out for signs of bird flu if you are walking around the water parks. Locally, one of Charles' employees breeds between 60 and 100 turkeys for Christmas. He had unexplained deaths and thought it might be bird flu. Luckily it wasn't, it was another, parasitic, disease called black head. But the end result was still devastating - of the 100 he started with, he has just 8 turkeys left. Some turkey suppliers have already lost their entire flock because of bird flu. Understandably, consumers are keener on having a free range outdoor, happy life type turkey, but these are the very birds are more at risk of catching bird flu than intensive (indoor) turkey rearing operations. Another farming/consumer dilemma...

Charles has kindly agreed to answer any farming questions you would like to ask him. If you have a question, please email [poultoneye@gmail.com](mailto:poultoneye@gmail.com) and we will include as many as possible.

Rosie Arkwright in conversation with Charles Horton

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# MODERN SLAVERY - THE CRIME THAT IS HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

**The Poulton Eye is always interested in issues that may affect us, our community and our region, One such issue is modern slavery. We set out to find out more about what it is, how it happens, where it happens and how we can play a part in combatting this new, but very real crime. We spoke to a volunteer who works with Justice and Care, a charity whose work is focused on this issue. Here is what we discovered.**

Julia arrived in the UK expecting a bright future. She'd been promised a job working in a hotel, but when she arrived the reality was very different. She was forced to work in the sex industry, raped multiple times a day by strangers.

Modern slavery is all around us. There are estimated to be more than 100,000 victims in the UK alone - at least 8,000 in the South West. Although many are brought to the UK from overseas, the largest group of victims in the country are British nationals.

The common thread in everyone's story is vulnerability. Whether debt, addiction issues or young people who are duped online, traffickers target individuals who are in some way vulnerable.

Sexual exploitation is just one type of modern slavery. Others include domestic servitude, labour exploitation, for example in restaurants, car washes and nail bars, and criminal exploitation - often children forced to work drug county lines.

It is the fastest growing crime in the world, second only to drugs in terms of overall value to the criminals responsible. In many ways it is considered the perfect crime since victims, like Julia, can be sold time and time again.

## Engaging survivors

Few survivors typically engage with police investigations in the UK, meaning prosecutions are rare. However, the multi-award winning charity, Justice and Care, is changing this. The charity has established a Victim Navigator Programme, which embeds specialist, victim-focused workers within police forces and law enforcement agencies across the country.

These Navigators provide training to officers, advice into cases and, critically, support to survivors like Julia, helping them to rebuild their lives and to engage with police investigations.

The impact of the programme is dramatic. More than 90 percent of survivors that the Navigators work with are choosing to engage with police investigations - meaning those responsible can be brought to justice.

Julia's case is a strong example. Initially she was fearful of engaging with police, after traffickers told her that her daughter's life would be at risk. But thanks to the support of a Navigator, she began to build trust with officers and was able to describe what had happened to her.

Her evidence led to the identification of 120 potential other victims, six arrests across the UK and Poland and the successful shutting down of a website where women were being bought and sold.

"Justice and Care's Victim Navigator programme is helping to shape the national police response to modern slavery. It is a unique attempt to create partnership between senior police investigators and a specialist NGO, joining forces to fight against this appalling crime." Jenny Bristow, Detective Chief Inspector - Modern Slavery Police Transformation Unit

To date, our UK Navigators have:

- Given intensive support to 351 survivors
- Provided strategic advice to 562 modern slavery investigations
- Supported the arrests of 156 suspected traffickers
- Trained 4,858 frontline professionals in best practice in victim identification and care
- Repatriated 26 survivors to safely return home



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# MODERN SLAVERY - THE CRIME THAT IS HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

## Learn to spot the signs and raise your concerns

One of the challenges police face is actually finding victims in the first place. The crime is often said to be hidden in plain sight.

“Slavery is much more common place in the UK than most people realise” says Jamie Fyleman from Justice and Care. “It happens in homes, on our streets, in farms in our area and restaurants in our towns. Based on our surveys, we believe that more than half the British adult population has witnessed someone who they think are victims of modern slavery - but very few have raised their concerns with the police or others.

“One of the missing ingredients in the fight against human trafficking is the public doing their bit. We need individuals to spot what is going on and to report concerns when they have them.”

In the UK you can report concerns directly to the police or through the Modern Slavery Helpline - which can be contacted anonymously on 08000 121 700.

“It is a number that all of us should have in our phones so that we have someone to contact should we see something that just doesn't feel right.” says Jamie.

There are a number of signs that **you** can look out for, including when someone:

- Has indications of physical or psychological abuse
- Looks unkempt, malnourished or untidy
- Always wears the same clothes and/or the clothes they wear may not be suitable for their type of employment
- Does not have many/any personal possessions
- Seems under the control or influence of others
- Is dropped off/collected for work either very early or very late at night on a regular basis
- Avoids eye contact and/or appears frightened
- Fears police or people in authority

## Support urgently needed

Justice and Care urgently needs more funds to provide support to people like Julia. The economic climate and humanitarian disasters, including the war in Ukraine, has meant many more people are susceptible to being trafficked.

This Christmas, you can support Justice and Care and double your impact through match funding. We will be running our Big Give Christmas Campaign from 29 November - 6 December, with any donations made during this week being matched for twice the impact. To support the campaign, please donate through the link below or visit our website.

[www.justiceandcare.org](http://www.justiceandcare.org)





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# POULTON PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT

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## USED STAMPS

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Thank you.

Ann Young 851570 New York. No. 1019.



# THE POULTON PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT

Mark Ranger spends lots of time outdoors, often clambering around village houses as he finishes off more excellent pointing work in the village. One of the pluses of doing the job, he says, is chatting to people as they pass by. One of the conversations he had has led to him starting the Poulton Photography project.

Mark loves old photos and when Patrick Mansell shared some of the pictures he has of the village in times gone by, it got Mark thinking about how many other people may have old photos which could potentially be shared. He would like to create an online forum for sharing these pictures. Ideally, it would be a “now and then” library of photos like the ones illustrated below. The old photographs we are looking at now were, of course, new at the time, so Mark thought that in addition to the historical archive, we could, together, create a living and future historical archive by photographing homes in the village now.

Mark is very happy to photograph any home and willing person in the village. If you would like him to come round, just email or give him a call – details are at the bottom of the page. As this is for posterity, you can wear Sunday best or dog walking kit, as you prefer. The new photographs will provide an interesting detail to our social history for future generations.

All and any homes are of interest, be they modern, ancient or somewhere in between. They will be viewed through the prism of the future so every single home and people in those homes in the village is of interest.

If you have old photos you are willing to share with Mark, he can scan them and give them straight back to you. Those can then be matched with the new photos for the “now and then” and if they can’t be matched, they will become the new “now” which will form a “now and then” in fifty years’ time.

If anyone has historical information and local anecdotes from long ago, to add to the mix, that would be a great addition to the archive.

As this idea is in its infancy, anyone who has ideas about how it might be most effectively achieved, please let Mark know. Neil Ashley, Poulton’s high tech expert, has very kindly agreed to oversee all the technical aspects of this project so we don’t need to restrict ourselves to WordPress! Please do send any and all ideas over as it is a village project and anyone’s input would be welcomed.

Mark can put them on the village website, Google Drive or Dropbox but maybe a bespoke site may be better? Should it be an interactive site where people from the village can add their own content easily? Do you think text information be separate from the photos as many people consume visual information differently from written information? Or should they be together? Again all opinions are welcome as there are no rules to this – just some vague ideas at this stage.

Thank you to Mark for the inspiration and photographic talent and to Neil for the tech expertise.

Please contact Mark with your thoughts/photos/ideas/historical insights on: [markpranger@googlemail.com](mailto:markpranger@googlemail.com) or 07824 406102







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# GARDEN NOTES

## THE HOLLY AND THE IVY - Take 2

I can't believe how quickly this year has passed as I start to write my second December column for The Poulton Eye. I have just checked back at last years in the hope that I don't bore you all with a repeat.

For 2023 I am planning to write about the Kitchen Garden and all things to do with growing veg and fruit, maybe including some seasonal recipes.

**Would anyone like to work on this with me- an allotment holder perhaps, or a budding chef!? Please contact me - jackie.pigott1@btinternet.com.**

### Holly (Ilex)

'Why are there no berries on my Holly?' is an often-asked question at this time of year when we are searching for the classic Christmas decoration. Some of us have cracked it and always have a bountiful display (I am thinking of the magnificent, variegated Holly that is covered annually in large juicy red berries on Bell Lane), whilst some of us struggle!

Most of the time the reason for no berries will be because the flowers on the female plant have not been fertilised by a male plant. Always plant a male Holly plant along side female plants- the male plants can be easily identified as they have more prominent stamens, which are the long slender filaments in the centre of the flower

Plant in a sunny spot, keep well-watered, and prune in late summer if required.



### Ivy (Hedera)



Ivy gets such bad press - unjustly, I think. 'It's too vigorous', 'it damages building', and 'it's dirty and dusty'. All of these can be true, but there are equally so many good things to say about Ivy.

My favourite variety, Hedera colchica 'Sulphur Heart' is such a stunner.

Hedera are easy plants to grow in the garden as they are shade tolerant, soil tolerant and self-clinging if in a climbing form. After about 10 years they reach 'adulthood' when their growth becomes shrubby, the leaf shape changes, and they produce flowers and berries in late summer - this is when we see them growing high in the trees.

The Woodland Trust states that there is no evidence that this growth causes any damage to the trees, while it is thought that 140 species of insects and 17 species of birds are known to feed off Ivy, and many more insects and birds use the dense growth as shelter. Recent research has shown that when grown on walls, buildings remain cooler in summer and less damp in winter.

**When handling Ivy always wear long sleeves and gloves as it can cause severe skin irritation.**

I grew some stunning indoor Amaryllis last Christmas, bulbs that I picked up at the local garden centre. I'm ashamed to admit that I have tended to dispose of the bulbs once spent, but this year I am going to mend my ways. The bulbs can continue to flower for many years with a bit of love and attention.

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## GARDEN NOTES

### How to Grow Amaryllis

- Remove faded flowers promptly; remove the flower stalk only after it has turned yellow; leave the foliage intact.
- Place outside or in a greenhouse in the summer.
- Water regularly, and use a liquid feed weekly
- Force the bulb to become 'semi-dormant' in September by placing it in a well-lit but cool environment (13 degrees C) and stop feeding
- After 8-10 weeks trim off the remaining leaves to 2.5-5cm height
- Replant bulb in a multipurpose compost in a sunny spot for flowering in 6-8 weeks.....



**And Finally...** With the generous contribution of Judy Harmsworth who has been photographing her garden throughout the year, I have compiled a 'Poulton Garden Calendar 2023' for sale at the Poulton Village Hall Christmas Fair on Saturday 3rd December.

Hope to see you there!

Jackie Piggot

Qualified nail technician based from my home in Poulton



# WINTER DONATION DRIVE FOR UKRAINE

# KHARPP

THE KHARKIV &  
PRZEMYŚL PROJECT



Local resident Alexander Thomas & Ada Wordsworth have been based between Poland & Ukraine for the past seven months, helping refugees in Poland and doing deliveries of vital aid deep into Ukraine on a regular basis. In May this year, they founded KHARPP.

## So far ...

- over 40 volunteers have come to support its operations in Przemyśl & on the front line of the war in eastern Ukraine.
- There are 3 core languages spoken amongst volunteers - Ukrainian, Russian & Polish.
- They have donated a fleet of 10 ambulances through monies raised, but need more
- Currently, they are focused on providing support to internally displaced persons in Kharkiv.
- A core team of volunteers remains on the ground, providing support to the steady stream of refugees still entering Poland.

Whilst fundraising for another ambulance, our goal is to provide as much support as possible through a winter aid drive. These items will be loaded into the ambulance & driven to Ukraine.

Clothes (Men, Women & Children of all ages):

- \* Warm coats
- \* Scarves, gloves, hats
- \* Ski gear
- \* Jumpers, hoodies, fleeces and cardigans
- \* Warm socks (new)
- \* Thermal underwear
- \* Pyjamas

- \* Blankets
- \* Shoes & slippers

### Other:

- \* Mobility aids (wheelchairs, crutches, walking-sticks, zimmer frames)
- \* Pushchairs

If you're able to donate any of the listed items, please bring them to:

Poulton Hill Vineyard, GL7 5JA or  
Bibury Trout Farm, GL7 5NL

For large items/quantities within a 10-mile radius, we can arrange collection from you. Contact 01285 850257  
Or donate directly at [kharpp.com](http://kharpp.com)



## NATURE NOTES

### The iceman's tinder box or a natty hat?

In late September we went on a “fungus foray” to Savernake forest just south of Marlborough. Savernake was established as a royal forest by the Normans and hence has many veteran trees, particularly oaks and beeches up to 800 years old. Being so long established, Savernake provides a fantastic array of fungi which live off the roots of the trees or their decaying wood once they have fallen. Such old forests are extremely rare but very biodiverse. Indeed Savernake is a Special Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI) and picking or disturbing the fungi is strictly forbidden.



We observed more than 30 different types of fungi in our brief visit, the most spectacular of which was this Giant Polypore (*Meripilus giganteus*) shown below. This was on the base of a very large beech tree which was supporting 4 of these huge fungi, the largest about 1 metre across. My granddaughter, looking at it, backlit by the autumn afternoon sun, exclaimed “its smoking” which indeed it did appear to be. It was not on fire but emitting its spores.

The polypores are a large group of fungi, distinguished from others by the fact that instead of the typical gills of mushrooms they have thousands of tiny tubes ending in pores through which they discharge their spores. Typical polypores include the bracket fungi which are very tough, some of which get steadily bigger year by year. What we can see is the fruiting body but most of the fungus resides inside the wood as a mycelium comprised of millions of tiny threads that penetrate the tree's structure and enter its cells. This “wood-wide web” connects trees in a forest, allowing transfer of nutrients and water from one tree to another many metres away. It can also transmit chemicals produced in response to various stressors like attacking insects or dehydration.

Polypores are especially good at degrading wood and allowing the associated nutrients to re-enter the trees, transported via the mycellium. They evolved around 300 million years ago and their recycling efforts are thought to be one reason why not much coal was created after this time.

The fungus reproduces by producing tiny spores which are so small they are dispersed widely by even gentle breezes. The spores are formed by a specialised cell at the bottom of the tube (pore) and are expelled with some force. The mechanism is truly amazing. It starts with the development of a drop of fluid called “Buller's drop” just where the spore is attached. The spore's outer coat traps water from the atmosphere forming a layer of water on the outside of the spore which steadily expands in humid weather. When the layer meets Buller's drop there is a sudden release of surface tension and the energy is sufficient to propel the spore into the atmosphere producing the smoking effect noted by my granddaughter.

The tiny fibres which make up the substance of the fruiting body have a very large surface area and when dried prove to be very combustible. This property has been exploited by humans for over 5000 years.



We know this because of Otzi, the iceman, who was found frozen in the Otzal Alps, at 3,200 metres on the Austro-Italian border in 1991. He is believed to have died about 3300 BC.

In his possessions, amongst an axe and a quiver of arrows, was a leather bag containing a polypore fungus known as a tinder fungus. It is likely that he would have made his fires using a flint and the tinder fungus, the virtues of which are extolled by those who practice bushcraft even today.

The related razor strop fungus was so called because slices of its flesh were used to sharpen razors, while Victorian butterfly collectors mounted their specimens on strips of it.

Modern uses of this fibrous, water absorbent material, known as amadou, include drying trout flies and making a natty, if somewhat pricey (£200) hat. The hats are produced in Transylvania where there are large forests of the birch trees that this polypore particularly likes to grow on.

Robin Spiller





# *Christmas Craft Fair*



*Saturday 3rd December  
Poulton Village Hall  
10.30am am to 2.00 pm*

*Books and Bickies  
Local Crafts and Produce including  
Jewellery, Pottery, Hand Made Gifts  
Honey, Preserves, Cakes, Chocolate bombs  
Christmas Trees for sale*

*Tea, Coffee, homemade mince pies,  
sausage rolls and biscuits from 10:30am  
Bar and BBQ from 12pm  
Village Hall Stall selling gifts  
Bottle Tombola and Christmas Raffle*



*Stall Enquiries to Judy 851230*

*Raffle Tickets on sale now*



*Donations gratefully received for  
the Village Hall Gift stall and Bottle Tombola  
Please bring to The Pantry 1.30-3.30 Tuesdays  
BBB Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November 10.30-12.30.*

*Thank you for your support, we look forward to seeing you there.*

## FROM THE VILLAGE HALL



### CHRISTMAS IS COMING...

And the village hall team are looking forward to the Christmas Events in December where we hope to welcome many from the village & local area as well as anyone visiting.

The Christmas Fair on Saturday 3rd December is an extended BBB and will be open from 10.30am to 2pm - see opposite for the details.

Plus, come and party with us on Saturday 10th December – a few tickets are still available (at time of going to press). See over the page for more information and how to reserve your place.

As we approach the end of 2022, we'd like to say "Thank You" to everyone who has supported the village hall this year. Whether you have come to events, helped to set up or clear away, baked for us, donated items or given your time in other ways, (or perhaps done all of these things!), your willingness to help is very much appreciated. We hope you have also enjoyed yourselves along the way.

**Happy Christmas everyone!**

### REGULAR EVENTS AT THE HALL

**Each Tuesday afternoon** – 1.30 to 3.30 pm – Post Office & Pantry Outreach Post Office run by Matthew each week. Take advantage of this local service for your postal and banking needs. Stop for a while longer and enjoy a pot of tea/ coffee and a homemade slice of cake at The Pantry.

**First Saturday of the Month** – December 3rd – Extended BBB (Books, Bickies and Beverages) & Christmas Fair 10.30am to 2.00pm – See above for details of December's special BBB

**Film Nights** – take place on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month. Hall opens at 7.30pm for pre-film drinks and chat. Film begins at 8pm. Please join our mailing list to receive more information about the forthcoming films, send an email to [poultonone&nines@gmail.com](mailto:poultonone&nines@gmail.com) and we'll add you to the group.

# Thank You

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Est<sup>d</sup> 2010



Poulton Hill  
VINEYARD

MERRY

Christmas



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Winter opening times

The Cellar Door is now open from 09:30 – 15:30 Tuesday to Friday.

If you wish to visit outside of these hours, it may be possible by appointment. Please call 01285 850257.



## FROM THE CELLAR DOOR

**Wishing you all a Merry Christmas from Poulton Hill - Courtney Gillibrand explains why work in the vineyard is still important even when the vines are dormant and recommends thinking local when it comes to Christmas gifts**

Another year is drawing to a close and we would like to start by wishing you all a merry Christmas and a peaceful and happy New Year.

December is a busy time for vineyard sales, but we are also getting the vineyard ready for winter pruning, which we usually start in January. We must make sure that vineyard is clear of foliage from leaf drop. If any of the vines have been affected by diseases that affect the leaves, such as downy or powdery mildew, the pathogens can survive the winter on the fallen leaves and affect the vines next year. We are continuing to maintain and replace old supports and wires. We have done a preliminary prune, getting rid leaves that remain on the vines.

Our vines are now dormant above ground, but the roots are still working hard, burrowing down to take on and retain nutrients. The trunks themselves are storing carbohydrates ready for the new growing season in the spring.

### Get set for Christmas

It is not too late to get your last-minute Christmas presents. Local gifts from the beautiful Cotswolds will always go down well with friends and family who live elsewhere. Poulton Hill Vineyard's award-winning wines and beautiful branded wooden gift boxes, that hold either one or two bottles, make a wonderful present. We can also make up cases to suit your needs for Christmas parties or Christmas meals.

If you are looking for stocking fillers, we have small bottles of Sloe de Vie and Cotswold Brandy. Our larger bottles would make fabulous gifts or are perfect to serve up at Christmas dinner or at your Christmas party. Impress your guests by serving local brandy with your mince pies or Christmas pudding. Our Sloe de Vie is a wonderful aperitive or it can be used in many festive cocktail recipes.

Why not pop in to see us at the Cellar Door here at Poulton and take advantage of our special Cellar Door prices? We are open from 9.30am to 4.30pm, Tuesday to Friday. You can email us at [info@poultonhillestate.co.uk](mailto:info@poultonhillestate.co.uk) or call us on (01285) 850257.



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## UPDATE FROM THE POLAND/UKRAINE BORDER

**Poulton's Russian-speaker Alex Thomas and Ada Wordsworth have been based on the border of Poland and Ukraine since the war began, supporting refugees arriving in Poland and arranging deliveries of vital aid deep into Ukraine. As access opens to newly liberated territory a new and urgent need becomes apparent...**

Over the past month, KHARPP has been active on both sides of the Polish-Ukrainian border as usual, but this report focuses on our work in Ukraine. In mid-October, we finally visited Druzhkivka, the city in Donbas where we have been sending aid packages, in order to see for ourselves where all our boxes had been going. We met up with a church there who have also been providing aid for both their hometown and the surrounding villages, many of which were, until recently, under occupation. We were really honoured that Alina and Sergei, two members of the church, agreed to take us with them on their aid delivery round to some of the de-occupied villages around Lyman. We had brought with us two thousand pounds' worth of food, medicine, and hygiene products from Dnipro, the nearest major functioning city.

The destruction that we saw in these villages was beyond imaginable. Entire communities have been wiped out, and their homes levelled to the ground. Those who remained behind and lived through the occupation told us horrific stories of kidnappings, torture, and death. Generally elderly or disabled, many of these people have spent months living in basements. One group of women we met still lived in the damp cellar of their two-storey apartment building, sleeping on bales of hay, after a missile destroyed their homes. Living without electricity, water, or heat, the bleakness of their existence is beyond imaginable. We offered to help with evacuation, but they refused. One woman called Valentina told us that this was where she and her husband had moved in 2014, after conflict had broken out in their home city, Donetsk. Standing in her flooded apartment, which they had renovated just months before the Russians arrived, she told us that under no circumstances would she leave her home again. Her husband was now buried in this village, and she would not leave him. Another elderly woman in a different village greeted us from the front garden of her cottage where she stood next to a wooden cross. She had buried her husband herself after his heart gave out due to shelling over the summer.

Our final stop of the day ended up being at a tenth birthday party for a little boy called Dima. The only child left in his village, he is unable to even attend school online, as there is neither electricity nor phone signal in his village. His best friends are his three cats, his dog, and the Ukrainian soldiers who moved in down the road after the village was liberated a month ago. Most of these villages are not places where aid organisations tend to go; they are off the main highways and difficult to find if you don't know what you are looking for. The roads are still strewn with burnt-out tanks, and there are checkpoints at almost every turn. Makeshift pontoon crossings have replaced the destroyed bridges across the region's rivers, making these areas inaccessible to larger cargo vehicles. Whilst the people we met there were appreciative of the food, medicines, and hygiene products we were bringing them, more than that they wanted the company.

From there, we travelled on to Kharkiv, where we met with Anna, a maths teacher who had contacted us for home repairs. Living in a small town north of the city with her husband and their son, a rocket had landed in the street immediately outside their house in March. The force of the blast had blown their front door off, destroyed their windows, and shattered the walls of their outdoor toilet. With the harsh eastern-European winter approaching, they were worried about being entirely exposed to the elements. We agreed to help. New windows and a new front door have been ordered, and are due to arrive and be installed next week. We will then work with them to rebuild the walls around the toilet. Anna continues to teach online, when she has access to phone signal or the internet, which is currently intermittent. She is concerned for the winter, however, because last month she did not receive her salary, and she is currently the only earner in the family. Her husband is unemployed as a result of the war. Even prior to the invasion they were poor, the three of them living in a house measuring just thirty six square metres – roughly the size of two parking spaces. They could not afford to pay for repairs themselves, and up until this point they'd blocked up their windows with sandbags, and around the toilet they'd hung thin plastic sheets. This was how they were planning to live through the winter before they reached out to us.

Since then we have had requests from a number of other families in the region for repairs to roofs, windows, and doors. Most of these are people in villages which were either occupied, or existed on or near to the frontline for the six months or so from the start of the war until the liberation of the Kharkiv region in September. The scale of the damage varies from village to village, but in some of them, almost every house has either been destroyed or heavily damaged. These are now 'ghost villages', with very few people left living in them, in some cases they are completely deserted. Driving through them is an eerie and deeply depressing experience. In those villages where only a handful of people have remained, they have usually done so because they have nowhere else to go - a reminder that the choice of whether to stay or leave to seek refuge in Europe is a privilege not afforded to all.

## UPDATE FROM THE POLAND/UKRAINE BORDER

In one village north of Kharkiv we met Lyuba, a woman in her eighties. Her garden was hit by shelling in August, blowing out her windows and damaging a large amount of her roof. When we came to her house, her neighbours were helping her to cover the windows and the holes in the roof with plastic sheets – but in an area with no gas, electricity, or phone signal, she will struggle to survive the winter with her house in its present condition. She currently lives alone because her only son was arrested by the Russians during the occupation and is now trapped in Belgorod, unable to get back home. The few remaining men in the village chop firewood for her. Later that day we dropped by the window firm in the nearby town and ordered new windows for Lyuba. They will arrive in two weeks. We are working on a solution for Lyuba's roof as well, so that she will at least be able to keep her house warm and dry throughout the colder months ahead. The snow and frost would almost certainly cause permanent damage to the structure of her house and its interior if allowed in, thus becoming a more costly renovation job in the future, which the old lady would never be able to afford. It is therefore essential to act now, before it's too late.

Right now, this feels to us like the most important work we can be doing – winters in Kharkiv and eastern Ukraine are brutal, with temperatures settling below zero from December to February. Without protection from the cold, people will struggle to stay in their homes over the coming months, and will further risk their lives in doing so, especially if Russia continues to attack energy infrastructure. This could in turn lead to a new wave of refugees into Europe, where resources are already stretched very thin and there will be little capacity for them. Windows cost around £150-200 each, doors are £300-400, whilst roofing is on average £1000 per house. This isn't a case of totally rebuilding someone's home. We are focusing our efforts exclusively on emergency home repairs, enabling people who have stayed in their homes to live through the colder months and to survive into spring. Each house is costing us £500-2000, and we are trying get as many as possible done over the next few weeks, before it becomes too cold to do external work. We have named this new phase of our project 'KHARPP repairs'.

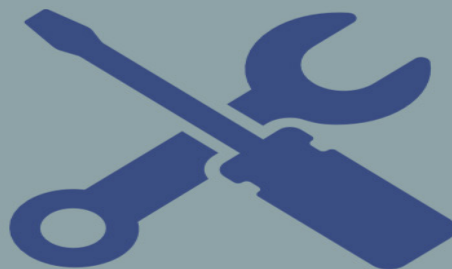
In support of this we are launching a renewed winter donation drive, to enable us to finance this work for as long as the weather here allows (approx. 3-4 more weeks). Your generosity in supporting us has been extraordinary thus far, and we are forever grateful for that. However, if you are able to make another donation now, it could make a huge difference to someone's life for the months ahead as we try to help people prepare for what will be the hardest winter in Ukraine in living memory.

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# *Christmas Party*



*Saturday 10th December 2022*

*Poulton Village Hall*

*7.30pm-Midnight*

*Glass of Fizz on arrival*

*Disco with John Newman*

*Bring your own drinks*

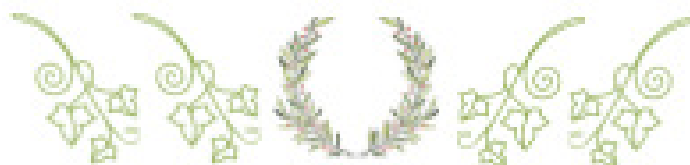
*Snacks and canapés provided*

*Entrance £17 per person*

*Payable in advance*

*Limited availability so please  
reserve a place by emailing:*

*[poultonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:poultonvillagehall@gmail.com)*





## ROUND & ABOUT

Friday 2nd December	10 - 12	Mothers Union Cake and Craft Stall	Parish Church, Cirencester
Saturday 3rd December	10.30 - 2pm	Poulton Craft and Gift Fair with Bar and BBQ	Poulton Village Hall
	2pm - 3.30pm	Ampney Crucis Christmas Bazaar	Ampney Crucis Village Hall
	7.30pm	Choral concert with The Burford Chorale Tickets £15 on the door	Down Ampney Church
	7.30pm	Handel's Messiah Tickets £15 available from Fairford Opticians, 11 High Street – 01285 713313	St Mary's Church, Fairford
Monday 5th December	7pm	WI Group Carol Service Call Anne for more information – 652471	Lechlade Church
Wednesday 7th December	2.30pm	Mothers Union Meeting – Christmas Theme with tea & mince pies + Raffle for a Christmas Cake.	Watermoor Parish Hall, Cirencester
	7pm for 7.30pm	Bingo. Raffle prizes appreciated. Call Anne 652471 or <a href="mailto:bridgesae@aol.com">bridgesae@aol.com</a>	Ampney Crucis Village Hall
Saturday 10th December	7.30pm - mid-night	Poulton Christmas Party - see opposite!	Poulton Village Hall
Sunday 11th December	6pm	Carol Service with the Cantores Choir	Ampney Crucis
Tuesday 13th December	12 - 2pm	Ampney Crucis WI Bring n Share Lunch, Call Anne 652471 for information	Ampney Crucis Village Hall
Saturday 17th December	7pm	Carol Service with the Cirencester Town Band	Ampney St Peter Church
Sunday 18th December	6pm	Carol Service with the Poulton Singers	Poulton Church
Wednesday 21st December		Mothers Union Christmas Meal. Call Rosemary Franklin for details - 654282	
	5pm	Harnhill Nativity - with real donkey and baby!	Harnhill Church
Saturday 24th December	3pm	Crib Service for children of all ages	Down Ampney Church

### Regular Events

1st Saturday monthly	10.30 - 12.30	BBBs - Books, Biccies and Beverages	Poulton Village Hall
Tuesdays	1.30 - 3.30	Post Office and Pantry	Poulton Village Hall
Tuesdays	6.30 - 7.30	Pilates	Ampney Crucis Village Hall
	7.30 - 8.30	Adult Ballet	
Tuesdays	9.30 - 11.00	Ampney Crucis Playgroup	Ampney Crucis Village Hall
1st Thursday monthly	7.30pm	Ampney Crucis Bridge Club	Ampney Crucis Village Hall
Wednesdays	9.15am	Yoga Classes - £10 per class. Contact <a href="mailto:lammenowyogo@hotmail.com">lammenowyogo@hotmail.com</a> or call 07732529297.	Ampney Crucis Village Hall

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<b>Poulton Village Website</b>	<a href="http://www.poultonvillage.co.uk">www.poultonvillage.co.uk</a>
<b>Poulton Facebook Page</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/959278000806216/?multi_perma-links=4503302606403720">https://www.facebook.com/groups/959278000806216/?multi_perma-links=4503302606403720</a>
<b>Poulton WhatsApp Group</b>	Please contact Rachel Hutchinson to be added to group; 07557 006623
<b>St Michaels and All Angels Church, Poulton</b>	Vicar: The Rev'd Canon John Swanton 01285 – 851309; <a href="mailto:john@swanton.plus.net">john@swanton.plus.net</a> Church Wardens: Simon Collyer-Bristow <a href="mailto:scb@crfc.co.uk">scb@crfc.co.uk</a> <a href="mailto:rosie.arkwright@icloud.com">rosie.arkwright@icloud.com</a>
<b>Village Hall</b>	Available to hire for parties, wedding breakfasts, clubs or meetings - <a href="mailto:kjclapton@gmail.com">kjclapton@gmail.com</a>
<b>Playing Field &amp; Allotment Charity (PFAC)</b>	<a href="mailto:pfac trustees@gmail.com">pfac trustees@gmail.com</a>
<b>Post Office</b>	In the Village Hall. Tuesday 1.30 – 3.30
<b>Parish Council</b>	Chairman: Simon Collyer-Bristow <a href="mailto:scb@crfc.co.uk">scb@crfc.co.uk</a> Clerk: Heather Harris <a href="mailto:poultonclerk@gmail.com">poultonclerk@gmail.com</a>
<b>District Councillor</b>	Lisa Spivey: <a href="mailto:lisaspivey4@gmail.com">lisaspivey4@gmail.com</a>
<b>Poulton Action Group (solar farm)</b>	<a href="mailto:poultonactiongroup@gmail.com">poultonactiongroup@gmail.com</a> .
<b>Fix My Street</b>	Report issues within Poulton: potholes, fly tipping, etc. <a href="http://www.fixmystreet.com">www.fixmystreet.com</a>
<b>Refuse Collections</b>	Food bin weekly Friday 7am. All other bins & bags on alternate Fridays.
<b>Gloucestershire Police</b>	The Forum, Cirencester GL7 2QY Mon-Sat 8am-8pm <a href="http://www.gloucestershire.police.uk">www.gloucestershire.police.uk</a>
<b>Poulton Sports Club</b>	David Knight: <a href="mailto:knightd@hotmail.co.uk">knightd@hotmail.co.uk</a>
<b>Poulton Football Club</b>	<a href="http://www.poultonfootballclub.co.uk">www.poultonfootballclub.co.uk</a>
<b>Poulton Cricket Club</b>	Club Secretary: Will Bathurst <a href="mailto:w.m.bathurst@gmail.com">w.m.bathurst@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.poultoncricketclub.co.uk/">www.poultoncricketclub.co.uk/</a>
<b>Heart &amp; Soul Yoga Class</b>	<a href="#">Becky Barry</a>
<b>Ampney Crucis WI</b>	<a href="#">Anne Bridges 652471</a>
<b>Poulton One and Nines</b>	Films in the village hall every 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month. Contact <a href="mailto:poultononeandnines@gmail.com">poultononeandnines@gmail.com</a>
<b>Books Bikkies &amp; Beverages</b>	Village get-together 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month, 10.30 – 12.30 Poulton Village Hall Judith – 01285 851230
<b>Ampney Crucis Mothers Union</b>	Rosemary Franklin 01285 654282
<b>Ampney Crucis Playgroup</b>	Meet Tuesdays during term-time 9.30 – 11.00 Ampney Crucis Village Hall. £2 per family. Ella Milligan – <a href="mailto:daniellaceliarmorris@yahoo.co.uk">daniellaceliarmorris@yahoo.co.uk</a> – 07815502463 or Sofia Richie – <a href="mailto:sofia.kluge@hotmail.com">sofia.kluge@hotmail.com</a> – 07540198151
<b>The Falcon Inn</b>	<a href="http://www.falconinnpoulton.co.uk">www.falconinnpoulton.co.uk</a> email: <a href="mailto:bookings@falconinnpoulton.co.uk">bookings@falconinnpoulton.co.uk</a> 01285 850878
<b>Ampney Crucis C of E Primary School</b>	Head Teacher Tana Wood – 01285 851440 <a href="http://www.ampneycrucis.glous.sch.uk">www.ampneycrucis.glous.sch.uk</a>

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