Register your Christmas Tree

Christmas Tree Collection

Just Helping runs a Christmas Tree Collection and Recycling Service in aid of local charities. The Local Collection Partner for Stinchcombe is the ***Longfield Community Hospice Care, Minchinhampton***.

So, ***Register your Tree*** for collection and recycling after Christmas and help a local Hospice.

- Trees are collected 9-11 January 2022
- Trees must be registered by 3 January 2022
- Donations start at £10

Piers Court Footpath

A number of people have escalated the closure of the Piers Court footpaths to the Parish Council and we under took to investigate with the Public Rights of Way (PRoW) office and report back.

The PRoW received a call from Ms Lawton last week to advise that some trees on the estate had been damaged in the wind and rain the previous week and some of them were over hanging the paths. Most of the trees have preservation orders on them so permission had been sought from Mark Hemming at the District Council to carry out the urgent work. Ms Lawton advised that her Arborist was to carry out the work over two days this weekend and was it ok to close the path to the public for that short period. As it was too late to process an emergency or

urgent works Order, PRoW authorised the closure with the proviso that the paths should be re-opened as soon as the work was complete – I understand that only two days were required.

The footpaths are now open again and ready for your enjoyment.

Anyone wanting further details feel free to contact me directly

Thanks

Simon

Stinchcombe Parish Council Chair

Clerk required for Woodlands Management Committee

The Cam, Dursley & Uley Joint Woodlands Management Committee

Require a Clerk / Secretary and Financial Officer involving approximately 20 hours per quarter. It is very interesting work with an honorarium payment for an important local committee. The current clerk will be available for handover and induction.

Expressions of interest and queries should go to christina.carter@camparishcouncil.gov.uk

Full Job Details

The full job details can be ***downloaded here***

Stinchcombe Village Calendar 2022

Funds for St Cyr's Church

The PCC is delighted to have produced a Stinchcombe Village Calendar for 2022 for you to buy, reflecting certain local aspects, some of the photographic talent from the village and a way to generate funds for St Cyr's Church.

A copy of the 2022 Calendar can be seen in the porch at St Cyr's church, but copies of the Calendar can be purchased from Pippa Leggate at Church Farm, Wendy Hamilton at Manor Farm, Cherry Brown at the Old Post Office and other members of the PCC.

*The **cost of the Calendar is £10.00 and all proceeds go to St Cyr's Church**.*

A Gift for Christmas

Named Individual recognition has not been given to all those who contributed, but we would like to express sincere thanks to everyone who assisted with this project in aid of the church.

We hope you will enjoy the Calendar throughout the next year

and that it will be a provide welcome gift for Christmas.

Village Christmas Party

You are all STILL invited

Invitations are still open to all ***Residents of Stinchcombe*** to come to the "Stinchcombe Village Christmas Party". To be held at the **Village Hall on Saturday 11th December** from 6.00pm until 9.00pm.

Please RSVP to your invitations soon, to help with the planning purposes. **RSVP** to ***stinchcombeparish@gmail.com***

This is an excellent chance to meet the new members of our Village and their families who have moved in during the last two years.

Children as well

Children are invited as well as we do have a growing population. Adults will be kept segregated!

Finger Food and Drink

Finger food will be served so please bring a plate of food. It does need to be fully labelled with allergens.

The 14 allergens are: **celery**, **cereals containing gluten** (such as barley and oats), **crustaceans** (such as prawns, crabs and lobsters), **eggs**, **fish**, **lupin**, **milk**, **molluscs** (such as mussels and oysters), **mustard**, **peanuts**, **sesame**, **soybeans**, **sulphur**

dioxide and sulphites (at a concentration of more than ten parts per million) and **tree nuts** (such as almonds, hazelnuts, walnuts, brazil nuts, cashews, pecans, pistachios and macadamia nuts).

More information on food labelling etc from ***Jessica*** or WhatsApp her on Stinchcombe Social. However, bring your own DRINKS AND GLASSES.

Mulled Wine

It's a BYOB event. However there will provided for all Mulled Wine. (we do have cups for this)

Numbers

The Village Hall is licenced to 200 people standing. Obviously we are not going to have that many as much as we would like to. However, the practical number will be around half of that, maybe less. There already have been around 60 acceptances so please reply sooner rather than later.

COVID

For the safety of all, we encourage everyone to have a Lateral Flow Test before the Christmas Party. These can be ordered Free of Charge from the GOV website. The Village Hall will also be fully ventilated.

Order your Free Lateral Flow Test

Dress

We do hope that all will come and enjoy the Village Christmas Party and maybe wear a Christmas Jumper.

Food Bank

Lastly, if you would like to donate, there will be a box for Food Donations at the Village Hall.

Come and Join the Dursley Male Voice Choir

It’s good for you

Choral singing is good for your health. If you’ve been to see Dursley Male Voice Choir in recent years you might have noted how regular singing in a choir can see you through to a ripe old age! Indeed, it has been scientifically proven that choral singing is good for both your physical and mental health.

About the Choir

Dursley Male Voice Choir was founded by a group of enthusiastic local singers in 1978 and has since grown to be one of the principal male voice choirs of the region with singers drawn from communities around Dursley and the wider Stroud district.

The Choir performs around 12 concerts each year, the majority of them for charity. As well as local concerts the choir performs at many venues around the UK and internationally. Memorable concerts include those whilst on tour in south-west Ireland, at St George’s Hall in Bristol in aid of Southmead Hospital, as well as concerts in the Pittville Pump Rooms,

Colston Hall, Gloucester Cathedral, Bath Abbey and Cheltenham Town Hall. The choir toured Yorkshire in September 2017 singing at Harrogate and in Ripon Cathedral. Then again in 2019 singing near Sheffield and in Wakefield Cathedral. Over the years the choir has been successful in many competitions and have toured extensively including Canada, Austria, Ireland as well as many UK locations.

A recruitment campaign

The choir has recently resumed performances following 18 months of COVID enforced absence. This period has also seen a number of our older members decide that the time has come for them to retire from the choir. They will be missed, but this has also galvanised a recruitment campaign to bring the choir up to its former strength.

So, to the gentlemen among you, or ladies who think their men would benefit from a bit of choral singing, we would like to welcome you into the Dursley Male Voice Choir. Yes, you do need to be able to hold a tune, but we're not looking for a Pavarotti or the next Bryn Terfel. You don't need to be able to read music; in fact, we provide practice tracks and videos to help you learn pieces at home. We are also making special efforts to help support new members. So, as well as ensuring you have a 'buddy' in your early weeks we will also offer 'New Members' practices to help you come up to speed with pieces the choir already knows well. We practice on a Wednesday from 7.30 to 9.30pm at the Chantry Centre in Dursley.

Contact us

You can find out more about the choir ***online*** or on Facebook @DursleyMaleVoiceChoir. You can also watch some Lockdown recordings we made on YouTube; just search Dursley Male Voice Choir. But please feel free to get more information and help by ringing Laurence Bryant on 01453 890195.

United Nations Climate Change Conference

It’s all about the title

This post started as a question. What does COP26 stand for? And why 26? Well, it started back in 1975 in Berlin with the ***United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*** and the only thing I can find about that was, they agreed to meet up the following year in Switzerland. In Switzerland they rejected “harmonized policies” in favour of “flexibility”. This was the general pattern of what was to follow….

In 1997 it was off again, this time to Kyoto where the famous ***Kyoto Protocol*** was born and most countries agreed to legally binding reductions in greenhouse gasses to below 1990 levels by 2012. **How did that go? Anyone?**

Then it was off on the never-ending world tour, 98 Argentina, 99 Germany, 2000 Netherlands, 2001 back to Germany. These guys racked up the Air miles! To prove it they had a second meeting in 2001 in Morocco to get the winter sun. They did agree here on ***international emissions trading*** which goes something like, *“to cut my emissions, I pay you to plant a tree. Whether you actually plant it or just cut it down later is not up to me…”*

They it was back on the exhausting circuit, 2002 India, 2003 Italy in time for Christmas Shopping, 2004 back to Argentina and so forth, Kenya, Bali, Poland, Denmark, Mexico, South Africa, Qatar, Poland, Peru, Paris, Morocco, Germany, Poland, Spain and now finally SCOTLAND!! And in NOVEMBER!!

So, WHAT is COP? COP stands for “Conference of Parties”! Yes, I would never have guessed that either. Apparently, the man who writes the nametags couldn’t be bothered with “The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change” so he just called it C.O.P.1, C.O.P.2 etc. I think he meant that to this lot life is one long party.

The BBC reporter Richard Black once called the delegates “***climate tourists***” . The 25,000 delegates and hangers-on certainly have done a lot of travelling in 26 years!

Certain countries still do not attend and even the Queen ***does not know who is coming to this one***!

COP has never travelled to the USA, Russia, or China. Researching for this article I find no real agreements reached, no real targets met, and nothing yet politically binding.

So don’t think for a moment that COP 26 will be any different. Just words. Or as someone said ***Blah, Blah, Blah***

I would love to hear your comments below on this “tongue in cheek” post and your thoughts on COP26.

Why is it important? What will be decided? What is YOUR view?

This **must be** a subject we all have an opinion on.