

Ansty's Almanac 2022

Changes to PCR test requirements and other related items. (Posted 05-01-2022)



Wiltshire Council are supporting and promoting the national mission to ensure as many people as possible get their booster jab, to give them the best form of protection against COVID-19 variant Omicron. From 11 January in England, people who receive positive lateral flow device (LFD) test results for coronavirus (COVID-19) will be required to self-isolate immediately and won't be required to take a confirmatory PCR test. Click on image to digest the latest changes and other local items related to the Covid-19 virus

UK records more than 150,000 Covid deaths. (Posted 08-01-2022)

150,000 people in the UK have now died with Covid-19. It is a bleak, sobering figure after nearly two years of daily coronavirus statistics. But the problem with statistics, is that a person can forget that behind every number is a person.

The UK has reached another grim milestone in the pandemic, becoming the first country in Europe to surpass 150,000 coronavirus deaths. Some 150,057 people have died within 28 days of a positive Covid test since the pandemic began. The UK is the seventh country to pass 150,000 deaths, after the US, Brazil, India, Russia, Mexico, and Peru. Boris Johnson, the prime minister, said every death "is a profound loss to the friends and communities affected and my thoughts and condolences are with them".

We are truly fortunate in Ansty that such grim statistics have not affected our location and we would do well to reflect on this.

Tree removal takes place on Ansty Coombe Lane. (Posted 11-01-2022)



The first week in January saw the removal of a couple of trees flanking the lower end of Ansty Coombe Lane – deemed to be dangerous due to 'Ash die back'. Once again this clearly shows the unintended consequences of rampant globalisation and climate change. Click on the image for the details.

Ancient Landscapes: Ansty's Village Pound. (posted 11-01-2022)



Most people travelling down Ansty High Street on the way to join the A30 probably never notice the small wooden fence and gateway off the left-hand side of the road just after a pinch point in the road – opposite the Church of St James. Indeed, some think it is a handy little area just to pull off and park their car on a Sunday morning. But this piece of verge has a very interesting history! Click on the image to find out more.

Ancient Landscape: Ansty's Stone Walls. (posted 13-01-2022)



One of the things that give Ansty Village a real sense of identity and individuality is its stone cottages and stone walls. Much is talked about the cottages but there are several ancient drystone walls in the parish that are rarely mentioned or even noticed! Click on the image to discover a little more of Ansty's stone walls!

More tree clearance takes place in Ansty Coombe. (posted 25-01-2022)



A neglected small area of about half an acre of 'woodland' on the northwest side of the lane has been receiving some much-needed TLC where unsafe or disease-ridden trees have been removed or coppiced – another example of good management now being practised by the Clouds Estate, the landowner. Click on image to read more.

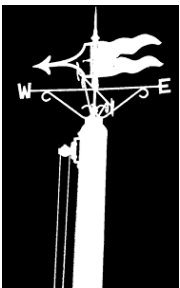
Shared Rural Network Pre-Application for a proposed Telecommunications Installation. (posted 31-01-2022)



Ansty Parish Council has received a pre-planning application consultation document concerning a proposal to erect a 4G mobile phone communications tower on land at Crockerton Firs near the junction of the old Shaftesbury-Salisbury byway with the Ansty-Alvediston road. The site is close to the existing BT installation and is just outside of our parish boundary. No doubt there will also be the opportunity to comment at the planning stage. However, if anyone wishes to comment at this stage, then please respond to our parish clerk at anstyclerk@gmail.com. The consultation period is short and only runs until 10 February 2022. Click on images for further narration.



The latest Ansty monthly weather statistics have been compiled for January 2022. (posted 01-02-2022)



January was a month of contrasts: average temperatures for the month; often mild but also frosty at night; low rainfall totals; some bright sunshine but too often dreary cloudy days and very humid!

Click [here](#) to catch up on all of the month's statistical details!

Yvonne Pritchard 1929 – 2021



On a crisp and sunny winter's day, family and friends said their heartfelt goodbyes to Yvonne Pritchard whose funeral took place at the Salisbury Crematorium on 12th January 2022. Yvonne, who died in early December 2021 was 92 years old. People who couldn't make the journey were able to watch a webcast of the funeral service taken by Martin Shallcross.

Click [here](#) to read a tribute to Yvonne.

Accession Day 2022. (updated 06-02-2022)



This year's Accession Day – on 6 February 2022 – marked 70 glorious years since The Queen acceded to the throne on the death of her father King George VI. Her Majesty has gone on to reign longer than any other British Monarch in history, and to become a beloved figure around the world. It is fitting that there was a special Accession Service of Mattins at St James' Church in Ansty, attended by regular members of the congregation. Led by Lesley Simm, it was a simple, but moving occasion which concluded with the hymn 'I vow to Thee My Country'. Click [picture](#) to find out how Ansty commemorated this special day. Click [here](#) to read an extract from The Guardian.

Good News at Last! (posted 14-02-2022)



Following their last update in December regarding the installation of a full fibre network to Ansty, Wessex Internet have advised those villagers that have applied for vouchers that they are hoping to return as soon as they are able in the spring once the ground is dry enough and continue with installation work. If anybody has a voucher that has expired or is near to expiring, please do not worry as Wessex Internet will apply for an extension on your behalf, or they will reapply for a voucher nearer the time of build. Wessex Internet apologise for the inconvenience that this delay has caused and would like to thank everybody

concerned for their patience. The company reassures us that you will be connected as soon as possible. Watch this space!

View our new section entitled Landscapes and Skies. (posted 15-02-2022)



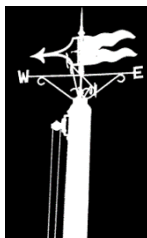
Ansty Parish and its surroundings are so blessed with a variety of beautiful landscapes along with big skies and dark skies. Such views are best seen out in the open, away from the wooded coombes and valleys – up on the chalk downs or on the greensand bench to the south of the A30; on Cholden Hill or even on some of the upper pasture closes of Ansty Coombe. We hope to build up a gallery of local pictures taken by local people under the collective heading of 'Landscapes and Skies'. Click [here](#) to view a stunning new addition to our collection. You can see more photographs by tapping [here](#) too!

Storm Eunice makes an impact on Ansty! (posted 19-02-2022)



We had been warned about the 'Storm Eunice' 5 days before by meteorologists – and how accurate the 'red alert' forecast was! A turbulent spell of weather had set in over the country on the 13th as the high-level looping jet streams had swung south bringing in fast travelling low pressure vortexes off the Atlantic over the whole of the UK (instead of just Scotland). Click on the image to see how Ansty was affected!

The latest Ansty monthly weather statistics have been compiled for February 2022. (posted 01-03-2022)



February was exceptionally mild and notably frost free. A couple of storms did cross over us causing a few issues with falling trees etc. Click [here](#) to catch up on all the month's statistical details.

The Annual Ansty Litter Pick cleans up the High Street! (posted 11-03-2022)



Once again, Ansty village had its annual litter pick on Saturday morning, 12th March 2022. Twelve volunteers from the village took part. Organised by Tim Martin and others on behalf of the Parish Council a very efficient operation was done and dusted in just one hour. Click on image to read more.

One of Ansty's landmark willow trees has been removed. (posted 17-03-2022)



A large well-known landmark – an aged, gnarled weeping willow tree located at the northern end of Ansty's pretty medieval pond has been fetched down. The tree died suddenly in April 2021 just after coming into leaf. It is possible that a run of sharp frosts during that month hastened the end of an already weakened tree. Click on the image for details!

View our new section entitled Landscapes and Skies. (updated 27-03-2022)



Ansty Parish and its surroundings are so blessed with a variety of beautiful landscapes along with big skies and dark skies. Such views are best seen out in the open, away from the wooded coombes and valleys – up on the chalk downs or on the greensand bench to the south of the A30; on Cholden Hill or even on some of the upper pasture closes of Ansty Coombe. We hope to build up a gallery of local pictures taken by local people under the collective heading of 'Landscapes and Skies'. Click [here](#) to view stunning new additions to our collection. You can see more photographs by tapping [here](#) too!



The warm March sunshine shone on the Maypole dance rehearsals! (posted 29-03-2022)

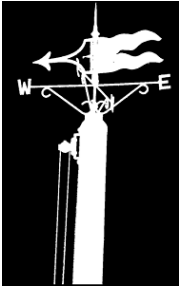
The May Day Maypole Dancing rehearsals have been more difficult this year following a three-year absence due to the coronavirus pandemic and the unfortunate lockdowns and restrictions. Normally each year would have seen more experienced dancers from previous years to lead but with such a prolonged gap, fewer children have danced before. Having said that, this year's youngsters (pictured on March 27th) have shown great aptitude and have danced well and 'are on track' as they say!

Latest News from the Cranborne Chase AONB: see what's coming up... (posted 01-04-2022)



Find out what's happening in Cranborne Chase AONB this month. Items include: Bird Boxes; Horseshoe Bats; Hands on Heritage Days (Volunteers needed); Dark Sky Friendly Awards; Local Farmer Peter Shallcross wins Conservation Project; Have Your Say on the Governments Landscapes Review; Local Cottage Industry; Barn Owl Boxes -Have you seen our barn owl in Ansty Coombe? Job Vacancies. Click on The Hart image for all the details!

The latest Ansty monthly weather statistics have been compiled for March 2022. (posted 01-04-2022)



March was exceptionally sunny with several warm days but with cold nights. Rainfall and temperature statistics turned out to be bang on average though there was a late cold spell at very end of month with a few snow flurries as well!

Click [here](#) to catch up on all the month's statistical details.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. (updated 09-04-2022)



This year Her Majesty the Queen became the first British Monarch to have served for 70 years, having acceded to the throne on 6 February 1952. Many parishes and towns are planning to hold some kind of community event to mark this very special milestone. There will be an extended bank holiday from Thursday 2 to Sunday 5 June to give people an opportunity to celebrate the milestone, with a number of national events and reflections planned to mark Her Majesty's 70-year reign. Ansty village is planning a Platinum Jubilee Celebration on **Sunday 5 June** and villagers have now been contacted about the event, the venue and organisational details as we near the date! Click on the image to view more information.

Hedgehogs back in residence in Ansty! (posted 20-04-2022)



Parishioners may recall our article on our website last year informing us that hedgehogs had made a welcome return to Ansty! Well, they are back! Or at least one has been seen in an Ansty garden very recently – and where there is one, there must be others...! Les and Gill Powell sent us this heartening photo of a hedgehog emerging from a small purpose built shelter in their garden in the early hours of the morning! Click on the images to take a closer look! Keep your eyes open there may be others residing in your garden hedgerow! Many thanks for the photos, Gill!

April's Chase and Chalke Newsletter has been posted. (posted 21-04-2022)



The Chase & Chalke Landscape Partnership is a group of organisations working to protect and enhance the special landscape of Cranborne Chase and the Chalke Valley. It was unfortunate that most of the beautiful Ansty Landscape (except for our Chalk Downs escarpment) fell just a fraction outside of the designated 'Chase & Chalke' area that drew in big funding – especially from the National Lottery Heritage Fund in 2019. The Landscape Partnership group work closely with Cranborne Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) as their lead partner. Hopefully we should be able to glean a few crumbs from their impressive list of projects and perhaps one or two of us might even like to support some of their schemes and visions for the future.

Click on the logo to get the updates on their projects and activities coming up. Learn more about Chase & Chalke [here](#).

View new additions to our section entitled Landscapes and Skies. (updated 27-04-2022)



Ansty Parish and its surroundings are so blessed with a variety of beautiful landscapes along with big skies and dark skies. Such views are best seen out in the open, away from the wooded coombes and valleys – up on the chalk downs or on the greensand bench to the south of the A30; on Cholden Hill or even on some of the upper pasture closes of Ansty Coombe. We hope to build up a gallery of local pictures taken by local people under the collective heading of 'Landscapes and Skies'. Click [here](#) to view stunning new additions to our collection. You can see more photographs by tapping [here](#) too!

Final Maypole Dancing Rehearsals shaping up nicely! (updated 27-04-2022)

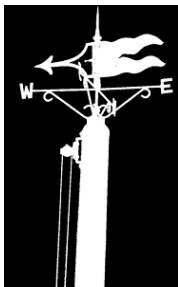


The penultimate rehearsal for our Maypole dancers was held last Sunday in warm, sunny weather. Click [here](#) to view the latest pictures by Alex Mitchell. Everything looks set fair for a great May Day event on Monday, May 2nd: 4.30 pm – 7.30 pm. After a gap of 3 years due to Covid it will be great to get back to celebrating one of our favourite events! Don't miss it!

Thank You Lesley! (posted 01-05-2022)



Lesley Simm is standing down as the Church Warden at St James. She will continue with her duties until the end of July and her swan song will be the Patronal Celebration concert in the church on 30th July – details to follow. Click on the picture to read more...!



The latest Ansty monthly weather statistics have been compiled for April 2022. (posted 1-05-2022)

April was another sunny and dry month with many warm days but often with cold nights. Rainfall statistics were well below average, but temperature statistics turned out to be just above average. Anticyclonic conditions generally prevailed steering rain bearing fronts away from the bulk of England.

Click [here](#) to catch up on all the month's statistical details.



A Great 'Welcome Back' for Ansty's May Day Celebrations in 2022!

(02-05-2022)

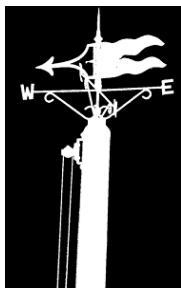
Preparation for this much-loved historical event started back in February when a hard-working committee began planning the logistics, whilst parents and dance teachers supported and encouraged a mostly 'new' crop of youngsters into the art of Maypole dancing! After an absence of 3 years due to the Covid pandemic the unique 'Ansty May' event once again entertained the crowds and how! It was great to be back! The smiling faces said it all. [Click on the picture to see our full report and pictures!](#)

Take up the challenge and walk all our parish footpaths this summer! (posted 15-05-2022)



Ansty Parish has the most varied selection of footpaths covering a whole range of landscapes within its boundaries. From the Chalk Downs to the greensand terraces and to the wooded coombes with their wet meadows. What fun it is to walk any or all of them! We also have a great team of people who are willing to maintain them too! Click on the picture to find out more!

The latest Ansty monthly weather statistics have been compiled for May 2022. (posted 1-06-2022)



May was another sunny month with warm days but often with cold nights. Rainfall statistics were about average, but temperature statistics turned out to be rather above the average. Anticyclonic conditions still generally prevailed but weak rain bearing fronts did bring some rain to England (and Wiltshire) but not enough!

Click [here](#) to catch up on all the month's statistical details.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Central Weekend 2022 (June 2nd-5th)



This week includes a special extended bank holiday weekend which will provide an opportunity for communities and people throughout the United Kingdom to come together to celebrate this historic milestone. Most of the people of Ansty will be taking part in their own celebration of this unique and momentous occasion on June 5th. Beacons will be lit all over the country at 9.45 pm on 2nd June to honour the platinum anniversary (70 years) of Her Majesty's accession to the throne. Click on the picture to find out more. Click [here](#) to discover other events that will be taking place. Have you got your flags ready?

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

Magnificent!

June 2nd – 5th was a special extended bank holiday weekend which provided an opportunity for communities and people throughout the United Kingdom to come together to celebrate this truly historic milestone.

Ansty Celebrates

Most of the people of Ansty took part in their own celebration of this unique and momentous occasion on Sunday June 5th with a specially organised Jubilee Lunch held at Ansty PYO.

Beacons were lit all over the country at 9.45 pm on 2nd June (including several on our local chalk downs) to begin celebrating the Platinum Anniversary (70 years) of Her Majesty's accession to the throne.

The Ansty 'get together' on the Sunday rounded off a memorable four days. Click on the picture to find out more.

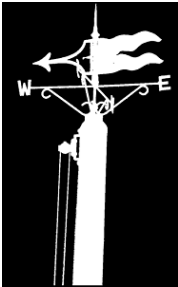


View new additions to our section entitled Landscapes and Skies.



Ansty Parish and its surroundings are so blessed with a variety of beautiful landscapes along with big skies and dark skies. Such views are best seen out in the open, away from the wooded coombes and valleys – up on the chalk downs or on the greensand bench to the south of the A30; on Cholden Hill or even on some of the upper pasture closes of Ansty Coombe. We hope to build up a gallery of local pictures taken by local people under the collective heading of 'Landscapes and Skies'. Click on the image to view stunning new additions to our collection. You can see more photographs by tapping **here** too! You can find other items of interest in our Maps and History section too!

The latest Ansty monthly weather statistics have been compiled for June 2022. (posted 03-07-2022)



June was an 'average month' for temperatures; below average for total rainfall and although there was a mixed bag of weather with showery outbreaks, sunshine prevailed too.

Click [here](#) to catch up on all of the month's statistical details.

Exciting News at Last! (posted 04-07-2022)



Following their last update in December regarding the installation of a full fibre network to Ansty, Wessex Internet have now advised those villagers that have applied for vouchers that the first drilling has taken place in order to lay ducting under roads and in other areas. The machine that lays the actual fibre will follow in a few weeks time. Here's hoping we will be connected before next December!

New Parish Clerk has been appointed for Ansty Parish Council. (posted 12-07-2022)

As some of you may recall, Julie Anne Murphy our Parish Council clerk stood down earlier this year after 5 years excellent service. The Parish Council is now pleased to announce that **Tim Culver-James** is in post as our new clerk, and we look forward to seeing him at the next Parish Council meeting which will be held on 22nd August 2022.

Ansty's Final Goodbye to Yvonne Pritchard. (posted 18-07-2022)



On a gloriously hot and sunny Saturday afternoon, July 16th, a belated celebration wake for the late Yvonne Pritchard was held at Ansty PYO who died in early December 2021. The long wait was the result of the Covid pandemic that was raging at the time and the restrictions that were in place. Organised by nephew Kevin and his wife Sally it was a chance for villagers to say goodbye to Yvonne and to look back on her life and her immense contribution to the Ansty community for many years Click [here](#) for our full report.

Record breaking temperatures for Ansty! (posted 19-07-2022)



July 18th-19th will be remembered for all the wrong reasons when it comes to our weather! Yes, it was gloriously sunny, but the temperatures were the highest ever recorded here in Ansty and even higher in other parts of the country.

The 18th saw a maximum of 34.9 C and the 19th just behind at 34.8. Don't mention just how hot it was in our houses! July has had virtually no rain so far and the landscape is looking frazzled, and harvesting has been one of damage limitation it seems – with crops being gathered before mid-July! 2018 had similar conditions and a longer run of temperatures in the low 30s – but the 18th-19th this week were truly scorching! In the end the harvest in 2018 was not as bad as farmers feared and maybe it will be the same in 2022.

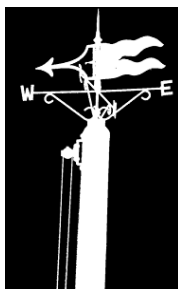
However, as if we need any more evidence: global warming is still gathering pace as we have so far made no difference to the rise in carbon emissions. Click on image to view photo taken on 19th July, showing a parched parish landscape.

Art in The Barn at Furzelease Farm in August! (posted 20-07-2022)



Another great local event to look forward to in August: an exhibition of arts and crafts in a traditional stone barn and farmyard setting at Furzelease Farm, Tisbury Row. Local artisans Robert and Jaci Baker ([North Cottage Creations](#)) and Sue Poulton will join others displaying their skills and creations. Entry will be free! Click on the image for the details.

The latest Ansty monthly weather statistics have been compiled for July 2022. (posted 01-08-2022)



July 2022 was very sunny; extremely dry; with well above the monthly mean temperature. The month was noted for record-breaking hot days tempered by some cool nights earlier in the month.

Click [here](#) to catch up on all the month's statistical details.

Wonderful Organ Recital raises the roof at St James' Church! (posted 02-08-2022)



A grand Musical Evening took place in St James Church on Saturday, July 30th on what was a super summer evening, with renowned local organist David Power coaxing some wonderful music out of its relatively small organ. The organist played British music composed for Coronations and Communities by important musicians who all had links with court and royalty – and of course this is the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Year- a perfect reason for this musical rendition! Click on the image for more details.

Heatwave and drought leading to an increase in fires in the countryside throughout Southern England. (posted 11-08-2022)



Once again, we are in the grip of another heatwave and with so little rain in the past summer months conditions are perfect in the countryside for fires which can quickly consume large areas – especially stubble fields after the harvest. People are urged to be aware of such dangers and to avoid anything that might start a conflagration which could spread to property. Recently a fire was confined to part of hedgerow on Shave Lane – backing on to Ansty PYO premises. Click on the image for details.

Local Countryside continues to be tinder box dry: be aware of the dangers of fire! (updated 12-08-2022)



Extreme heat warning. Stay safe in the hot weather

We're currently in the middle of an Amber extreme heat warning issued by The Met Office with temperatures set to peak at 35C tomorrow, Saturday 13 August.

This means that people are likely to experience health effects, and not just those most vulnerable to extreme heat. To help in the hot weather, we've added some advice on how you can stay safe in the extreme heat on our website. We are also experiencing a meteorological drought and whilst Wiltshire hasn't been included in the first areas to be declared as having a drought, with the extreme weather warning in place we can all play our part by using water wisely at home.

With the warm, very dry weather continuing, Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service is reminding us of all to take extra care when enjoying the outdoors. They are asking that we don't have a bonfire at home while it's so dry. If it's necessary, have a garden hose to hand in case it starts to get out of control; site it well away from fencing, trees, and property; and never use an accelerant to get it started. Also, barbecue coals and fire pits stay hot for hours, so douse them with water and don't dispose of the remnants until you are sure they are cold. Better still, just don't use them! The same advice applies to activities in the tinder box dry countryside at large. Heath fires and farmland fires can be devastating too.

"As good as the RSC's performance at Stratford!" (updated 20-08-2022)



Many people took advantage of the warm summer nights to have the perfect pre-performance picnic in the shaded Ansty Manor grounds overlooking Ansty pond. The historic and evocative setting of Ansty Commandery, once an Elizabethan banqueting hall, provided the perfect backdrop for this tale of love, mercy, and revenge. The Commandery Players staged Shakespeare's 'Merchant of Venice' to packed audiences over a four-night run from August 10th – 14th. By all accounts, the production was of the highest standard. **Click on the image to read the full review**



Ansty PYO & Farm Shop Maize Maze about to open.... (Now it is cooler!) (posted 16-08-2022)

The well anticipated Ansty PYO Maize Maze will be opening very soon!!! Due to the lack of rain and the very hot weather, the team had had to postpone opening it. Now the weather has cooled down, they are ready to go!! Why, we may even get some much-needed rain too- Yippee! – but don't let that deter you! More on [facebook!](#)

Art in the Barn at Furzelease Farm well supported by local folk! (posted 21-08-2022)

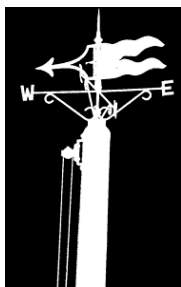


The 'Art in the Barn' event held at Furzelease Farm, in Tisbury Row, this past weekend was well supported by local people – particularly from Ansty and Swallowcliffe. Various artistic wares were on display including ceramics, metal sculpture painting, print and woodwork – again by local talent. Robert and Jaci Baker were there along with Sue Poulton. Robert said sales were good and there was a lot of interest shown throughout the two days. Well done to the organisers and to the skilful craftspeople who took part. When is the next one?



Smart new lanes for Ansty! (posted 24-08-2022)

A recurring theme for any County Council these days are the constant gripes 'about the state of our roads and lanes'. Well, Ansty has been very fortunate to have had some of our lovely lanes upgraded with a 'surface dressing of grit bonded with tar'. For some of our lanes it has been a long time coming and will give them a new lease of life for another 10 to 20 years. Click on the image for the full details.



The latest Ansty monthly weather statistics have been compiled for AUGUST 2022. (posted 01-09-2022)

August 2022 was exceptionally sunny; extremely dry; well above monthly mean temperature with some record-breaking hot days tempered by some cool nights!

Click [here](#) to catch up on all the month's statistical details.



End of an Era

It is with great sadness that we all received the announcement from Buckingham Palace that Queen Elizabeth II had died peacefully on the afternoon of September 8th at Balmoral, in Scotland.

Whether you are a monarchist or not, no-one can fail to appreciate that our long reigning Queen was a constant and reassuring presence in a rapidly changing world.

For those of us in our mid-70s or older, who can forget those magical grainy black and white images on a tiny TV screen (often rented for the first time) of Her Majesty's Coronation – to be recalled again this year with the very successful sun- blessed Platinum Jubilee?

The hallmarks of the Queen's remarkable reign included her astute 'constitutional correctness' and her steadfastness and unwavering commitment to duty and her irrepressible sense of humour.

The Queen's quiet forbearance enabled her to offer wise counsel, and with deep humility she pledged her whole adult life to the service of her subjects. For over 70 years she displayed exceptional leadership and diplomacy skills. No wonder that Her Majesty was held in the highest regard not only in the UK but across the whole world.

There will be many, many tributes to the late Queen and a profound sense of loss will be felt again, so soon after the death of her beloved Prince Philip. They both represented a different generation – where high standards, service to others, commitment, duty, and reliability all mattered. The best of British in fact.

We shall not see the likes of Queen Elizabeth II again – but she has left a perfect template for King Charles III and his heirs to follow. God save the King.

Picture Source: BBC News 08-09-2022

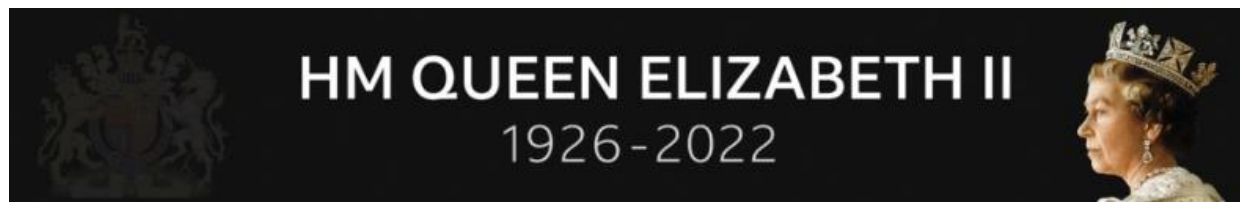


'Her Promise Kept: Her Duty Done'



For many, the late Queen Elizabeth was the one constant in a rapidly changing, turbulent world and a society which was changing beyond recognition and where the role of the monarchy itself sometimes came into question. The long reign of Queen Elizabeth II was marked by her extraordinary sense of duty and her determination to dedicate her life to her peoples. Click on the image for our reflections of the past eleven days.

19th September 2022

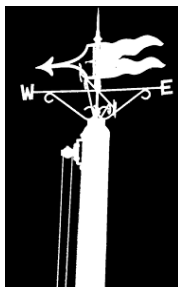


Wonderful 'Harvest Tea 2022' held at Ansty PYO. (posted 28-09-2022)



Organised by the Ansty PCC, the village celebrated Harvest Festival on September 25th at the Ansty Pick Your Own, our wonderful local amenity with its fine views over the chalk downs. Local smallholder Robert Baker gave an excellent summary of this year's harvest despite the challenging hot and dry conditions – great for most of us but not for farmers! Click on the image for all of the details.

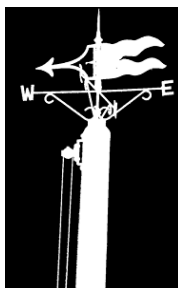
The latest Ansty monthly weather statistics have been compiled for SEPTEMBER 2022. (posted 01-10-2022)



September 2022 was quite a mellow month; slightly below monthly mean temperature, bucking the trend for 'warmer months' with some warm days tempered by some quite cool nights! There were one or two ground frosts and one air frost quite early in the month. Rainfall for the month was slightly below average.

Click [here](#) to catch up on all the month's statistical details.

The latest Ansty monthly weather statistics have been compiled for OCTOBER 2022. (posted 01-11-2022)



October 2022 was a month of contrasts: sunny, warm, and dry during the first half; much more unsettled during the second half with appreciable rainfall, though with continuing very mild temperatures.

Click [here](#) to catch up on all of the month's statistical details.

Changes are afoot for St James Church. (posted 04-10-2022)



The latest Quinquennial Inspection Report (looking at the internal and external fabric of St James's Church building highlighted a whole list of issues one might associated with such an old building. A schedule of works has been drawn up to try and rectify some of the problems and detailed architect plans drawn up to show the areas of most concern. Lesley Simm was visiting an architect on 4th November 2022 to discuss the schedule of works and tendering a contract. Lesley stated this will take some time but is hoping that work may start in the summer of 2023. Lesley added that it will be quite a big undertaking and at some stage the church will have to be emptied because all the lower concrete rendering inside the church has to come off and be replaced. Perhaps some of the services will be held in the open air!

A decision has also been taken to reduce the number of services being held at St James' to two per month. It is sad. Over the winter the cost of heating the church is a cost they can't take just now. Next summer the situation will be reviewed. The new service rota starts on January 1st, 2023.

We hope to have more for you in the coming weeks and months.

Ansty Footpath Maintenance Report November 2022 – November 2023 published. (posted 07-11-2022)



This year, the weather was kind throughout the growing season, and we can report that our entire 6-mile (9.6 km) footpath system remains in good shape, thanks to regular vegetation clearing and trimming by the Ansty Volunteer Footpath Maintenance Group (AVFMG) which has now expanded to include several 'newer' volunteers! Click on the image for the full report and some beautiful photographs too!

Ansty parishioners given the opportunity to plant trees in memoriam to honour Her Majesty. (posted 07-11-2022)



The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) is proud to be creating a living legacy with over a million trees planted in Her Majesty's name across the nation from October 2021 to March 2022. As a nationwide initiative created to mark the Platinum Jubilee, the QGC was due to conclude in December – the end of the Jubilee year. However, as the official tree planting season in the United Kingdom is from October to March, the initiative will now be extended to include the full tree planting season, beginning in October 2022, and concluding in March 2023. The extension of the QGC initiative will build on this legacy and serve as a

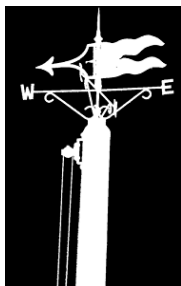
lasting tribute to Her Majesty's extraordinary service to her country and her people. Click on the image to see how you could add to this fantastic initiative!

Izzy Fry – Tisbury's own countryside champion finalist! (posted 15-11-2022)



17-year-old Izzy Fry of the well-known local farming family at Totterdale was one of three young finalists appearing on the BBC's 'Countryfile' programme last weekend. Izzy was nominated for her work in promoting wildlife conservation and was invited to take part in the BBC Countryfile Countryside Champion for 2022 which was televised on Sunday 13th November. Click on the image to read more!

The Ansty monthly weather statistics have been compiled for NOVEMBER 2022. (posted 01-12-2022)



November 2022 was very mild and very wet with several bouts of torrential rain. It was also quite sunny however!

Click [here](#) to catch up on all of the month's statistical details.

'An absolute joy to work with' (posted 02-12-2022)



At their AGM in Bishopstone on Tuesday 22 November, 2022, **South Wilts Ramblers** presented their Footpath Officers, **Graham Read** and **Norman Martin** with a plaque marking their twenty years of volunteering and organising the South Wilts HG team - maintaining footpaths and rights of way in South Wiltshire including our parish of Ansty! Their enthusiasm and skills inspired many people at individual parish level to become involved in looking after their own footpaths. Click on the image to find out more!

'Carols by Candlelight' – A great start to this year's Christmas Celebrations! (posted 20-12-2022)

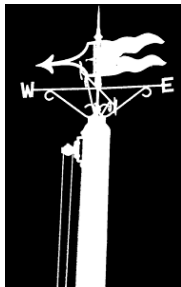


On a cold Saturday afternoon, 17th December, 2022, the St James' Church annual 'Carols by Candlelight' was held in Ansty. Preceded by a very jolly village lunch for some at 'The Royal Oak' in nearby Swallowcliffe, the Church with its simple edifice lit by flickering candles alone resounded to a glorious crescendo of singing and the telling of the Christmas Story.

Some 50 people attended, and it was heart-warming to see so many of these were relative newcomers to the village, joining in a much-loved annual ritual.

Mulled wine flowed freely after the service, augmented by delicious mince pies, and the conviviality was enhanced by the news of two newcomers expected in 2023. The average age of our community is, wonderfully, set to fall once more!

The Ansty monthly weather statistics have been compiled for DECEMBER 2022. (posted 01-01-2023)



December 2022 was a month of startling contrast: the first half was sunny, dry, cold, and frosty whilst the second half was cloudy, very mild, exceptionally wet, and humid! In the end the month ended up as slightly cooler than average and rather wetter than average. Click [here](#) to catch up on all of the month's statistical details.

Click [here](#) to see how the whole year of 2022 panned out!