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Produced and published monthly by Caynham Village Hall with listings of the next two months' events in and around Caynham and contact details for the people, groups and organisations that support them.

If you are organising anything and would like it to be listed here, please contact David Faulkner at least one month in advance.

Happy New Year

Jill Bufton writes: St Mary's Church PCC held their annual Christmas Tree Festival over the weekend of 26th/27th November. As in previous years the church was beautifully decorated with 16 Christmas trees on the theme of *Words Ending In "...try"* (tree). This produced a wide range of interpretations: "Geome-tree", "Poul-tree", "Fores-tree", "Explorat-ree", "Poetree" and so forth. The trees were arranged against the inner walls of the Tower, Nave and Chancel. When lit up, the effect was superb. The church looked beautiful with the bright array of lights and intricate decorations on each tree. A wide variety of items were on sale on the Christmas stall, including home-made produce, glass ornaments and knitted toys. A raffle, tombola, and a novel treasure hunt (guess the number of the house where Teddy lived) were very popular, as were the endless cups of coffee, tea, mince pies and Christmas cake that were served over the two days. On the Saturday evening an excellent concert with the Hereford Rail Male Voice Choir proved very enjoyable and put the 50+ audience in a Christmas mood. The church windows were decorated with greenery and candles, and the overall effect provided an atmospheric setting for the Christingle which ended the Festival on the Sunday afternoon, with over 60 people in church for the service conducted by Revd. Richard Mutter.

On behalf of Caynham PCC I would like to thank all those (too many to name here but each very much appreciated) who helped in the many ways needed to make this weekend a huge success. We hope to carry that enthusiasm into next year! I should also like to thank everyone who attended, whether to see the trees and enjoy our beautifully dressed church, to enjoy our refreshments, win a prize, buy our produce, or to come along to the concert and Christingle service. We thank you for all the great compliments we received - but most of all we loved having you! We are already discussing ideas for the theme of trees to be dressed for our Festival next year - so watch this space for next year's dates!

Festive Lunch

This was very successful and raised over £400 to be shared between St Mary's Church and the Village Hall. Our thanks to all who contributed food and raffle prizes and to everyone who supported the event.

Telephone box update

Caynham Parish Council have agreed to adopt the telephone box and provide the necessary insurance. We still need to decide what the box will be used for, but this decision is not urgent. Please continue to provide suggestions or support for earlier ideas, remembering that any necessary funding and organisation will need to be provided locally.

Broadband

It emerged from the presentation by Connecting Shropshire that tenders have been invited to cover most of those properties currently receiving under 30 Mb/s and a decision will be made in March 2017. The technology to be used (eg wire or wireless) has not been specified nor has the coverage of properties been guaranteed - some are already supposed to be earmarked for previous tenders. There is therefore a danger of cherry picking by contractors but we will need to wait for March to assess this. Work is likely to continue until 2020. In the meantime, if your internet connection is slow and/or unreliable it might be helpful to keep a log of performance. You can download free software to do this for you (eg www.testmy.net/auto or others via Google). This will provide evidence of poor performance to present to your ISP or Connecting Shropshire.