

WITHINGTON PARISH MAGAZINE

MARCH AND APRIL 2024





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Editorial

It gives me great pleasure to reproduce this article recently featured on the Withington Folk facebook page.

'Last week after storm Isha on our way to school my youngest Riley noticed all the rubbish that had been left.

Arriving home from work later that day he presented me with the contents of his money box asking me if he could buy a litter picker to help save the animals. He then spent yesterday afternoon collecting rubbish from around the village'.

Well done Riley Lewis you should feel really proud of yourself and what a superb example to demonstrate to others. Thank you for your tremendous effort.



Neighbourhood Matters



Could you do with brushing up on your Highway Code knowledge? Do you know what all the road signs mean?

PCC John Campion is committed to making West Mercia's roads safer. As part of this commitment, he has relaunched the Roads Focus campaign in partnership with local authorities.

Working together with West Mercia Police, which includes local policing teams and the Road Safety Team, local councils and council highways teams, the PCC's 'Roads Focus' campaign will see drop-in and driver awareness sessions take place across West Mercia.

The driver awareness sessions, ran by TTC, are open to everybody and will give you an opportunity to refresh your knowledge of the Highway Code and improve your overall driver behaviour.

A free driver awareness session will be taking place on Wednesday 28 February via zoom 6-7:30pm.

See updates on future sessions by visiting PCC's Roads Focus Page.

DEADLINE FOR THE MAY/JUNE 2024 EDITION OF THE MAGAZINE:

7TH APRIL 2023

Email: withingtonmagazine@gmail.com

Tel: 01432 850182

Withington Book Club

Our first book of the year was 'Take No Farewell' by Robert Goddard. Mostly set in Herefordshire, the book is a fantastic murder mystery with twists galore. Various local landmarks mentioned include the Bunch of Carrots, the Moon, the Green Man, the Green Dragon and the Copper Kettle. Locations include - Mordiford, Stoke Edith, Backbury Hill, Clouds and Fern lodge Aylestone Hill. Altogether a good read.

Our next two books are The cat who saved books by Sosuke Natsukawa and Brother of the more famous Jack by Barbara Trapido.

Details of our group can be found in this magazine. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sue.



Withington Tree Warden

Can you answer the following tree-related questions?

1. To which plant family does the pear tree (*Pyrus communis*) belong?
A. Olive (*Oleaceae*) B. Rose (*Rosaceae*) C. Lily (*Liliaceae*)
2. What does the Latin word 'arboretum' mean?
A. Woodland glade B. Group of trees near water C. Place with trees
3. Which of the following trees does NOT produce nuts?
A. Juniper B. Hickory C. Hazel
4. What is the common name of the tree species *Fraxinus excelsior*?
A. Alder B. Rowan C. Ash
5. What tree has earned the nickname 'tree of the dead'?
A. Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) B. Yew (*Taxus baccata*) C. London plane (*Platanus x hispanica*)
6. What fruit does the tree *Malus domestica* produce?
A. Apple B. Apricot C. Cherry

Answers on page 7.

Whitestone Baptist Chapel

In 1986 four members from Hereford Baptist Chapel came to worship at Whitestone Chapel where only three worshippers remained. Numbers fluctuated and now in 2024 Whitestone holds a service each Sunday morning.

Sadly one of those four, Keith Edwards, a Deacon, has passed away but with God's will Whitestone will continue as a place of witness in the village.

All Services each Sunday at 11.00 a. m.

Sunday March 3 rd . and Communion.	Wendy Davidson.
Sunday March 10 th .	Rev. Dr. Michael Goodman.
Sunday March 17 th .	Rev. Ken Morey.
Sunday March 24 th .	Rev. Lynne Davis
Sunday March 31 st . Easter Sunday.	Catherine Young.

Sunday April 7 th . and Communion	Wendy Davidson.
Sunday April 14 th .	Rev. Dr. Michael Goodman.
Sunday April 21 st .	Rev. Ken Morey.
Sunday April 28 th .	Jerry Tiffin

St. Peter's Church News

Big Breakfast Thanks. What a wonderful turn-out we had for the February Breakfast on the 3rd ! We served 50 breakfasts – we never had a moment free from cooking and serving the whole 1 ½ hours! And with the raffle (2 prizes) the total proceeds came to **£370!**

This went equally to:

Phoenix Bereavement Support and to **St Peter's Church**, Withington.

(Phoenix is a Hereford Charity which offers help and support to children and young people, and their families when a member of their family dies)

The proceeds from the January Big Breakfast were **£217** which went equally to **Vennture Fresh Starts & Winter Provision Projects** and **St Peter's Church** Withington.

**There are 2 more Big Breakfasts this season - Saturday 2 March and Saturday 6 April
Withington Village Hall. 08.30 to 10.00am**

Lent Lunch

A simple soup and bread lunch with donations to St Michael's Hospice, as we reflect in this Lent Season on what we can do for others.

Tuesday March 5th 12.30pm

In Withington Church

ALL WELCOME !



St Peter's Church News

Have you been watching the flowers start to peak up? I'm noticing them everywhere. Snowdrops in the churchyards, daffodils and tulips starting to peak out and trees starting to show little signs of green. I love those little signs of new life popping up everywhere, but I'm also aware that they can be easy to miss. It's far too easy to jump in the car and rush off on the school run or to work or to the store and not notice the life right outside my door. It's too easy to spend time in my garden but focus on the weeds and things that need cutting back and work that could be done and miss the chance to enjoy the beauty and promise that is also there. I think it's true of life too and that's why I'm thankful for the rhythms of our church life. March will be a season of Lent which is meant to be a time of reflecting on both the good and bad in our lives and our faith. It's a chance to see what rocks and weeds need removing in order to allow new life to grow as well as a chance to look for new signs of where God is at work around us. There will be moments of preparation and remembering as we join together on Palm Sunday to begin holy week and for our Easter Craft Families Together session where we will make decorations for the church. Then of course there will be Easter Sunday - celebrating new life through the resurrection of Jesus. I hope we will see you over this season both as we continue to seek out signs of new life around us and we take moments to pause and enjoy them.

Blessings, Tiffany

Church Services Withington - 9:30am services are live-streamed on the benefice facebook page

March 10th 9:30am Holy Communion

March 17th 9:30am Holy Communion

March 24th 4pm Family Service 4th @ 4 Palm Sunday Service with the Open the Book Team

March 28th 7:30pm Benefice Maundy Thursday @ Dormington

March 29th 2pm Benefice Good Friday Service @ Westhide

March 31st 9:30am Easter Service followed by Easter egg hunt

April 7th 9:30 Benefice Service @ Westhide

April 14th 9:30 Holy Communion

April 21st 9:30 Holy Communion

April 28th 4pm Family Service 4th @ 4

Westhide services:

March 10th 5pm Evening Prayer

24 March 11am Holy Communion

29 March 2pm Good Friday

31 March Easter 11am

7 April 10am All benefice service

14 April 5pm Evening Prayer

28 April 11 am Holy Communion

**Tuesday, 26 March 2-4pm Families Together Easter craft-
Come make crafts for home and for the church to start decorating for Easter.**

Withington Group Parish Council

Update from Withington Group Parish Council –

Withington Group Parish Council represents Withington, Westhide and Preston Wynne and meets every two months, usually at Withington village hall, but the venue is always promoted along with the agenda on the parish notice boards and on the web site at least 3 working days prior to a meeting. All meetings are open to the public who are welcome to attend. Councillors are volunteers who are elected every four years. Currently, your

Withington Councillors are:-

Kevin Hewison (Chair), Barclay Rogers, Tom Nellist, Jonathan Beech, Howard Mansell, Ingrid Heatly, Hilary Holden, Paul Andrews and Kevin Powders (footpaths officer).

Your **Westhide** Councillors are :-

Judith Howe (Vice Chair), Julie Williams (footpaths officer) and Ralph Barber.

Your **Preston Wynne** Councillors are:-

Sue Rudd and Bob Rudd – Bob Rudd is the Parish footpaths officer.

You can contact them via the parish clerk on : clerk@withingtongroupparishcouncil.gov.uk

If you spot a problem on any of the parish footpaths or on Withington Field, do please report it through the clerk and we can try and get the matter resolved.

When your next Council Tax bill drops into your letter box, you will almost certainly notice that the Parish Council have put the precept up for 2024-25 going from £32,000 to £38,000, this equates to, on average, a rise of approximately £5 per household per year across the group of parishes. At this time of economic hardship, it was not a decision that the WGPC took lightly, but we hope to deliver two big projects over the coming years, firstly significant speed calming initiatives on the A4103 /A465 and then in the refurbishment of the Play area on Withington Field – with new fencing coming, new play equipment to replace some of the older pieces and a safer area for toddlers, we are very excited to be able to offer these improved facilities to everyone.

Our next meeting is on the 13th of March at 7.30pm at Withington Village Hall – you are welcome to attend.

Sophie Glover

Withington Group Parish Council Clerk

February 2024

Email: clerk@withingtongroupparishcouncil.gov.uk

website: www.withingtongroupparishcouncil.gov.uk

Answers to Tree Quiz

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| 1. B - Rose | 4. C - Ash |
| 2. C - Place with trees | 5. B - Yew |
| 3. A - Juniper | 6. A - Apple |

Neighbourhood Watch

Joint partnership working for Local Farmers



Are you a local farmer in Hereford? Do you have tools, electrical items, trailers etc. which you would like property marked?

South Wye SNT are holding a FREE local event where you can come along to have this done.

Come and meet the team and have a chat about any issues you may have.

Specialist officers, British union, we are Farming Minds, Smart Water and Cyber security experts will be joining us.

Alternatively, just join us for a FREE cup of Tea and refreshments.

This event is being hosted Wednesday 28th February between 2pm and 4pm at

Thrupton Court Farm, Thrupton, Hereford, HR2 9AX .

What Three Words: reefs.laughs.wedge

NHS Talking Therapies

The NHS is encouraging anyone struggling with feelings of depression or anxiety, such as excessive worry, panic attacks, social anxiety, post-traumatic stress, or obsessions and compulsions, to seek help through NHS Talking Therapies services. These are effective, confidential and free treatments delivered by trained clinicians, online, on the phone, or in person. If you're struggling with feelings of depression or anxiety, seeking help through an NHS Talking Therapies service can be one of the best steps you can take to overcome mental health issues and get back on track. NHS Talking Therapies can help provide support and treatment for common mental health problems, such as:

- feeling anxious
- feeling low and hopeless
- having panic attacks
- finding it hard to cope with work, life or relationships
- struggling with flashbacks or nightmares about upsetting events from your past
- feeling stressed
- worrying a lot
- obsessive thoughts or behaviours
- fear of social situations
- being afraid of things, such as spiders, flying or heights (phobias)

You do not need to have a diagnosed mental health problem to refer yourself to an NHS Talking Therapies service. Getting support as soon as you start having difficulties can help to reduce their impact. For those whose first language is not English, talking therapies can be delivered through multi-lingual therapists or through confidential interpreters, and in British Sign Language (BSL) through SignHealth's NHS Therapies for Deaf People service.

Your GP can refer you for NHS Talking Therapies, or you can refer yourself online at nhs.uk/talk.

West Mercia Police

Whilst the vast majority of us did the right thing in the run up to Christmas, local figures show some motorists across Herefordshire, Shropshire and Worcestershire were still willing to risk mixing drinking or being under the influence of drugs with driving.

Enforcing the drink and drug drive law is a year round commitment for us and takes place across the three counties 24/7 and will continue to do so throughout 2024 to make our roads safer.



During December we supported the national drink / drug drive campaign with the aim of cracking down on those motorists willing to risk mixing driving with having alcohol or drugs in their system. In total 278 people were arrested for drink or drug driving across the three counties throughout December.

PCC makes £600k available to tackle speeding on busy A-road.

More than half a million pounds to clamp down on speeding has been set aside by Police and Crime Commissioner John Campion. As part of the PCC's commitment to reduce harm on West Mercia's roads, set out in his Safer West Mercia Plan, a portion of the £600,000 will see average speed cameras installed along the A49.

A section of this A-road, from Leominster to Hereford (Dinmore), will benefit from fixed cameras in a bid to reduce speeding – a major contributory factor in around one third of all road traffic collisions.

Police and Crime Commissioner John Campion said: "I regularly speak to victims and their loved ones about the life-changing impact of collisions. As PCC, I am committed to playing my role to change the sad fact that too many people are seriously injured or killed on our roads. Through this funding, the A49 average speed camera scheme will help to reduce speeding and address concerns too often raised by motorists and local residents."

Withington Village Hall

Committee members:	Chair	Kevin Hewison	01432 850074
	Treasurer	Colin Hunt	01432 850740
	Booking Secretary	Nicki Powders	07840777046 wvh.bookings.hr1@gmail.com

A BIG THANK YOU to Catherine Lloyd who has been our minuting Secretary for 5 years and will shortly be moving to Pembrokeshire.

CAN YOU HELP US? We are an aging committee, and we will need new blood in the future to run the hall which is 25 years old this year (October). Could you offer us some time to help us in the future? IF SO, please come and join our committee and help us to run the hall for the benefit of the community. Good facilities need a good team to help them run efficiently.

INITIALLY we need someone to act as Minuting Secretary for our 4 meetings a year.

IN THE FUTURE WE WILL NEED NEW PEOPLE TO TAKE ON ALL THE ROLES AS ABOVE. WE ARE ALL VOLUNTEERS EXCEPT FOR THE CLEANER AND BOOKING SECRETARY WHO ARE PART-TIME PAID EMPLOYEES.

IF YOU CAN HELP PLEASE CONTACT ANY OF THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND/OR COME TO OUR AGM on Thursday 11th April 7.30 IN THE HALL.

Kevin Hewison Chair

Preston Wynne

Hello Everyone,

Everything here in Preston Wynne seems to be early this year, have to say it is a bit worrying as the snowdrops are beautiful, bulbs are coming up and daffies already in bud in sheltered spots, is the real winter round the corner waiting to pounce and go 'ha, Fooled ya!' ?

We can remember deep snow in March some years back, quite exciting but we were younger then, so, no thanks....

Church News

March Services

Saturday March 9th at 4.00 pm (Pizza ?) Service

Sunday March 24th 11.15 am HC

GOOD FRIDAY FUN WORKSHOP IN THE HALL 10.30 - 12.00 Lots of fun activities to do and crafty things to make for all ages.

Saturday 30th March EASTER EVE SERVICE 6.00 PM

April services

Saturday April 13th Pizza Service 4.00 pm

Sunday April 21st HC 11.15 am

The Burns Night Supper on 3rd February was great with over 70 attending. The piper, looking splendid, did a marvellous job piping in the haggis which we had sent down from Scotland, and Ralph duly did the biz with the symbolic splitting of one whilst reciting Burns Selkirk grace before we all tucked into an excellent three course meal including of course the neeps and tatties. A Scottish singsong rounded off the evening with Simon on the piano. Huge thanks to everyone who helped to make the evening such a success, and the church coffers are most appreciative!

100 Club Subs are now due for the inclusion of your number(s) in the first draw of 2024. Thank you to all those who have already paid up. The draw will take place at the Easter Eve Service.

Hall News.

A reminder: Pub/Curry Night on Saturday 24th February from 7.30 pm if this comes out in time. There will be a Beetle Drive, which promises to be fun.

ST PATRICK'S DAY SUPPER IN THE HALL SATURDAY 16TH MARCH 7.15 FOR 7.30 PM.

Early booking is essential please as numbers are limited, and also for catering purposes. Please phone Tricia on 820650. Thank you.

W.I. News.

The February meeting is a Steak and Bowls Evening at the Hickory Stick. The March meeting is a talk on Bespoke Handmade Soap Production given by Yvonne Robertson. April will be a talk on the City of London, its History and Traditions, given by Rod Barker.

A Date for your Diary: MAY 8TH WEDNESDAY AT 7.30 PM A TALK ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE – WHY IS IT DIFFERENT? GIVEN BY PROFESSOR MARK WHITCHURCH. WHO IS A LEADING EXPERT. This will be followed by refreshments (of course, this is W.I. after all)

That's about it for now,

Love Hilary and Tricia x

Westhide

News from Westhide

Christmas seems such a long time ago and I know lots of people were having to change plans last minute because of the numerous bugs. Despite this all the Christmas events were well attended and I guess about 60/70 people all told joined in.

Since then, we just seem to have been battling wind and rain. I think on the whole Westhide suffered little damage. The drainage work by Ashgrove has meant a significant improvement but there are still some issues that the Parish Council is trying to resolve.

The church has had its electrics upgraded and it's now officially safe. Some minor roof repairs have been done which will ensure its watertight for a while longer. The roof was last replaced in the late 1980's and is likely to need replacing in the next five years.

You'll have noticed that the church wall has been gradually subsiding and we have researched thoroughly how best to proceed. The Parochial Church Council has decided for the time being that the cost of repair can't be justified or achieved, but would like to move the fallen stones from the roadside to the back of the church – any offers of help would be appreciated.

Most of you will know that Robin Peers has been the Church Treasurer for the past 20 years or so. He has passed on this baton to Steve Scotcher and will be helping Steve understand how it all works. Enormous thanks to Robin for his sterling work over the years!

Looking ahead:

Thursday 14 March @ 12:30 pm: Lent Lunch at The Glebe. Funds raised will go to Medicins sans Frontiers. Come along have a soup lunch and make a donation. Or just donate!

Good Friday 29 March @ 2.00 pm: Good Friday service.

Saturday 30 March @ 10.00 am: Church decorating – all help/flowers appreciated.

Easter Sunday 31 March @ 11.00 am: Easter Communion.

Sunday 7 April @ 10.00 am: Family holy communion.

Saturday 20 April @ 10.00 am onwards: Church maintenance day, followed in the evening by Belfry Bar 7.00 – 9.00 pm.

Flower rota: please contact me if you are able and willing to help, even just the once. No expertise needed.

REMINDER - YOU CAN NOW READ THE MAGAZINE 'ONLINE'.

If you are unable to obtain paper copies of the magazine please go to the Group Parish Website to read it. You will find the magazine under the 'Newsletter' section <https://withingtongroupparishcouncil.gov.uk>

The Cart Shed Charity Spring Plant Fair 24th April 2024 10.30am – 4.00pm. BROXWOOD COURT, near Pembridge HR6 9JJ

A special day for gardeners! Discover beautiful, interesting and unusual plants. Meet producers of garden-related products and explore the stunning and rarely opened Broxwood Court garden and arboretum. Specialist horticultural talks from 1pm. Entrance £7.50 per person. Only assistance dogs are allowed in the gardens. All proceeds to The Cart Shed Charity,

www.thecartshed.co.uk Registered Charity no 1167802. Tel: 01544 318 231

Reader's Corner

Hello readers my name is **Wilbur Withington**. I am a bear and I want to introduce you to some famous bears. Then try and find them in the word search. Good luck.

Happy is a record-breaking, expensive Steiff bear which fetched £55,000 at Sotheby's.

Gatti is a bear that survived Titanic sinking 1912 and WWII air raids 1939-45

Mr Whoppit was owned by land speed/water speed record holder Donald Campbell

Hamley's bear is sold in what is still the world's oldest and biggest toy store.

Paddington first appeared in 1958 as an illustration in the children's book.

Rupert first appeared in the Daily Express 1920 in cartoon form. Creator Mary Tourtel.

Bo is considered the consummate teddy bear for appearance Steiff 1905

Coronation bear was made to commemorate Queen Elizabeth II Coronation in 1953

Alfonzo-unusual red coloured bear (1908 Steiff) commission by Grand Duke of Russia for Princess Xenia his daughter. She took it to UK with her in 1914 and never returned to her homeland.

Schuco designed bear had a head that could nod and rotate by operating the tail. It was known as the YES/NO bear

Can you find 10 famous Bears on the grid below?

C	N	H	A	M	L	E	Y	S	A
R	O	R	A	T	C	A	T	E	P
S	Z	R	U	P	E	R	T	U	A
C	O	D	O	Q	P	I	L	I	D
H	A	M	L	N	P	Y	X	E	I
U	B	B	F	P	A	N	T	O	N
C	E	R	O	N	I	T	T	A	G
O	A	H	B	L	E	A	I	M	T
Z	W	A	L	F	O	N	Z	O	O
MR	A	L	A	N	O	I	T	A	N



Quiz submitted by a Reader of the Magazine.

Contact Details

Byworth Trust Clerk:	Tim Dutton	07730652209
Police:	Safer Neighbourhood Team PC Josh Kitchen	07773053436
St. Peters Church:	Rector Rev'd Tiffany Jackson	07871222793
	Church Warden Kevin Hewison	850074
	Bell Ringing Kevin Hewison	850074
	Secretary June Wynter	851677
Village Hall:	Chairman Kevin Hewison	850074
	Booking Secretary Nicki Powders	07840777046
WG Parish Council:	Clerk Sophie Glover	617306
	Chairman Kevin Hewison	850074
	Vice-Chair Judith Howe	850117
Whitestone Chapel	Ian Porter	01981 540388
Withington Book Club	Susan Patmore	851710
Withington Post Office:		850356
Withington Primary School:	Sarah Houchen	850289
Withington Parish Magazine:	Editor Margaret Thompson	850182

We Are Farming Minds



We are Farming Minds registered charity has been set up by farmers for farmers to tackle mental health in the farming community within Herefordshire.

How can we help?

24 Hour Support Line:

We run a FREE 24 hour Support Line 7 days a week for farmers and their families within Herefordshire who are feeling distressed and need someone to talk to anonymously.

Counselling:

We provide fully funded counselling to anyone in the Herefordshire farming community who may be in emotional distress.

Training:

We offer FREE mental health awareness training to anyone living or working in or with the farming community in Herefordshire.

Social Events:

We run a series of FREE social events throughout the year to break the isolation often felt by the farming community in Herefordshire.

Befriending:

Befriending volunteers offer companionship and support to people who are isolated and lonely – they may visit you at home and/or phone for a regular chat. A befriender can offer conversation and a listening ear to those that need it.

Call our Support Line:

0808 802 0070

Or text:

07786 203 130

General enquiries: wearefarmingminds@gmail.com

www.wearefarmingminds.co.uk



'Taking the bull by the horns'
to tackle Mental Health in
the farming community

Registered charity number: 1292461

WeAreFarmingMinds

Our next FREE Mental Health Awareness Workshop will be on Wednesday March 13th at Services for Independent Living, Leominster Enterprise Park, 1 Owen Way, Leominster HR6 0LA.

This workshop is open to anyone living or working in/with the farming community in Herefordshire.

You can choose from either a morning session or afternoon:

Morning session - 9.30am to 12.30pm

Afternoon session - 1.30pm to 4.30pm

Booking is essential - please email wafmassist@gmail.com and let us know if you would prefer a morning or afternoon session.

When you book, please also let us know if you have any accessibility requirements or if you need any accessible course material.

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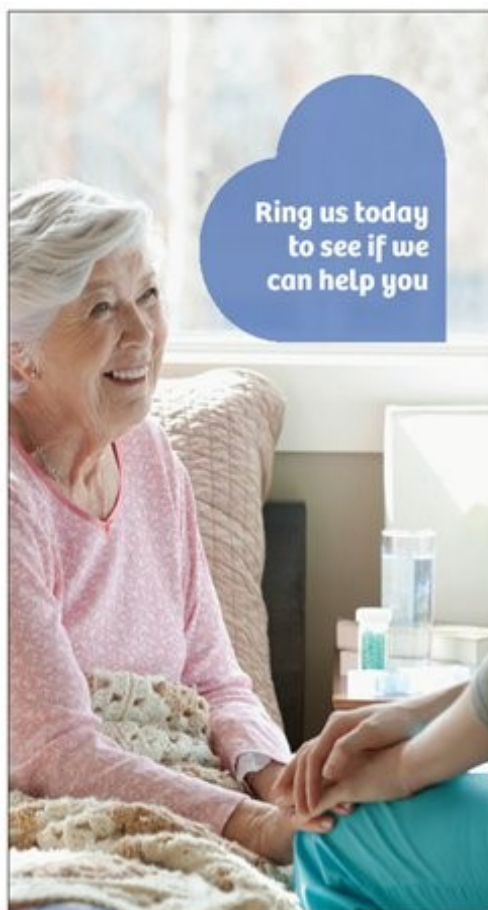
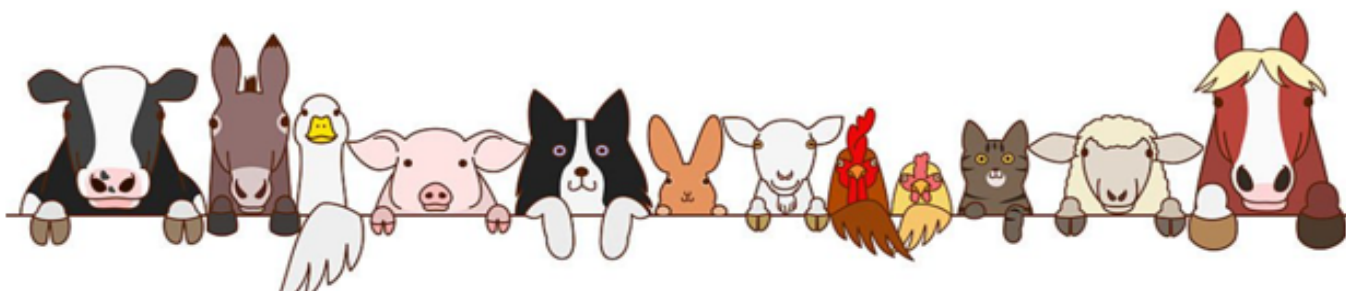
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