

News and Notes

For Bodenham, Britford, Charlton All Saints, Nunton and Odstock

May 2025

From the Editors

We are beginning to get used to our new editorship role and for the first time in 6 years at this stage in the monthly timetable of N&N, Jeremy (our consultant editor) has gone away on a well-deserved holiday. This will explain all sorts of amateur formatting as Nick and I are not in any way as skilled as he is. Life-long learning etc to the fore and all thanks to Jeremy for his longstanding tireless input into so many aspects of our village life. To help us, please continue to send us your announcements and contributions so we can share them with the community and celebrate all that is going on round here...

Whilst looking ahead to improving our IT skills and to future fun and frolics at events like Ebblefest (July 5th – take note!) we have also taken a retrospective look this month at a well-known local landmark, to try better to understand why and how on Earth it got here. We share the observations of a reader joining the Cathedral Sleep Out. There's another in our 'Use it or Lose it' series, which addresses something we certainly don't want to lose- one of the best medicines known to Mankind. And more rich reflections on life and the culinary from our regular columnist Martin Simcock. We hope something catches your interest!

Editors: Liz & Nick Stanger

Email: editor@newsandnotes.co.uk

Next Deadline: 14 May for June 2025 edition.

BLISTER PACK COLLECTION NEWS

We collected 2000 blister packs last time, nearly twice as many as in previous collections! *The next collections are on Monday 16th June as follows:*

Britford, Notice Board by Church 0915 - 0945

Bodenham, Old Post Office 1000 - 1030

Charlton All Saints, by Post Box 1045 - 1115

Odstock, Church Car Park 1130 - 1230

Please put the date in your diary, ask your neighbours to collect their blister packs and give them to you with £1 for every 50 packs if they cannot come themselves.

There is also a collection in Salisbury Market Place 10am – 1pm on May 12th. All our collections are posted on www.spurt.uk to which you can refer at any time.

News from the Pews

Odstock Nunton and Bodenham

April has been a busy month which sort of started in March with our glorious Lent Pilgrimage through the Chalke Valley ending at the Cathedral in time for Evensong on 29th March. Several people (and one dog) completed the whole 40km over two days joined by many for shorter distances. Our Lent Study Group on Monday afternoons looked at familiar as well as rarely noticed 'Leaders' in the Bible and how we might learn from them. Maggie kindly stood in for Ruth (who was poorly) for our Palm Sunday service and was also involved with our Christian Seder meal on Maundy Thursday, remembering the Passover meal of the Last Supper. On Good Friday morning we held our creative telling of the Easter story for children in the Barker Room – Hot Cross Buns to Easter Eggs – and in the afternoon our Passion Devotions were held in St Mary's. Finally, a wonderful Easter Sunday celebration with Communion (and Easter Eggs, of course) at St Andrew's. Thank you to all who have contributed to our Lent Appeal – we will soon know the total raised and hope that it will be sufficient to complete the school building in Cueibet.

Looking forward to May, we will be holding our Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 7th May at 6.30pm in the Barker Room. On 11th May there will be a Benefice communion to mark the retirement of Revd Jenny Taylor at Bishopstone. Other Church services during the month are shown on the back page. Finally, CreativiTea this month will be held on 15th May in the Barker Room – we hope to see you there.

Stephanie Elcock and Mary Boydcamps, Churchwardens

Charlton All Saints

Local artist Geraldine Rutter has drawn a set of beautiful pen and ink images of our four churches and kindly donated the use of these to each church. Another generous resident has paid for them to be printed as postcards- those of St Peter's, Britford, and All Saints', Charlton, are now available to purchase in these churches, for 50p each, with the proceeds going to church funds. Postcards for Odstock and Nunton will be available soon. We are very grateful to these kind parishioners.

In April, Charlton had its first Palm Sunday Procession, led by Zebedee the donkey (by kind permission of Howard and Megan Taylor) and the Revd Maggie Metcalfe. Villagers walked the length of Lower Road, waving palms and Singing Hosannah. This was followed by a short and informal service of songs and readings in All Saints', which was enjoyed by those aged 2 to 92!

On 25 May, we have our Annual Parish Meetings in All Saints' Church, directly following the 9.30am Communion service. All residents are welcome to attend – those on the Church Electoral Roll have a vote in decisions made on the future of our parish Church and its officers. If you would like to sign up for the Electoral Roll, there are forms at the back of our Church or please contact Liz Oakes.

In the afternoon of 25 May from 2-4pm, we will have a Plant Swap in All Saints' Church. Bring along your spare plants and seedlings and swap them. Tea, coffee and cake will be available. All welcome.

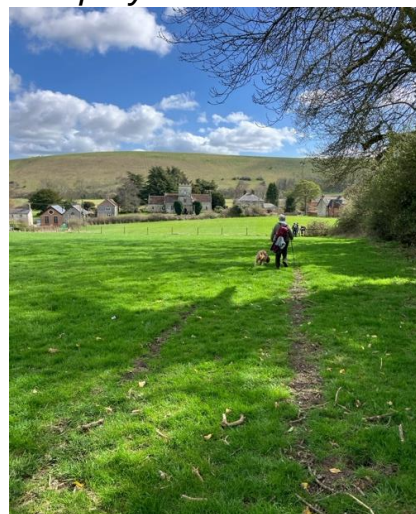
Clare Penny, Churchwarden

Chalke Valley Pilgrimage 28th/29th March

I've always wondered what it would be like to do a Pilgrimage so when Revd Ruth suggested a Pilgrimage through the Chalke Valley Benefice, I was keen to give it a go. So on Friday 29th March, a small group of us gathered at Coombe Bissett to catch the 29 bus to Berwick St John. From there we walked in beautiful countryside to Alvediston where we were met with refreshments and joined by more walkers. Then on to Ebbesbourne Wake, & Bowerchalke and more delicious refreshments at each church. At Bowerchalke our numbers of both walkers and dogs increased and we had the option to go straight to Broad Chalke or to visit the beautiful little church at Fifield Bavant before walking along the Ebble, admiring the watercress beds, to Broad Chalke. There some of our group left and a few of us continued footpaths near the Ebble to walk (slowly!) on to Bishopstone in perfect walking weather although our limbs were not such perfect walking machines. With a last push we made it to Coombe Bissett and were grateful to return to our homes for the night. – Oh the joy of a hot bath and a glass of something red!!

The following morning we met back at Coombe Bissett to continue our Pilgrimage to the Cathedral but with the aim of visiting all the churches of the Benefice. Another perfect day for walking and talking; and much of the talk was “When we do this next year...” so we may look to make it an annual event. We walked to Homington over Homington Down and alongside the Ebble to Odstock. Now we were in ‘suburbia’ with roads and pavements to Nunton, up to the Dairy and a short distance along the Avon Valley Footpath to Charlton All Saints. More joined us for the final push through Bodenham to Britford (sadly along the main road for a short way – the only downside of the whole walk) and eventually arrived at the Cathedral in time for a cup of tea before Evensong.

I'm still not that sure what it is like to do a Pilgrimage but I do know that a long walk (44kms in total) in beautiful countryside with fair weather and good company is uplifting for the senses, the spirit and certainly great exercise. Maybe I'll see some of you next year? *Steph Elcock and Ruth Howlett-Shipley*



Focus on Food: letter from West Wales

We live in a collection of tiny communities here on the West coast of Wales, with only a mile or two dividing them, sometimes only a few hundred yards and I'm not joking. And it reminds me of the communities back in Salisbury where it was often joked that you needed a passport to get into the top end of the Chalke valley and rivalry between the five villages was rife back in the 80's. Sometimes I'm at a loss to describe what constitutes a community. Shared values, ethics, morals, so the church would be a community, and the WI - villages are often described as communities, but I've always found them quite diverse.

The Radnor's always been a focal point for the community, with Louise working hard to bring people together. Here in Cilgwyn, we have the Bluestone Brewery, with Kerry and Simon Silson, for a gathering place for the locals in their community to gather on a regular basis. And they are a diverse bunch, some of whom literally come out of the woods on a Friday night, where they live in eco dwellings, self-built roundhouses, turf rooves, solar powered with lavatorial long drops secreted amongst the exotic crops they cultivate off grid in the Gwaun valley, an historic, temperate rain forest which runs from the Preseli's to the mouth of the river Gwaun.

Food wise, things here start to get going on a Thursday as the different markets open in different places. I pile into Fishguard market in the Town Hall at 9am heading for the wet fish counter selling fresh fish shipped in from Milford Haven. I've a shopping list from nearly a dozen friends in the Gwaun and Newport who can't stomach the massive price hike at the fish counter five miles up the road, so I'm supplying sea bass for £25 a kilo as opposed to £45 a kilo. That's what I like about communities, they work together. I can also get scallops, prawns, Cod, Coley, Haddock, Salmon and skate. I asked for Gurnard, my favourite fish, which appears to be a rare find these days, now it's established itself as a 'restaurant fish'. Yet it's sold for next to nothing locally: pot bait for crabs and lobsters.

The pheasants hanging outside the butcher in Newport have disappeared to be replaced by fresh rabbits in their fur, gutted and ready to be skinned and butchered, before the hares appear a bit later on. A great delicacy in the local butchers around here is dry cured Welsh bacon, salt and air cured pork belly. Buy it in 250 gm blocks, slice it, bake low and slow in a warm oven until it's crisp and golden. Let it cool, break it up then blitz it to a fine dust and you end up with a flavoursome bacon-flavoured salt for seasoning soups, sauces and salad dressings.

Glebelands, the organic market garden twenty minutes away up at St Dogmaels, opens Thursday through Sunday and offers way the best home-grown vegetables and salad west of Wiltshire's Kensions Farm. The local outdoor market there is also the best place to grab an utterly delicious range of Welsh cheeses, but irritatingly that's open on Tuesday only! - although there's the added draw of Cardigan Bay crab and lobster from Mandy and Len for a midweek linguine.

Martin Simcock

Backwards in Time

Clearbury: 145million years in 518 words

It's difficult to get your head round the enormous number of years covered by geological time: hundreds of millions. The hill we walk over at Clearbury- excellent exercise as you strive to keep fit and shrug off a few months of your chronological age- was slowly formed from countless layers of algae on the bed of a warm shallow sea close to the equator, over the 80million years between 65 and 145 million years ago, the Cretaceous (which just means chalk in Latin). Then that chalk layer was equally slowly lifted up and moved around by tectonic forces into its current position: rolling hills of downland, eroded by wind and rain. And what a stunningly beautiful landscape it is.

The rings came much more recently, during Iron Age times. Originally the banks were even taller and the ditches deeper than now. Even so, they have survived in spectacular fashion. The Iron Age round here started only about 2,500 years ago, around 600BC, which is no time at all in geological terms but is still a lot of years to understand- although only around the same as my 35 years in Nunton, seventy times over. A rather odd thought.

Extracting iron from its ore needs higher temperatures than making bronze from copper and tin ores. Iron Age people in South East Europe somehow discovered how to identify rocks containing iron-ore, and the technology needed to smelt it, and realised that iron makes harder, tougher weapons and tools than bronze. It took centuries for the skills to percolate here to Britain- so our Iron Age times started 600 years later here. Eventually though, those Ancient Britons who cottoned on became better equipped to cultivate land and survive onslaughts from hostile tribes. They could now dig out bigger, better rings on hill tops with these iron tools, more easily anyway than with reindeer antlers or bronze-- and they wanted to, for reasons that aren't at all clear.

Archaeologists first believed them to be defensive places to live, or retreat to in times of danger - hence the term hillforts: it's easy to see that they could readily be defended. But current thinking is that they might just have been tribal boundary markers and enclosures for livestock, or even status symbols. In fact, the area around Dorset and South Wiltshire abounds with them: Figsbury, Grovelly, Badbury, Old Sarum to name a few, possibly even all part of an organised system. Some like Old Sarum were serially redeveloped, adapting ever onwards with more modern iterations, firstly extra rings, then a Motte and Bailey castle, and then an enclosed town.

There are great views to be had from these wonderfully enigmatic, elevated places. But there's also a sense of mystery around them, taking you 2,500 years back in time to when those wool-clad peoples may have sat resting from their incredible labours in the very same spot as you. And if you haven't ever walked up onto Clearbury on a bright clear morning, give it a go, it really is one of the best walks around. See you there!

Salisbury Cathedral- The Big Sleep

I was aware it was going to be a cold night and would be 2°C by morning so was prepared for the worst, with 2 sets of thick tights and thermal tops. I took my camp bed as I knew the cold would mostly come through the floor. I was going to master this! A cold breeze was already whispering around the cloisters in greeting as we arrived. I walked around the square of the cloisters, surprisingly already half-reserved for schools, large open sandstone arches framing the small green.

I find a spot well sheltered from the breeze but unfortunately not far from the toilets, which were busy all night as I later discovered. As I get myself a tea and a few biscuits the place starts to fill up. Sleeping bags and bedding contraptions line up in a colourful scarf around the lawn.

Willing volunteers manned the tea and coffee station all through the night- no bed for them, just a chair and ample layers, God bless them! I chat with a few people, some volunteers for Alabaré and some currently in the system. I was told that 160 people were here, of all ages, the oldest a lady of 85 Sheila Warrander who has come every year since she started it. Last year £12m was raised. This helps to support 80 mostly 5-bedroomed properties & budgeting & lifeskills learning, often for veterans or people with mental health issues or learning disabilities. The aim is to help them move on to permanent housing &/or to reconnect with families.

I settled down early, not bothered by the chatter as my wax earplugs would sort that out (thank you Anna Joynt). I was not cold but aware my 2 pairs of tights were now making my toes curl upwards like Aladdin's slippers. At 1am I'm woken by a strange, disturbing noise, like the guttural cry of a mating male walrus. I realise my neighbour has an issue with snoring! I drop my tin canteen which has the desired effect and I get some reprieve. But then I need a toilet visit, and a warm cuppa. As I retreat into my cocoon again, my nose is freezing and I try to ignore my toes screaming to be released from the strain of my thick tights. Very soon they are emulating a medieval torture device. I think of asking one of the night bees to cut the tights off, but after my foot dips out to the cold, I decide instead to take them off under my duvet, pupating like a moth until they're shed. What a joy!

The walrus & canteen refrain repeats every hour and a half: thankfully morning arrives at last. I'm grumpy, cold and hardly slept, & I say so as I get my morning tea. The lovely lady next to me looks at me. "You were behind a locked door, safe with like-minded people, you had toilets, tea and food whenever you wanted, & when you left your stuff no one stole it. And in 20 minutes you're getting a free MacDonald's delivered". I burst out crying. This was just one night for me, but every day starts bad and ends bad for the homeless. It's only thanks to Alabaré they have some hope.

As I leave, the frost glitters with a thousand diamonds and I thank the Lord my God for all I have. I'm rich in many ways, richer than I think. Humble pie is bitter and sweet. I know, I had a huge slice of it. *Tracy White*

Odstock, Nunton and Bodenham W.I.

After nearly 2 weeks of beautiful spring weather, the April Meeting was held on a very chilly morning.

The meeting was opened, and reminders were given about the monthly groups. Pins and Needles, the two Book Clubs, The Lunch club, and the Walking Group. Members were also informed about upcoming events during the summer, the Summer Outing, the Summer Party, and EbbleFest where the W.I will have a cake stall and will help with the teas.

On March 31st which is the 5th Monday event, several members had a trip to Warminster to visit the "Dents" Glove making factory. There was an interesting talk, a visit to their museum, and a chance to buy in the shop at a reduced cost. There was also a delicious lunch on the way home.

After the coffee break and a chance for the members to buy books from the book stall the members were given an interesting and amusing talk by Deborah Cottingham about "Bee Keeping". Although Deborah is bee-keeper herself and has several hives and collects and sells her honey, she is also involved in the collection of swarms and relocating them in the Verwood area. The rest of her talk was about the way the bees prepare to leave the old nest and swarm with the new Queen and set up a new home in a different area.

The next meeting will be on May 12th which will be the AGM.

Carole Stratton

Flower of the Month

It's Lily of the Valley of course, for May, just 6-9 inches tall and possibly my favourite flower of the whole year with its gorgeous delicate off-white bell-shaped flowers and wide oval leaves. Best of all, the flowers have the most wonderful scent. The flower spikes grow back reliably every year from the roots without any bother- & quite splendidly seem to rather like our local chalky, flinty soil and some partial shade. Very good behaviour!! I'm not the only one who likes it. Dior himself loved it; he always wore a sprig in his button-hole and stitched the flowers into the hems of his fabulous gowns. Diorissimo perfume is based on its scent. The flowers featured prominently in the bridal bouquets of Catherine Middleton and of Princess Grace of Monaco and were apparently also the favourite of our late Queen Elizabeth II.

The French love it too- 'La Fete du Muguet' is a special celebration and national holiday on May 1st, when bunches of the flowers are given as charms for love and prosperity- over 60million sprigs are sold each year when people gift them to their loved ones. 'Les Muguets' and Labour Day have become interlaced, so the flowers are now a symbol of solidarity and good luck amongst workers too.

Use it or Lose it

Life (part 1)

A friend of mine and I were planning a holiday. We were reaching the stage where we realised our days for holidays might not be endless and were considering our options. "I want to feel alive", said my friend. "I want to do something that makes me feel alive".

I knew exactly what she meant. We have both been through life-threatening illnesses, so neither of us was taking our existence for granted. It was more that we both felt the need to grasp life by the throat and look it in the face and feel its hot breath on us. "What like?" I asked.

We were both sitting on our separate comfortable sofas in our comfortable houses, conversing over speakerphone, with a glass of wine in front of us, and pondered how we might 'feel alive'.

"There's a place in Transylvania where you stay in an isolated castle with wolves howling outside" she suggested. I replied that that idea didn't appeal over much. I had once stayed in African lodges where all manner of things that groaned and roared and chattered outside had kept me feeling not just alive, but rather temporarily so.

I hadn't seen the next one coming: "I don't really fancy bull-running" she said. "Bull-running?" I replied, incredulous. "You don't fancy bull-running?". Suddenly hilarity overcame me – the thought of two portly, well actually slightly tubby, ladies running through the winding streets of Pamplona, one of them with a revised hip implant, was more than I could bear. My friend wears flowing garments and has long curly hair. I saw her rushing, arms outspread in ecstasy, like some dionysiac priestess, the long cardi and the pre-raphaelite hair floating out behind whilst I hobbled at speed, as best I could and a herd of angry young bulls (the bovine kind) in hot pursuit. "Well, it might make you feel alive", I said, "but not for long."

We both fell to pondering again. "Does it have to be in Europe?", she asked. I replied that I preferred to fly from Bournemouth. It's so handy and a friend might give us a lift. Her silence suggested that this was not the kind of thrilling start she might have anticipated. It was late by now, and we decided to sleep on it. The night was full of dreams: train rides on the Himalayan Queen, clanking past vertiginous drops; Bollywood dancing in Mumbai with the full cast of Slumdog Millionaire behind us; falling backwards from a dinghy, air tanks strapped to our backs, into a black sea. The bubbles, the darkness, the cold. I woke up to find the duvet had slipped off and everything seemed to hurt. I got out of bed and rubbed some ibuprofen gel onto my aching shoulders and neck.

But as I lay waiting for it to kick in, I thought again of my friend and I hurtling through the streets of Pamplona, two unlikely older ladies, needing to feel alive, and started to laugh out loud. Laughing, now that makes me feel alive. *Anon*

EBBLEFEST 2025

SATURDAY 5TH JULY

2PM - 11PM

NUNTON FIELD

Save the date, reserve some energy and pack some pocket money. (And maybe a cardigan!)

Bursting with family fun & games, Grand Prize draw, stalls, bouncy castle, face painting, tractor rides, and much more, the Fête promises you a merry afternoon out. As always, delicious offerings from hot food stalls await you and this year sees the return of a good old-fashioned tea tent with freshly baked cakes and goodies. Bring your appetite!

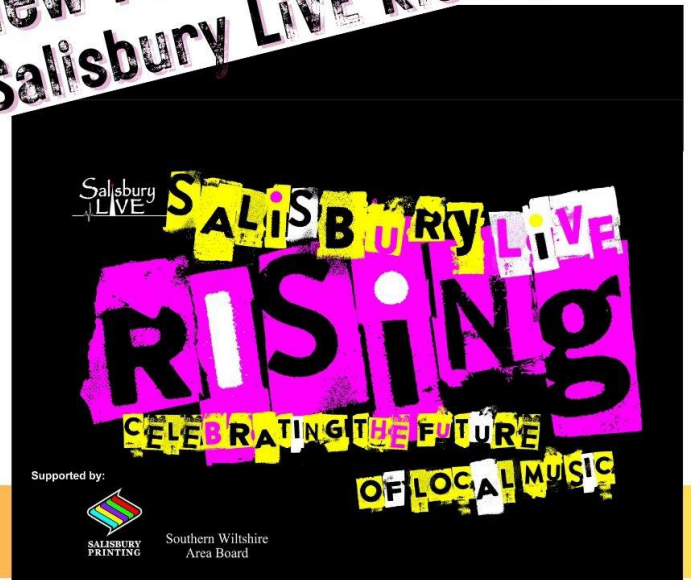
Let the live music accompany your afternoon mooch. As the stalls pack away, usher children into the marquee to use up sugar excess at the hugely popular kids disco.

From 6pm live music takes centre stage. New to EbbbleFest is SALISBURY LIVE RISING (6-8pm) featuring rising talent from the local area - in years to come, you'll be saying "I saw them first at EbbbleFest!"

Topping-off the night, 'Hells Bells, They've Got Rhythm', Break Cover return to headline with some classic rock covers and a little AC/DC 'Rock n Roll Damnation' magic.

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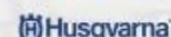
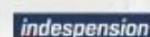
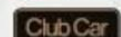


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PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

So what has the Parish Council done for you? We work on behalf of our community to help look after our wonderful little piece of Wiltshire.

ROADS The area between the crossroads in Odstock and the parish boundary towards the Hospital has been repaired in areas where the surface had degraded. It may seem like these repairs are incomplete, but this is part of the process that best ensures a lasting, hard wearing road surface, & the next phase should be completed soon. Please continue to report potholes and other issues (like litter) to Wiltshire Council, using the council's website link (wiltshire.gov.uk/report.htm); the 'MyWiltshire' mobile phone app; or ring Wiltshire Council on 0300 456 0105 (their least preferred option).

PARISH STEWARD This service is funded by the Wiltshire Council but is directed by the Parish Council, to maintain and improve facilities such as drainage, pathways and small repairs. Please make us aware of any of these issues.

CRIME Sadly there have been several incidents of 'petty' crime within the three villages- never petty however, to its victims. Please stay vigilant and report crime through the community Policing system via 999 or 101. The Parish Council receive regular updates from our local community officer, PC Evans who asks everyone to be diligent in securing property and valuables to remove temptation and best protect your possessions.

DEFIBRILLATOR UPDATE. The village defibs outside the Yew Tree and the Radnor pubs have been required as a precaution several times over the past few months, although fortunately were not actually "fired". They are checked and updated once a use has been reported.

ROAD NAMING The last (for now) of the village road naming is nearing completion with the top lane to the A338 from Nunton Church, and the lane joining it from the church and vicarage, the latest to be considered. There's been much research including the use of historic maps, and full consultation with residents.

NUNTON PLAYING FIELD We've been very lucky to receive a grant from the Salisbury Gospel Hall Trust. Funds donated by their congregation of Plymouth Brethren that exceed their own maintenance needs are generously offered to local communities. We plan to use it for renewal of playground equipment on the field. We extend our very warmest thanks to Mr Steedman and his congregation. Nunton playing field continues to host enthusiastic budding young footballers, as many of you are aware. It's wonderful to see these boys and girls getting active and having fun outdoors, away from screens - with dedicated organisers from the Downton Football Club Youth division. We are aware however aware of recent inconvenience experienced by some residents and concerns for safety due to problem parking, especially when travelling clubs visit for matches. In conjunction with the Parish Council, the club has taken steps to address this. If you do have ongoing concerns then please let us know - we very much wish to be able to continue to support children's activity, safely.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Frittata for one: Seasonal asparagus and new potatoes in an omelette of eggy deliciousness.

Boil a handful of new potatoes cut into mouth-size chunks. When they are very nearly cooked, add some chopped asparagus just for the last minute. Remove from the heat and drain.

Beat 2 eggs with some seasoning and add a grating of cheese.

Fry an onion in an oven-proof frying pan and when it is soft and translucent, add the egg and cheese mixture, then the potato and asparagus and finally a further grating of cheese to thinly cover the mixture,

Place under a hot grill for about 5 mins until golden.

Cut into slices if desired and serve with salad,

Scale up the recipe if desired, for more hungry mouths! Bon Appetit!

A Poem for May

What is this life if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare?
No time to stand beneath the boughs
And stare as long as sheep or cows.

No time to see, when woods we pass,
Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass.
No time to see, in broad daylight,
Streams full of stars, like skies at night.

No time to turn at Beauty's glance
And watch her feet, how they can dance.
No time to wait till her mouth can
Enrich that smile her eyes began.

A poor life this is if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare.

WH Davies 1871-1940. He was a Welsh-born poet spending much of his life as a tramp travelling on the open road.



Services in Chalke Valley Benefice – May 2025

BCP = Book of Common Prayer (Traditional Language), CW = Common Worship (Contemporary language)



4 May 3rd Sunday of Easter	9.30am 9.30am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 11.00am	Family Communion (CW) Parish Communion (CW) Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Prayer (BCP) Parish Communion (CW) Family Service	Broad Chalke Britford Berwick St John Ebbesbourne Wake Coombe Bissett Odstock	Maggie Metcalfe Jenny Taylor Alison Waterhouse Biddy Trahair Jenny Taylor Adrian Taylor
11 May 4th Sunday of Easter	10.30am	Benefice Communion to mark the retirement of the Revd Canon Jenny Tayor	Bishopstone	Jenny Taylor Archdeacon of Sarum
18 May 5th Sunday of Easter	9.30am 9.30am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion (CW) Parish Communion (CW) Family Communion (CW) Parish Communion (CW) Parish Communion (CW)	Bowerchalke Bishopstone Odstock Ebbesbourne Wake Coombe Bissett Berwick St John	Kate Woolven Tony Monds Maggie Metcalfe Kate Woolven Maggie Metcalfe Tony Monds
25 May 6th Sunday of Easter	9.30am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 11.00am 11.00am 6.00pm	Parish Communion (CW) Parish Communion (CW) Family Service Parish Communion (CW) Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Prayer (BCP) Evening Prayer (BCP)	Charlton All Saints Broad Chalke Nunton Bishopstone Alvediston Berwick St John Homington	Ruth H-S Kate Woolven Adrian Taylor Ruth H-S Kate Woolven Lay Led Rhoddy Voremberg
29 May ASCENSION DAY	12 Noon	Benefice Communion (CW)	Fifield Bavant	Ruth H-S
1 June Sunday after Ascension	9.30am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 11.00am 11.00am 11.00am	Family Communion (CW) Parish Communion (CW) Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Prayer (BCP) Parish Communion (CW) Family Service Morning Service	Broad Chalke Britford Berwick St John Ebbesbourne Wake Coombe Bissett Odstock Bishopstone	Alison Waterhouse Ruth H-S Alison Waterhouse Biddy Trahair Ruth H-S Adrian Taylor Sally Leaver

Ministry Team: Team Rector ~ The Revd Dr Ruth Howlett-Shipley: 01722 697022
Team Vicars ~ The Revd Canon Jenny Taylor: 01722 503081, The Revd Alison Waterhouse: 07904 034221
Associate Priests ~ The Revd Maggie Metcalfe: 01722 325825, The Revd Kate Woolven: 07754 582395
Team Administrator ~ Mrs Emily Broomhead: 07890 262376

Assisting Clergy: *The Revd Canon Anthony Hawley: 01794 390607, The Revd Canon Tony Monds: 07808 614597*

Lay Worship Leaders: Angela Bridges: 01747 828383, Yvonne & Kevin Follett: 01747 828785, Caroline Lamb: 01722 780789, Sally Leaver: 01722 780447, Don Morgan: 01722 718557, Adrian Taylor: 01722 325862, Janet Roe: 01725 519242,
Biddy Trahair: 01722 780666, Rhoddy Voremberg: 07785 304142, James Wardroper: 01722 718152

e-News and Notes

For Bodenham, Britford, Charlton All Saints, Nunton and Odstock

May 2025

**A round up of local news and
events in the Salisbury area**

Read on....

Downton Cuckoo Fair will be held on 3rd May 2025!



We are excited and pleased to confirm that we continue to plan in earnest for the next Downton Cuckoo Fair taking place on Saturday 3rd May 2025! (Weather permitting).

The largest free, non-profit event in Wiltshire, helping local community organisations including schools, churches, clubs, and charities raise significant funds, we are looking forward to welcoming everyone back this year.

The Cuckoo Fair are delighted to thank Toomers Ltd for their very generous sponsorship for the 2025 Fair, along with Batt Broadbent Solicitors who have kindly sponsored our Day Leaflet.

If you think you can help the fair in any way, or with sponsorship, please do contact us, we would be delighted to hear from you!

Downton Cuckoo Fair now sees almost 20,000 visitors to the village on fair day, and has raised over £1 million for local groups in the last 40 years, continues to be run by a team entirely made up of volunteers who organise and manage it for the benefit of local groups and organizations so they can raise vital funds.

If you'd like more information on joining our team, or can offer even a few hours of your time to help us (with the prospect of a delicious free cooked breakfast for volunteers on Fair day!), please contact chair@cuckoofair.co.uk

Janet McGee from St Laurence' Church says "...the Church Larder at the Memorial Hall is a regular feature with people returning year after year to meet friends and enjoy the companionship our congregation offer.

Home-cooked cakes and cookies are enjoyed with morning coffee, a selection of home-made salads and savouries at lunchtime, and cakes or cream teas in the afternoon!

The nett proceeds raised at The Cuckoo Fair help us run our beautiful and ancient church, and is one of the most significant fundraising events undertaken annually to raise funds to help keep our wonderful building open for all the village to use and enjoy."

We would be happy to hear from any further people who may be pre-pared to share what the Cuckoo Fair means to their organisation. Please contact comms@cuckoofair.co.uk

For all the latest information on the Fair check out our website www.cuckoofair.co.uk and our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/DowntonCuckooFair/>

Let's hope that the weather is kind so another great day can be had by all!

Learn to **LOVE** your technology

Join us for a cuppa,
cake and support with
your gadget



Wednesday 7 May 2025
10.00am - 12.00pm

(45-60 minute sessions available)

Redlynch Village Hall, Lover, SP5 2PG



Join us for one to one support for
what YOU need



Free of charge - bring your phone,
laptop or tablet



Refreshments provided

*Book!
Now!*

Contact Karlene Jammeh:
01722 434437



Wiltshire Council

St Mawes, Cornwall our lovely house by the sea

SPECIAL OFFER
for News and Notes readers only!



It's a top scoring, "Guest Favourite" gold cup winner on Airbnb with an "Unbeatable Location" (house given full 5 stars by guests).

Sleeps 6 in well-designed, versatile, completely refurbished accommodation. Parking for 2 cars (rarity). And really fabulous views....

All the details can be found on [Airbnb.com](https://www.airbnb.com). Just enter: **Fresh, bright house w. fab views, 4 mins to Quay** into Google and then read details carefully to make sure it is right for you, our click [HERE](#).

OFFERS for all bookings through Airbnb for News and Notes Readers:
for 3 and 4 night stays - £60 voucher for the local deli (DELICIOUS)
for 5 nights plus – A further £100 cash back as well as above.

Also, use of our inflatable kayak and paddle board

Any questions, and to let us know if you are claiming the offer:
Text 07796 333 986

Salisbury to commemorate VE80

Thursday 8th May at 1730 hrs

Members of the public are invited to join the Royal British Legion and Salisbury City Council on **Thursday 8th May at 1730 hrs** on the Guildhall Square, in commemorating the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War in Europe, known as Victory in Europe Day (VE Day).

The Salisbury Band of the Royal British Legion will provide music from 1730 hrs and the Town Crier will deliver the VE80 Proclamation at Salisbury's War Memorial at 1800 hrs. A short Act of Remembrance will then follow.

The short service will provide an opportunity for everyone to pause for a moment and reflect on the many millions of people who died during this conflict, as well as pay tribute to those who fought and died for the freedom we all enjoy today.

The bells of St Thomas' church will ring out afterwards, joining other churches and cathedrals in celebration of the end of this terrible conflict in Europe.

Save The Date

Join Salisbury City Council in showing support for our Armed Forces this June

**Sunday 22 June
at Salisbury Market Place and Guildhall Square**

Salisbury City Council's annual Armed Forces Day event is returning this June, a fantastic community event to honour and celebrate the brave members of our Armed Forces, past and present, who have dedicated their lives to the service of our country.

The event will take place on **Sunday 22 June at Salisbury Market Place and Guildhall Square**, from 10am to 4pm. There will be lots of activities for all the family to enjoy, including free workshops, military displays and army charity stalls, as well as street food and live music throughout the day.

Enjoy a day of entertainment while showing your support for the Armed Forces and its community.



Salisbury News



COMEDY Night

Featuring:

Ben Norris

Mike Gunn

Dane Baptiste



Friday 27th June 2025

8pm — 9.45pm

Salisbury Guildhall



Scan the QR
code for more
details & to
secure your
tickets now!

salisburyguildhall.co.uk

[@salisburyguildhall](https://twitter.com/salisburyguildhall)

Salisbury News

Living Well with Dementia

Find out more about what local dementia friendly support groups and services are available in Salisbury and the surrounding area



Monday	The Goldies Charity sing-a-long - Salisbury Methodist Church	Second Monday of each month: 2.00pm-3.00pm	£3.00 voluntary donation	Tel 01761 470006
	Café/Music/Movement - Methodist Hall, Amesbury	Weekly during term time: 2.00pm-3.30pm	£5.00 suggested contribution	Tel 01380 739055 jackieb@alzheimerswiltshire.org.uk
Tuesday	Downton Downtime - Downton Baptist Church	Weekly during term time: 10.15am-12.00pm	£5.00 suggested contribution	Email downtondowntime@gmail.com
	Alzheimer's Support - Scots Lane, Salisbury	Day Centre: 9.45am-3.45pm	£62 (lunch included)	Tel 01722 442050 heidib@alzheimerswiltshire.org.uk
Wednesday	Tisbury Memory Group - Hinton Hall, Tisbury	Bi-weekly: 10.00am-12.00pm	£5 per session Carers free	More info - www.tisburymemorygroup.co.uk
	Alzheimer's Support - Scots Lane, Salisbury	Day Centre: 9.45am-3.45pm	£62 (lunch included)	Tel 01722 442050 heidib@alzheimerswiltshire.org.uk
	Carer's Group - The George Hotel, Amesbury	Fourth Wednesday of each month: 2.30pm-4.00pm	Free of charge	Tel 01722 442050 jackieb@alzheimerswiltshire.org.uk
Thursday	Café/Music/Movement - St George's Hall, Harnham	Weekly during term time: 10.30am-12.00pm	£5.00 suggested contribution	Tel 01380 739055 Kateg@alzheimerswiltshire.org.uk
	Alzheimer's Support - Scots Lane, Salisbury	Day Centre: 9.45am-3.45pm	£62 (lunch included)	Tel 01722 442050 heidib@alzheimerswiltshire.org.uk
	Merry Memories for over 60's - Bemerton Heath Community centre	Every Thursday: 2.00pm-4.00pm	Voluntary donation	Tel 01722 443559
	Carer's Group - Salisbury Library	Last Thursday of each month: 2.30pm-4.00pm	Free of charge	Tel 01722 442050 jackieb@alzheimerswiltshire.org.uk
Friday	Mind The Gap for over 60's - Salisbury Playhouse	Bi-weekly during term time: 10.30am-12.00pm	£5.00 - booking required	01722 320333 for more details and to book
	Alzheimer's Support - Scots Lane, Salisbury	Day Centre: 9.45am-3.45pm	£62 (lunch included)	Tel 01722 442050 heidib@alzheimerswiltshire.org.uk
Day trips	Men's group - Salisbury Rugby Club	Once a month: 10.00am-4.00pm	£25 (lunch and transport included)	Email geoffjoyce@hotmail.com

Salisbury News

Community services for people with a Dementia diagnosis

Wiltshire Council

Wiltshire Council dementia strategy 2023-2028

- This strategy supports all people with dementia and their carers irrespective of age. Our aim is that all people with dementia and their carers and families in Wiltshire, are treated as individuals and can access the right information care and support at the right time, so that they can live well with dementia within supportive and understanding communities.
- Follow the link to see the dementia strategy: www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/8883/Overview
- For advice and information on local support services and to discuss if a needs assessment is required, please call:



Wiltshire Council's Advice and Contact centre on 0300 456 0111

Alzheimer's Support

- **Day Club (Scots Lane)** - Award winning club offering social activities, Stimulating events, games, and a supportive environment for people living with dementia
- **Community groups** - Several activity groups across the Salisbury area, including music, movement, memory cafes, and carer's support groups, all designed to build social connections and keep minds and bodies active
- **Dementia Adviser Service** - A free, confidential advice service to help individuals and families understand dementia, plan for the future and access available support
- **Home Support Service** - One-to-one assistance at home or in the community, offering companionship, social outings, maintaining hobbies and practical help



Self-referral call 01722 442050 or drop into Scots Lane office, SP1 3TR (closed Monday)

Social Prescribers (NHS funded)

- Helping someone who is isolated join a befriending group, an art class or a community gardening project, based on what works for them
- Connecting someone struggling with financial stress to a service that helps with managing debt or claiming benefits
- Supporting someone with dementia to join a dementia-friendly group, enabling them to maintain a sense of social connection
- Working with someone with high blood pressure to take up a form of exercise that they're comfortable with.



Social prescribers are linked to GP's, and you can be referred through them

Memory Clinic (NHS funded)

- Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership offer assessment, diagnosis and treatment for people who are experiencing difficulties with their memory and thinking skills, which are affecting their day-to-day life.



Referral via GP

Alzheimer's Society

- Alzheimer's Society provides various support services, including a listening ear over the phone, online support and opportunities to connect with others.
- Alzheimer's Society Cognitive Stimulation Therapy (CST) - Each course is 14 sessions long for people with early to mid-stage dementia.



**Call 0333 150 3456 to get personalised information, support and advice.
Email wiltshire@alzheimers.org.uk or leave a voicemail on 01249 443469**

Edition 1 - March 2025

TWO RACES,
ONE AMAZING
IMPACT

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1

Join the race TO END HOMELESSNESS

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Prices start from £20. Minimum age 15+.

As a charity, Alabaré has been helping people who are homeless for over 30 years by providing a warm, safe home, and support to rebuild their lives. By taking part, you could support a vulnerable person take the first steps towards building a new life.

13 SEPTEMBER 2025

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Police Crime Commissioner



Wiltshire PCC Philip Wilkinson is encouraging victims and witnesses to continue to report crimes to Wiltshire Police

This comes as latest figures published by the Office of National statistics show Wiltshire continues to have the lowest overall reported crime rate in the country, per 1,000 of population.

According to the latest report, published yesterday (24/04) and covering the year ending December 2024, the number of total recorded crimes in Wiltshire fell by -5.6% - a decrease of 2,276 from 41,903 to 39,627 – compared to the previous year.

The figures also showed that the number of crimes relating to violence against the person decreased year-on-year by -3.8% (total 16,316), robbery by -29.6% (total 214) and theft by -10.4% (total 10,895).

Within the theft category, burglary crimes reduced by -7.1% year on year, a decrease of 126 offences from 1,771 to 1,645.

Other categories which saw decreases are possession of weapons by -13% (total 366), and public order by -3.6% (total 3,496).

Reported sexual offences increased by 7.7% year on year (total 2,060 an increase of 148 from the previous year), which remains the lowest number per 1,000 population compared to other forces in the south west and other similar sized forces.

Other crime groups which increased include drugs by 10.8% (total 1,148 up from 1,036, an increase of 112 from the previous year) and miscellaneous by 13.2% (total 925).

Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Wilkinson said: “While I am pleased to see the latest figures are beginning to reflect the improvements being made within force - I also would like to encourage our residents to continue to report all crimes from across our communities.

“Wiltshire Police is continuing to work hard to build trust and confidence with all communities but we know we see under-reporting of several different crime types for a variety of reasons, including victims who think they won’t be believed or because the justice system takes too long to bring people to court or because residents think the punishments being handed out are too lenient. I am working with our partners, commissioned services and those within the criminal justice system to try and end this cycle.

“People also tell me that they don’t always report rural crime or business and retail crime because the method used to report it does not make it easy for them. My office is working with farmers, with businesses and retailers to try and change this too.

“I am acutely aware there is still a long way to go, and we must continue to work closely with partners across the criminal justice system to ensure the necessary preventative measures are in place, that we make it as easy as we can to report crime, as well as ensuring all victims of crime are supported and receiving the best possible service.

“As a result, I have continued to invest into victims' services for this reason. We know that crime cannot be eradicated completely so we must ensure the services my office are funding are delivering for victims when they need it most, regardless of whether they’ve chosen to report a crime to the police.”

Local Halls

Britford

Memorial & Community Hall

Ideal venue for children's parties, social gatherings, family occasions, meetings and presentations, workshops, classes, private functions and community events
Competitive rates — convenient location

Holds up to 60 people
For bookings or enquiries:
Britford@live.co.uk

The Radnor Hall

Your village hall at Bodenham
for private functions, meetings & community events

Capacity: 80 standing, 60 seated
Special hire rates for residents of Bodenham, Britford, Charlton All Saints, Nunton and Odstock and for regular users
For bookings and enquiries, please contact the Hall Manager on 01722 329 760

RadnorHallBookings@gmail.com

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News and Notes

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