

# Village News

for Bishopstone & Hinton Parva August 2020

## The Fate of the Fête in these Uncertain Times

### Church Raffle

After much deliberation, I am sorry to announce the cancellation of the Church Fete for 2020. This was a difficult decision and we realise the disappointment to many, especially the brilliant volunteers and stallholders who will be unable to take part in this great event.

Fear not, however. Instead, we are planning a **monster raffle** aimed at providing you gamblers with some excitement, fantastic prizes, and the chance to help the Church raise much needed funds.

We have some amazing prizes including:

- A **£250 Amazon voucher**, courtesy of Tom & Ushma Sargeant, who are already local legends
- A **£150 cash** prize generously donated by Austin Heating & Air Conditioning
- A **luxury box of goodies** including a magnum of English Champagne, bathroom luxuries, chocolates, and as many other decadent delights as we can muster, thanks to Emma Cripwell
- A **Moose Cocktail box**, thanks to Harry and Monica Meakin
- A **Mystery Prize**, generously given by Tim Finney & Helen Browning

These prizes are amazing, and each winner will be able to choose (first ticket drawn has first dibs, second chooses from remaining prizes, etc.)

***The draw will take place once all tickets are sold or by 31<sup>st</sup> August***

You can buy tickets @ £5 each from:

Tom Sargeant 07517 145 051 tom@yeoldeforge.co.uk Tom can take payment by card (contactless, or by phone)

Alan Taylor 791 666 / 07703 162 523 R2attayloralan@aol.com

John Lowry 790 271 john1000000@live.com

Penny Green 07788 727 812 penelopeanngreen@gmail.com

Tom Cripwell 791 148 tomcripwell@gmail.com

*Tom Cripwell*



### Can You Tell the Difference Between a Moth and a Butterfly?

On the left is a brimstone moth, on the right is a brimstone butterfly. They both belong to the order Lepidoptera but have several differences. Moths rest with their wings open while butterflies usually rest with their wings closed. Moths have shorter, feathery antennae; butterflies have long, thin antennae. Moths are stout and fuzzy while butterflies are slender and smooth. People seem to prefer butterflies, but read Jackie's interesting article on page 3.



*Banner photographs taken on the Ridgeway by Pete Walker*

<https://bishopstoneandhintonparva.org> for breaking news

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One of the things that has benefited most from lockdown is wildlife and the countryside. I have been a natural history, wildlife enthusiast since a toddler! I used to look under and inside everything searching for woodlice, spiders, beetles, and snails, next progressing to caterpillars, looking up the correct food plant, feeding them, watching them pupate, and eagerly awaiting the magic moment when an amazing butterfly or moth emerged, to be set free.

During these lonely 3-4 months of self isolation and shielding, I made the most of the traffic-free, silent, untouched countryside when walking my dog along the lanes, organic fields and woods surrounding our peaceful villages. Armed with my Iphone/



notes/camera, I would have a different aim each walk - to record either as many butterflies, wild flowers, birds, birds of prey, bees, other insect pollinators, wild trees, etc. Wild animals were harder to spot: rabbits, grey squirrels and muntjacs all fairly common, also a couple of roe deer. In my garden I set up my Robinson (Professional) moth traps (see top). A large tub filled with egg boxes, a special cover funnelling into the bowl. And at the centre and above that is a large mercury vapour (MV) light bulb as moths are particularly attracted to its ultraviolet light. They flutter round it, tumble into the bowl, then take refuge under the egg boxes. I check and record them the following morning, putting them back, leave the MV bulb off, the next night away they go.

Jackie Anderson

(left: greater elephant hawk moth photographed by Jackie)

### Farmers' Market

Although we do not normally hold a market in August, as it clashes with the village show, we intend to set up on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August**, as the show has had to be cancelled.

This will be in the usual venue:  
Wanborough Village Hall,  
High Street, SN4 0AD,  
9.00am - 12.00 midday

For confirmation contact:  
Sue Birley 01793 790 438  
sbirley@gn.apc.org  
or see the parish website:  
www.wanborough.info

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HERBALIFE NUTRITION



I am reporting from rural south west France, where we have had a house for five years. We bought from a Brit and many others have purchased here charmed by the unspoilt countryside, very much cheaper property prices, quiet pothole free roads, and the safe environment where farmers have no doors on their workshops and leave keys in their tractors. We are in a hamlet on the borders of Gers and Midi Pyrenees, with a farm next door and an outlook onto the Pyrenees. They still have patches of snow showing on the tops. Cities have striking cathedrals, and towns show squares with almost medieval market halls. Every local community has its prominent Marie and its Mayor vested with authority.

The cereal harvest down here is already done, with crops ripening a month earlier. But they also grow a lot of maize for grain, sunflowers and soya bean to harvest much later. Most land is ploughed, and because of all the spring cropping, blackgrass is no problem. Rivers running north from the mountains have created parallel fertile valleys every ten miles, so that there is no shortage of ponds and reservoirs to water the summer crops. Rain guns are going all the time now because of the evaporation in hotter temperatures and the hills above the valleys are covered with oak woods. Charollais is the predominant cattle breed in the fields, along with ducks

for duck breast and the making of pâté de foie gras for which this area is famous. Incidentally do try the hot version of foie gras. Madiran and St Mont are the local wines, also Armagnac, but they are nearly an hour away. There are signs of the new idea of farming with agroforestry planting.

You would expect me to mention the wildlife over here! We hear turtle doves, colourful hoopoes can visit, and there are plenty of jays and woodpeckers. The area is fantastic for orchids in the spring, with plenty of wild flower meadows. This time there were many clouded yellow, and the uncommon swallowtail, butterflies, the latter being quite common here. In the house we have been challenged in a battle with ants climbing up the exterior to roof spaces. Mosquitoes can be a nuisance in certain months. We hear frogs, which can make a real racket. Near our pool room, a branch from a fir collapsed to form a bridge onto the roof. We were sleeping there once and there was a dreadful scamping about in the roof space above us. It turned out to be not rats, which we feared, but pine martens, which, with the branch cut down, soon left us. These same firs also harboured the eight inch long white cocoon nests of the oak processionary moth. The eggs hatch to form nasty caterpillars with poisonous spikelets which process down the trunk in the spring and across the ground in lines. One spring,

we had our dog with us and she found one which she must have licked; she lost the end of her tongue to this poison. Because of the risk, two trees have now come down, but this moth is now unfortunately reported to be around in the London area of the UK.

### Alfresco Child Care

We are back, and busy again after a few quiet months of caring for key workers' children.

We would like to thank our wonderful team for putting the children first through lockdown, giving them a wonderful experience full of fun and as much normality as we were able to provide.

We took the opportunity of lower attendance to improve both the indoor and outdoor space. As ever, the main materials for all projects were pallets (always gratefully received!) and hard work. We are super pleased with the results.

We would like to thank our amazing customers, many of whom are villagers, for their support through this time. If we have learnt one thing from this experience it is that we have kind, understanding, loyal and supportive families at Alfresco. We strive to be a partnership with parents and carers in order to provide the best for the children in our care and we are beyond grateful to learn the extent to which this goes both ways.

A day in the life of Alfresco Forest Pre-School: from open ended child-led exploring the children found a baby toad, and much to their amazement, he was very calm being held, and more than happy to say hello to all our friends. To one child saying excitedly *the snail's laid an egg on my hand*; and the amazing wind chimes made by our very own Debbie, using power tools and a

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lot of patience to thread the bamboo canes in all the colours of the rainbow. Our children sure sleep well at the end of a busy day outdoors, everyday, all year round.

### Super Salad Days

I'm currently shielding and my husband now does the weekly supermarket run. Pre-Covid, I was used to popping into shops as and when we ran out of anything. Now it's all planning ahead – often having to rely more on frozen or tinned fruit and vegetables towards the end of the week. I'm the salad-lover of the house, having some daily to ensure my 5-a-day – hoping it offsets the chocolate! I like the crunch of salad, the taste, that it's good for me and it fills me up without contributing too many of those dreadful calorie things. But I struggle to find appetising, long-life salad ingredients.



The Ed told me about **Super Salad**, having bumped into them at the market at Jo Jo's Dairy on a Thursday evening. I was torn initially – I try to cook (or in this case, chop) from scratch, and I wasn't sure if I could

justify the cost. I'm also one of those awkward people who has to avoid certain foods as they're a trigger for my auto-immune condition. However, **Super Salad** were super accommodating, and I tried an Exotica Salad and a Fruit Salad, delivered fresh to my door for £8.50.

I was very pleasantly surprised. I added nuts and Feta and both salads lasted for two, meals. The salads are all finely chopped, very tasty and have at least 50 ingredients in them which helped satisfy the bargain hunter in me. I'm now a convert and very happy to recommend this new, innovative local business. They seem a genuine, friendly and socially responsible company – working on further reducing their eco-credentials, giving their surplus to the homeless, and offering an NHS discount. If you're a (would-be) healthy-eater, short of time, avoiding the shops, or maybe trying to reduce the lock-down love-handles, give Super Salad a try.

*Karen Walker*

See ad, page 15.



*Green wood pecker*

### Hawk Attack

I was woken early last week. It can be light soon after three in late June. A short piercing screech. Whatever was that pitched haunting noise ?

Drawing back the curtain, I could see a sparrow hawk standing proud on top of a forsaken green wood pecker. Woody had been searching for his breakfast in ant nests on the lawn. Head down and shovelling up the insects, when a dive bombing hawk struck without warning. Woody did not have time to react. It was all over in a nanosecond.

The sparrow hawk used his razor sharp talons to rip open his prize. Feathers and fluff fell around on the dewy grass. This went on for a minute or two when the bird had other ideas and grabbed up poor Woody and was gone. The sparrow hawk had decided to dine elsewhere.



*Sparrow hawk  
Howard*

### Pete's Prize Puzzle

#### Across

- 1 Drink milk or sleep here. (3)
- 4 Is there fight in this old dog? (5)
- 6 Bring back a golden one. (9)
- 8 'Beware of the Dog' if this is open. (4)
- 9 Fast or spin for food. (4)
- 10 See 3 Down (4)
- 11 Do not utter in front of your hound. (7)

#### Down

- 2 Sounds like utter bliss. (8)
- 3 (and 10 across) I hear this theme rains heavily. (7)
- 4 Noisily insane. (7, 3)
- 5 Was this boat the origin of the species? (6)
- 7 Our scruffy editor? (6)

If you find this crossword easy, after completing it the shaded squares will give a 7-letter word. Is it a fat cat?

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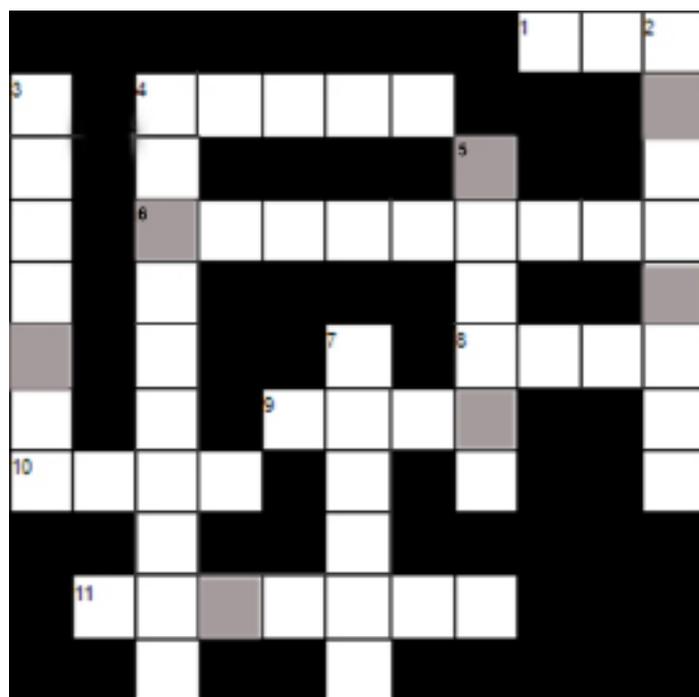
**By the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month** send the crossword (and if you have done it) the anagram solutions, to:

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### Pet Lovers Crossword



#### Answers to July crossword

Across: 1 armadillo; 4 sloth; 6 guineapig; 7 roe; 8 man  
Down: 1 alligator; 2 dromedary; 3 orangutan; 5 hippo  
Anagram: tapir & eland



We reached the English Channel eventually, and had one night of glorious respite tied up in Portland where we once again took on food and fuel as well as the charts for the previously unexpected next leg, and then set off once more for Cuxhaven, Germany. We took the scenic route along the Dorset coast, a piece of coast with which I am very familiar as it is Pelican's old stomping ground and magnificent to behold from the sea. (Many didn't believe that Durdle Door is in fact a dragon until they saw it for themselves!). We also had a Coastal Rescue helicopter fly by and practice some hovering over us - the trainee on the helm's face was a picture, as she realised there was a helicopter right over her head, but she had to keep concentrating on keeping a steady course. The wind may not have been very useful, but it was mostly light and the sun shone brightly as we made our way up the rest of the Channel, through the Dover Straights and on up into the North Sea.

The end was now in sight and people were starting to think about leaving. In the mess room, envelopes with everyone's names lovingly drawn and illustrated were strung up along the bulkheads, and, when not busy with other duties, the trainees were all writing letters for each other to read after they got home. Despite not being able to show their parents around when they got there, they still wanted the ship to look as good as she possibly could for our arrival, and many hours were spent sanding, oiling and



polishing the helm and compass binnacle on top of our usual cleaning and maintenance routines. They practiced shanties and planned what to wear, and drilled climbing in formation. Thoughts of home and families and real beds and pets and going to the fridge and eating whatever you like, mixed with not wanting to leave; sadness at not seeing these crazy people every day, not being able to get a hug whenever you needed one, not seeing the sun rise over the sea in a million hues of pink, or dolphins leaping at the bow. The prospect of returning to reality after a long trip at sea is daunting at the best of times, but we weren't even sure what reality we were coming home to - not

the one we left, that was for certain.

*Tamsin*

Chief Mate, TS Pelican of London  
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Please visit:

[www.adventureundersail.com](http://www.adventureundersail.com)  
for more information.

*Photographs by Tamsin Lambert*

## Bishopstone & District Gardening Club

I believe I last wrote a few lines about the Quiz Night we held back in February for the Bishopstone & District Gardening Club, way before anyone had any idea what a huge impact coronavirus would have on our lives.

Understandably, we have cancelled most of our speaker bookings for this year until we know when and where we can all gather safely. As current guidance seems fluid, it is difficult to predict when we may be able to meet again as a group inside our village hall.

Meanwhile, thanks to a bumper-sunshiny Spring, I expect your gardens are thriving. I hear from Lucille McGrath that many of her neighbours and friends have taken up the sport of *Taming the Weeds* and generally *Having a go* at gardening. It could be that, when we do reconvene, there will be some fresh faces hoping to tackle all those gardening issues that we have come to know and love.

Speaking of newbie faces – the Gardening Club needs a new me. I am stepping down as secretary and bookings bod after almost seven years; it would be great to welcome someone new to bring in new ideas and a bit of energy!

Sheila (secretary) 01793 790 358 and Sarah (outings organiser) can be contacted at:

[banddgardeningsoc@gmail.com](mailto:banddgardeningsoc@gmail.com)

Friendly bunch of gardeners, newcomers very welcome. When events finally resume, we will be delighted to serve you with tea/coffee/biscuits/raffle. Meetings usually held at Bishopstone Village Hall, unless otherwise stated.

*Sheila*



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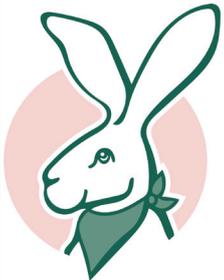
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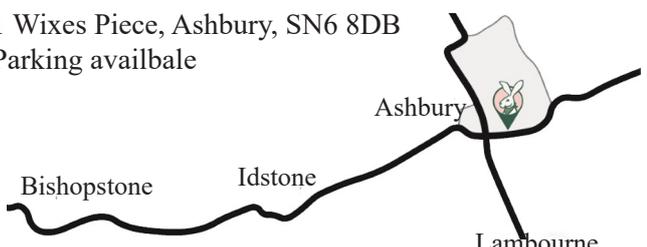
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## Church Services in the Benefice

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> August</b>	10.30am	Holy Communion	Lyddington
8 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity				
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> August</b>	6.00pm		Bishopstone
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> August</b>	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough
Vigil of the Transfiguration				
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> August</b>	10.30am	Holy Communion	Bishopstone
9 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity				
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> August</b>	6.00pm		Hinton Parva
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> August</b>	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough
John Henry Newman				
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> August</b>	10.30am	Holy Communion	Wanborough
10 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity				
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup> August</b>	6.00pm		Bishopstone
St Mary's Patronal				
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup> August</b>	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough
St. Bernard				
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> August</b>	10.30am	Holy Communion	Hinton Parva
10 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity				
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup> August</b>	6.00pm		Hinton Parva
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup> August</b>	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> August</b>		No Service	
12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity				

All dates and times printed are as submitted to the Editor.

After many weeks of closure due to the pandemic, and following discussions with both the worshipping community and members of the PCCs, we are carefully opening our beautiful churches one by one. This wonderful opportunity for worship and private prayer has to be guided by medical advice, together with Government and Church of England guidance, for the health and the safety of us all. I will take this opportunity to say a huge personal thank you to all who have helped clean and prepare the churches in readiness for this. The churches are being set out to provide 2 metre social distancing between households, church bibles and hymn books have been removed, and hand gel is provided. Service sheets (which you take home with you afterwards) will be provided for each service. Sadly, we are not allowed to sing in church at this time.

There is also a change in how we may currently share Holy Communion. Although we are unable to open for some of our usual services we are resuming as many of them as possible. While we are not able to hold services at 8.30am and 6.00pm on Sundays, our 10.30am service will continue to rotate around the Benefice as per the previous rota. Our midweek Eucharist will remain at St Andrew's on Wednesday evenings at 7.00pm.

As we currently have to keep a record of those who have visited our churches for up to twenty-one days after their visit, we are unable to open St Swithun's and St Mary's from dawn until dusk. To offer an opportunity for some quiet time, St. Marys and St Swithun's will be open on alternate Tuesday evenings between 6.00pm and 7.00pm. This will also be an opportunity for Holy Communion if requested by those who are able to join us. As our two services entitled "A Little Eucharist..." (recorded on a Sunday and Wednesday and available on YouTube) have been so warmly welcomed, particularly by those shielding or unable to get to church because of work commitments, they will continue. Thank you again for all of your help, especially in these strange times.

### *The Vicar's Letter*

Dear Friends and Neighbours,  
The whole of the Christian story is built on a cornerstone of hospitality and welcome, where care is called to be more important than being right. It's precisely why God the Son came to pay for our misdemeanours. This was God's way of demonstrating that

caring for each and every one of us is so much more important than being right. That, in God's eyes, everyone has the opportunity to measure up. Very importantly, it is God and God alone who does the measuring. As soon as we start measuring another, we are setting ourselves up to be measured at least as severely.

Interesting to note that it was a school teenager that had a significant hand in determining just how many guns were fitted to the Spitfire during the Second World War. If she hadn't, the Battle of Britain would have had an entirely different outcome. The runt of a litter, called Joseph, got a technical-our dream coat and went on to save

*Bill*

his father's people from starvation. A shepherd boy called David went on to be one of Israel's greatest Kings. Time and time again God's choices have confounded human wisdom.

The thing is, God loves us despite our natural flair for getting things wrong. And this is exactly how we are called to live. Loving each other, despite our natural flair for getting things wrong. Loving especially, those we struggle with. Strange behaviour happens in strange times and I don't think that many will dispute that there have never been times as strange as these. It was not unusual for parents of children in Paediatric Intensive Care Units to be the most polite, gentle people on the planet, until their child started to get better!!! Suddenly, and without warning, we would be hit by a barrage of bad language and inadequate behaviour. It was as if their internal safety valve was letting off steam. We read that domestic violence is on the increase and a third of victims are men. Perhaps remembering that care is more important than being right might help us all when we are feeling a little less than ourselves.

At the start of lockdown, and with the ban on hairdressers, I opened a competition to clergy. Winners would be chosen for the nearest Old Testament Prophet Lookalike and for the vicar that looks as though they should have been in the Orthodox Church in the first place. It might be fun to see pictures of some of our lockdown haircuts in our magazines. Stay safe.

With best wishes and prayers.

If you have anything that you would like our village prayer group to pray for please contact:

**telephone - 790 088**  
**villageprayers@gmail.com**

*Bill*

## Parish Contacts

**The Vicar:** the Rev Bill O'Connell  
The Vicarage, Church Road,  
Wanborough, SN4 0BZ

01793 791 359  
villagevicar@hotmail.co.uk

**PCC Vice Chair** – Alan Taylor  
01793 791 666  
R2attayloralan@aol.com

### Church wardens:

**St Mary's**  
Roz Boot 01793 790 508  
John Lowry 01793 790 271

### St. Swithun's

Tom Cripwell – 01793 791 148  
tomcripwell@gmail.com

### PCC members:

Doug Stevens 01793 791 107  
doug@mowerfixer.co.uk  
Karen Stevens 01793 791 107  
kschurchview@gmail.com  
Penny Green 01793 791 310  
Sara Hall 01793 791 202  
thecourthouse@gmail.com  
Tom Sargeant 07517 145 051  
tom@yeoldeforge.co.uk

### St Mary's Bishopstone

#### Cleaning Rota

**August** Jill White &  
Karen MacGregor  
**September** Chris Thomas &  
Gill May  
**October** Jane Golding  
**November** Liz Warwick &  
Jane Manktelow  
**December** Sarah Best &  
Jenny Isles

Mary Darling, 790 700, is volunteering to stand in for anyone needing cover for holidays/illness etc.

Many thanks to you all for your hard work keeping the church clean.

We always welcome new volunteers on the rota, please join us!

*Sarah Best 791 121*

### Patricia Wakefield

Pat, formerly of 2 Grove Cottages, Hinton Parva, passed away peacefully of a non-Covid related illness, age 84 on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July. Now reunited with her husband, Les. Her family are grateful for the outstanding care and friendship she received at Fitzwarren House.

*Karen*

### Letter to the Editor

Dear Ed, a bit more of a sensible note from me this month as I write this with my PCC hat on. We have a bit

of a crisis with funding the Churches, with pressure on us from all sides. As there's no fete this year (our main source of income, cancelled with a heavy heart due to social distancing/insurance), no service donations (as we've had to keep the doors closed), and a long term arrangement with a local funding body at risk of ending, there has been next to no income and the coffers are empty, yet the same bills as every other year need paying. We have grounds and buildings to maintain, insurance and security responsibilities, and the health and safety of all visitors to consider whether they are attending Church or just passing through the grounds. If you are a regular or occasional donor and would like to help, or if you have any funding ideas, please do contact me or anyone else on the PCC, our details can be found on this page.

*TS, Bishopstone.*

### Not to be taken seriously...

#### Church Bulletin Bloopers

These appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services, but **not**, we stress, in our parish:

- The Fasting and Prayer Conference includes meals.
- Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles, and other items to be recycled; proceeds will be used to cripple children.
- The sermon this morning: Jesus Walks on the Water. The sermon tonight: Searching for Jesus.
- Ladies: don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.
- Don't let worry kill you off – let the Church help.
- Miss Charlene Mason sang, *I will not pass this way again*, giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

*Jane Manktelow*

## Andy Greenhalgh

It is with great sadness that we have to announce that our dearest Andy lost his battle with cancer and passed away on 16<sup>th</sup> June surrounded by his family. He died peacefully at home where he wanted to be in his beloved Bishopstone. We would like to say a huge thank you to all the people who lined the route from the Old Farm House to the churchyard on 26<sup>th</sup> June to pay their final respects. It was overwhelming to see how many of his friends and acquaintances raised a glass in his memory and was such a wonderful tribute to him. He would have been so proud.

Also we are extremely grateful for all the cards, messages of support and practical help we have received from our wonderful neighbours. In addition the amazing generosity of all who have kindly donated in Andy's memory to the Prospect Hospice is hugely appreciated. During Andy's illness the staff at the Hospice were such a support to him and the family as a whole. We could not have managed without them and we hope that the money raised in Andy's memory will help others who find themselves in a similar situation.

The funeral service in the beautiful sunshine gave us much comfort and we can continue to have moments of reflection at his graveside in the grounds of St Mary's church. His wish was to be buried on his route home from the Royal Oak where he spent many a happy hour with his family and friends.

Andy was a great supporter of village activities and groups, we know he will be missed by many.

*With love from Caryn, Anna, Sarah, Nicole and Ellen*

## The Ridgeway Link

Sadly, due to a number of reasons we have agreed that, after just over 24 years, it is no longer viable in terms of money and manpower to continue to run The Ridgeway Link.

We have not made this decision lightly but, over recent years, we have found it increasingly difficult, and more recently impossible, to recruit any new volunteers. Alongside this we now only have one or two people who use us often. This not only means less donations but questions whether we are still needed. We have, also, not had any offers to become the co-ordinator.

Unfortunately, regardless of income (which is currently zero due

to the lockdown) we have to pay for the telephone, two insurances, and volunteer expenses.

We wish to thank anyone who has helped and/or supported us over the past twenty-four years. It has been, and is, very much appreciated.

We wish everyone the very best for the future.

*Brian Clarke, Louisa Barnes & Jan Chapple*

## Bishopstone Village Hall

On behalf of the Village Hall Committee I wanted to dedicate this month's short piece to Andy Greenhalgh, who sadly passed away recently. Andy joined the Committee in November 2015. He was a keen contributor, initially enlisted to represent the

Parish Council within the hall team, he then quickly became involved in supporting all our activities with his usual vigour, enthusiasm and tenacity. This was no mean feat coupled with, and not limited to, his existing duties within the council and ongoing support and upkeep of the Village and Ridgeway websites. Andy was involved in all our fundraising activities since then. He championed the Wi-fi set up in the village hall; installed by Russell in 2016, we enjoyed download speeds of 29mbs! How things change! Our sincere condolences to the Greenhalgh family especially Caryn, who was often enlisted as a *willing volunteer* to support our events. Thanks, Andy, for everything. We miss you.

*RW Chairman*

Please note The Village Hall remains closed due to Covid-19 restrictions. The situation is being monitored and will be reviewed again at the end of August.

Meanwhile if you have any enquiries please do not hesitate to contact:  
Richard 791 913

## Hinton Village Hall

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 situation, the Hinton Parva Village Hall will not be taking bookings for August.

We are open to conditional bookings for September, dependant on the Government rules:

Additional terms and conditions may apply in line with the latest advice.

We thank you for your past support and look forward to more relaxed times.

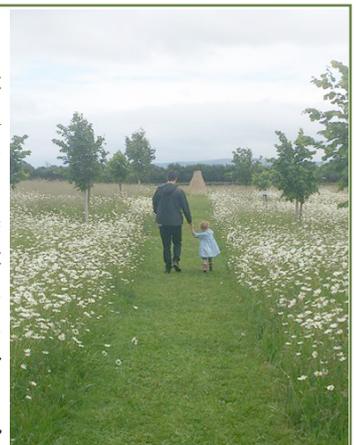
Bookings secretary:

Janet Hawkins 01793 791 391

## Westmill Woodland Burial Ground

We have been working hard to try and ease some of the distress caused by the recent pandemic. We have been encouraging families to gather onsite for picnics or to return later with their wider family and friends. We know that the separation of families is especially hard at the very time when you most want a hug and say those precious last words. There is another way to feel connected. Settle quietly somewhere where you will not be disturbed. Put a photograph there of the person who you are separated from or an object you associate with them. Maybe you can play some music they loved. Close your eyes and calm your breathing. With each beat of your heart beam out your love towards them and say the goodbyes, make the apologies, say what they have meant to you either out loud or in your head. It really can help.

*Jan Power*



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Sometimes, you've just got to laugh. So when Nicole Greenhalgh came into HB's Royal Oak in mid July, with her delightful young man, as fathers tend to say, we stood in the summer rain and laughed delightedly and wickedly about her great dad, Andy. Like lots of people, here and elsewhere, we'd been dismayed to learn of his death in June, just as we'd been amazed at the way he kept fighting on during the previous two years; and lots of us stood quietly in the village as his family walked and drove down the hill to the church. In Covid times, this is all we're allowed to do. Everyone deserves a better send off—some of the rules we've been working to are simply bonkers. And fancy being able to go to the pub (with your kids) when kids aren't even allowed back in school, in some places.

Anyway, I digress...as usual...this northern powerhouse was a great supporter of village (and wider) institutions. He loved family, beer, walking, cars. He had a soft spot for this place for some reason, and had been a great customer and friend since the family returned from the US about

12 years ago; and despite his odd taste for northern beer. Enough said. Especially Cumbrian stuff, as I recall. *Like nectar* he would remark, as if it was going to impress a Wiltshire publican. (*And only £3 a pint* or some such nonsense). Everything he consumed was measured against his Cumbrian beer benchmark—when I tried very hard to get some for his 60th birthday party last year, with Arkells' blessing, the logistics were impossible; and the Cumbrian brewery didn't exactly fall over themselves to help, which was a shame, after all the nice things he'd said about them.

He went a paler shade of white when I was driving him in his Lotus around Castle Coombe, on one of The Oak's private track days—a fond and distant memory—and I overdid the speed ex-



Andy with his pint

iting the chicane and we spun through 180 degrees. He didn't let me drive it again. Then he sold it and bought that Tesla, and laughed about putting it into warp speed mode between here and Shrivenham. I saw it as it flashed past like a low flying silent stealth bomber. His daughters, led by the feisty Nicole, have mostly used this pub

as a launch pad into *proper* jobs, as one or two other fathers have been heard to say, to my disgruntlement. They arrived on the whole as mid-teenagers, unable to answer the phone, and within a fortnight were quite capable of running the place. Smart, diligent, charming, honest, reliable, full of initiative—just how he would want them to be.

We will miss him. And he paid his long standing tab two weeks after the funeral. Remarkable.

My sleep has improved. Our thoughts also to another long standing friend, Paul Cadogan—struck down during Covid (but not by Covid), and now beginning a long recuperation. Sales of 3B will decline; Arkells have been advised. Paul drank probably six pints a week on three regular visits.

We look forward to the next one. To the rest of you, good health please.



Tim Finney



## Sounds Like Women Community Day

Sounds Like Women 12.00 noon - 7.00pm, 12<sup>th</sup> September, Wanborough Church

Coffee, teas, home made food; live music by international artists, local musicians & music lovers; second hand shop for women's cloths & sale of products 'Made in Home by Women'; local art; special guest; book's writer, director of Swindon Womans' Aid, and many more...

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## Exhausted of Hinton Parva Time and Tide

I'm typing this in penitent fashion, having entirely failed to join-up some pretty obvious dots. On Friday, I know it's the 17<sup>th</sup> of the month. I know this for certain, as Dearly Beloved and myself will be celebrating a goodly number of years of (mostly) marital bliss on that day. I also know that unless I submit my next offering to Ed by the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month, I receive lots of emails from said Ed asking where it might be. It doesn't seem to be too much of a leap from *it's the 17<sup>th</sup> on Friday* to *if it's the 17<sup>th</sup> on Friday, then it must be the 15<sup>th</sup> on Wednesday, by which time I must have submitted something to Ed or I will not be in her good books*. However, that leap simply didn't happen this month. I blame a disconnection in time due to lockdown.

As DB has been wont to say for many a year (hence the only mostly blissful nature of sharing a home with him) *Time flies like an arrow; fruit flies like a banana*. I'm not so sure about the arrow business at the moment. When I cast my mind back to pre-lockdown sorties to Other Places (remember those?), even those trips made in January and early February seem as distant as if they'd been made when I was a small child. And that's really quite a long time ago. On the other hand, here we are in mid July. Where have the last few months gone? They seem to have evaporated; am I the only person stuck round about early April, wondering how the Spring weather will turn out this year?

I watched a very funny sketch of Michael McIntyre visiting a fortune teller the other day (highly recommended - you can find it on YouTube). Spoiler alert. . . Within the sketch, the fortune teller tells MM that he sees him spending a lot of time drinking prosecco with his wife, in the morning. MM asks if they're celebrating something, and the fortune teller says *yes; you are celebrating the fact that it's Tuesday*. MM thinks that this sounds odd - the fortune teller agrees, because, as he

tells MM, the day is actually Wednesday. It certainly struck a chord with me. It also gave me the idea of cracking open a bottle of prosecco; I'd never considered celebrating a Tuesday morning before - but why not?

So time is currently out of whack. It is, as my mother would have said *running on teacakes*. I think she was a bit of a teacake obsessive, as, in her world, lots of things used to run on them - particularly broken clocks, the buses, and most trains. I've never really got to the bottom of the saying. In fact, I've never yet met anyone who even recognised the saying. Letters to Ed, please, those of you who also had teacake obsessed mothers.

You're no doubt wondering where the fruit flies fit into all this. They don't really, but I don't see why I should be the only person subjected to the ridiculous saying.

The *tide* in the title, however, does have relevance. Because, as we know, *time and tide wait for no man*. Neither does Ed where newsletter copy is concerned. So - sorry, Ed; I'm tardy this month. I shall do better next month, in May. Oh - hang on. . .

*Mrs Mantelpiece*



## And Almost Finally...

Bless you Mrs M for that gentle nudge; you weren't alone in being a tad late with your

copy this month.

There are fairies at the bottom of my garden, or, more possibly, gremlins. A few weeks ago I was having trouble with things. First the newly-serviced mower had a fit of stopping for no apparent reason, then, fortunately, pulled itself together and is now behaving. Next, the outside lights; one came on and stayed on for a couple of days, then reverted to coming on when it should, but the other one, obviously impressed by the first's bad behaviour decided to emulate its annoying performance. And then the TV started to amuse itself by suddenly switching off

at inappropriate moments. It kept doing this for a night and until, getting bored with the idea, it behaved. Last night it resumed this switching off game, only more frequently. Can any ghost busters or electricians out there offer a solution to cure this errant TV?

*mogs X*

## Finally

The views of individual writers expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect those of the editor, the parish council, or the church. If you have any feedback, questions, or would like to submit a story for inclusion in the Village News, please contact one of the editorial staff listed below:

### Editor:

[mogsboon@hotmail.com](mailto:mogsboon@hotmail.com)

*Subject: newsletter* (in case my computer rather rudely thinks you are junk mail) or deliver to:

Brock Cottage, Hinton Parva, SN4 0DH, telephone 01793 790 626.

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1 Little Hinton Farm Cottages, Hinton. Please note that names and contact details must accompany these letters, but, of course, we will not publish your details unless requested to do so.

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