

Village News

for Bishopstone & Hinton Parva

www.bishopstoneandhintonparva.org

March 2014

A churchwarden Retires

On a very soggy and murky Sunday 26th January, Toby Ford's family were charged with the task of getting him to St. Swithun's Church at 11.00am, where a surprise presentation was to be made. It was to mark his retirement as Church Warden after serving for 38 years. Originally it had been organised



last May but was postponed due to several circumstances. We waited in anticipation for his imminent arrival. As the church filled, Toby appeared and sat in his favourite pew surrounded by many family, friends and well wishers attending the service to simply say thank you.

He was then enlightened as to why the place was so crowded with grateful parishioners, who witnessed him receive an engraved decanter and cards signed by all. Sophie Ellis-Boon presented flowers for his wife, Mary. Toby then responded with his usual wit and charm and the beautiful family service began, conducted by the Rev Bill, with

prayers impeccably written and read by Harry Marriott. Toby's favourite hymns were chosen by Myra Binks and enthusiastically sung by the congregation. It was fantastic that Rev Robin Cardwell, Rev Sandy Railton and Richard Gaines were able to join us on this very happy day.

After the service most of us stayed chatting and enjoying refreshments prepared and served by Lorna and Dennis, Toby's son.

Flowers especially to celebrate this occasion were arranged by the St. Swithun's flower girls, who included



both Toby's daughter Diana and his daughter-in-law, Lorna

On many occasions over the past nine years since moving to Hinton Parva Toby has told me how much he loves St Swithun's Church, this goes without saying, as all the love and devotion he has shown as church warden speaks for itself.



Thank you Toby, you will be a hard act to follow.

Marguerite Seaward

Photographed by Jonathon Boon: Sophie appreciating the refreshments - left; the congregation enjoying a chat - centre and Toby is told by Bill as to why there is a large audience - top right.

Toby's Response

What a lovely surprise. May I say a very big thank you to all the members of the PCC, especially Marguerite and Joanna, for the most acceptable retirement present, a glass decanter, suitably engraved, also to all those people who came to make it such a memorable family service.

Mary was disappointed not to be there but was delighted with the large bouquet of lovely flowers.

Once again, thank you all very much.

Toby

CHURCH SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE IN MARCH

Saturday	1st March	7.00pm	Busy Lives Communion	Wanborough
	David, bishop, patron of Wales			
Sunday	2nd March	8.30am	Holy Communion	Lyddington
	Sunday next before Lent	*11.00am	Family Service + Christenings	Bishopstone
		6.00pm	Evensong	Hinton Parva
Wednesday	5th March	*10.30am	Midweek Communion	Lyddington
	Ash Wednesday	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough
Sunday	9th March	8.30am	Holy Communion (Prayer book Service)	Hinton Parva
	1 st Sunday of Lent	9.30am	Holy Communion	Lyddington
		*11.00am	Family Service	Wanborough
		6.00pm	Evensong	Bishopstone
Wednesday	12th March	*10.30am	Midweek Communion	Lyddington
	Ember Day	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough
Sunday	16th March	8.30am	Holy Communion (Prayer book Service)	Bishopstone
	2 nd Sunday of Lent	9.30am	Holy Communion	Hinton Parva
		*11.00am	Family Service	Lyddington
		6.00pm	Evensong	Wanborough
Wednesday	19th March	*10.30am	Midweek Communion	Lyddington
	Joseph of Nazareth	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough
Friday	21st March	11.00 am	Wedding	Wanborough
Sunday	23rd March	8.30am	Holy Communion	Wanborough
	3 rd Sunday of Lent	9.30am	Holy Communion	Bishopstone
		*11.00am	Family Service	Hinton Parva
		6.00pm	Evensong	Lyddington
Wednesday	26th March	*10.30am	Midweek Communion	Lyddington
		7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough
Sunday	30th March	11.00am	Benefice Mothering Sunday Service	Bishopstone
	4 th Sunday of Lent		Mothering Sunday	
Saturday	5th April	7.00pm	Busy Lives Communion	Wanborough
Sunday	6th April	8.30am	Holy Communion	Lyddington
	5 th Sunday of Lent	*11.00am	Family Communion	Bishopstone
	Passiontide begins	6.00pm	Evensong	Hinton Parva

*Refreshments served after the service,

From this month onwards the 8.30am service at Hinton on 2nd Sunday of the month will be a Prayer book Service.

The Vicar's Letter

Dear friends and neighbours,

To my amazement, while working as a hospital chaplain I came across an old colleague, from my days in commerce, in a hospital bed. He was a bit of a Kenny Rogers lookalike with spectacles. Nearly seventy he threw a sizable Suzuki Motorcycle up the road at somewhere near the top end of the national speed limit. His leg was caught under the bike and was in a bad way. This cynical old so and so, who had a very direct and at times merciless style of humour, was sat in bed with both arms elevated and in

plaster, unable even to wipe his nose. A surprise to all, he started to describe how he felt. More shockingly he was beginning to take an interest in how others might feel. A seismic event which had a huge impact on his marriage and on the rest of his family, he was beginning to understand for the first time that the British stiff upper lip, when it is rooted in pride rather than dignity, is without doubt nothing other than a huge impediment to good mental healthcare and healthy relationships.

This motorcycling granddad lost his leg in preference to the months of

work which may have made little or no difference to its ability to work again. Bored, he took himself, his wheelchair and a fellow patient who had lost his leg in a mountaineering accident, to the hospital canteen one day. Sure enough there were some people there who couldn't help but stare. The old cynic may have lost his leg but he hadn't lost his humour and in a loud voice asked his legless friend whether people coming through the canteen tills would be suitable. His legless friend had no idea why unsuspecting members of the public were being assessed but

joined in anyway. Sure enough those staring were gripped by their own curiosity and simply had to enquire as to what was going on. The response was swift and to the point. "It's the Hamble Carnival". "What about the Hamble Carnival?" the curious asked. "Well we're trying to get into the three legged race and we only have two between us" was the reply. Embarrassed at last, those who couldn't resist staring were on their way with faces of which many a Belisha beacon would be proud.

In Her Majesty's Royal Navy you are often reminded that if you can't take a joke you should never have joined. Humour has been a coping mechanism of our nation throughout the generations. Black humour is a regular feature of the lives of undertakers, ambulance crews and A&E staff alike for this same reason. We all need some hope, some manner of lifting the gloom in the midst of calamity. Given the amount of tragedy that has resulted from the extreme weather recently, our nation's comics should be working overtime.

We recently rallied to the cause of the

Philippines and still managed to beat the total amount raised for Children in Need the previous year. I have no doubt that our nation will once again come to the aid of those struggling at this particular time. For those wishing to support in some practical way, those in need in the Somerset Levels please contact the British Red Cross or south.west@nfu.org.uk. For those who wish to support them with prayer please contact me. Our boiler room at St Andrew's Wanborough is perhaps better suited to public swimming at this time and so Wednesday evening services are currently held at the Vicarage.

With best wishes and prayers

Bill

PCC Meetings

Tuesday 11th March
7.30 p.m.
Hinton Village Hall

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Tuesday 29th April
7.00 p.m.
St Mary's Church Bishopstone
All welcome

Have You unwanted toys or books?

We would love them for the new children's corner in St Swithun's Church. Just take them to the Church or, if you wish I will collect them.

Contact Marguerite Seaward 791 242
email colinspeedway@aol.com

**St Mary's Church Bishopstone
Spring Clean**
Saturday 15th March
10.30am onwards
followed by a trip to The Royal Oak

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

01793 791 359
villagevicar@hotmail.co.uk

For St. Swithun's, Hinton, The Churchwarden: Marguerite Seaward
Hillside, Hinton Parva SN4 0DH,

01793 791 242
colinspeedway@aol.com

For St. Mary's, Bishopstone, The Churchwarden: Doug Stevens
Church View, Bishopstone

01793 791 107
doug1996@btinternet.com

The Secretary: Caroline Brandi
07768 822 403 or 01793 790 849
caroline.brandi@danone.com

The Child Protection Officer:
Jill White 01793 791 102

PCC Representative Bishopstone School Governor:
Gill Rankin 01793 791 061

List of Other PCC Members:
Bill O'Connell (Chairman)

01793 791 359
villagevicar@hotmail.co.uk

Joanna Jenkins (Vice Chairman)
01793 790 545

joannajenkins@hotmail.co.uk
Paul Bailey (Treasurer)

01793 790 103
paulbailey86@btinternet.com

Joy Ball 01793 790 293
Liz Warrick 01793 790 865

Tom Cripwell 01783 791 148
Hilary Newton 01793 791 086

John Lowry 01793 790 271
john1000000@live.com

The Village Fête
Hinton Manor
Saturday 14th June

Cleaning Rota - St. Mary's Church, Bishopstone

March	Fran Siston & Frances Shone
April	Caroline Brandi & Jill White
May	Chris Thomas & Gill May
June	Maggie Gill & Jane Golding
July	Liz Warrick & Jane Manktelow
August	Joanna Jenkins & Sarah Bally
September	Jill Rankin & Hilary Pitts
October	Mary Darling & Lisa Fitchett
November	Lorna Ford & Linda Matthews
December	Ros Boot & Gladys Jones

If these dates are not convenient, please could you arrange to swap with somebody else.

More volunteers are much needed to help look after St Mary's – the cleaning can be done at any time, it doesn't take long, and it's a very rewarding and satisfying to help care for such an ancient building. If you are interested in helping, or know of anyone else who might be, do please contact:

Joanna Jenkins on 790545. Thank you.

Bishopstone Village Hall - March

All bookings for the village hall will be taken through Bishopstone CE Primary School. If you would like to make a booking please contact Sue Tremlin on **01793 790 521** or visit the village hall website **villagehall.co.nr** to send us an email. You can still contact us outside school hours and leave a message on the answerphone. We will get back to you quickly. If you ring the number during any school holidays there will be a message giving an alternative number to contact. We look forward to getting your bookings for Bishopstone's excellent village hall.

Cost for hiring the hall: £7.50 per hour for Bishopstone and Hinton Parva residents. £11 per hour for all other bookings. Cost for hiring the hall for a full day is £55.

Monday	3 rd	School 12.00 - 3.00pm	Skittles 7.00 - 9.30pm
Tuesday	4 th	School 12.00 - 3.45pm	Ballet 3.45 - 6.15pm Tae Quon Do 7.00 - 8.00pm
Wednesday	5 th	WI 9.30 - 12.30pm School 1.00 - 3.00pm	
Thursday	6 th	Mothers & Toddlers 9.00 - 11.00am School 2.45 - 3.00pm	
Friday	7 th	School 12.00 - 1.00pm	
Monday	10 th	School 12.00 - 3.00pm	
Tuesday	11 th	School 12.00 - 3.45pm	Ballet 3.45 - 6.15pm Tae Quon Do 7.00 - 8.00pm
Wednesday	12 th	School 1.00 - 3.00pm	
Thursday	13 th	Mothers & Toddlers 9.00 - 11.00am School 2.45 - 3.00pm	WI 7.30 - 9.30pm
Friday	14 th	School 12.00 - 1.00pm	
Monday	17 th	School 12.00 - 3.00pm	
Tuesday	18 th	School 12.00 - 3.45pm	Ballet 3.45 - 6.15pm Tae Quon Do 7.00 - 8.00pm
Wednesday	19 th	School 1.00 - 3.00pm	
Thursday	20 th	Mothers & Toddlers 9.00 - 11.00am School 2.45 - 3.00pm	Skittles 7.00 - 9.30pm
Friday	21 st	School 12.00 - 1.00pm	
Monday	24 th	School 12.00 - 3.00pm	
Tuesday	25 th	School 12.00 - 3.45pm	Ballet 3.45 - 6.15pm Tae Quon Do 7.00 - 8.00pm
Wednesday	26 th	School 1.00 - 3.00pm	
Thursday	27 th	Mothers & Toddlers 9.00 - 11.00am School 2.45 - 3.00pm	Skittles 7.00 - 9.30pm
Friday	28 th	School 12.00 - 1.00pm	
Monday	31 st	School 12.00 - 3.00pm	

Hinton Parva Village Hall Bookings - March

Bridge	Friday	7 th , 14 th , 21 st & 28 th	7.30pm
Card Club	Wednesday	5 th	7.00 - 9.00pm
PCC Meeting	Tuesday	11 th	7.30pm
WI	Wednesday	13 th	all afternoon
WI AGM	Wednesday	13 th	7.00 - 9.30pm

Private Parties Catering may be available
Meetings etc welcome Free Parking

The Booking Secretary is Kate Wright - 791 399
£6.00 per hour for residents of Bishopstone & Hinton Parva £8.00 per hour for those living outside the parish

Would all those lovely folk who won trophies in the **Hinton Flowers Show 2013** please return their Cups and Shields to be engraved. Many thanks.

For any of these matters contact:
Howard. 791 171

RAGTEX COLLECTION

Tuesday 11th March

Collection of second hand items raising money for Bishopstone C of E Primary School

Clothes, Shoes/Bags/Belts, Books, Toys

NO BEDDING PLEASE

Please drop off at Bishopstone Village Hall 8.45 - 3.30pm on the above date.

If the hall is closed please go to the school who will open up for you.



Hinton Parva Village Hall is Looking for Replacements

A Side Table - some may call this a Console Table

This is needed to fit under our music system. The table prevents folk from injury because it stops them from standing up from under the music system and hitting their head on the structure above. The existing table is falling apart. We are looking for a slim piece of furniture roughly of dimensions 3.6ft length maximum, 15 inches wide or less. The height is not so important.

We fly the Union Jack

Our flag is showing signs of wear and tear. Can I appeal to anyone who has a suitable Union Jack which they would consider donating it would be really appreciated. The flags often cost in excess of £60.

Your help is very much appreciated.

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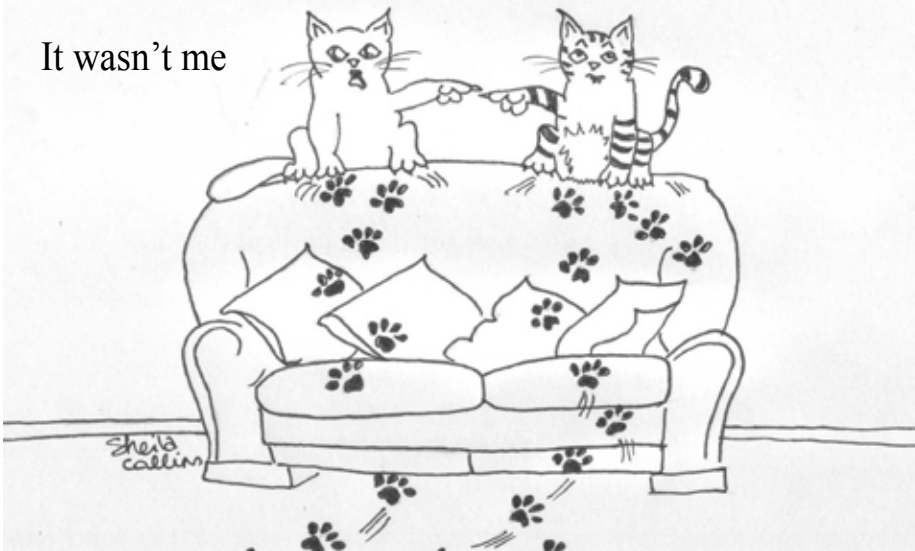
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It wasn't me



A tongue-in-cheek moan about the recent weather and reasons to choose your pet and carpet, with care.

Charles Perrault, who penned the famous 'Puss in Boots' story, clearly knew all about the mess that cats, and dogs, make with their muddy paws.

Having made the foolhardy decision to go for a neutral (ok, beige) colour carpet, I am out of necessity the proud owner of a Bissell carpet-wonder-foam-cleaner-stick-thingy. But it's a thankless task. No sooner have I emptied the room of cats and furniture, vacuumed, sprayed carpet foam, worked it in with the magic green bristles, waited for it to dry and vacuumed it all off again, when one of the cats has whizzed back in through the door, carelessly left open by me whilst emptying the cleaner.

Never ever run after an excitable sprinting cat who has extremely muddy paws, shouting 'OUT ... OUT ... OUT!' Frantically waving your arms whilst yelling is best avoided as it just makes matters worse. By now, my lounge has taken on the look of a farmyard and the two cats sit unabashed on top of the settee, expertly pruning and cleaning, discarding the odd clump of muddy grass from their paws onto the freshly cleaned carpet. Buffy's surreptitious look tells me that she feels it is nothing to do with her and she blames Binky entirely for the mess.

Whilst I'm truly grateful that we're not flooded like other very unfortunate people, the weather is driving me insane. Heavy rain, light rain, gale-force winds, slanted rain, the odd shower of hail, a rainbow, more horizontal rain and mud, mud, mud. The thing is if I did successfully manage to navigate 8 scratchy claws and fit little wellington boots onto their paws would they remember to take them off before coming back in?

Sheila Collins

Bent Lunches

The best thing about this time of year are the lunches, delicious soup, bread and cheese for £5, go outside your comfort zone and meet the foreigners from Wanborough and Lyddington. These are not limited to just church-goers, do come. Proceeds will go to local charities. Wednesdays from 12.30pm at the addresses set out below:

5th March Joan Carron, The Gables, High St., Wanborough

12th March Gail Kosidowski The Chestnuts High Street Wanborough

19th March Hasmig Topalian Arax, Orchard Close, Rotten Row, Wanborough

26th March Shirley Crapper The Mount, Icknield Way, Hinton Parva

1st week in April to be announced

9th April Jackie Midwinter Marsh Poultry Farm, The Marsh, Wanborough

Any queries please telephone Joan Carron 01793 790 294

The Ridgeway Link

We will be holding our A.G.M. on Tuesday 1st April in Lyddington Village Hall at 7.30p.m. Anyone who is interested, will be very welcome. It is always a relatively short meeting followed by simple refreshments and no pressure to become involved unless that is your wish.

You may recall from previous newsletters that Gail, our transport co-ordinator, wishes to retire/resign her position next year. Gail has been our very successful co-ordinator for some nine years and we are extremely sorry that she is retiring, however, we respect her wish to do so.

To continue our service we need someone to take over this position. Basically it is to liaise between people needing a lift and our volunteers. Gail will be pleased to give more details to anyone interested. We supply a dedicated telephone including the line and an answering machine and we pay all cost of installation and running. The position might be ideally suited to someone who is at home during the day or cannot get out much but enjoys contact with other people. Anyone who is interested, or who knows someone who is, please contact Gail in the first instance on 791 192. We also really need some additional volunteers. Our present group has recently lost one member and others now have jobs, which means they are not always available. If you think you would be interested in joining us (or if you know anyone who would be interested) please contact either: Gail (as above) or myself 790 372.

Louisa Barnes

Bishopstone 100 club

February Winners

1st 3 Joanna Jenkins

2nd 72 Russell Hatch

3rd 98 Toby Ford

The club is to support Bishopstone Village Hall and you have a chance to win £20, £10 or £5 each month.

Contact: Jo Selbourne 790 485

You can also check if you have won on our website:

www.bishopstoneandhintonparva.org

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Email:
treeman@iwalding.freereserve.co.uk



Bishopstone Gardening Club.....

Schedule of Events - 2014

Meetings are held at Bishopstone Village Hall on a Wednesday evening at 7.00pm unless otherwise stated

12th March - *The Incredible World of Honey Bees*

2nd April - Sam Mallett, a gardener from Notcutts in Nuneham Courtenay, Oxfordshire, will be here to demonstrate making up a hanging basket and tub. It's a very *hands on* evening and she likes everyone to gather round the table to see what she's doing. She will also be talking about the use of colour.

New Bishopstone Village Sewer Leak:- solids and liquids at Pinfold and liquids only at 2 The Forty

Thought I'd unload my tales of woe and tell you that I am now on the 22nd sewage leak at my back door. The last one only November 2013 lasted 3 days. Recently I found my Pinfold sewage flood file started in 2006, with receipts from drainage companies saying "no blockage found" plus other information which I have



put into a five page log and sent to the MP, SBC councillor rep, Thames Water, SBC (hopefully to pass on to health & safety & environmental health), Consumer Council for Water, Simon Jenkins, Laurie Manktelow, Evening Advertiser, Meridian Central TV. Apart from Simon and Laurie I have had no help.

14th May - Richard Roslyn, Head Gardener of Blewbury Manor, Oxfordshire, will be giving a talk on *Blewbury Manor through the Seasons*.

17th May – Plant Sale

11th June

9th July

13th September - Show

8th October

12th November – AGM/Quiz Night

More details of Speakers/events to follow, contact:

Doreen Cooper 792 965

Chris Thomas 790 106

Sheila Collins 790 358

email gardensoc@hotmail.co.uk

It's now almost a week since my now inaccessible back door, patio and wild life garden have been an open sewer for the entire village. The sight and stench is vile. The stream is polluted. No sign of Thames Water - I realise overshadowed by terrible floods - but this sewage problem is initially is nothing to do with floods just exacerbated by the weather. The informative Lanes for Drains Thames contractor who was sent to pacify Jim Mitchell and myself said, but asked not to be quoted - *the pumping station is totally inadequate for the increased size of the village and should have been replaced years ago - just made worse by the exceptional weather*. It was contrary to what the Thames Engineer told me when I collared him by the pump station *nothing wrong the pumps are working*. They are not. The contractor inspected and said the manholes in Cues Lane are full and leaking, as are the pump station tanks (which he is not officially allowed to inspect or as they are Thames Water Engineers responsibility) so the sewage has no where to go as it is banked up from the pump station, along the field, Cues Lane and exiting here. This on going issue should have been dealt with nine years ago instead of endless excuses.

Jackie Andersen (12th February)

Hope the problem now solved, but wouldn't put money on it -Ed

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Be Prepared

You just never know when a medical emergency may arise. With this in mind, we should all be aware of a new facility installed outside Wanborough Surgery.

In the case of a suspected Heart Attack, it is the first duty to call for professional help. That done, you should be aware that a Heart Defibrillator is now available 24 hours a day from outside the Wanbrough Surgery. Full instructions on how to unlock the instrument from it's stand and how to use it are all displayed. I am told that it is impossible for the machine to work unless the heart is actually in crisis - so you cannot do harm.

There is no doubt that having a mobile phone close to hand would be an advantage but not entirely essential. My information also tells me that another difibrillator is sited in Shrivenham.

Howard Crapper

Lyddington Art Group

There are a few spare places available for anyone interested in joining our very friendly group. Come along and learn how to draw or to paint in any medium. Our sessions are suitable for beginners or improvers. We meet every Friday afternoon between 2.00pm and 4.00pm in Lyddington Village Hall.

Contact: Rosemary 01793 490 977
or Ken 01793 845 805

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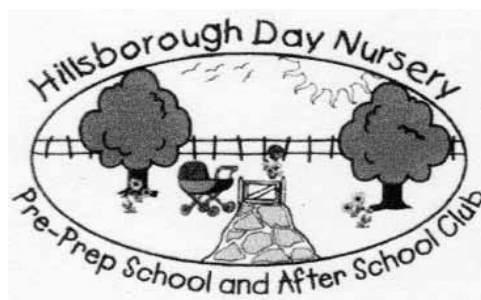
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To the undoubted disappointment of all his readers, Finney has skived off without leaving any copy.

At the time of writing Bishopstone's local pub has not been washed away from Cues Lane, but I suspect the flood committee are poised to man the lifeboats.



The Royal Oak

01793 790 461

Royaloak@helenbrowningorganics.co.uk

Market

Ashbury Village Hall

Sunday 9th March 11.00 - 1.00pm

Come and fill your baskets at our market in Ashbury!

Stalls will be selling:

Meat; Vegetables; Bread; Cakes; Plants; High quality flavoured Coffee; Luxury Chocolates; Jam & Preserves; Rapeseed Oil; Soap & Bath Bombs, Cards and Gifts



For more information contact:

Yvette Cummings 01793 790 387

yvette3mc@aol.com

In aid of Ashbury Pre-School (registered charity 1047271)

February Quiz Answers:

- 1 Answer B - Henry VIII.
- 2 Name 10 of the villages and hamlets between Swindon and Wantage: Wanborough, Hinton Parva, Bishopstone, Idstone, Ashbury, Compton Beauchamp, Woolstone, Kingston Lisle, Uffington, Sparsholt, etc
- 3 Answer D - Norfolk.
- 4 Answer B - The Independent Republic of Bishopstone;
- 5 Answer B - Roger Moore
- 6 Answer C - The Mill House.
- 7 Answer 1988
- 8 Answer C - a parakeet;
- 9 Answer - Emma Lindsay
- 10 Answer D - 2011.

And the winner is... Howard Crapper

Mobile Library

Wednesday 12th & 26th March

Bishopstone 10.00 - 10.55am

Hinton Church 11.00am

West Hinton Farm 11.20am

The Mobile Library will next be in the villages on the above dates. Wide range of books available, including large print and children's.

Coffee Morning

Whilst the mobile library is outside Bishopstone Village Hall a coffee morning is held in the Hall.

Contact: Doreen Cooper 792 965

Bishopstone Spring Quiz

7.30pm 26th April

Bishopstone Village Hall

Quiz with a difference offering traditional and new formats such as pointless and multiple choice plus a taste challenge.

Teams to consist of 4 to 7 people. Register as a team or individually and we will find a team for you

Prizes for the winners and runners-up.

Tickets are £10 & include a 2 course meal. Bring own drinks

Please register individually or as a team

Contact Barry Burnstead - 01793 791 022

Proceeds go to our village churches and the Link villages transportation facility



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theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

**Bishopstone with
Hinton Parva WI**

will hold its

**ANNUAL
MEETING
& ELECTIONS**

**On Thursday 13th March 2014
7.30pm at Hinton Parva Village Hall**

Guests and New Members are always most welcome.

Check out our web page for more information about our WI:
www.gashbury.org.uk/womeninat.php or call: 710769

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**Oyez! Oyez! Oyez!
All Ye Keyboard Players**

The small group of organists of Wanborough, Lyddington, Bishopstone and Hinton Parva (electronic organs) cordially invite you to join our 'band of volunteers' to play four hymns on one of the organs, once a month, lasting one hour, during a Sunday morning Service. Service times are either 9.30am or 11.00am and we can ease you in as gently as you wish. You will have plenty of help, and time to practice at your leisure, and you will also be so greatly appreciated by the vicar and the members of the congregation (almost like royalty!) You don't have to use the pedals.


The organ is a very exciting instrument to play and I'm sure you will find it just as thrilling. Give it a go and see how you get on.

I'm happy to meet you at which ever church you feel you would like to play, and introduce you to the organ.

Myra Binks

Please contact the vicar Rev'd Bill O'Connell
0173 791 359 - email villagevicar@hotmail.co.uk
or Myra Binks
01793 530 042 - email myrabinks@hotmail.com

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Toby's Tales of past Times



In the 1970s we had Richard and Jenny Pitman living in the village, where they built their first bungalow and yard (Parva Stud, at the moment being extensively renovated). On a good day you could hear Jenny loudly berating somebody or other for a wrong doing.

In the corner of the cemetery there was an old corrugated iron shed and when I looked in I discovered an old bier. With the help of Jim Ball we pulled it out behind my truck and took it back to the church. After a while some kind person (Doug Wilson) generously agreed to get it restored to its former glory. It came back in first class condition and is kept inside St. Swithun's, has been used regularly since.

Toby Ford

Photographs by Mogs and Jonathon Boon: bier top left; wild flower meadow bottom right

I'm still remembering people who used to live in the village, there was Michael and Betty Wilson who farmed at Hill Manor (where Tom and Emma Cripwell now live) – Michael was warden before me and Betty was a member of the PCC for many years – she was our delegate to Deanery Synod and what tales she could tell. Her report was the best item on the PCC meeting – very entertaining (I remember one meeting when she announced she had no report as her dog had eaten it and another time when she was really excited that men kept waving at her driving through Bristol, until she discovered that she had no lights on the car – Ed). They gave Hinton Coombe to the National Trust to be enjoyed by so many people. The is now a lovely wild flower meadow, featured in an article in August 2012, well worth a visit in early summer).



And Finally.....

Gosh, hasn't it been at wet old winter, its sogginess reflected in this newsletter.



The fairies at the bottom of my slightly flooded garden hate it, I thought that they had abandoned me, but after hours of lurking under a bush I managed to spot one - eating

my rather poor winter greens.

Let's hope that March really is the start of spring and we don't get any snow.

mogs X

ADVERTISING

The advertising part of the newsletter, which of course, helps to fund the enterprise, is organised by Angie Alcock. For business advertising rates please contact her: email angiealcock@hotmail.co.uk or telephone 07976 645 229.

We must warn you that adverts received without payment will not be included. For people with small, one-off advertisements there is a minimum fee of £1.00.

As to advertising on the

village website email: Andy Greenhalgh, agreenha@gmail.com or Jonathon Boon, wizeoldboon@hotmail.com

The copy deadline is the 15th of the month but **please send large items as early as possible**. Don't forget copy must include name and contact details for validation purposes. The newsletter is delivered free of charge to all households in the two villages; donations towards the cost of production will be gratefully received by Angie.

CONTACT

email: mogsboon@hotmail.com subject newsletter (in case my computer rather rudely thinks you are junk mail) or delivered to:

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

the newsletter appears on the new village website at:

www.bishopstoneandhintonparva.org

