

# Village News

for Bishopstone & Hinton Parva

May 2016

## Country Garden Fête

Noon - 4.00pm Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June

Hinton Manor



### Stalls

Accessories	Conta Criswell 790 507
Books	Andy & Caryn Greenhalgh 791 469
Bottle stall	Sheila Collins 790 358
Chocolate fondu	Jill White 791 102 & Rachel Blunt 790248
Children's toys	Karen Walker 790 363 & Mandy Ridler 791 163
Country larder	Shirley Crapper 791 171
Plant stall	Conta Criswell 790 507
White elephant	Leslie Coates 790 520

All contributions for the stalls will be gratefully received by the people listed above.

### Attractions

Band; Beer; Bouncy castle; Burger bar; Childrens games; Ice-creams; Julia Radbourne presents, eg patchwork cushions, fairisle knitting and lavender bags; Lardi cakes; Live roosters; Mystery History Quiz; SN dogs; Stocks and Wood turning.....

### Raffle Prizes - so far

Main Prize to the value of £100.00; Goodies from Highclere

Castle; A voucher for £25 from Charlotte Bentley; Two books written by Jeremy Clarkson and signed by him; A voucher for lunch or dinner for two with a bottle of house wine at the Queen's Arms in East Garston; an hour's treatment (massage or reflexology) with Minty Crawley in Chilton Foliat and a £20 Waitrose voucher.

The Mystery History quiz will take place in St. Swithun's Church.

(Continued page 3)

## Wine & Song Evening

7.30 pm Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June

Hinton Manor

Come and hear Hinton's own Luiza Staniec, who teaches Singing for everyone, playing and singing songs that we all love

Tickets £10.00 - only a limited number

Contact: Mogs 790 626 or Sheila 790 358

all proceeds to go to the church funds

[www.bishopstoneandhintonparva.org](http://www.bishopstoneandhintonparva.org) for breaking news

## CHURCH SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE

<b>Sunday</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	<b>1<sup>st</sup> May</b>	8.30am	Holy Communion	Lyddington
		10.30am	Family Communion	Bishopstone
		6.00pm	Evensong	Hinton Parva
<b>Sunday</b> 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	<b>8<sup>th</sup> May</b>	8.30am	Holy Communion	Bishopstone
		10.30am	Family Communion	Wanborough
		6.00pm	Evensong	Lyddington
<b>Sunday</b> Pentecost	<b>15<sup>th</sup> May</b>	8.30am	Holy Communion	Wanborough
		10.30am	Family Communion	Lyddington
		6.00pm	Evensong	Hinton Parva
<b>Sunday</b> Trinity Sunday	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	10.30am	Family Communion <i>bring &amp; share picnic to follow service</i>	Hinton Parva
		6.00pm	Evensong	Wanborough
<b>Sunday</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday After Trinity	<b>29<sup>th</sup> May</b>	6.00pm	Evensong	Lyddington
<b>Sunday</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday After Trinity	<b>5<sup>th</sup> June</b>	8.30am	Holy Communion	Lyddington
		10.30am	Family Communion	Bishopstone
		6.00pm	Evensong	Hinton Parva

### *The Vicar's Letter*

Dear Friends and Neighbours,

It seems to be a big year for Birthday's. *The Ridgeway Link* celebrates 20 years of service to our local community and a get together including a little wine and cake took place at Bishopstone Village Hall recently. In the last year alone 18 volunteers provided more than 130 lifts to people, predominantly for medical appointments but trips to get shopping happen too. Funded by a mix of voluntary contribution, a charity fun run and a small but much appreciated contribution from local councils, this is a charity very much focused on service. Formed all those years ago in response to a reduction in the bus service, the proposal was made at a public meeting and has been supported ever since. New volunteers are always welcome and expenses are covered. Similarly, new users of the service are also welcome. Though no fixed charges apply, any contribution is gratefully received. If you wish to volunteer or make use of this community service please telephone 01793 791 192

Another Birthday of note this year is that of Her Majesty the Queen, it's her 90<sup>th</sup>. From the time of her accession to the throne, the Queen has dedicated her life to the service of this country.

In honour of her service we are holding a benefice wide Church Service of celebration and thanksgiving at St Andrew's Church Wanborough on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June at 10.30am. We are blessed to have the Queens representative for Wiltshire living in the Benefice. Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire, Sarah Rose Troughton will be at the service and will be sharing with us something of her role. The Monarch has always been a rallying point throughout the ages and it would be lovely if we were able to come together to mark this important Birthday. Her Majesty, as with so many of her family, has a certain reputation for hats! It would be good to see an array of hats at the Church Service too.

This letter has for most part been about Birthdays and service, and not just the church variety! Kirk Douglas described how, while feeling sorry for himself after a stroke, he was faced with two dogs with legs crossed looking increasing uncomfortable by the door. It dawned on him that if he didn't get up to help them, there would be an awful mess. It then dawned on him, if he didn't get up to help others that had also suffered a stroke, then what was the point of him having the stroke in the first place? *My Stroke of Luck* was his biographical account of this

transforming period of his life. It provides a valuable insight into this tragic illness, from the other side of the bed-sheets, as it were. Working with teenagers has shown that many an individual suffering from depression has turned their lives around when they have been given the opportunity to serve. Our Bibles teach us that we are here to have fellowship with God and to serve Him and our neighbour. Celebrating and giving thanks for this and all our blessings are what we try to do each Sunday and you are more than welcome to join us then as well as Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June at 10.30am.

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

telephone 790 088

or email [villageprayers@gmail.com](mailto:villageprayers@gmail.com)

With best wishes and prayers

*Bill*

Thank you to.....

.....Shirley, Conta, Linda, Lesley, Angie and Mogs for all the beautiful floral arrangements that adorned St Swithun's over Easter and for the magnificent Lent spring clean that the church received.

Also thank you to the young members of Messy Church who helped to decorate the Easter Garden.

*Marguerite*

### St. Swithun's Family Service

10.30am Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

There will be a bring and share picnic after the service.

Celebration Service for  
HM the Queen's Birthday



10.30am Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June

St Andrew's Church Wanborough  
Please join us. There is to be one big family church service for the whole Benefice as part of the local celebrations.

HM Lord - Lieutenant for Wiltshire, Sarah Rose Troughton, who lives locally, will be telling us about her role. Everyone of all ages from all four villages is most welcome.

St Andrew's is a big church seating at least 200, so let's fill it to the rafters. Please do all come along for this special and historic occasion The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday and feel free to wear a hat!

More details to follow



*(Continued from front page)*

### Fête Advertising

Angie Alcock 07976 645 229 & Mogs Boon 790 626

### Stop Press

Most excitingly, appearing at the fête are our guests, the beautiful live roosters:

George - a Pekin, for those of you who know anything about Cockerels - (above) and Rusty (above right). Blackberry (portrait front page) wears orthopaedic boots for his bad back.

For raffle tickets or any other fête enquiry contact:

Conta Criswell 790 507

### Benefice Choir

We are looking for new people to join our choir which covers all four churches.

We are a friendly group. You don't need to be able to read music and it isn't a heavy commitment.

Interested? please contact:

Roz 790508

### Contacts

Any enquiries:

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

01793 791 359

villagevicar@hotmail.co.uk

OR

**The Churchwardens:**

Marguerite Seaward  
Hillside, Hinton Parva SN4 0DH,

01793 791 242

colinspeedway@aol.com

John Lowry 01793 790 271

john1000000@live.com

**The Secretary:** Marguerite Seaward  
Hillside, Hinton Parva SN4 0DH,

01793 791 242

colinspeedway@aol.com

**The Child Protection Officer:**

Jill White 01793 791 102

### List of Other PCC Members:

Paul Bailey (Treasurer)

01793 790 103

paulbailey86@btinternet.com

Hilary Newton 01793 791 086

Alan Taylor 07703 162 523

R2attayloralan@aol.com

Doug Stevens 01793 791 107

doug1966@btinternet.com

### *From the Benefice Register*

Baptism

**St. Mary's Bishopstone**

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

Francesca Lauren Walker

### Cleaning Rota - St. Mary's Church, Bishopstone

May - Mary Darling & Lisa Fitchett

June - Lorna Ford & Linda Matthews

July - Fran Shishton & Sheila Collins

August - Caroline Brandi & Gill White

September - Chris Thomas & Gill May

October - Maggie Gill & Jane Golding

November - Liz Warrick & Jane Matthews

December - Sarah Best & Jenny Isles

Many thanks to all those who have helped to keep our church cared for and clean. Karen Stevens 791 107 and Doreen Cooper 792 965 on standby if anyone on the rota is unable to do their slot but always welcome more volunteers on the rota, if you or anyone you know might like to join us.

Sarah Bally 791 121

## The Village Hall, Bishopstone - May

The hall is cleaned	Mondays		8.30 - 10.30am
Taekwondo	Tuesdays	12 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 - 8.00pm
Mobile Library	Wednesdays	4 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 - 10.55am
Tanwood Performing Arts School	Wednesdays	4 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup>	3.30 - 5.00pm
Mothers & Toddlers School	Thursdays	12 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 - 11.00am
Elections	Thursday	5 <sup>th</sup>	All Day
Parish Council	Monday	9 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 - 9.00pm
Gardening Society	Wednesday	11 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 - 9.00pm
Gardening Society	Monday	14 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 - 8.00am
Village Hall	Saturday	9 <sup>th</sup>	2.00 - 4.00pm
Daily School Dinners (holidays)	Subject to bookings		11.45-1.00pm

All bookings for the Village Hall Bishopstone will be taken via Bishopstone CE Primary School. In term time, call 01793 790 521 and speak to Sue Tremlin or leave a message on the answerphone. During school holidays there will be a message giving an alternative number to contact. We look forward to receiving 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.

## Hinton Parva Village Hall - May

Bridge Club	Friday	6 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> , 20 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup>	7.00-10.00pm
WI	Thursday	12 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 - 9.0pm

The Booking Secretary is Karin Thompson - 790 970  
 £6.00 per hour for residents of Bishopstone & Hinton Parva  
 £8.00 per hour for those living outside the parish

Private Parties  
 Meetings etc welcome

Catering may be available  
 Free Parking

## Hinton Parva Village Hall Committee AGM

Held on 13<sup>th</sup> April in the Hall, the meeting concluded that significant advances have been made in the improvements to the Hall. A new floor and and new double glazed windows and extensive decoration. Many thanks to all who have contributed to fund raising over many years and to the appeal. We now have a very fine Hall for meetings, clubs, celebrations etc. The car park is an added bonus. The headline decision of the meeting was to suspend the Annual Flower Show. Entries have dwindled over recent years and new residents do not seem so inclined to show their support. Modern living has changed vil-

lage life. There are now so many distractions, new pastimes and new shift work times. The Show Secretary announced his retirement earlier in the year and the meeting were inclined to say that the Flower Show had run its course in its present format. On a financial front, the costs of running the Flower Show have risen, especially in the cup engraving, where this year it ran to over £100. The Committee are very grateful for the £20 donation toward the engraving.

The Show Secretary paid tribute to the many skilled judges (four every year) who have attended over the years, from outside the village, without fees or travel costs. Sincere thanks to all the loyal Flower Show entrants who were there year after

## The Race Day Tea Rooms



## Pig Racing Day

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June

The Village Hall Bishopstone

We need: donations of cakes, somebody to 'tickle the ivories' etc. Expect cajoling, arm twisting, flattery etc.

If you can help, please contact:  
 Tel. 01793 790 358

Fund raising Event in aid of the  
 Village Hall

year. As someone always used to say *Something else will turn up*, and there is always the Bishopstone Show. The current Village Hall Committee consists of: Ian Thompson; Conta Criswell; Hazel Cooke; Karen Roberts; Luiza Moir and Howard Crapper. It would be hugely beneficial to welcome new members. Please contact any of the Committee members above to get involved. Very pleased to confirm here that our Hall Booking Secretary is Karen Thompson who can be contacted on 790 970.

Howard Crapper

Wanborough's Farmers' Market  
 Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May 9.00am - Noon  
 Wanborough Village Hall

Markets are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month (**not August** though some traders will be found at Wanborough Show on August 20<sup>th</sup>).

For more information contact:

Sue & David Birley 01793 790 438  
 sbirley@gn.apc.org

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# Village News

for Bishopstone & Hinton Parva

[www.bishopstoneandhintonparva.org](http://www.bishopstoneandhintonparva.org)

July 2013

## Who cares about the weather?



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If you would like to place an advert in the newsletter please contact:

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[mogsboon@hotmail.com](mailto:mogsboon@hotmail.com)  
01793 790 626

1 - Holly at Fitzwary, 2 - Lotus & Tit. This week (for those who don't know a trick, a lesson was given on back training, by Rachel, between photos) 3 - Fiona & Tigger (not seen yet at 'bout 1.2 - Kaffeeen at local pub; see your copy, 4 - Hannah & Holly; (not 'ere yet) 5 - continue page 3



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## Ridgeway Link 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



The Ridgeway Link is a voluntary organisation which provides transport for residents of the four villages in the benefice to attend hospital, doctors etc. It has been operating for 20 years and a small celebration to mark this milestone was held after its AGM on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April at Bishopstone Village Hall. During those twenty years many volunteers have offered their services and many residents of the villages have used the service. The photo above shows Louisa Barnes, one of the founders of the Link, cutting a celebratory cake. The Ridgeway link is financed through donations and operated entirely by volunteers, but because people move away or become too old to drive we are always looking for new volunteers. If you have a car and are able to offer a few hours a month to take users to hospital, doctors surgeries, dentists etc. please contact us on the numbers below:

Louisa 790 372 or The Ridgeway Link 791 192

## Lent Lunches

I would like to thank everyone who supported the Lent Lunches this year. To all those who kindly hosted the lunches and to everyone who attended, a big thank you.

I am glad to say we raised the magnificent sum of £724.00

The money has been distributed as follows:

N.S.P.C.C. £209.50; Prospect £209.50; Guide dogs for the blind £160.00 and Liddington Bell Fund. £145.00.



*The last Lent Lunch was held at Shirley Crapper's in Hinton where these three photographs were taken.*

*Joan Carron*

*Sue and Adrian Dent*



## The Wanborough Show Society 85<sup>th</sup> Summer Show

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> August**

### **The Flower and Produce Show**

As we look out at our gardens and start to see them come to life, we begin to ponder what we want to grow this year. So we thought it might be a good idea to help you with your planning and persuade you to begin thinking about what you might like to enter in the *great* Wanborough Flower and Produce Show in August.

**Mobile Garden Competition:** Last year we had a brilliant response to our new competition to grow a mobile garden on a particular theme. We had some unusual and imaginative gardens on the theme of Wildlife.

Once again this year you can create a living garden in the confines of any wheeled conveyance about the size of a wheelbarrow. It must contain plants and any other added materials to fit the theme. The theme for 2016 is *An Artist's Garden*. This should reflect the work of a named artist.

**Hanging Basket or Planter:** There is also a competition for the best hanging basket or planter in the Parish. So why not have a go at winning the Parish County Trophy with your best creation. You do not even have to bring it to the show, we will judge it in situ.

**Photography Competition:** Why not get out with your camera and take some photos for this year's competition. The themes are as follows:

1. Feed the Birds
2. Food Glorious Food
3. Flower Power
4. Quintessentially English

We hope that helps you get going with your entries for this year's show.

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# TOM'S TEAM

Hill Manor House, Hinton Parva, Wiltshire. SN4 0DP

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# Bishopstone Gardening Society

## Diary Dates for the Year:

The 2<sup>nd</sup> **Wednesday** of the month, 7.30pm start, at Bishopstone Village Hall, unless otherwise stated. Friendly, happy plant people, tea/coffee/cake, raffle.

Looking forward to **11<sup>th</sup> May**, when we have something for the gardeners and the photographers amongst you. Come and see **Michelle Whitmore's** beautiful Macro photography and hear her talk on, ***A year in the suburban jungle.***

*My passion for macro photography goes beyond taking photographs, I also like to talk and write about my subject. I have been a regular speaker at The Societies An-*



*nual Convention in London since 2012 and give presentations to local camera clubs, horticultural and garden societies and WI Groups. I have had a number of articles and images published in Professional Image-Maker and Photography Monthly Magazine. And, I have made several short films about macro and extreme macro photography for the Photographer Academy.*

### **Plant Sale.....**

.....on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May 8.00 - 11.00am.**

(The true meaning of *Bring and Buy*). Bring your saleable plants to Bishopstone Village Hall early, from 8.00 - 9:00ish. Hall opens at 10.00am for purchasing. Promise you, they'll all be snapped up by 11.00!

### **8<sup>th</sup> June Jon Mason: Gardeners Question Time.**

Come prepared with some nifty gardening-related questions to flummox Jon. Challenge him on the night!

### **13<sup>th</sup> July Peter Biggs, Wanborough Herb Garden:**

A talk on, ***Late summer garden flowers.*** Peter always bring along a great selection for us to buy after his talk.

### **1<sup>st</sup> September Thursday**

An evening trip to ***The White Horse Garden Club*** in Uffington, where ***Jenny Steel*** will be speaking and showing slides:

### ***Making a Wildlife Garden***

### **10<sup>th</sup> September, Saturday**

#### ***Annual Show***

One of the Photographic categories is: *Two seasons* (two photos of the same spot in two different seasons) A full list of Photo categories will be on a poster at Bishopstone and Hinton Parva Village Hall soon.

**15<sup>th</sup> October** Saturday Trip to see ***Westonbirt Arboretum's*** stunning autumnal colours.

### **12<sup>th</sup> November Saturday**

#### ***Quiz night & Supper***

## Blunsdon Open Gardens Weekend 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> July

Blunsdon will be opening selected gardens to the public. Free parking will be available at the Blunsdon House Hotel and breakfasts will be sold at the Village hall from 10.00am and refreshments being available all day.

St Leonards Church will host floral displays depicting the life of the Queen. Make your own Miniature garden from recycled materials at a workshop at the Village Hall. Plant Sales and tombola amongst other attractions. Scarecrows and Gardens will be open from 12 Noon until 5.00pm by ticket admission only.

Open Garden Tickets available for sale from the village hall £5.00 per adult including a minibus service to reach the gardens for the less active. Small extra charge for Scarecrow competition. Proceeds to St. Leonard's Church and participating Blunsdon Community Groups.

For further details contact:

Julie Allen 01793 721 429

## BBC Goes Live

The inaugural meeting of the BBC (Bishopstone Book Club) on 23<sup>rd</sup> March was an engaging, stimulating experience discussing *Room* by Emma Donoghue. We enjoyed ourselves so much we've decided to meet again, and we welcome anyone who would like to have an informal, not-too-intellectual chat over a glass or three about the following book:

***Gods Own Country* by Ross Raisin**  
Meeting Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May, 8.00pm

For more info contact :

Cheryl 791 849

Email [cherylkeen@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cherylkeen@hotmail.co.uk)

## An Oxfordshire Walk

I went to Aston Pottery and found a nice walk along the river from *The Trout at Tadpole Bridge, Buckland Marsh, to Rushey Lock.* There was a flock of sheep in the water meadow and I watched twin lambs born in the sunshine ... very unusual to see that during the day.

Sheila

Jane McCutchan



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07541 956 179 01793 790 265  
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## The School Report

In our normal style the school has continued to be busy after fame was found through Victorian Day! World Book Day saw a variety of characters entering the school from princesses through to dinosaurs. We also had the parents join us for the morning, adding to the mix.

Our youngest children in Reception joined the *Make a Noise* music festival held at *The Platform* in Swindon to sing songs from around the world. There may have only been five ..... but they certainly had volume! We were very proud of them.

For *Sport Relief* the children came up with a variety of ideas to raise money. We held our own *cupcake bake off*, dressed up in as many different sport costumes that we could think of and played skittles in teams. We were also raising money for Autism Awareness and the children created a giant shiny *coin duck*.

We then had a team of children led by Mrs Morris taking part in a *Maths Challenge* morning held at Kingsdown Secondary. The children competed in teams through a variety of maths puzzles to score as many points as they could. We didn't win but the school team put up a strong fight for which they were deservedly praised.

The end of term saw our traditional and inspiring Easter bonnets on display (this year the theme was *light*) and the service at the Church was led by Rev. Bill. The service was made up of poems, a *prayer shout out*, short drama and a realisation that we need to purchase microphones for our *little* voices to be heard clearly.

You may have noticed that the front of the school building is beginning to look a *tad tatty*. The school sign has vanished, however please do not worry we are still here!! Finally the weather has turned enough for the stone mason to begin the lengthy work on renovating the school stonework. This is beginning along the front elevation of the school. Unfortunately it will look *worse* before it looks *beautiful* as the stone has to be washed down, paint and previous



damage removed and then stones that are not retrievable taken out and replaced with new. He will gradually work around the entire school building, completing each side, hopefully by the end of the summer. This is long overdue (held up by the inevitable two years of red tape) and will secure the school building for at least another 100years!!

Finally, we wanted to invite you to join us if you are passing on Friday **29th April**. Our children have been busy working in year groups with Mrs Dent, creating wonderful pieces of individual art work. This is going to be displayed in the Village Hall and all are welcome to join us for the viewing. We might even be able to rustle up some snacks! Timings will go on the school website and in the Village Hall nearer to the date. We look forward to seeing you there.

Emma Linsay

## Bishopstone with Hinton Parva



### Next Meeting

**7.30pm Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May  
Hinton Parva Village Hall**

At our March meeting (AGM) the Committee was confirmed for April 2016 – March 2017. Our out-going President Hazel Cooke, who had been a wonderful leader for the past 2 years and now needed more time to enjoy her recently acquired caravan, was replaced by Maggie Simons. Maggie is not only a long standing member of our WI but has also served on the National Federation Board and has strong links with ACWW (Associated Country Women of the World). In 2015 Maggie presented HRH Queen Elizabeth with the WI's Centenary Baton at the Royal Albert Hall.

May sees the start of our 2016/17 Speakers Programme and at our first meeting Martin Savage will be sharing his knowledge of Garden Birds with us. This should be a lovely evening with

spring now in full swing and the birds being incredibly busy in our gardens. At the beginning of March a group of Ladies enjoyed a *Historical Ghost Walk* led by Joy McNally Bells, around Wroughton. However all the ghosts remained well hidden on that particular afternoon. At the end of May we have our annual dinner at Swindon College. More events are continually being arranged including a demonstration at Aston Pottery and a performance by The Russian State Ballet.

We would love to see new faces at our meetings, come along and have a chat with us, our members come from several different villages and also Old Town and we are a very friendly bunch.

For more information please contact:

**Christina Petersen 07854 710 963**

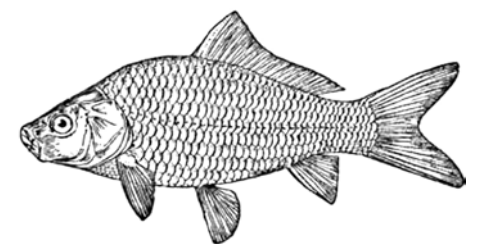
## A Fishy Tail End

Two kind people in the village have donated an astonishing £50 voucher for the Water Garden to help Den restock his pond with fish. The kindness of some people is heartwarming and we can't thank them enough. They want to remain anonymous so this is the only way we can acknowledge their generosity.

Denis was talking to a game warden the other day and the conversation got round to the fish being taken from his pond.

*Funny you should say that said the game warden but I found the remains of a whole lot of fish in a ditch the other day. I was very curious how they came to be there.*

It seems our fish thieves sorted out their *catch* and only kept the carp. The other fish they just dumped in the ditch. How horrible is that! Why couldn't they at least have let those unwanted fish live in our pond?



Penny Alston

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## The New Bishopstone *Dingle* Super Highway

Unofficially opened by Ms Iva Shoe-ful (President of the Bishopstone Potholing Society) Bishopstone's Second\*\*\* Super Highway, this remarkable event was witnessed sometime in April.

The ascent into Cues Lane has already been affectionately dubbed *The Stairway to Heaven* and another casual observer is alleged to have said *I suppose when it weathers in nicely we can knock it down like the Hovel*.

\*\*\* 1st the ridgeway

*Bob* (your roving reporter – unpaid) Is it called the stairway to heaven because it leads to *the Oak*, can't think it is on account of going to Tom Green's cottage, or is there something I'm missing about Cues Lane?

*Ed*

## Dickie's Diary -

Gardeners and farmers have had few chances to do much in the last month. Writing mid April, it's very wet with most cattle still shut in. One of the wettest springs formed the base year for milk quotas which were brought in 1984 as an EC measure to solve over production and this measure contributed to hardship as the bad weather had affected cow yields that year. Milk

quotas were suspended by the EC last year opening up the prospect of further production in a world market already over supplied and still suffering from Russia's embargo on milk product imports. The tough market place will continue to force more herd sales.

Our spring barley, sown when dry in early March, is all up but heavy land farmers will be despairing and faced with what we call planting *cuckoo* barley. I did actually briefly hear one here last year! Through our French windows we were watching a song thrush one day eating the contents of a snail, so I said *perhaps she has a nest in the garden*. Indeed she has, because I found her nest in a lonicera shrub that day and five clear blue eggs with a few black spots on one end. A thrush's nest is always a firm deep bowl often cemented together with a sawdust lining. Helping in the church yard at Ashbury I found another such nest also with eggs amongst a box bush.

The prize for the most intricate nest must go to long tailed tits who construct a domed and spherical nest using up to 3000 tiny feathers bound together with cobwebs. A jenny wren is a close second with its clever nest hidden against a wall amongst twigs or ivy with a tiny aperture on the side. Robins love to nest in outbuildings, often on a ledge with reddish spotted eggs. My father in law near Lechlade has mixed feelings, since he is woken awfully early every morning by screeches from a pair of little owls that have a nest in a leylandii tree just outside his bedroom window. Little owls normally find a hole in a tree so this is rather an unusual site.

*Richard Green*

## Lyddington Bells Project

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May** - Coach Trip to Loughborough. There are only places available on the coach trip for anybody who would like to visit this market town. The tour of John Taylor's Bell Foundry and Museum prior to the casting of the six new bells for Lyddington is now full.

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July:** The new bells will be delivered to church.

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July:** The bells and their

fittings will be on display in church.

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July:** Hallowing Service conducted by Rev Sandy Railton in the presence of donors, congregation and villagers. Don't forget to bring your cameras to church over this busy and historic weekend.

## Lyddington Bell Ringers Needed

Learn to ring now and be ready to ring Lyddington bells by Christmas. Practices at the moment are on Fridays at Wanborough church at 7.10pm.

Our shortfall is now only £19,500 approx. Please continue to support the Lyddington Bells Project and send your donations to Fiona Nelson, Tilbrook House, High Street, Wanborough.

Get the latest news from the Bells

Project web site at:

[liddingtonbellsproject.moonfruit.com](http://liddingtonbellsproject.moonfruit.com)

Fiona Nelson, Project Chairperson

790 546 [fiona@tilbrookhouse.co.uk](mailto:fiona@tilbrookhouse.co.uk)

Tony Pullan

790 904 / 07745 011 788

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

## Mobile Library

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> May

**Bishopstone 9.55 - 10.25am**

**Hinton Church 10.35am**

**West Hinton Farm 10.50 - 11.00am**

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, indulge in a cup of tea or coffee and catch up with all the latest.

Contact: Doreen Cooper 792 965

**Bishopstone 100 club**

## March Winners

1<sup>st</sup> 55 Sue Bone

2<sup>nd</sup> 22 Jane Lomax

3<sup>rd</sup> 95 Doreen Cooper

Usual moan, subs please £10 per number per year. Cheques to be made payable to Bishopstone Village Hall. Some people have more than one number! Maximise your chance of winning and help the hall. There are several numbers available, so ring Jo 790 485 to nail your favourite.

*Jo. X*



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[enquiries@alfrescochildcare.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@alfrescochildcare.co.uk)

## The Royal Oak Diary

### Sleepy villages rocked by Panama Papers

As the landlord prepares to publish his tax return for the years 2001-2015, revealing net payments to HMRC of £1.37, and as Dennis and Eileen refuse to take calls from *The Eastbrook Times* while drinking vodkas and coke sitting by their Wyncies penthouse swimming pool, and while the Wednesday night drinkers huddle together at the end of the bar and agree to terminate their relationship with other Panama based legal firms (see previous Royal Oak diaries for names), it is clear that life for the well-heeled in Bishopstone and Hinton Parva will never be the same again.

*My collection of old and rusty Renault automobiles is of course held in a Panama based trust, said the landlord. My pensions have never been administered by Mossack Fonseca, said long time Bishopstonian and pillar of the community and parish councillor Mr A Greenhalgh. We use a completely different legal firm, said another anonymous young-ish retiree, speaking from his Davos ski chalet. They're called Sue, Grabbitt and Runne, said the people who've spent most of their winter in New Zealand.*

The good regional office of Mossack Fonseca (prop, T Finney), temporarily housed in the old shop at the pub, has now been closed pending a visit from the International Monetary Fund, led by Ian Thomas and Syd Simpson.

Meanwhile, in the humdrum business of pub running as opposed to money running, continues to stimulate customers and staff alike. Life in the Bishopstone pub under the kitchen leadership of David Crabtree Logan, happily settling in after his US sojourn, is hell bent on feeding people more and more from the rich produce from Eastbrook, the hedgerow and wild stuff within a mile or so of here, AND the produce from your gardens. Please, if you have anything lovely, or in surplus, make a point

of speaking with David (01793 790 481 pub telephone) and he will issue credits for you on the spot. The Old Town restaurant, *The Chop House* has so far been a remarkable success; but it's honeymoon time, of course, and I am sure the people of Old Town will tire of my humour before too long. If you want space there to eat gloriously simple food:

telephone 01793 527 082,  
email [hello@helenbrowningschophouse.co.uk](mailto:hello@helenbrowningschophouse.co.uk)

We're not short of activity here, either, always assuming the ghastly winter-ish weather relents; **Drive it Day** (classic cars and bikes) is on 24<sup>th</sup> April, possibly after you've read this. I'm personally giving £200 or so to the two best turned out vehicles, everybody gets a vote if they want; none of my old and rusty Renaults and Volvos will win, I am sure.

**Pig Racing, 5<sup>th</sup> June:** we're supporting the Swindon and North Wiltshire Deaf Children Soc again, since no-one else responded to my note two months ago asking for other charities to share the spoils, and some of the effort. To this end, Tom Green (partner, Sue Grabbitt and Runne) will be operating his black economy on line betting service Piggy Power throughout the day, with special encouragement to the under 5s to bet, since it's a very good way of showing them how easy it is to lose all your pocket money in one moment of madness; ie gambling, often stupid. We will run 3, possibly 4, races, for 8 pigs. Pigs require ownership, money to charity

of course; I think we have sold 3 of them already. £40 for your name in lights and the papers.

Music that day will be stupendous; apart from locals Hangfire, I think Hunter and the Bear will be the very best band ever to hit Bishopstone. En route to Wychwood at Cheltenham that day, they're stopping off here for an hour (and enormous expense), and will play roughly between 2.15 - 3.15pm. Racing will be suspended for an hour, so there are no distractions.

There's lots more, but no space, and I've run out of old jokes. No bottles and no black poo bags to report, either. It's not clear why.

Hope we see you, somewhere, sometime.

TF



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## News from Bishopstone Pottery

### Episode 22

Adrian and I love nothing more than to visit other potteries to gaze in wonder at the superior skills of other potters and to find inspiration for our own work.

This month we were drawn back to another visit to Whichford Pottery in Warwickshire run by potter, Jim Keeling, and famous for their beautiful terracotta garden pots. You may recall that on our last visit I was somewhat enchanted by a scantily clad male potter throwing a very large pot. This time Adrian was having none of that. Instead we were tempted by the Spring sale of seconds. We deliberately took our little car because we promised we would satisfy ourselves with buying one small pot. No such luck. The bargains were too good and we came away with three good sized planters and three small planters. It's amazing what you can get in the boot of a Mazda MX5 if you try!

We would love to make our own large terracotta pots but we are limited by the size of our kiln. We do, however, make most of our own small terracotta pots using a fairly rough clay, which gives the pots a more textured and hardy looking finish. We also fire to a temperature to make the pots frostproof. All clay has an optimum maturation point when firing and the clay is vitrified. This means that all the different ingredients in the clay have melted and bonded together to form a mature, very strong, *ceramic*. If a clay is under-fired (like many of the pottery containers that are called *terracotta*) it is weak and porous and highly susceptible to cracking, even without being frozen. So the more porous a pot is the more water it will absorb and in cold weather that water will freeze and expand and crack the pot. So by reaching the correct maturation temperature we reduce absorption and create a frostproof pot. Simple. Huh?

Getting back to our day out, after Whichford Pottery, we had a glorious drive across the Cotswolds to Winchcombe Pottery near Cheltenham. We arrived at the old pottery just as a steam train chugged past. It was like being transported to the late 1940's. The pottery was run by Ray Finch for many years until he died in 2012. The yards were full of wood for the wood-firings but only the shop was open as it was Sunday. This was full of beautifully thrown, utilitarian, wood-fired pottery. We could not resist the shape and burnt biscuit colour of a large jug. Would it fit in the boot with the rest of the pots? Of course – just! We made it home with all intact.

Next month will be the last pottery newsletter for a while. We are seriously worried about becoming boring. So I am sure Mogs would be delighted if someone else could offer to write an article for the back page.



Sue and Adrian Dent

### And Finally.....

Why do we listen to the Archers? Because I do, to my shame.



Hang Helen and get it over with, I know they won't, she'll escape at the 11½<sup>th</sup> hour rescued by the first wife - a cynical ploy by the BBC.

Meanwhile in our own *real?* world drama unfolds, no more Hinton Flower Show, what will happen to the cups is still being debated - answers on a post card. And I can't even bear to think to *the Hovel*, may the perpetrator rot in hell.

I managed to intercept an email to the Oak - *Je voudrai reserve un table for my 'us-band and me ce soir - tonight - to taste your so delicious fillet de carp koi sur un comfit de canard Aylesbury.*

*I remain yours affectionally - Avil de Fou.* Sadly, the landlord informs me that they have sold out of koi carp.

*mogs, (please note these are my own views, not those of the PCC). XXX*

#### 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](mailto: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](mailto:agreenha@gmail.com) or Jonathon

Boon, [wizeoldboon@hotmail.com](mailto:wizeoldboon@hotmail.com)

**The copy deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> 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](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.

the newsletter appears on the new village website at:

[www.bishopstoneandhintonpava.org](http://www.bishopstoneandhintonpava.org)