

Village News

for Bishopstone & Hinton Parva February 2018

Murder in Play



Tales from the Green Room

He turned up to no rehearsals, didn't learn a single line, but somehow this butterfly managed to turn up on the Thursday night and steal the show. I have since found out that it is good when a butterfly visits a theatre, implying that the spirit of a former actor has given his blessing to the production. With the very sad loss of BADS original Les Morris over Christmas, this seems very poignant and the butterfly is henceforth christened Les.

Our four shows went quite literally with a bang, except for one night when there was no bang, other than yours truly improvising one. My tantrum backstage needs to be forgotten quickly, however those who saw it know where my daughter Tabby gets it from! Poor Tabby though, she did get to see both of her parents murdered in front of her! She seemed more concerned

(continued page 3)

* Look out for small articles from yesteryear in our newsletters.

www.bishopstoneandhintonparva.org for breaking news



Ethical Utilities

Save up to 40% on business energy rates.

Let me help you save!

Big or small business', including
farming, butchers, hairdressers
pubs and factories

Please call Richard Whelan
on 07803 559 838
for a free quotation

PEARCE FUNERAL SERVICES



Independent
and Family Owned

John Pearce Dip FD MBIE

92 Ermin Street
Stratton St. Margaret
Swindon

01793 832 072

24 hour service

The Harrow Inn Wanborough



Under New Management

Serving freshly prepared
home-made food
children & dogs welcome

Contact Michele Rostami 01793 791 792



Milk straight from the farm



Lower Wanborough SN4 0SN
Contact: 07958 042 016
www.facebook.com/jojosdairyfarm

(Continued from front page)

about her Mum than me...

From our perspective, were thoroughly enjoyed by our audiences. We are very grateful for your support over the years. To keep it going, we do need more actors and production support. Please do speak to one of the team.

I believe another will write a review of the play and dissect our performance. However, perhaps because I forgot to mention her in my last Tale, I have to say that Val (of Hinton Parva) was great!

Tom Green

First night - 10th February

In this play within a play, it was hard to see how the cast kept track of their ever-changing personalities. Even when they were playing actors playing the same person, they were being directed to play that person differently by the scourge of local theatre land, Boris 'The Ponytail' Finney. It couldn't have been easy, though the cast made it appear that way - which says all you need to know about their acting ability and dedication.

We can only hope that rumours of The Ponytail's defection to TV to play a key role in McMafia are much exaggerated (even more so than Tom Sishton's facial tics). . .

And, as good as the cast were, the play wouldn't have been such a success without all those backstage people who were never seen, but whose presence was apparent in dodgy cupboard door catches, exploding decanters, jump-inducing gun-shots, interval drinks, programmes and raffle tickets.

A well-earned bow should be taken by one and all, from the cast members to the entire production team. Thank you, **BADS**, for cheering up a miserable January evening. Look forward to doing it again next year.

FM (Mrs Mantelpiece)

Final Night - 13th February

Moments that will remain with me forever: A bewigged blond, and pony-tailed Tim Finney, purposefully striding towards the stage whilst bellowing directions to the cast; the hi-

larious change of voice pitch during Act 2, and Tom Shishton's spasmotic facial tics whenever *the war* was mentioned. Thank you to all the BADS members. Altogether a fabulously enjoyable evening.

The final performance of the play on Saturday evening also held a great surprise for one Mogs Boon, Editor of this Parish Newsletter for the past ten years, and billed as *Continuity* in her capacity as Prompt for the duration of the play. Tim Finney commanded her to step onto the stage where she was presented with a bouquet of flowers, a signed card from villagers and a gift for the great service she continues to provide to both Bishopstone and Hinton Parva. Well done Mogs – you're one in a million!

SC (sub editor)

National Trail Meeting Volunteer Needed

Since our present Secretary is retiring at the end of March, 2018, we need to find a volunteer to attend our meetings and produce minutes for our three groups (Board, Delivery and Development).

We hold nine meetings a year on dates agreed in advance, so we hope someone with minute-taking experience can find time to help us.

Please spread the word – there is an advert on our website and full details on the national volunteering website:
<https://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/ridge-way/news/volunteer-opportunity>
<https://do-it.org/opportunities/c9084e1b-08c0-4e1a-9b5033ea810e7133>

Womens Institute

- Inspiring Women

Our monthly meeting is on **Thursday 8th February**, when author Nicola Cornick will be our guest speaker, featuring *The Craven family and Ashdown Hall*. Nicola has worked as an historical advisor for Radio and TV including *Landlines* and *The Restoration man*, and will provide an insight into the history, legends, and secret life of the stunningly beautiful Ashdown Hall, a 17th century National Trust property in Lambourn.

Is there truth behind the family curse that no heir to the Craven family would outlive their mother?! Please join us at **Hinton Parva Village Hall starting at 7.00pm**; visitors and friends will be most welcome.

We have a varied and fascinating year ahead, with speakers visiting our monthly meetings to give talks or demonstrations on a range of subjects; e.g. Flower arranging with Shirley Dalton-Morris; John Reynolds and his passion for Antarctica; Dorothy Cook, a midwife at GW hospital - *Midwifery, never a dull moment!*; Margaret Hiscock on the history of *The Wiltshire Scrap Store*, (an environmental charity collecting resources that would otherwise go to landfill), with a crafting session, and Josette Feddes our Lotmead dairy farmer, and producer of Jo-Jo's milk.

Your local WI has members from the villages of Ashbury, Bishopstone, Hinton Parva, Wanborough and Lyddington, and we always welcome new members.

Our monthly meeting takes place on the 2nd Thursday of the month in either Bishopstone or Hinton Parva village halls, and we have several activities outside of our monthly get together e.g. Reading group, a popular Art Study group, and organised trips for members and their friends throughout the year.

Come along to one of our meetings to see if you like it - no obligation to join unless you want to!

Please contact Patricia Wells if you would like any further information.

Patricia Wells 01793 790 054

Newsletter February 2001

A St. Patrick's Night Celebration Saturday 17th March In a recent survey (Prebendal Friends 2000) Bishopstone was voted the most generous village in Wiltshire with all the Charity events being well supported. To help celebrate St. Patricks night another charity event is being organised by Jo Selbourne.

Venue – Swindon Arts Centre, Devizes Road.

The Village Hall, Bishopstone - February

The hall is cleaned	Mondays		8.30 - 10.30am
Mothers & Toddlers	Thursdays	1 st 8 th , & 22 nd	9.30 - 11.00am
School	Thursdays	1 st 8 th , & 22 nd	3.15 - 4.15pm
Martial Arts	Mondays	5 th , 19 th & 26 th	5.00 - 7.00pm
Taekwondo	Tuesdays	6 th , 20 th & 27 th	7.00 - 8.00pm
Quiz Night & Supper	Friday	9 th	7.00 - 10.00pm
Film Club	Friday		7.00 - 10.00pm
Daily School Dinners (not 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 answer phone. 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.

At <http://bishopstoneandhintonparva.org/bishopstonevillagehall/> you can find a link to more helpful information about the Hall and the terms and conditions of hire.

Hinton Parva Village Hall - February

Bridge	Friday	2 nd , 9 th , 16 th & 23 ^{rds}	7.00 - 10.00pm
Beginners' Bridge	Wednesday	7 th , 14 th , 21 st & 28 th	7.00 - 9.00pm
WI	Thursday	8 th	7.00 - 9.30pm
Private Booking	Monday	19 th	6.15 - 7.00pm
Private Booking	Monday	26 th	6.15 - 7.00pm

The most pretty Hall around, and free parking .

Bookings Secretary Janet 791 391- Please leave a message if required

£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 News

It was in December that the Hinton Parva Village Hall received the great news that our application for funding the roof repairs had been accepted. Once this confirmation and monies were received, the Committee was able to implement the tender selection process from roofing contractors held earlier.

The roofing contractor, organised the scaffolding contractor and it was only a matter of a few days before the roofing crew were removing the old slates. The weather was kind at this important time, and good progress was made in fitting the new roof insulation and vapour free lining, before fitting new batten. If the basics are carried out with precision, then the new slates can be laid with confidence, and very soon the new roof began to appear. At the time of writing, there is still much to do and we are debating how many days it will take to complete. We are over the moon.

Howard

Chairman's Statement

The Village Hall Bishopstone AGM

Monday 4th December 2017

I am pleased to report that enthusiasm and support for the village hall continues to swell. On behalf of the Trustees, I would like to thank all those involved over the year for their support. The team behind the scenes are volunteers, who give their time to support and maintain the village hall. Over the year, our small group of volunteers on the Committee has achieved some great results including:

- Fundraising activities such as skittles, BADS, and pig racing
 - Encouraging and nurturing additional bookings, in order to optimise the use of the hall and ensure continued income
 - Achieved fantastic results from grant applications
 - Carried out ongoing maintenance of the hall to ensure compliance with health and safety regulations
 - Organisation and installation of a wonderful Christmas tree and lighting
- There are many on the committee who help keep the wheels turning behind the scenes; however, a noteworthy thanks to Sue Tremlin at the School, who fields many of the booking enquiries and keeps the hectic hall diary up to date.

This time last year, the Committee set itself the task of raising funds for much needed internal improvements. This included the purchase of new chairs, trolleys, stage and window curtains (to include blackout curtains), the installation of WiFi, and provision of an overhead projector and screen. Our objective was to modernise some of the internal features of the hall which might help future proof the hall, and also attract more bookings. I am pleased to report that all these objectives have been surpassed. At this point, I should particularly thank David Wray, who championed the first Lottery Funded grant, securing circa £10,000 towards these improvements. This was supplemented by a Co-op grant application by Russell, which added another £2,000 to the refurbishment funds. Finally, we have two people step-

ping down from the Committee: Phil Anley has been a village stalwart, representing the school on the committee for the last 10 years. We would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his enthusiastic input and consistent support for the hall over the years.

David Wray has served and supported the village hall for around 23 years. His input will be greatly missed. He will have seen many changes over the years but his steadfastness, integrity and energy – and particularly his fundraising skills - have significantly benefited the community and have been greatly appreciated. We wish him a very happy retirement and hope to continue to welcome him to local events.. A total of 33 years' experience is moving on – we thank you both. As we move ahead to planning 2018 activities, a number of projects are in the pipeline. Our main goal is to actively engage with the community over the coming year and encourage greater participation in village hall events and activities. This breathes life into the village, and helps bring in the essential revenue necessary to maintain and further develop the facilities.

Richard Walker

Rainbow Baby and Toddler Group

Bishopstone Village Hall

Every Thursday during Term Time

9.30 - 11.00am

£2.50 per family, 1st session free

A stay and play session for families with children under 5. Join us for free play, art activies, snacks and singing. A great way to meet new friends.

For more info. call Tori
07891 533 654



Follow us at

<https://www.facebook.com/rainbowbishopstone>



the city lights

Bishopstone Village Hall

Friday 23rd February

Victoria and Abdul

Doors open: 7.00pm with a licensed bar. Curtain: 7.45pm Tickets £5.00 per person sold in advance.

NB The January film, The Limehouse Golem, is suitable only for 15 years and over

Wanborough's Farmers' Market

9.00am - Noon

Saturday 17th February

Wanborough Village Hall

High Street

Lower Wanborough

Refreshments courtesy of the

Wanborough Community Cafe

For more information contact:

Sue or David Birley:

01793 790 438 sbirley@gn.apc.org

Community Connect

Coffee Morning

Wanborough Farmers' Market

We are pleased to announce that at the Farmers' Market in December,

£286.59 was given for the *Brighter Futures* campaign to have a new radiotherapy unit installed at the Great Western Hospital in Swindon. The organisers of Community Connect would like to thank all who came and who gave their support for this much needed facility.

At the Farmers' Market in February the charity of the month will be *Swindon's Night Shelter*. This local charity is involved in caring for those who are homeless. Poverty – and for many this means homelessness – is a reality for an increasing number of people and is not restricted to any age group. Those who care for the most vulnerable in our society, remind us of the *Good Samaritan*, who simply crossed a road in order to make a difference. Could you do the same by supporting Swindon's night shelter?

Please join us in Wanborough – enjoy FREE coffee/tea and delicious home-made refreshments, stay for a chat, and support both the Farmers' Market and the *Swindon Night Shelter*.

On behalf of the Community Connect team, **Thank You.**

 **INNOVATION**
IT SUPPORT
James Matthews

Home and Business Onsite IT Support

- Computer Repairs
- Networking
- Data Recovery
- CCTV Installations

Microsoft
CERTIFIED
Professional

Microsoft.
Small Business
Specialist

01793 541320
www.innovationitsupport.com

News from Bishopstone Pottery

Episode 24:

We are always happy to show people around our pottery if they want to give us a ring and arrange a time and date. However, at the beginning of December, with a mounting pile of pottery and a diminishing amount of small space, we decided to open the pottery for people to come and



have a browse, see how our pottery is set up, and find out a bit more about how we make our pots. It all started so well, and on the Saturday we had a steady stream of people from the surrounding villages and Swindon. We make pots because we love the process, and we make what we like. So it is always a real boost when other people say they enjoy our pots and go away clutching a piece of our work, which nearly everybody did!! However, the pottery open weekend was brought to an abrupt end on Sunday when it snowed heavily and no one ventured out and up West End Lane. It was a shame, but we actually had a very pleasant day decorating our pottery with slip, while we hunkered down in front of our roaring log burner.

Having a quiet day on the Sunday got us thinking about why people buy craft pottery and what is the difference between craft pottery and more mass-made pottery. Why not just head off to Range and buy a ceramic piece?

Well, I suppose the first obvious difference is the price. Mass-produced pottery is so much cheaper. But what you buy is also identical in every way, size, shape, finish and colour to hundreds of other pieces. With craft pottery you get a unique one-off. It can be more complex in design and shape. It has an individual design that reflects the creativity, ability and mood of the potter. Craft pottery is a 3-D art form, not just the making of a purely

functional item made for ease of use. We made a pilgrimage to Stoke-on-Trent last year and wanted to see how some of the bigger potteries work. We toured both the Denby and Wedgwood factories, both producing large quantities of pottery, but still maintaining some hands-on craft processes for such things as putting on handles and decorating. However, what struck us was that the real difference between mass-produced pottery and craft pottery is that, in a factory, a product is conceived by a person or committee, designed by another and made by those on the factory floor. Whereas with craft pottery there is the joy of knowing that the potter is in touch with every part of the creation. It is a joy to find the potter's fingerprint. Of course, we buy our everyday crockery from Range or Ikea because they are inexpensive, highly functional, and tend to sit in the kitchen cupboard BUT we don't love them. On the other hand, we do collect samples of other potters' work that inspires us and enables us to enjoy differences in style and technique. The crux of the matter is that we need our mass-produced wares, but we do so love our craft pottery.



Sue & Adrian Dent

Dickie's Diary

It has always amused me that some men will be wearing a looped scarf in mild weather and sunglasses often on the back of their heads with no sign of sun. Such are the demands of fashion and, against the odds, I may be joining in, having received a long scarf for Christmas; but probably only in cold weather!

In the sporting world it is, I think, rather reassuring that, in this less formal era, men and women still mostly observe a smart dress code. Shooting men usually dress with a tie, occasionally a cravat over shooting trousers,

termed plus twos or plus fours. Plus fours are less common, and they are of a fuller, baggier cut. The next decision is whether long socks should be folded over the trouser buckle at the knee, or tucked under, with the former, I believe, being more correct. The top half requires a roomy jacket or a jersey to facilitate plenty of unrestricted movement. Increasingly, we welcome ladies who are to be seen out with a line of guns, and many enjoy working their dogs. Great estates, particularly in the north, have their own bespoke tweeds. Tweeds rustle less and are quieter than oilskins when the stalker has to crawl up close to shoot deer.

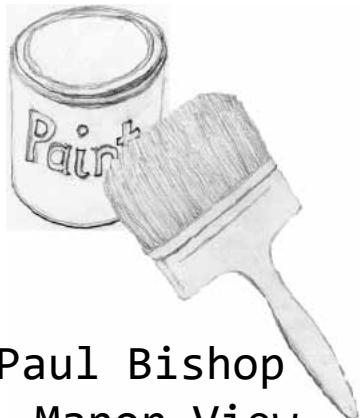
In the hunting world, dress codes have not faltered. Jackets - either blue, black or red (never pink) - have to withstand rain and cold. A correctly tied stock gives further weather protection and support to the neck in a fall. Leather boots are so much smarter and warmer than rubber. In former times, on the head, only hunt staff and farmers were permitted to wear black caps. Ladies wore bowlers. Today, caps are universally worn, usually with a chin strip to ensure they stay on in a fall. They are, to all intents and purposes, a skull cap; underneath, ladies usually net their hair. Top hats have mostly been consigned to elegant Royal Ascot and dressage events. Not so in the 80's, when I was visiting my wife, Penny in hospital. She had cracked her pelvis in a hunting accident, fortunately not too serious, and in came a friend being pushed on a trolley in full hunting rig with his top hat lying across his chest. He confided in me that his battered hat might have to be a casualty to health and safety in the future.

However, in contrast, fashion is not for everyone. Amongst papers of an uncle who had survived the First War serving in the Westminster dragoons, I found a poem which expresses the exact opposite of sartorial correctness, and he was a happy proponent of these lines, doing his own thing:

For he who loveliness within has found, all outward loathes.

For he who colour loves and skin, wears but his oldest clothes.

Painter & Decorator Interior/Exterior



Paul Bishop
1 Manor View
Lyddington

Free estimates, No VAT
Telephone 01793 790 768
07770 751 275

est. since 1991

 Setfords
SOLICITORS

Private client work Specialist

MANDY CASAVANT
CONSULTANT SOLICITOR



Call 01793 684 006
mcasavant@setfords.co.uk

www.setfords.co.uk

TOM'S TEAM

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

Tel: 01793 791 148 Mobile: 07799 360 565 Email: tomcripwell@gmail.com

**Extensions
Landscaping
Roofing
Kitchens**

**Plastering
Tiling
Carpentry
Bathrooms**

**Plumbing
Terracing
Flooring
Decorating**

Church Services in the Benefice

Sunday	4th February	8.30am	Holy Communion	Bishopstone
2 nd Sunday before Lent		10.30am	Family Communion	Lyddington
		6.00pm	Evensong	Hinton Parva
Wednesday	7th February	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough Vicarage
Sunday	11th February	8.30am	Holy Communion	Lyddington
Sunday before Lent		10.30am	Family Communion	Bishopstone
		6.00pm	Evensong	Wanborough
Wednesday	14th February	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough Vicarage
Sunday	18th February	8.30am	Holy Communion	Hinton Parva
1 st Sunday of Lent		10.30am	Family Communion	Wanborough
		6.00pm	Evensong	Bishopstone
Wednesday	21st February	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough Vicarage
Sunday	25th February	8.30am	Holy Communion	Wanborough
2 nd Sunday of Lent		10.30am	Family Communion	Hinton Parva
		6.00pm	Evensong	Lyddington
Wednesday	28th February	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough Vicarage
Sunday	4th March	8.30am	Holy Communion	Bishopstone
3 rd Sunday of Lent		10.30am	Family Communion	Lyddington
		6.00pm	Evensong	Hinton Parva

The Vicar's Letter

Dear Friends and Neighbours,

February the 13th is an important date within the History of Wiltshire, and is a point of focus for Wanborough in particular. It is the anniversary of the death of William Stanley. Resident, Magistrate and Governor of the County of Wiltshire, William left a substantial amount of money for the poor of the parish and requested that bread be distributed on or near the anniversary of his death. The children of Wanborough Primary School come and help to commemorate this anniversary each year. The tradition has been running since 1746, the year after his death. It's this positive image of his memory that is carried in our hearts and minds year after year.

Our local Sainsbury's bakes a large number of 400g bloomers which are distributed at the service, which is followed by tea and cake for our more senior citizens, at the vicarage. The date and time of the service this year is Thursday the 22nd February at 1.30pm, at St Andrew's Church. Collected at 11.30 that morning, the loaves are lovely and warm, and add a lovely smell to the Church. As well

as appealing to our senses, this lovely piece of our history and tradition points toward the notion and spirit of community. People are blessed so that they can bless others, and other people's needs are an opportunity for us to share what we have.

With increased working hours, smaller family sizes and an increase in the numbers of people living on their own, the notion of community is very different today to even ten or twenty years ago. The amount of goodwill that is still able to exist in these times of increased financial hardship never ceases to amaze me. Goodwill is something that the artisans of accountancy can never manage to display on the bottom of any financial balance sheet, yet without it many an organisation would be dead in the water. For the Christian, whatever the circumstance, we do not have to rely entirely on our own wits or resources alone.

Philip Yancey, in his book entitled, *What's So Amazing about Grace*, points out that grace (God's unmerited blessing and favour) is the one thing that differentiates Christianity from every other faith. David did not tackle Goliath in his own

strength, and countless tales of how close our nation came to defeat in the Second World War, not to mention the number of *God-incidents* in our own lives, highlight again and again where we have been cared for in circumstances much too large for us to deal with on our own.

God's statement, that He knew us and had plans for us, even before we were formed in the womb, along with many other promises, can provide us with the hope and the certainty that in the end all will be well, and all manner of things will be well; however gloomy things might appear at a particular point in time. I say this as a guy who is now seeing two very different people in the woman I used to call Mum. Before me, at times, is the woman I have known all my life, then for a steadily increasing amount of time, there's the lady with Alzheimer's Dementia. And at certain times she ain't that nice! Nevertheless our calling is to love rather than judge, whoever it is we are facing in our day. As Julian of Norwich put it, and as mentioned earlier, in the end all shall be well and all manner of thing shall be well. Experience teaches us that

it's the memories of what someone has done well that seem to outlive the others. Just like William Stanley. With best wishes and prayers

Dobbin Day Service *Bill*
Thursday 22nd February
1.30pm
St Andrew's Church
Wanborough

Editor's Note

For those new to the area who, like me, wondered what this all had to do with horse racing: no, it isn't that sort of *dobbin*. Apparently *dobbin* is also an old Wiltshire word for bread.

Church Wardens' Activities

Happy New Year to you all. Sadly, I was not around over Christmas, but I gather that the Christingle service had a bumper year, and that St. Swithun's was well attended on Christmas Day. The PCC met on 8th January and we discussed day-to-day items and also plans for the future. The installation of the new heating system at St. Mary's is imminent, thanks to the considerable efforts of John Lowry. This will make an enormous improvement to the feel of the building, and ensure that we lucky parishioners don't freeze during services.

There are more ambitious and exciting plans for both churches but they need our cash and we don't have enough

yet to implement our ideas. None of us likes being asked for money, but we aim to make it fun, with activities to promote a sense of community and get to know each other better. It should also attract people from outside our villages, as with other events.

At this point, I should applaud the International Pig Racing, The Royal Oak pub and hotel, the BADS productions, and other eccentric activities devised by the inimitable Tim Finney. More of this from all quarters please, and, hopefully, the Church can play its part.

The new film nights must surely be a boon for village life, and we wish them every success. We have a top secret idea (not really) that we are pursuing, and details will follow once progress has been made. This should generate income and also add to community life.

Tom
Newsletter February 1994

HINTON PARVA HOLLY – HANDS OFF! Shortly before Christmas, our Churchwarden noticed that there was some fine berried holly on the tree in Hinton Parva churchyard. When he returned a day or two later, with ladder and secateurs, to cut some branches for decorating the church at Christmas, it was apparent that someone else had noticed it too – not a sprig of berried holly was left... Next Christmas,

it would be appreciated if holly-pickers would remember that the church has first option on the churchyard holly, as we do like our church to be decorated for this important Christian festival. Thank you!

Newsletter February 1985

I'm delighted to report that our carol singing this Christmas raised £120 for the Children's Ward at P.M.H. Thank you so much everybody in Hinton, for the generous donations (and food & drink which kept us going) but thank you even more to the intrepid villagers who turned out in the dark and cold to sing!

Mogs Boon

Prayers

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

telephone - 790 088

email - 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

The Churchwardens: St. Mary's
 John Lowry 01793 790 271
 john1000000@live.com
 Doug Stevens 01793 791 107
 doug@mowerfixer.co.uk
 Alan Taylor 01793 791 666
 R2attayloralan@aol.com

The Churchwardens: St. Swithun's
 Tom Cripwell 01793 791 148
 tomcripwell@gmail.com

Emma Cripwell 01793 791 148
 emma@angelpublicity.com

The Acting Secretary:
 Alan Taylor - Charlbury Cottage,
 Westend, Bishopstone, SN6 8PT
 01793 791 666
 R2attayloralan@aol.com

List of Other PCC Members:
 Karen Stevens (Treasurer)
 01793 791 107
 kschurchview@gmail.com
 Roz Boot 01793 790 508
 Sara Hall 01793 791 202
 thecourthouse@gmail.com

Cleaning Rota - St. Mary's Church, Bishopstone

February	Maggie Gill & Jane Golding
March	Liz Warwick & Jane Mankelow
April	Sarah Best & Jenny Isles
May	Mary Darling & Lisa Fitchett
June	Lorna Ford & Linda Matthews
July	Karen Stevens & Sheila Collins
August	Fran Shishton & Gill White
September	Chris Thomas & Gill May
October	Maggie Gill & Jane Golding
November	Liz Warwick & Jane Mankelow
December	Sarah Best & Jenny Isles

Many thanks to all those who have helped to keep our church cared for and clean. We always welcome more volunteers on the rota; if you, or anyone you know, might like to join us

Sarah Best 791 121

Bishopstone Gardening Society



We're back!

Friday 9th February, 7.00pm for 7.15pm start,
at Bishopstone Village Hall is our:

Annual Quiz Night & Chili con Carne Supper

Tickets are now available from:

Sheila 790 358, Doreen 792 965, or Mogs 790 626. Give any of us a ring to pre-book.

This is not a quiz about plants - just about having a fun evening with good friends, good food and - well, you can bring your favourite drinks.

Tickets are £10.00 per head (includes hot meal)

Please let us know if you require a veggie option.

Teams of six if possible, with an apt name, otherwise we'll fit you in with another group with a frivolous name to make up numbers!
N.b. This event was sold out last year.



Wednesday 14th March

Slide Show & talk by John Farrow: The Wilts & Berks Canal Restoration
Seen in the context of the past, and looking at plans for the future, plus some natural history, John will talk us through the Canal Trust's aims to restore the Canal for the benefit of the whole community.

Unless otherwise stated, we meet every second Wednesday of the month at Bishopstone Village Hall, 7:00pm for 7:30pm start. Raffle/Tea/coffee/biscuits. Our great value annual membership subscription is only £5 per person. Subs are due at our next meeting. Visitors are very welcome, and can pay £2 per person on the door.

You can contact Sheila (Secretary) or Sarah (Outings Organiser) at:
bandgardeningsoc@gmail.com

School Report



School ended in a flurry of Christmas, from the wonderful Nativity *Shine, Star, Shine*, through to our Christmas Church Service where three of our children played the church organ for the first time. They produced a beautiful sound, and were very much in awe of the privilege that went with this. The wonderful FOBS (Friends of Bishopstone School - aka - some mums and dads) provided a lovely Christmas fête and then a very loud and festive disco . . . I didn't realise we had such DJ talents amongst the parents . . . something to note for the future, I feel!

KS2 were honoured to be invited to

join with the Swindon Choral Choir (thank you, Carol); and it was a mesmerising and harmonious evening held in Christ Church. The children learnt so much from the experience, and the feedback that we received showed that there really is nothing like adding a *sprinkling of children* at Christmas for that magical touch. Snow produced some interesting experiences; never have I been so keen to own a 4x4! Skidding down the hill on the ice would have been so much more fun knowing that I *would* definitely come to a halt at the bottom. The children were super and did get that snow day that I think many of them dream of . . . but only the one!

I laughed at the fact that the Adver quoted the school about not having hot dinners delivered . . . when I hadn't actually spoken to the Adver!

Our sad news was saying goodbye to Mrs Sherwood; - after twenty years Debbie decided and that it was the right time to retire, to allow a little more time at home. We shall miss her enormously, but are quite sure she will be back in to hear readers before long. She has given so very much to the school, and we appreciate everything she has done (although I am not so sure about *sports*). In turn, we would like to warmly welcome our newest member of staff – Mrs Tylee, (those in the village will know her as Sue). How such a small school can have such a repeat of names . . . we have Sue, Sue, Debbie, Jill and Jill,) who started with us in January.

So that leads me to finish with our wonderful news. Some of you may be aware that a Church school is inspected not only by OFSTED but also by SIAMS - Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools. The principal objective of the inspection is to evaluate the distinctiveness and effectiveness of the school as a church school. They look at all aspects of the school, speak to staff, governors, Rev'd Bill, parents and mainly children. It is a very in-depth process! The school has been graded as *Good*, with a wonderful report, which you can find on the school website if you so wish . . . it was the perfect Christmas present (well, for me anyway!!).

Emma Lindsay

Bishopstone 100 club

January Winners

- 1st 5 Roz Boot
- 2nd 81 Cathy Lynn
- 3rd 1 Gill May

Happy New Year to all.

Subs for 2018, many of them still owed for 2017!

Jo 790 485



Barefoot Photography

Weddings - Children - Pets



Please contact Clare for all your
photography needs
clare@barefootphoto.co.uk
Tel . 07712 191779

www.Barefootphoto.co.uk

CHARLOTTE BENTLEY

HAIR / LASHES BISHOPSTONE

A professional, experienced Ladies & Gents Hair Stylist & Colour Technician, based in a private salon in Bishopstone. Also offering Semi Permanent Eyelash Extensions for thicker, longer lashes.

Please see website for more information



07786 992 598
info@charlottebentley.co.uk
www.charlottebentley.co.uk



SWINDON SKI & SNOWBOARD SERVICING

WWW.SWINDONSKI.CO.UK
enquiries@swindonski.co.uk

Ian Thomas 07778 807873

Pinewood Fencing

Fencing and Gate Specialists

A complete range of fencing, gates & decking solutions to suit every garden and environment

For a free quotation, please call

Telephone: 01793 523719
Mobile: 07763 399 515 or

e-mail:

ian@pinewoodfencing.com
visit us at www.pinewoodfencing.com

The Royal Oak Diary

Just a few parish notices to get out of the way before we start on the political stuff. Thanks to the dog owners who continue to leave their doggy bags, as it were, in strategic places round the villages. Most considerate. Apart from the pub car park, there's usually something nice on the grassy knoll in Cues Lane; often something waiting for the unprepared on the track down to the woodland.

In a similar vein, thanks also to the person who keeps removing the kerb-marking big stones laid out and painted white round that corner of Bishopstone High Street, the bit I always think of as Swiss Cottage, for some reason. The stones are there to stop the wrecking activities of vehicles, that's you, me, and the white vans; we've got precious few verges left anyway, and good parishioners (there are some of you left) are simply trying to create a gentler, slower environment. Instead, others walk past, heave the stones into the hedges, and allow the rest of us to trash the verge. These stones do, of course, damage cars, and so, as someone who nowadays obeys slow down signs, that's how I view them. Slow down!

And while we're on inanimate things, bottleman has either stopped drinking or discovered the joys of recycling. I am sure this parish notice will remind him of his duties to irritate me, and entertain you, for the rest of the year. As will have been reported elsewhere in this organ, dear Les Morris died on Christmas Day. I think it was the shock of the free drink at The Royal Oak. He was a great man. I knew him through his role in the Bishopstone Drama group, long before I arrived here. (He had quite a career in AmDram, in bigger places than Bishopstone, with, I am told, a superb voice). I latched onto BADS in the late 90s, and Les was always the star, and deliberately so. He never knew his lines in the annual production, and was all the funnier for it. People tell stories of whole chunks being missed, then Les suddenly remembering,

and jumping back 4, or 5, pages, to the consternation of his cast members, and the prompt. I was always envious of his ability to take the part of the male who inevitably found his way into the bed of the leading female (please remember, this was farce, not X rated stuff); in the early days, I got the role of the gormless handyman, while he swapped beds with Angie Alcock and, if my memory serves me right, Liz Warrick. Possibly he even went to bed on stage with his own wife, Joan, who also served the village well until she died in October 2015. He loved her so much he'd have jumped into bed with her anywhere, anytime, throughout their long and loving marriage. A lot of us will miss him, even though he'd been a lot quieter these past few years. His daughter Lynn is the lovely lady who walks everyone else's dogs, as well as her own, all the time, every day. We must endeavour to keep her in the village—a true gem of natural capital!

Pub trivia—*Six Nations International Rugby*, all matches, on the pub screen from *3rd February*; *yoga for beginners* and others runs *every Wednesday morning* in HB@'s Royal Oak, contact yogisyoga website; and apart from *Classic Cars* on the *22nd April*, and *Belinda Carlisle* on 19th May and *Pig Racing* on *3rd June*, you can start training now for the *Ridgeway Revenge* half marathon and 10k, on 16th June. No cigarette stops allowed this year. Look at their website for more details.

I do hope we see some of you during the year, of course, whatever your interest.

Pip pip

TF

Newsletter February 1985

CHARLIE PARTRIDGE

It was with great sadness that I learned of the death of Charlie Partridge. That wonderful old man, so much a part of Bishopstone life, has gone forever.

Another one of the 'old' brigade who will be impossible to replace.

I only knew Charlie for eleven years but in that time,

I have accumulated lots of memories which I will always treasure, some happy and some sad. I recall the time he carefully repotted all my bulbs for me because I had stupidly planted them upside down! And more recently seeing him walking back from his allotment with an empty carrier bag, which should have been full of vegetables, but in his confused state he had forgotten to plant.

One thing that is certain is that we shall all miss Charlie for lots of reasons. Like his little black table at the bottom of the steps with flowers for sale, with the rusty old Marvel Milk tin for the money. Lovely bunches of lily of the valley in the spring and assorted flowers all through the summer tied up with orange baling twine.

We will miss his cleaning of the bus shelter and telephone kiosk which he did for years. For myself, I will miss all the chats we used to have, the familiar sound of his wheelbarrow coming along the path, the smell of his pipe, and his never-ending bonfire. But above all, I will miss his quiet dignity in everything he did.

Goodbye Charlie, keep Heaven's garden weed-free.

R. Boot

I too remember Charlie; he lived at Sayers Bank, opposite the school. I often used to buy bunches of lily-of-the-valley from him.

A story was that one day a pheasant flew in through his window and landed on his dining room table as he was eating. I do hope that is true.

Ed



Don't forget that the closing date for entry is 22nd March.

For more details contact:

Anthony Burdall, 2 Fernham Road,
Faringdon Oxfordshire SN7 7JY
01367 240713 0784135 2938
anthony.burdall@burdall.net
or www.ridgewayfriends.org ouk

WWW.BLOOMFIELDSFINEFOOD.CO.UK

Award winning
**DELICATESSEN
COFFEE SHOP
& FOOD TO GO**

Best in Local, Regional
and International Food

OPEN ALL DAY FOR
FRESH & HOMEMADE
SANDWICHES, BAGUETTES
AND OTHER LOCALLY
SOURCED HOT & COLD
SEASONAL FOOD

SHOPS 8 HIGH STREET, HIGHWORTH T: 766399
93 HIGH STREET, SHRIVENHAM T: 783999
DELI CAFE - SHRIVENHAM 100 BUSINESS PARK
01793 784502 OPEN MON-FRI. 7.30AM - 3.30PM

FOOD TO GO PRICELIST ONLINE AT WWW.BLOOMFIELDSFINEFOOD.CO.UK

Hamper Making Service BUY OUR HAMPERS ONLINE WWW.BLOOMFIELDSFINEFOOD.CO.UK

Outside Catering FOR ANY OCCASION

ARTISAN CHEESES · OLIVES
FRESH BREAD · PRESERVES
COFFEES & TEAS · LOCALALE
HOMEMADE CAKES · FRUIT
& VEG · CIDER & WINE
And lots more...

NEW
Deli &
Coffee
Shop in
Shrivenham
open now!



BRING THIS ADVERT WITH YOU & RECEIVE
10% DISCOUNT ON YOUR MEALS

ROSE & CROWN INN ARKELL'S ALES



Rose & Crown Inn
3 High Street
Ashbury
Oxfordshire
SN6 8NA
Tel: 01793 710222
www.roseandcrowninn.co.uk

16th Century Coaching Inn

Traditional bars offering relaxed dining

Family friendly and dogs welcome

Gardens and covered heated terrace

Open fires for the chillier evenings

8 Cosy bedrooms

Sunday Lunch served 12-3
bookings advisable

Tel: 01793 710222

New Rose and Crown Ashbury
Email: bookings@roseandcrowninn.co.uk

**Kidson
Trigg**
Estate Agents, Chartered Surveyors & Auctioneers

Do you have any hidden
Treasures?



Antiques Valuations

with our professional
specialist valuers

Pippa Kidson-Trigg 01793 861 000
Auction rooms midway
Highworth & Shrivenham
www.Kidsontrigg.co.uk

Lynn's Happy Dogs

Dog Walking & Sitting

call 07813 465 844
Insured & police checked

James's Landscaping & Gardening Service

Grass cutting, Hedge Trimming, Small trees, Clearances, Garden Maintenance Hard Landscaping, Fencing, Gates, Paths & Paving

For quotations, bookings or information
Please telephone
James Robb 07863 599 991

Exhausted of Hinton Parva

On a gloomy day in January, your intrepid Editorial Team went on an exciting fact-finding mission to that local repository of knowledge, Swindon Central Library. We thought we should go early in the year, as who knows if it'll still be there come the better weather . . .

Our intention was to peruse back-copies of the Village News, to find interesting tales of yesteryear. Imagine our surprise to find that (until 2013), the Library had gone to the trouble and expense of binding each year's outpourings into natty brown books. Presumably, binding money dried up in 2014. Sub Ed and I, to our shame, squealed with delight at the sight of typos and even a crossed-out page header, where a former Editor had obviously failed to notice the end of one year and the start of another. It has spurred us on to even greater diligence; I, personally, am renewed in my one-woman mission to resurrect the semi colon, and to wear out the comma tile on the Editor's keyboard. Long standing village residents may be able to help with one mystery that presented itself - whatever happened to February 2001? Since there's no magazine for that month, we can only assume that the villages skipped straight from January to March. There could be many reasons for this, I suppose. The weather in February's not usually that good - was there a collective decision to hurry on towards Spring? Or was the Editorial team subject to some heartbreak that made avoiding February, and all the romance of Valentine's Day, seem appealing? We noticed that around the turn of the century, (so long ago, now), Hazel Cooke organised an awful lot of short breaks; did everyone simply have a 28 day holiday in early 2001? If anyone can solve the Riddle of the Missing Month, a small prize may be made available to them (though it probably won't be).

I've been trying to weave one of last year's *phrases of the year* into this piece, but I'm struggling. If I did

mention milkshake ducks, would you all sagely nod, and agree that it was more deserving of a position in the OED than youthquake (another word I've been struggling to find a home for)? Or would you think that a new breed of mallard had made its way onto Bishopstone pond? I have no idea how (unless one is Shakespeare, who added countless words and phrases to the English language) one creates the new words that spring into being and gain popularity.

Could we, perhaps, coin a new local word, with the aim of getting it into the OED in 2019 (2018 seems rather ambitious - it seems the sort of thing at which we might need to take a good run-up). So - if you think you could do better than milkshake duck or youthquake - let Mogs know what word you've invented and we'll see if we can get it in print for you, to start the ball rolling. It'd be handy if you could also define your word, or it may end up in the wrong sentence entirely. If you're a newcomer to the village, or have a black hole in your memory where February 2001 should be, this is the competition for you . . .

In case you're wondering, a milkshake duck is the latest offering at the sort of restaurant that serves flambeed hedgehog and char-broiled baby seal. A youthquake is produced when a teenager is asked to do something exceptionally scary, like tidying a bedroom, or spending a day looking after their five year old sibling.



Mrs Mantelpiece

And Almost Finally...

I had a huge shock on the final night of the BADS play. Called on stage, I was presented with flowers, a card and pressies from you gorgeous people who support the newsletter. There were almost tears.

Thank you so much, I've report back when I bought my present.

If you have read Mrs M's piece, you will know that we plan to revisit bits of old village news. It is my proud boast that the reference library receives our newsletter every month and have copies back to 1984, when it was only four pages long. If you have older copies

than this, we would love to know.

mogs XXX

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

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.

Sub-Editor:

Sheila Collins

admin2.collins@icloud.com

Features Editor:

Fiona McAnespie

mcanespief@gmail.com

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.

ADVERTISING

This is what pays for the newsletter to be printed and now Doug Stevens *doug@mowerfixer.co.uk* has kindly volunteered to take over the paper work. 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 Doug.

The newsletter appears on the village website at:

www.bishopstoneandhintonpava.org

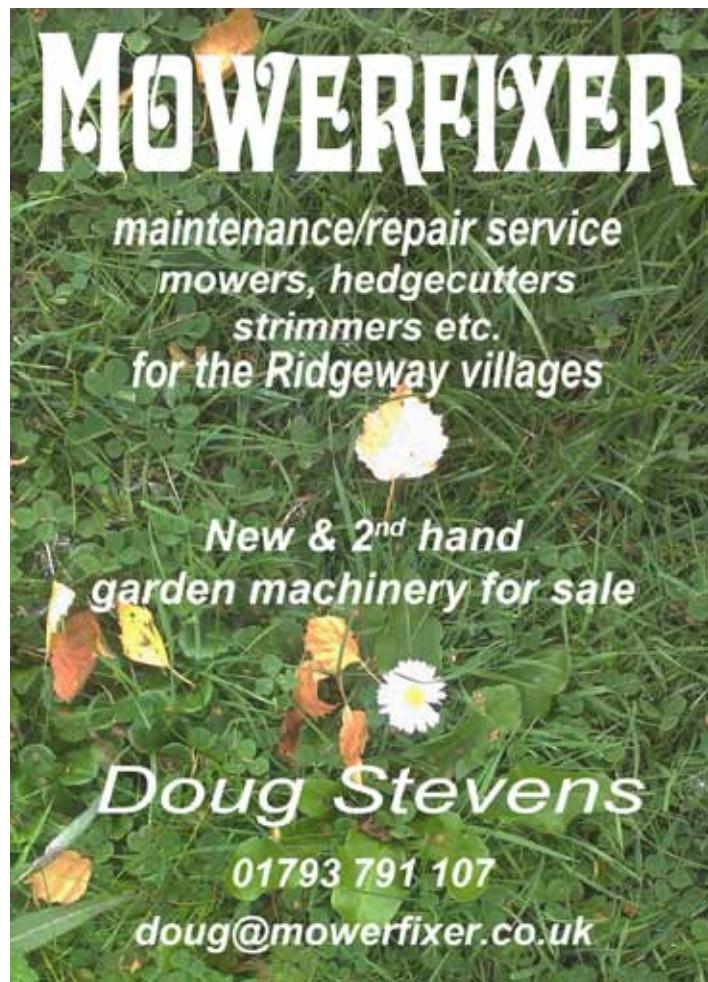
MOWERFIXER

*maintenance/repair service
mowers, hedgecutters
strimmers etc.
for the Ridgeway villages*

*New & 2nd hand
garden machinery for sale*

Doug Stevens

01793 791 107
doug@mowerfixer.co.uk



HERITAGE TREE CARE

Professional Tree Surgeons

Comprehensive Service
Qualified Staff
Fully Insured

- ✓ Pruning & Shaping
- ✓ Felling & Removal
- ✓ Hedge Cutting
- ✓ Strump Grinding
- ✓ Tree Planting

Free quotations and advice
Call Ian Walding (N.C.Hort/N.D.Arb)

01793 790 210



Email: ian@heritage-treecare.co.uk
www.heritage-treecare.co.uk

Austin

(Heating & Air Conditioning) Ltd

EXPERTS IN OIL, GAS, LPG
& WARM AIR HEATING SYSTEMS

Servicing & repairs
Installation
OFTEC/Gas Safe Certification

SPECIALISTS IN
BUILDINGS OF A HISTORIC NATURE,
INCLUDING CHURCHES

Tel: (01793) 536871
Email: general@austinheat.com
Website: www.austinheat.com

Trading since 1972

CONTRACTORS FOR THE NATIONAL TRUST

Primary Colours

Painting & Decorating

- * High Quality Internal Decoration
- * Commercial & Domestic Premises
- * City & Guilds Qualified
- * Portfolio & References available
- * FREE, NO OBLIGATION estimates
- * All work guaranteed
- * Competitive Rates



Tel: 01793 828547
Mob: 07736 847597

www.primary-colours.co.uk

Southern Voice & Data
Telecom & IT Solutions
for Business

BDR
In association with

Keeping Your Business
Connected...

VoIP Solutions
IP
Hosted Telephony
SIP
Lines & Calls
Lease Lines
Business Mobiles
Telephone Systems

Wi-Fi Networks
Managed IT Solutions
Disaster Recovery
Cloud Solutions
Virtualisations

9 High Street, Highworth, Swindon SN6 7AG
T: 01793 863 450
E: sales@southernvoiceanddata.co.uk
W: www.southernvoiceanddata.co.uk

prize winning meat from

Hinton Marsh Farm

Est. 1956

07968 866 323
www.hintonmarshfarm.co.uk

Alfresco Childcare

The Alfresco Ethos!

We provide caring childcare from 6 weeks to 12 years with a large connection to the outside, nature and our designated forest area. Flexible session times, funding and home cooked healthy foods!

Pre-School

For parents who want their children to start attending pre-school this year, contact us to book in a visit. This is a relaxed appointment for you to see our fantastic facilities.

www.alfrescochildcare.com
enquiries@alfrescochildcare.co.uk
01793 790263

Parent Toddler Group Coffee Morning

Every Friday
10am to 12
Everybody welcome
£1 entrance and refreshments

Bishopstone
SN6 8PW
Latest Ofsted Rating "Good"