

Village News

for Bishopstone & Hinton Parva

March 2018



Having Fun in Bishopstone & Hinton

(Clockwise from the left)

Hinton Village Hall Supper

(report on page 4):

a collector of unconsidered trifles; carried away by the music; the kitchen team and the winning number is...

B&D Gardening Society Quiz

(report on page 10):

the lovely quiz master, Cheryl; the kitcheners and no wonder that team didn't win!

Thank you to Jan Brodin and Sheila Collins for the photographs.



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



Unique 24/7 milk vending machine

Lower Wanborough SN4 0SN
Contact: 07958 042 016

www.facebook.com/jojosdairyfarm

Womens Institute

- Inspiring Women

March is the month for our Annual Meeting where we look back and review the last year, examine the accounts, start planning the year ahead and elect our officers.

Thursday 8th March, 7.30pm at **Hinton Parva Village Hall**.

Looking forward to next month, 12th April in Bishopstone Village Hall, we have Shirley Dalton-Morris demonstrating and encouraging our own flower arrangement creations to inspire ideas for entering our annual Flower and Craft show in June. We have an exciting programme of events for our Art Lovers Group this year including:

- Exclusive group visit and guide to see Sir Stanley Spencer's iconic paintings at the Sandham Memorial chapel, near Newbury (NT). 5th March;

- Visit to the lovely art gallery and Capability Brown gardens of Compton Verney, Warwick, to see *Ravillious & Company - A Pattern of Friendship* exhibition including a talk by Andy Fried, Co-curator and author of his book by the same name. 3rd May;
- 2 Art Study Days with Jenny Lyall, local art historian and NADFAS member, on *Stanley Spencer* (15th May) and *An eye for detail - Dutch Interiors* (6th November);

- Exclusive group visit and guided tour of Longford Castle, near Salisbury, the private home of Earl of Radnor. The Longford collection is one of the finest in the country and only open to the public 28 days a year. 30th August.

We also have several general visits and social events for members and their friends already scheduled in the diary:

- Dinner at Swindon College training restaurant on 15th March;

- Tour for our WI of The Merchants House, Marlborough on 18th April;

- Literature festivals at Swindon and Bath;

- *Have a Go Bowls* session at Hoopers Field with the Wanborough Bowls club, 31st March;

- Cheese and wine evening with award winning artist *The Feather Lady*, Mandi Baykaa-Murray who

uses feathers as her painting medium.

Exquisite! 29th June;

- A list of books registered for group loans with Swindon library for our Reading Group.

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

Climbing a Mountain for the Prospect Foundation

My beloved brother Mark and dad Peter both died within the past decade and in their last days were looked after by The Prospect Hospice. Having witnessed the nurses wonderful care first hand, I wanted to raise much needed funds for them to continue their amazing work.

As such I have decided to trek through Nepal, some 92 Km and 5,545 metres above sea level to Mount Everest base camp. It has been my ambition to travel to Mount Everest and see the Himalayas for myself. My dad was a keen climber in his youth but sadly never visited the Himalayas.

I remember when I was young, his many books and him watching programmes about Everest and I always wanted to go there for him. So in May/June I will be joining an organised trek over 12 days to this amazing place and am hoping that you will sponsor me and raise money for The Prospect Hospice.

The trek has been paid for by myself so all funds raised go directly to Prospect and unlike some fund raising

sites, this site takes no cut.

Please help me raise as much as we can so that Prospect Hospice can give other cancer and terminal patients and their families the care and support that my family received.

Event date

23rd May 6th June

<https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/philhorwood1>



Phil training in his altitude mask which simulates walking at altitude by restricting airflow. Don't be frightened if you pass him on the Ridgeway.

The Ridgeway Link AGM

7.00pm Monday, 9th April
Wanborough Village Hall

The meeting is open to everyone and we would welcome any comments on our service. The meeting is only short and followed by a friendly chat with a drink and biscuits.

Louisa (Barnes)

A Barn Dance
Saturday 16th June
Prebendal Farm,
Bishopstone
details to follow

The Village Hall, Bishopstone - March

The hall is cleaned	Mondays		8.30 - 10.30am
Mothers & Toddlers	Thursdays	1 st 8 th , 15 th , 22 nd , & 29 th	9.30 - 11.00am
School	Thursdays	1 st 8 th , 15 th , 22 nd , & 29 th	3.15 - 4.15pm
Martial Arts	Mondays	5 th , 12 th , 19 th & 26 th	5.00 - 7.00pm
Taekwondo	Tuesdays	6 th , 13 th , 20 th & 27 th	7.00 - 8.00pm
Gardening Society	Wednesday	14 th	7.00 - 10.00pm
Private Party	Sunday	18 th	3.00 - 5.00pm
Film Club	Friday	23 rd	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 - March

Bridge	Friday	2 nd , 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd & 30 th	7.00 - 10.00pm
Beginners' Bridge	Wednesday	7 th , 14 th , 21 st & 28 th	7.00 - 9.00pm
Private booking	Monday	5 th	6.15 - 7.15pm
Parish Council	Monday	5 th	7.30p.m
WI	Thursday	8 th	7.00 - 9.30pm
Private Booking	Monday	12 th	6.15 - 7.30pm
Private Booking	Tuesday	13 th	7.45 - 9.45pm
Private Booking	Monday	19 th	6.15 - 7.30pm
Private Booking	Monday	26 th	6.15 - 7.30pm

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 annual village supper

Quizzes hard enough to baffle contestants on University Challenge, great food, and songs from Frank Sinatra sung to the wonderful sound of the accordion. Yes, it could only be the HP Village Hall Supper. (And I hope you'll forgive the fact that, for some strange reason, my recollection of the evening may seem a little hazy).

Around 30 of us braved the winter chill to be thoroughly entertained by

Mine Hosts, Rod and Marion Peck, standing in for the inimitable Howard and Shirley Crapper, who were unfortunately unable to make it this year. (Rod didn't even attempt the jokes – no-one tells 'em like Howard!).

And just in case you couldn't make it either, you missed a treat. The level of quizzing was stunningly good. The *classic food* anagrams went down almost as well as the food itself, and Marion couldn't believe it when everyone asked for more time to finish, (the quizzes, not the food). There

were also picture-rounds and very, very frustrating riddles. The answer to the first one was *nothing*, and, as that's what we put, I still don't understand why we didn't get the points.

Catering was once again excellent, and thanks go to Val, Hazel and Sue (with apologies if I've missed anyone) for the time devoted to preparing such a large feast, and for the varied selection of food on offer. And let's not forget the volunteers who served the rest of us. It must have been a trying task, for some of us were so engrossed in our quizzes that we nearly forgot to eat – yeah, right. Hazel Cooke, ably assisted by her husband, led the traditional sing-song. It's amazing how you think that you know the words to Frank Sinatra songs until you have to sing along to them – but if you could bottle the enthusiasm and community spirit from that sing-song on that particular night, and share it around the parish, then we would all benefit hugely.

Thanks again to one and all for a wonderful evening – and, if you didn't get there, leave a space in your diary for next year.

(See pictures front page)

Mr Mantelpiece.

The Village Hall Bishopstone

Notice of an application to vary the Village Hall Bishopstone existing Premises Licence to add the sale of alcohol by retail.

The final decision to submit this application is dependant upon the outcome of our three City Lights test runs, any feedback we receive from this Notice, and the reconciliation of the associated *Hall Management* responsibilities.

It is not our intention to install a permanent bar but to facilitate the various events that we enjoy throughout the year.

Currently to run a *pay bar* at any function in the hall, a Temporary Event Notice (TEN) must be made to SBC Licencing Authority, the Police, and Environmental Health. (£21 per notice).

15 Temporary Event Notices are allowed per year for the Hall premises. We have used some of

our allowance already, with the BADS performances and the three planned City Lights film nights. With or without this variance, the promotion of the following four licencing objectives are reflected in the Hall operating procedures/Terms and conditions. (1) The prevention of crime and disorder; (2) public safety; (3) the prevention of public nuisance; and (4) the protection of children from harm.

If you have any questions or views, please let us know:

The Village Hall Bishopstone – Committee of Management.

Registered Charity No. 27116



Premier

The Lime House Golem

The last Friday in January saw the premier of Bishopstone’s own *Film Night* community cinema with the opening screening of *The Limehouse Golem*. The event was well attended with close to 50 tickets sold. *We were delighted with the response to our opening night*, Richard Walker com-

mented. It was a Dark film in all senses of the word, set in London in the 1800’s and with hindsight, perhaps not the best film to start with, however, those that attended seemed gripped and thrilled in equal measures. Bill Nighy saved the day with his distinguished demeanour throughout the plot’s many twists and turns.

Our next film, *Murder on the Orient Express*, starring Kenneth Branagh as Hercule Poirot for **Friday 23rd March**. Doors open 7.00pm. Tickets are available on the night but it really helps us to receive bookings in advance where possible.

For further details contact:

Richard Walker 01793 791 913
email richardw@eddingtons.co.uk

Community Connect
Coffee Morning

Wanborough Farmers’ Market

Those who run these coffee mornings at the monthly Wanborough Farmers’ Market are just so thrilled at the increase in the numbers attending. If you have not been before, why not come along and enjoy tea/coffee and delicious home made refreshments,

all of which are FREE! In conjunction with the warm welcome and the refreshments, plus the stall-holders produce which will be available, we also want to encourage support for a local charity. In March, we will be supporting another of our local charities, *The Wanborough Playgroup*.

In January, our charity of the month was the *Covingham Library*, and £173.17 was given to help this mainly voluntary run facility to remain open. On behalf of the *Community Connect* team, *Thank You*.

Wanborough’s Farmers’ Market

9.00am - Noon

Saturday 17th March
Wanborough Village Hall
High Street
Lower Wanborough

The usual stalls will be joined by the *Wanborough Community Cafe* which raises money for a local charity.

For more information contact:
Sue or David Birley:
01793 790 438 sbirley@gn.apc.org



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 activities, 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>



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

Do You Enjoy Meeting People?

Have You Thought About
Volunteering?

Citizens Advice Swindon

Advisers & Receptionists

Full training given

Email us now for more information or
call us for an informal chat:

Sanford House (College Street entrance):

Swindon SN1 1HE

trainer2@swindon.cabnet.org.uk

Telephone: 01793 402 106

A Hospital Story

(or the Tale of a Bionioc man)

I had been at the Great Western Hospital's cardiac unit for three weeks on a machine that drains all the surplus fluid out of my body to give my old ticker a little assistance, eventually an amazing 13 litres was removed and I lost 3 stone in weight.

Funny things happen in hospital. I was on a monitor with wires stuck all over my body feeding back to the main computer. At about 3.00am one morning, the nurse arrived because two of the wires had become disconnected which registered on the main screen. She pulled back the bed-clothes to trace the missing wires; after a gentle tugging we realized that they had become entangled in my nether regions. Oh what a surprise!

Apart from that, the nights passed very slowly. As I lay in bed, not sleeping, my mind went back to previous hospital experiences:

I suppose the longest stay was January to October 1943, while recovering from injuries received while serving as a commando in North Africa.

28 years later (in 1971) a hip replacement, 6 weeks in those days, and I still have the same hip. Then I had my leg and ankle fused at Oxford, and in 1980 I had my other hip replaced.

Twelve years ago I had a serious back operation, and then a shoulder cleared out. A doctor who was nick-named the plumber did a very good job for me.

These operations were run-of-the-

mill maintenance work. I realise that this does not compare with the complicated internal operations that some people have.

Nurses everywhere have been so kind and tolerant and I consider myself very lucky.

It has been a long journey, but I have had the support, for 71 years, of a loving and tolerant wife and my family.

Toby Ford, 97 years young

Dickie's Diary

Here's a thought. If we lived on the equator we would have no seasons and no spring to look forward to. I think most of us are programmed to anticipate spring with expectation and joy. In my own case I have always had a reminder because I have an embroidered sampler hanging in my loo, *In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love!*

March is said to come in like a lion and go out as a lamb. We hope so. But the signs of spring have been creeping up on us ever since the end of January. For a start, we see the days lengthening, more noticeably in the evening at first. Rooks and magpies start getting busy with twigs on a fine day, laying the foundations to their nests. Wherever there are hazel or nut bushes, the long lemon strands of catkins are formed, and a bit later, the pussy willow breaks out to exhibit the softest of silky buds.

Snowdrops are the earliest flower, then in our garden, suddenly at the end of January, we saw a nice show of yellow aconites poking through, with crocuses not far behind. Our daffodils come later, but we have noticed elsewhere there are even early varieties of daffodils or narcissi this year out on roundabouts into Swindon, as early as the beginning of February.

First thing in the morning the garden birds are definitely more vocal, with blackbirds and robins squabbling over territory, and you hear the long repeated notes of great tits. Another sign of spring is the drumming on trees and yaffle call of woodpeckers. I have read that cuckoos fitted with transmitters have already started their migration back from their winter

quarters in Angola, hopefully repeating this particular journey of last year to Suffolk in late April.

Even on the farm, our rape crops are moving on, putting on a few extra green leaves. With the housed cattle, we had one small beef steer that had to be separated in a box with a joint problem. He has now rejoined his mates and is nearly sound. Farmers call these half grown cattle *stirks*. Hopefully, with turn out and Dr Grass, and some summer climes we will see this beast fully recover.

Richard Green

Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize



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

Bishopstone 100 club

February Winners

1st 61 Karen Stevens

2nd 10 Nick Best

3rd 16 Cath Harding

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

Jo 790 485

Can you lead activities
in Craftwork, Woodwork,
Gardening, Metalwork,
& provide a listening ear?
If so, give us a call

Share your skills as a volunteer

Root & Branch

Westmill Farm Watchfield

Oxfordshire, SN6 8TH

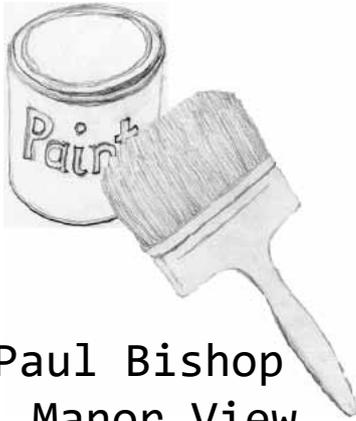
01793 780 380

rootandbranch@btconnect.com

www.rootandbranch.info

Charity No. 1143294

Painter & Decorator Interior/Exterior



Paul Bishop
1 Manor View
Lyddington

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

est. since 1991



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 March	8.30am	Holy Communion	Bishopstone
	3 rd Sunday of Lent	10.30am	Family Communion	Lyddington
		6.00pm	Evensong	Hinton Parva
Wednesday	7th March	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough Vicarage
Sunday	11th March	8.30am	Holy Communion	Lyddington
	4 th Sunday of Lent	10.30am	Family Communion	Bishopstone
		6.00pm	Evensong	Wanborough
Wednesday	14th March	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough Vicarage
Sunday	18th March	8.30am	Holy Communion	Hinton Parva
	5 th Sunday of Lent	10.30am	Family Communion	Wanborough
		6.00pm	Evensong	Bishopstone
Wednesday	21st March	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough Vicarage
Sunday	25th March	8.30am	Holy Communion	Wanborough
	Palm Sunday	10.30am	Family Communion	Hinton Parva
		6.00pm	Evensong	Lyddington
Wednesday	28th March	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough Vicarage
Thursday	29th March	6.00pm	Fellowship Supper	Hinton Parva Village Hall
	Maundy Thursday			
Friday	30th March	2.00pm	Stations of the Cross	Bishopstone
	Good Friday			
Saturday	31st March	8.00pm	Easter Vigil	Hinton Parva
	Easter Eve			
Sunday	1st April	9.30am	Holy Communion	Hinton Parva
	Easter Day	10.30am	Family Service & Easter Egg Hunt	Lyddington

The Vicar's Letter

Dear Friends and Neighbours,

Lent is a season with a number of mixed messages. Giving things up or doing additional things for the forty days and nights that this season lasts, are two classic approaches that are built to satisfy a need to join in. Sometimes that need is out of obligation and at other times it's out of a hunger or a deep sense of yearning. The Reformation could not have come soon enough for some landowners as Ash Wednesday, the day that marks the beginning of Lent, among other Holy Days of Obligation, or rather holidays of obligation, was an impediment to productivity. So the *Protestant Work Ethic* was a gift to some while for others their life of drudgery had even fewer opportunities for respite.

In response to this and many years later, some Anglican Priests working with the poor in Oxford tried in their services to give their parishioners a little view of Heaven in the midst of

their otherwise poverty stricken existence. Choirs, bells, smells and incense were all employed to help lift the hearts and minds of the downtrodden. Apparently the three hour services in America's Bible Belt work on a similar basis. We all thrive when we are in a positive environment and yet on Ash Wednesday, there is a part of the Service that is known as the *Imposition of Ashes*. It isn't an imposition as we are invited to receive the sign of the cross, marked in ash on our foreheads, to mark the beginning of our Lenten journey. Yes it speaks of the days of sackcloth and ashes, a period of time and an activity that demonstrate sorrow for failings past; and it also serves as a reminder that our bodies will return to dust at the end of our life here on earth.

Thankfully, that is not the end of the matter. For we are spiritual beings as well as human beings, and while our earthly bodies may well decay, our spiritual selves, our spir-

itual lives continue. Our Bibles also tell us that when Jesus returns, *First the Christians who have died will rise from their graves. Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord forever.* (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17). Knowing our destination always helps when planning a journey. It helps us to choose how we might get there and if we are on the right track. And so our Season of Lent is meant to be a kind of lay-by where we can review our journey in faith and make any alterations that might be necessary. Thanks to the generosity of a good number of people, the funding for alterations needed for the heating systems at St Mary's, Bishopstone and St Andrews, Wanborough, are well underway.

From the pop-up Christmas Fayre to the vicars haircut (donations of hats gratefully received), cooking competitions and so many other out of the

blue donations, funds are steadily coming in to enable us to offer a warm welcome at every church service and to look at opening the churches for other community based activities. On the 13th and 14th of April, from midday till an hour before midnight each day, we have our first Wanborough Beer and Cider Festival. Jesus also liked a drink with His friends and so this community based act of fundraising hospitality at the New Calley Arms is very much looked forward to. My thanks go to everyone involved in this and any other kind of charitable fundraising in our benefice, as it speaks of the generosity that is at the heart of us all. Perhaps we can all drink to that. With best wishes and prayers

Bill

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

Easter Flowers



St. Swithun's Church, Hinton Parva, Friday 30th March

On that morning the flower people (which sounds kind of hippy), and I would have said girls, except that's politically incorrect, are going to be decorating the church for Easter. Please come and help. We promise that you that: (a) you don't have to play the guitar or sing; (b) there's no need to know anything about flower arranging; (c) you don't have to be a girl, just come and have fun.

Contact Mogs Boon 790 626 mogsboon@hotmail.com

Lent Lunches

Throughout Lent, lunches will be held on a Wednesday from 12.30p.m. at the addresses set out below:

- 28th February Joan Carron, The Gables, High Street, Lower Wanborough
- 7th March. Bill O'Connell, the Vicarage, Church Road, Wanborough
- 14th March. Trisha Wells, Tinkers Lodge, Orchard Close, Rotton Row, Wanborough
- 21st March Roz Boot, Cherney Thatch, Oxon Place, Bishopstone
- 28th March Monica Dale, Field Rise, Ham Road, Wanborough

We do hope that you will be able to support at least one of them, if not more, of these lunches. The cost is £5 per person. The lunches are not limited to just Churchgoers.

Any queries please contact Joan Carron on 790 294

Village Fête
2018
Saturday 23rd June
Church Farm
Hinton Parva

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

March	Liz Warwick & Jane Manktelow
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 Manktelow
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

Shenanigans, fun and laughter, brain-teasing quiz questions and a tasty hot supper – all hosted by B&DGS one particularly chilly evening in February (See *photographas on front page*). Huge thanks to everyone who came and supported our main fundraising event for the year ahead; altogether we raised approximately £460. A shout out of thanks to Ian, (Swindon Ski and Snowboard Servicing), for kindly donating the top prize to the winning team, won this year by the Mighty Marrows!

We are indebted to our Quizmaster, Cheryl, for persevering through the evening, despite fighting a virus which was playing havoc with her voice.

I don't wear a hat, but if I did, I'd take it off to the likes of *the team* and all those who helped beforehand, selling tickets, setting up the hall and the wonderful people who cooked large portions of food, washed up and stopped to clean up afterwards. You all amaze me with your generosity of time. (By the way, you're all down in my book for a repeat performance in 2019 ...)

Hope to see Garden Soc members and friends on **Wednesday 14th March**, for a slide Show and talk by John Farrow: The Wilts & Berks Canal Restoration. Taking a look at the past and 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.

So, basically, trying something new here – in that it's not a talk about plants. Even though we're a Gardening Society, we do have lots of other interests.

We meet every second Wednesday of the month at Bishopstone Village Hall, 7:00pm for 7:30pm start. Raffle/Tea/coffee/biscuits. £5 annual membership subs now due, or £2 per person on the door. We like visitors, so please do come. You can contact Sheila or Sarah (Outings Organiser) at:

banddgardeningssoc@gmail.com

Sheila :)

School Report

Well the only distant memo-ry of Christmas was the visit by Robert Buckland MP to present one of our children with a certificate for coming runner up in his Christmas Card competition . . . Bishopstone child art work was sent all over the world!

Our next celebration was due to a young lady in the school winning the local Rotary Club Photography competition, since then she has gone on to win the regional final, and her beautiful pictures are now entering the National competition!

School has slipped back into the daily excitement of learning, which has been underpinned by a trip to Pine-wood School. A very kind invite from themselves saw a group of our children attending a Science Show which involved all you wish for as a child, noise and fire dancing soundwaves. Highly informative and lots of fun.

We continue to work closely within the local cluster of schools, four children currently attending additional Science lessons at Ridgeway School, which are all based around the theme of *colour*. Test tubes, chemicals and goggles are all highly exciting, leading to some interesting finds.

KS2 attended the Wyvern theatre dance festival, brightly dressed and dancing to a song from the film *Trolls*, we were super proud of them, as walking on stage in front of a packed house is very daunting . . . not a mistake was made.

If you asked the children, however, what they have enjoyed the most, it would probably involve a small plastic device with *pinchy* arms . . . they thoroughly enjoyed litter picking around the village, dancing with glee when they found a *naughty piece of litter* and, once back in school, it certainly produced some interest-

ing discussions about the local paths and the environment globally. We have now even invested in our own *grabbers* so that we can go out with small groups on other occasions.

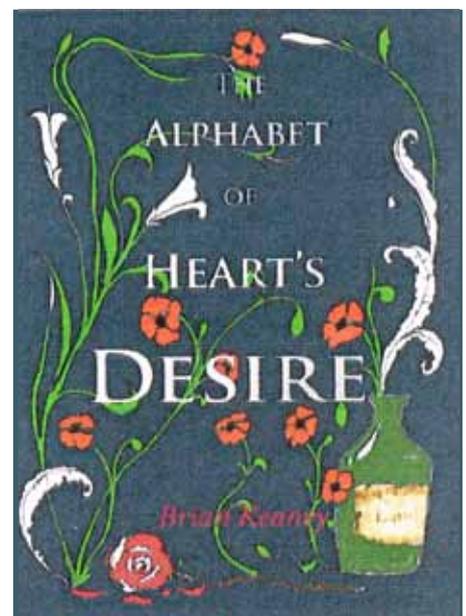
Today we break for half term . . . highly apt is the sprinkle of snow outside the window as we are celebrating the opening day of the Winter Olympics. The children have transported themselves into skiers, ice-skaters and wearing many other *sporting* attires. This afternoon is all about curling (we have a set of *non-ice* curling stones), creating their own ice-dance, bobsleighbing around the village hall and finally completing a biathlon . . . I am not sure though who will feel tired . . . the children or the staff!

Emma Linsay

Bishopstone Allotment Gardens

The subs are now due. Please put the money in an envelope in the usual place, with your name on, so I can tick the list. Anyone who would like a plot, please contact me on the number below.

Many thanks, Roz. 790 508



An Evening in Conversation
with Brian Keaney

Author of

The Alphabet of Heart's Desire

7.30pm 27th March

The Harrow Inn, Wanborough

Free Entry

Tickets from the Harrow

or email dianerendell9@gmail.com

Barefoot Photography

Weddings - Children - Pets



Mother's Day
11th March
Gift vouchers
available

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



In that spirit of collaboration for which we are well known, it delights us that Bishopstone Village Hall's City Nights film evenings have got off to a flying start, and the next screening, *Victoria and Abdul*, on 23rd February promises much entertainment. To enhance that enjoyment, we're offering *Pre-Film Suppers*, on the night, 6.00-7.00pm, priced at £10 and £15, one or two courses of organic food. Please let us know if interested, and tell us when you're booking, always best by phone 790 481, or email, royaloak@helen-browningorganics.co.uk. Our own showing of Last Tango in Paris will of course be upstairs in the pub on the same night, just in case it's of more interest. That reminds me, it was the last time I was thrown out of the cinema for looking underage. That was a while ago. It was excellent and educational, when I went to a different cinema a week later, oop north of course. The cinema facilities are yet another example of the way villages like this keep active and progressive. Someone in the pub once said to me, *it's about 20 people in this village who keep the place from decaying*; I sort of agreed although I think the number is larger. The other reason villages like this one don't decay is the relatively high turnover of the population. There's a core gang, who might have been here forever, and might stay forever (eg me...) and there's a good chunk of younger folk and their kids coming through who bring new energy. They're following their careers, and these two villages are currently the perfect location for them. They put money into the local economy, use local facilities, keep the school open,

and help to run village halls and the like, and raise money; generally, very active, and those of us long stayers ought to love them for it. Instead, a little too often, I detect cynicism from some of the longer term dwellers, who don't like too much change too quickly. Don't want people adding bits or changing things on the house they've just bought, for example. I see on my travels, as an international part time sausage salesman and pig procurer, plenty of villages where the life has gone; people yes, but school no, village hall decrepit, pub turned into housing. I think these two villages have, by whatever means, managed to keep the old and the new styles and expectations comfortable with each other, and long may it continue. Change is an ever present, whether we like it or not. T'is the season of...rugby! HB's Royal Oak's favourite sport. So, apart from all the Six Nations on TV in the next month or so, we're also hosting an *International Rugby Supper*, on 13th March. Two quite likely lads—Paul Grayson and Harvey Thorneycroft. Grayson because he won 32 caps for England up to 2004, held back during that time by Jonny Wilkinson; and Thorneycroft because he is funny, old and fat! He played for England B as a remarkable winger until they all discovered he was a bit slow. They are talking at supper that night—three courses based around our pork and beef, £40/head, room for 50 of you. It's timed to deliver a preview of what should be the match of the Six Nations—England vs Ireland on 17th March. Unless you're Welsh, you'll agree it ought to be the match that decides the championship. Bookings by phone or email; we're asking £10 deposit per person. Groups of 6 or more get 10% off. It will deliver

plenty of entertainment. 7.30 kick off, be there before that if you can. Heresy, but I have to mention Easter—our *Annual Easter Egg Hunt* will be Sunday 1st April, that's no joke either. Usually 10.30, farm office car park, then a tractor and trailer ride. £10/car/family. A lot of exercise is promised. Room for 50 people. An early Easter means it will probably snow that day. I'll try to make sure the dog doesn't eat the eggs before you get there; and this time I might also have three little pigs helping with the entertainment. They were born just before Christmas, but their mother died after 4 weeks, so the smaller ones needed rescuing. Helen suggested it would be a way to keep me quiet and busy, so we've taken them into an outbuilding at the house, where I am involved in daily feeding and health checking rituals. I am hoping they will be the surprise package on pig racing day; keep an eye out for Morecambe, Wise, and Glenda. Who else? Showing my age. I must remember to check their genders before I commit to this naming lark. Pip pip. The pub remains the warmest place in the village

TF



Hen Appeal

Thank you so much for your previous support and for adopting some hens from us.

I am emailing you from the British Hen Welfare Trust as we are in need of a volunteer who can drive a Transporter with a trailer in the Wiltshire Area. We carry out re-homing days in Hinton Parva once every 4-6 weeks and are looking for someone to transport hens to our re-homing point.

We have re-homed thousands of hens in the area and can't thank the community and our volunteers enough for helping these girls. However, we won't be able to carry out further collections until this position has been filled.

If you are able to help with transporting our hens, or know of anyone who can, please email:

Gaynor.Davies@bhwt.co.uk

01884 860 084.

7th Annual International Pig Racing Day Sunday 3rd June 2018

Road Closure Notice - Cues lane

We will apply for the usual short-term road closure according to the Town Police clauses Act 1847. The registered charities to benefit for this year include the Swindon and North Wiltshire Deaf Children's Society, Prospect Hospice and The Village Hall, Bishopstone

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**

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

*Outside Catering
FOR ANY OCCASION*

ARTISAN CHEESES · OLIVES
FRESH BREAD · PRESERVES
COFFEES & TEAS · LOCAL ALE
HOMEMADE CAKES · FRUIT
& VEG · CIDER & WINE

*And lots
more...* **NEW**
Deli &
Coffee
Shop in
Shrivenham
open now!

SHOPS 8 HIGH STREET, HIGHWORTH T: 766399
33 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

**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




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

**ROSE &
CROWN
INN**
ARKELL'S ALES

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 Cozy bedrooms
Sunday Lunch served 12-3
bookings advisable

Tel: 01793 710222

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

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

This month, I shall mainly be assuming the persona of a grumpy old woman. Some of you will think this will be a big stretch for me; others will wonder if they'll spot the difference. Please don't feel the need to share your thoughts with me. . .

I'll get started by picking up where I left off last month and confess my general dislike of management jargon. For me, the most ridiculous and impenetrable example is *truffle hunting across the jungle floor*, which I first heard used in a conference room in Maidenhead a good fifteen years ago. I'm still not entirely clear what the phrase means; there's certainly not much jungle to be found in Berkshire.

There is fun to be had with these pointless phrases, however. I used to work with a very Senior Someone who delighted in inventing management jargon and dropping it into meetings, just to see how long it took for the phrase to be used back to him at a later date. I think he had too much time on his hands. Much like the weathermen who have taken to inventing weather conditions. Thundersnow or bomb cyclones anyone?

I'm now wondering whether the Senior Someone was the originator of the truffle hunting phrase. That would finally make sense of it.

Given the presence in the last few weeks of, if not exactly thundersnowy or bomb cycloney conditions, the sort of weather that makes jobs indoors seem preferable to those outdoors, the Mantelpieces have been decorating. And this has thrown up the next thing I'd like to complain about today: paint rollers. More specifically, the fact that paint roller sleeves never seem to match the actual rollers on hand, and vice versa.

We have a wonderful ceiling roller that remains extended for the entirety of a ceiling, rather than collapsing halfway through the job as many do. What we don't have, however, is a sleeve that will fit it. Even after making a variety of on-line purchases from the manufacturer of said roller, we still have a roller sans-sleeve, which is

functionally useless. And the sleeves that we had on hand appear to be of a size that is now defunct. Which is disappointing as they were only bought last year. Standardisation of rollers and sleeves doesn't seem like a big ask. Think of the space we could save in landfill if we didn't keep having to throw things out and start again. I feel a Campaign coming on. . .

Having eventually managed to marry up a sleeve and a roller, Mr Mantelpiece (who seems to be making a bid for a role as Village News's Entertainment Reviewer) erected the stepladder on the landing. Some time later, he tried to un-erect it, to no avail. After around half an hour of pushing, pulling, spraying with silicon and, eventually, kicking and swearing, the ladder remained, a large V-shaped obstruction at the top of the stairs. With ingenuity, and more slithering than Cleopatra's asp, it was possible to get into the bedrooms and bathroom, so things could have been worse.

That was two weeks ago, now, and we're quite pleased with our unique Landing Sculpture Number One. We've decorated it with sundry unwanted items, including the redundant roller sleeves, so saved a little bit of landfill space. We plan to submit it to Tate Modern, once we've worked out how to get it down the stairs.

Mrs Mantelpiece



And Almost Finally...

Once again we have had an interesting and varied array of copy for our March newsletter. Sadly we can't fit in the piece and the photographs of the village clear up, promise to include it next month.

We did go back to the Reference Library to investigate what had been happening in the March editions of the past: In 2000 Bishopstone was voted the most generous village in Wiltshire, with all its well supported charity events. I bet that you didn't know that; the fore-runners of BADS had held a Dracula Spectacular in 1990, written by Bernard Broom, in which Les Morris starred as the dame; does anybody remember when Bishopstone declared independence

in 1995? More of that anon.

mogs X

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@jcloud.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.

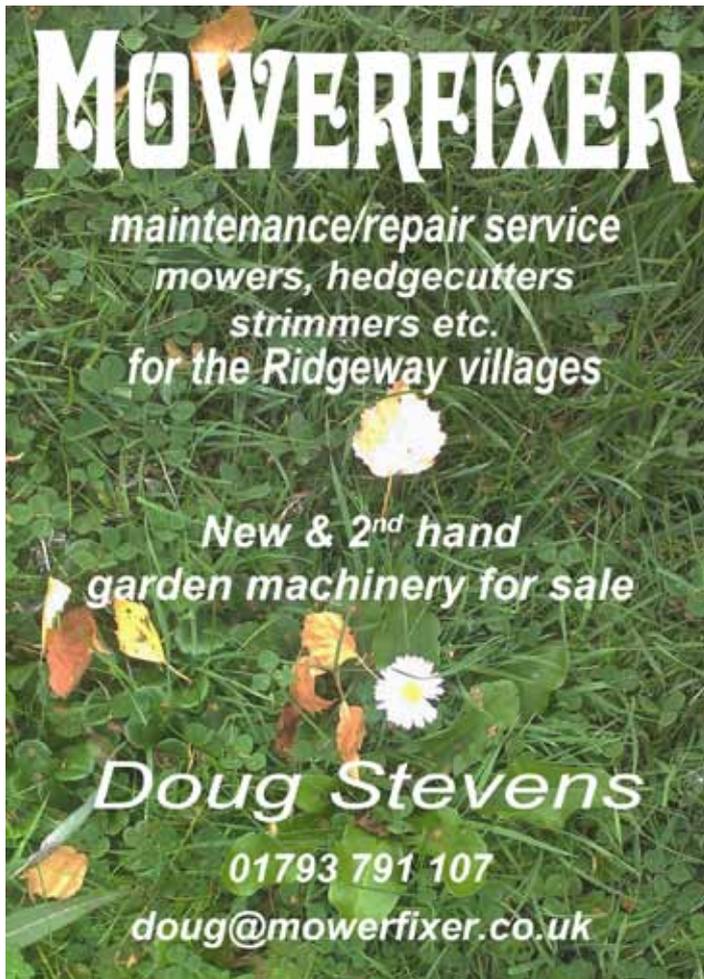
As to advertising on the village website email: Andy Greenhalgh, agreenha@gmail.com or Jonathon Boon, wizeoldboon@hotmail.com

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



Paul Booth fsb^{cs}

Tel: 01793 828547
Mob: 07736 847597

www.primary-colours.co.uk

Southern Voice & Data
Telecom & IT Solutions
for Business



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

Hinton Marsh Farm



Catering at your party
hog roast served with
homemade apple sauce,
stuffing
spit roast lamb served
with all of the trimmings
or spit roast machine
available to hire

07968 866323
info@hintonmarshfarm.co.uk




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.

Parent Toddler Group Coffee Morning

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




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

Bishopstone
SN6 8PW
Latest Ofsted Rating "Good"

