

Village News

for Bishopstone & Hinton Parva November 2018

BISHOPSTONE CRAFT FAIR

Is on

Thursday 22nd November 6.00 pm - 8.00 pm
The Village Hall, Bishopstone



As well as the usual favourites, there will be some new and different stalls, ranging from original crafts to home/locally made produce.

A great opportunity for Christmas Shopping - and there could be a special visitor!

For any further information please contact:

Chris Thomas 01793 790 106



Please come to our
**CHRISTMAS
CRAFT
FAIR**
Sunday
2nd December
1.00 - 3.30pm

*Without R&B to help me weather my storm,
To remove my shroud and be free, not forlorn,
To feel loved and cherished and part of this crew,
For the first time in years I invite everything new*

Wrote an eternally grateful recipient of the charity's help.
Root and Branch is a small charity located on Westmill Farm, just near Watchfield. We offer therapeutic

activities for adults with mental health difficulties. Our activity areas include Gardening, Woodwork, Metalwork, Crafts, Ceramics, and Cooking. We currently have vacancies for any volunteers who can lead a weekly activity in one of these areas. If you are qualified or experienced and would be comfortable leading a group of around three adults to build their confidence in a beautiful setting, please get in touch with us.

Our volunteers come once a week from 9.30 a.m. - 2.30 p.m. and find the work extremely rewarding. We are a warm community of friendly local people, dedicated to improving the lives of those who need our support. We offer great facilities including: a wonderful garden, and well-equipped workshops; kiln room;

forge and green wood working area. For an informal chat, or to arrange a visit, please email Karen English:
rootandbranch@btconnect.com
01793 780 380

To learn more about us or to fill in an application form to volunteer, please visit our website:

www.rootandbranch.info

Come along to our Christmas Craft Fayre. Wreaths, handmade craft gift items, tea & cake, or book on to our

Christmas Wreath-Making Workshop
Saturday 8th December 10.00-4.00pm
Lunch & wreath included £40pp

Apology

I am so sorry that for no apparent reason I put completely the wrong telephone number in the October issue.



ED

www.bishopstoneandhintonparva.org for breaking news



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www.facebook.com/jojosdairyfarm

Dickie's Diary



After such a pleasant autumn it's rather frightening to feel November is upon us. This past season of harvest festivals and mellow fruitfulness may be but a memory. Every village used to support an autumn flower /produce show. Bishopstone still does. In the farming world, our most local show is the two day Berkshire County, run by the Newbury Agricultural Society. Young Oliver Spence showed, and won prizes with his Dexter heifer matching pair this year. Further afield, there are the Three Counties at Malvern, Thame, and Moreton in the Marsh shows. A society show survives in the Great Park at Windsor, catering for just its farming members with the public, unusually, excluded. I had an interesting day there this summer judging the cereal crops. A brilliant lunch was a great draw, with Adam Henson speaking. Ploughing match societies are still very successful. This year's Fairford, Faringdon, Filkins, and Burford show, held at Clanfield, drew a terrific crowd. A new site is volunteered each year, with some of the proceeds going back to the host farmer, who may have to re-level his fields! In Wiltshire, Avebury district hold a similar event. Inadequate access has prevented me from offering our fields as a site. The nearest events to us here have been held at Kingston Lisle in 2006, Shellingford in 2007, and Hatford in 2012. All these shows are real family events, staging a shop window of modern and bygone farming practices. There are competitions for all age groups, with classes for cooking, produce, art, vegetables and flowers, and harvested crops producing a timeless attraction. Many return each year to plough the straightest furrow and Shires predominate in the horse sec-

tion, though this year there was a pair of magnificent Dutch Draughts, steel/grey and sturdy. Socially, these shows play a valuable, interactive role in the fabric of country life, fostering old skills and getting the rural community together, some members of which find themselves leading a rather solitary life. At some expense, The Wurzels came to play on this 70th anniversary year for the evening party at Clanfield.

Richard Greent

Women's Institute

- Inspiring Women

On **Tuesday 6th November**, we have our second Art Study Day of the year with Jenny Lyall, NADFAS art historian and Marlborough Summer school lecturer. *An eye for detail: Dutch Interiors*, together with a short lecture on *The Colour Blue*. 10.30 - 15.00pm, £20 payable to Jenny directly, plus a £2 donation to WI funds for refreshments. Bring your own lunch! Tinkers Lodge, off Rotten Row, Wanborough. Art Lovers - please get in touch if this of interest.

Thursday 8th November, we warmly welcome our local dairy farmer and milk producer, Josette Fiddes, of Jo-Jo's milk, Lotmead Farm. We are so lucky to have such locally produced milk that is filtered, pasteurised, cooled and bottled in just two hours

- ready for you to take home. Josette will be talking about her dairy farm and herd of *girls* at 7.30pm in Hinton Parva Hall. Please do come and take the opportunity of meeting one of our young farmers - helping to keep our villages thriving.

Our National WI has once again partnered with The National Gallery for another art study day *Face Value - The Power of Portraits* on **30th November**. We have 8 members from our Art Lovers group attending this event in London.

Thursday 13th December we celebrate Christmas in Bishopstone village hall at 7.00pm with supper, lots of puddings, wine and live entertainment with singer Stuart Burnley and his band.

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

We provide support for new interest groups to be developed - with the power of the WI behind them. Any ideas you would like to explore with us? Come along to one of our meetings on the second Thursday of each month 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

Swindon Symphony Orchestra Concert

Sunday 18th November 7.30pm

St. Joseph's Catholic College, Ocotal Way, Swindon SN3 3LR

Conducted by Malcolm Webb

the programme is:

Britten Soirees Musicales, Butterworth A Shropshire Lad, Vaughan Williams Tuba Concerto, May The Coming of Peace (written for SSO and first performed at the Wyvern 6th October), Elgar Enigma Variations.

Tickets £10 adults, £1 children under 16 and full-time students.

Available from

www.swindonsymphonyorchestra.org.uk

The Village Hall, Bishopstone - November

The hall is cleaned	Mondays		8.30 - 10.30am
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
HITS	Wednesday	7 th , 21 st , & 28 th	7.15 - 8.00pm
Mothers & Toddlers	Thursdays	1 st , 8 th , 15 th , & 29 th	9.00 - 11.00am
School	Thursdays	1 st , 8 th , 15 th , & 29 th	3.15 - 4.15pm
Parish Council	Monday	5 th	7.00 - 9.00pm
Craft Fair	Thursday	22 nd	All Day
Private Party	Sunday	25 th	2.00 - 2.00pm
Film Night	Friday	30 th	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 - November

Beginners Bridge	Friday	2 nd , 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd & 30 th	2.00 - 4.30pm
Bridge	Friday	2 nd , 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd & 30 th	7.30 - 10.00pm
Beginners Bridge	Wednesday	7 th , 14 th , 21 st & 28 th	7.00 - 9.00pm
Private Booking	Thursday	1 st	6.00 - 7.30pm
WI	Thursday	8 th	7.00 - 9.30pm
Private Booking	Thursday	15 th	6.00 - 7.30pm
Private Booking	Thursday	22 nd	6.00 - 7.30pm
Private Booking	Thursday	29 th	6.00 - 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 Village Hall

It is fair to say that the Hall has had a tough time of late - the water pipe burst in the kitchen and the ensuing repairs have been going on since April - but to take the positives from the position we find ourselves in, you have to say the Insurance company have been very fair and, indeed, generous. The kitch-

en has had an upgraded refurbishment complete with new walls, flooring and decoration. Come and have a look.

The committee has recently been operating with three members and also the magnificent Janet, who takes all the Hall bookings. We are looking to get the Village Supper organised for a date to be agreed in

January 2019 . If you can offer to help with cooking some vegetables and/or helping with entertainment by way of games or music, then please let me know. Many hands make light work and our Supper is in many ways unique to Hinton Parva.

Howard 791 171

Hinton Village Hall Noticeboard

Please note:

to avoid congestion and outdated information, from

1st December 2018

this notice board will be cleared during the first week of each month.

LHVH Committee

Secretary Wanted

After eleven years as secretary of The Village Hall, Bishopstone Committee, I would like to hand over this role.

I will remain a member of this enthusiastic and friendly committee, which is dedicated to raising funds to continue to update, and provide a well-equipped hall, which people can use for local societies and events. The committee also puts on its own events, such as the monthly film night, which it hopes will encourage village participation and become a regular feature of Bishopstone life.

Meetings are approximately every two months, and whilst the role of secretary does require a minimal amount of admin and pc work. I have found that the main enjoyment has come from being actively involved in village activities.

If you are interested in taking on this role please contact me on 791 453.

Thanks,

Carol Sarchet



30th November

The third film in our winter season sees RC Sherriff's tried and tested theatrical work Journey's End brought to life on the big screen, (medium sized actually)! This harrowing yet heart-

breaking film brings home the horrors of war, with some fabulous character acting and intensity. The City Lights special effects team will be at the ready with coconuts for horses' hooves, scrunchy gravel for troop marching and bangers for rifle fire etc. In fact, anything to authenticate the surround sound in the hall. Come on down for a decent beer, Doug's Interval Ice Cream, a good chat with friends and the chance of a great film. Tickets from info@citylights.co.uk, Richard Walker and The Royal Oak. Tickets : £5.00 each
 Doors Open 7.00pm, films 7.45pm
 1945 Cert 12A –
 Pre order your tickets for December, wonderful stocking fillers and gifts.

Richard Walker

Richardw@eddingtons.co.uk
 01793 791 913
 Coming Shortly
Friday 28th December
The Happy Prince

Claim It or Lose It

On inspection, the attic of **The Village Hall, Bishopstone** is crammed with junk. Does any of this treasure belong to you? The plan is to supply The Royal Oak bonfire and fill a skip. So be warned, please come and retrieve any of your precious objects before the 5th November. Hall contact telephone numbers on the notice board.

Come & Join us...

1st Wanborough Scout Group has places available in Beavers (6-8 yrs); Cubs (8-10½ yrs) and Scouts (10½ - 14yrs). Please get in touch if youngsters would like to come along for a taster session on a weekday evening: tessaannlanstein@gmail.com; 07795 057 420.

We'd also welcome new adult helpers/ leaders to support/run our programme or assist with our Executive committee.
Tessa Lanstein Group Scout Leader

Your Newsletter Needs



As you probably know, the financing of the newsletter comes from advertising. Sadly we are struggling to get some people to actually pay what they owe, (an exhausting task). If we don't have the money to pay the printers there will be no newsletter, which would be quite sad, so come on, pay up chaps. While on the subject, is there anybody out there who would be happy to spend an hour or two a month helping with the money side? Also I would be in heaven if somebody would join our merry team to help sell advertising; it isn't one of my skills.

Editor (contact details page 14)



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

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

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 Email: tds@swindon.cabnet.org.uk
 Telephone: 01793 402 106

Library Corner

2.00pm

Monday 19th November

At Liden Library

Meet the Author
Brian Clegg



Swindon-based science writer Brian Clegg, author of over 30 popular science titles, will be talking about the real world of time machines.

Time travel makes wonderful science fiction, but there is nothing in the laws of physics that prevents us from travelling through time. This talk shows how real time travel works, and shatters our illusions on the nature of time. Brian will answer your questions on weird science and on being a science writer, and will have copies of his books on sale.

Please join us in Liden library for this free event.

SwindonCommunityLibraryTrust@
LibraryTrust

Registered charity number. 1171371

Diane Rendell

Community Connect Coffee Morning at

Wanborough Farmers' Market

At the Farmers' Market and Community Connect Coffee Morning in September, we welcomed Kath Brownlee of the local charity, *The Wiltshire Treehouse*. This charity seeks to help children who have suffered the loss of a sibling, or a parent. After the event, Kath Brownlee wrote to us as follows: *Thank you for making me so welcome on Saturday. I just wanted to confirm that the donation you made to us was £281:00 (£306:00 with Gift Aid). This is a wonderful amount and we are very grateful for [the] peoples' generosity.* On behalf of us all, thank you for those who came to the September Farmers' Market and who donated to this worthwhile charity.

Our chosen charity for November will be the *Swindon Night Shelter*. This charity exists to meet some of the needs of local people who are home-

less. In a recent national survey, it was said that one of the ten most pleasurable experiences people have is to sleep in a bed with freshly laundered sheets. Imagine then, what it must be like not to have a bed to sleep in? Hopefully, and with your support, we can help some of the most vulnerable in our community who seek refuge at the *Swindon Night Shelter*.

Please join us – and bring a friend – on the 17th November, enjoy *free* home-made baking, support our local Farmers' Market, and give help to those who are in need.

On behalf of the Farmers' Market and the Community Connect team;
Thank You.

Wanborough's Farmers' Market

Saturday 17th November

9.00am - midday

Wanborough Village Hall

High Street, SN4 0AD

We hate to say, it but *it's time to stock up for Christmas!*

There will be refreshments courtesy of the Wanborough Community Café.

For more information contact:

Sue or David Birley:

01793 790 438 sbirley@gn.apc.org

School Report



The sound of feet pattering through school has returned. Unfortunately, the sound of one particular large foot tread is no longer. We said a very sad farewell to Mr Anley at the end of the summer term. Phil has given so much to both the school and the local community over the past twelve years, but it was that time for him, as it was for our wonderful year 6 children, to move to pastures new. You will find him (if seeking) in a world of computer heaven.....teaching in a Secondary School to the west of Swindon.

So, for us, changes have taken place, I am now teaching full time in KS2, all the staff have pulled together to continue to strengthen and challenge

our children. We will be recruiting shortly, looking for a new member of staff come January 2019.

The children, as always, have been busy. Both the NSPCC and Women's Aid have been in, holding workshops, and we have been very fortunate to join with Pinewood Prep for e-safety workshops, drumming with Yr4, *Stomp* inspired music for Year 3, and we are very excited about a Mayan adventure in a few weeks. We are very grateful for all we are gaining through these wonderful joint activities.

We have started the year with high expectations, a new maths scheme rolled out, a great sporting afternoon at Prebendal Farm, (we were super lucky to be allowed to gallop on their gorgeous lawn), and, this week, our Yr 5/6 football team, by far the underdogs, (having never played on a pitch together), steamed their way to the next small schools round at County Final level in Chippenham.

Then there was the 'phone call that was due, (I was kind of hoping for a little longer); poor Mrs Tremlin was a tad uncertain when having to relay the words, *OFSTED are on the phone...*I did wonder why she was being so insistent that I didn't go out on duty. However, they came.....they went...as they do! I can not praise the children, parents, governors and most importantly, the staff enough. The candle burnt through the night and staff were determined to showcase what a special school we have.

Conker competition, Harvest Festival, and then half term...doesn't time fly, except when OFSTED are sat with you...then I am sure there is a whole warped time going on where one minute is equal to one hour!

Emma Linsay

Bishopstone 100 club

October Winners

1st 13 Frazer Blunt

2nd 28 Angela Edward

3rd 95 Doreen Cooper.

Jo 790 485



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Church Services in the Benefice

Sunday	4th November	8.30am	Holy Communion	Bishopstone
	4 th Sunday before Advent	10.30am	Festival of All Saints' Family Communion	Lyddington
	All Saints' Day	6.00pm	Evensong	Hinton Parva
Wednesday	7th November	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough Vicarage
Sunday	11th November	10.30am	Remembrance Service	Lyddington
	3 rd Sunday before Advent		Remembrance Service + Holy Communion	Bishopstone
	Remembrance Sunday		Remembrance Service with Holy Communion	Wanborough
Wednesday	14th November	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough Vicarage
Sunday	18th November	8.30am	Holy Communion	Hinton Parva
	2 nd Sunday before Advent	10.30am	Family Communion	Wanborough
		6.00pm	Evensong	Bishopstone
Wednesday	21st November	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough Vicarage
Sunday	25th November	8.30am	Holy Communion	Wanborough
	Sunday next before Advent	10.30am	Family Communion	Hinton Parva
		6.00pm	Evensong	Lyddington
Wednesday	28th November	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough Vicarage
Sunday	2nd December	8.30am	Holy Communion	Bishopstone
	1 st Sunday of Advent	10.30am	Family Communion	Wanborough
		6.00pm	Evensong	Hinton Parva

The Vicar's Letter

Dear Friends and Neighbours, Wars, rows, disagreements and the like; they all need to end at some point. And the peace that can follow is at least noticed, if not appreciated, by all. Fields across many parts of the world are silent now, where the horrors of war have previously taken place. It is in this silence that taking stock can take place. In a similar way, when recovering from surgery, the time taken to pull through will vary depending on the size of the wound, and family disputes can be no different. Yet even in the midst of some of the biggest conflicts known to humanity, some amazing stories of forgiveness and indeed mercy, have been known and retold. Soldiers were placed in trenches and it's from here that we get the term entrenched. But at some stage people have to get out of these and talk. Some might say that the people of South Africa might have had good reason for revenge, but instead they set up a truth and reconciliation commission. Due to a willingness to move on both sides, the fruit of this was a

democracy that was available to the whole nation. It's an ongoing process that has collected a few bruises along the way, but then so is getting old. At some point, wars, arguments and witch hunts have to come to an end. Life is simply too short and too valuable for grudges of any kind. For the active Christian there is an even greater motivation, if not inspiration, and it comes in the words of the Lord's Prayer. *Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.* Holding onto our *trench of judgement* is simply not an option for the active Christian. That doesn't mean to say it is easy either. As Jesus Himself said, *Let he who is without sin cast the first stone.* Couple this with the fact that God created and revels in variety, then judging another should never be a part of our lives, for judgment is often the birthplace of dispute. The fact is that some events take a lifetime to get over, and may seem totally impossible to forgive. Again this is where God's grace (God's unmerited blessing and favour) can kick in. Given the opportunity, when we can't, God can. Jesus' birth, death and resurrection are

so much bigger than payment of past misdemeanours, they are so much bigger than mere forgiveness. Jesus' birth, death and resurrection are about the grand prize, which is mercy. Payment and forgiveness have the potential to be limited to, *an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth.* Mercy is so much more than this. It is about compassion for the author of the wound that hurts so much. This can only ever be funded by love, that four letter spelling of the word God. The amazing thing is the more we get involved in, it the better we feel ourselves. I cannot think of a better way of honouring the lives of those who have died for this great nation of ours. If you have anything that you would like our village prayer group to pray for please contact:

telephone - 790 088

email - villageprayers@gmail.com

With best wishes and prayers

Bill

Parish Contacts

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

01793 791 359

villagevicar@hotmail.co.uk

News from the Bell Tower

Remembrance Sunday 2018

11th November marks the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War and bell ringers all over the country will be playing their part in *Ringing Remembers*, a national commemoration to mark the centenary of the Armistice, when bells will be rung throughout the UK as they were 100 years ago. 1,400 bell ringers lost their lives in WW1 and one of the targets of the Ringing Remembers initiative is to attract at least 1,400 recruits, and hopefully, most will be bitten by the bug and keep ringing.

There are a number of other coordinated events on 11th November, including early morning bagpipes, buglers, town criers and the lighting of beacons at 7.00 pm. Church and Cathedral towers up and down the country have been asked to ring at certain times throughout the day: half muffled ringing will take place for the usual morning Remembrance Sunday church services.

Ringing will be at Wanbor-



ough before the 10.30am service. At about 12.30pm there will be special ringing without muffles this time, to coincide with the National Ceremony at The Cenotaph, London. Ringing will be at Liddington between 12.00 noon and 1.00pm. Finally, bells will ring again without muffles at about 7.00pm for the lighting of the beacons. Ringing will be at Lyddington finishing at about 7.00 pm.

This will be a busy day for the joint band of ringers who ring at Wanborough and Lyddington. If you are a lapsed ringer, can you be persuaded to help out on the day? If so, your help will be gratefully received. Or if you are interested in learning to ring so that you can take part in future Local, National and International events, contact the tower captain.

Tony Pullan

Wanborough Bells Project 2018

The Bells Project is back on track, and, by the time you read this, the restored bells should have been rehung in the tower in the middle of October. The completion of the Project will be celebrated with the

Bells Dedication Service, which is at the 10.30 am church service on Sunday 18th November. Please come and join us on this historic occasion. The service will feature a unique performance by the choir and handbell ringers, and the church bells will be rung briefly during, and immediately after, the service. Regular ringing will then resume with practices on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Fridays at Wanborough, and 2nd and 4th at Lyddington, 7.30 - 9.00 pm. Do call me if you are interested in joining our small but active team.

Tony Pullan, Tower Captain,
01793 790 904

Art Competition

The Friends of The Ridgeway have established an annual arts competition and prize – *the Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize*. For 2019, it will be held in April 2019 with an exhibition in:

Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall,
Uffington

27th Saturday & 28th Sunday April

The aim of the competition is to bring The Ridgeway to life, not only as a long distance trail but also as an artistic inspiration, and to show The Ridgeway, its history and environs, in all their aspects throughout all seasons. The theme of the competition is:

Spirit of the Ridgeway

Further information can be obtained from:

Anthony Burdall, 2 Fernham Road,
Faringdon Oxfordshire SN7 7JY
01367 240 713 07841 352 938
anthony.burdall@burdall.net

Cleaning Rota

St. Mary's Church, Bishopstone

November Liz Warwick & Jane Manktelow

December Sarah Best & Jenny Isles

2019

January	Rachel Blunt & Caryn Greenhalgh
February	Lorna Ford & Linda Matthews
March	Karen Stevens & Sheila Collins
April	Fran Shishton & Jill White
May	Chris Thomas & Gill May
June	Maggie Gill & Jane Golding
July	Liz Warwick & Jane Manktelow
August	Sarah Best & Jenny Isles
September	Rachel Blunt & Caryn Greenhalgh
October	Lorna Ford & Linda Matthews
November	Karen Stevens & Sheila Collins
December	Fran Shishton & Jill White

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

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

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

Sarah Best 791 121

Bishopstone Gardening Club

10th October: Hugh Warwick, Oxford ecologist and life member of the British Hedgehog Preservation Society entertained a packed hall with his quirky humour. Quips about Ann Widdecombe, the perils of being a hedgehog eccentric, and tales of hedgehog passion, (only performed if the female isn't frowning), had us laughing in the aisles from the start.

Now encouraged and better informed about these little garden visitors, we are the more determined to help save hedgehogs. You too can act by signing Hugh's conservation petition at:

chang.org, search for hedgehog petition.

*One of the most important points is for you and me to make hedgehog-friendly holes in our garden walls and fences. To survive, hedgehogs roam between 1-2kms each night, so it's critical that they can access a wide range of gardens and unfragmented land to find enough food to keep the population going. We need to spread the word and to join up the dots with our neighbours. Hugh showed us The Big Hedgehog Map, and, sad to report, there was not a single red dot from our local area. So, I would ask, if anyone has a regular hoggy visitor, please upload The Big Hedgehog Map, and fill it in. (It was at this point that we were shown

slides of Hedgehog Holes in garden boundaries, and someone, whose garden was several feet lower than their neighbours', had built some nifty steps. The idea was met with scorn, but, lo and behold, that very evening Nigel appeared through the hole and onto the top step. He descended, fed and re-ascended with ease - and is a fitter hedgehog for it. Hugh waxed lyrical about the moment; in his mind's eye, Nigel, enhanced by the moonlight, and bedecked with top hat, Fred Astaire style, danced for joy that someone had been so very thoughtful. Hence the cartoon.)

*Holes in walls or fences should be 13 x 13cms (5 x 5") – too small for most pets.

* Something to delight the tired gardener - create a wild corner in your garden. Let the plants grow and add branches for structure. All sorts of insects will over-winter there, and so might a hedgehog.

*A simple box with a 13cms (5") square doorway makes a good feeding station. A tunnel into the box will put rats off. Site it by a fence, but not facing north.

*Make sure there's a shallow end to your pond so that hedgehogs can escape safely.

*Hedgehog haute cuisine consists of slugs, beetles, caterpillars, worms and insects. Meaty cat or dog food and chopped unsalted peanuts are yummy too.

*Provide them with drinking water. (Not milk - it will make them very ill.)

*Always check before mowing and strimming.

*Check before lighting a bonfire – piles of wood or debris



are irresistible to hedgehogs, who may be building a nest or hibernating.

*Stop using chemicals. Slug pellets are toxic and reduce their creepy crawly prey.

*If you find an underweight hedgehog sunbathing in the garden, they're in trouble and in desperate need of rescue.

Our nearest Hedgehog Rescue Centre is in Cricklade:

Tel: 01793 751 412;

Or contact the British Hedgehog Preservation Society,

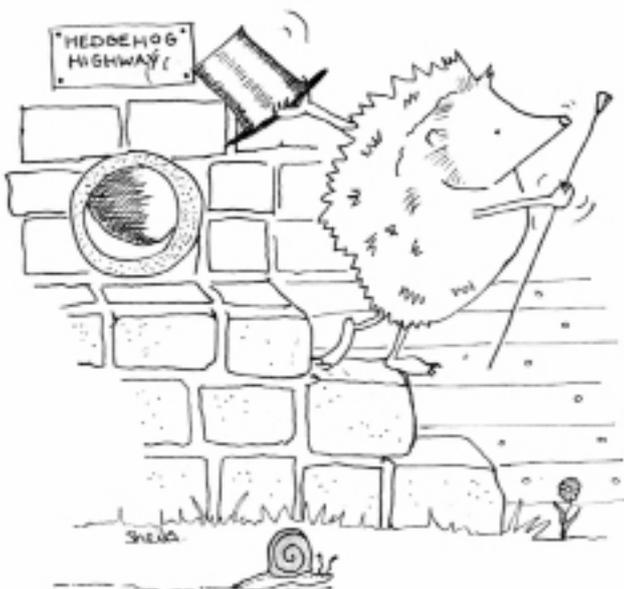
Tel: 01584 890 801

www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk

*If you do need to move a hedgehog, wear protective gloves. Hedgehogs tend to be spiky.

Our last meeting of 2018 on 14th November will be held in the Breakfast Room at The Rose & Crown, Ashbury. AGM is at 7.00pm, followed at 7.30pm by a meal for members and people who've helped us throughout the year. Booking is essential, but you are more than welcome to sit in for the AGM only. You can contact Sheila or Sarah (Outings Organiser) at: banddgardeningsoc@gmail.com

Sheila



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Just about to pop away for a week as I write this, but have been delayed by damage to my low slung, low speed car from trying to navigate the holes in the *New Road* that links Bishopstone with the Bourton road. What an extraordinary state of affairs. As they would say on the Today programme, *something must be done*. But by whom? Shall we ask the singsong travellers who did the job last time—was it two years ago, or three?—and who spent huge amounts of time eating lunch, and breakfast and tea, while being handsomely paid by Swindon Borough Council? Or shall somebody see if there is a better alternative? Who knows, there might be somebody out there who actually knows how to fix a road. The current option when driving is, shall I use the right hand verge or the left; and what happens when it starts to rain again? And how deep will this road-collapse go before it's no longer part of the road? The lucky residents of H Parva of course have little idea of what I'm talking about, with their smooth motorway-like access to Swindon,

past the new stables (how many does a one horse town need?) being erected in the dip, where the banks are eroding instead. Infamy, infamy, they've all got it in for me.

Events, dear chap, events. No hiding ageing relatives in your bonfire rubbish please, if you're using HB's Royal Oak as a location for getting rid of your old furniture on **5th November**.



A Monday, so an excuse not to watch Coronation St, although if we're on time, most of the fireworks will be finished by 7.30. Fire starts at 6-ish, and as usual, use us for your sensible combustible waste, anytime from 30th October onwards. Pop in, and we'll advise on where to leave it. Sensible behaviour only, please, on the night, look after your friends and relatives of all ages; food in the garden, and hopefully not too much rain. Try to come on foot, if you can. Please, please bring some fireworks—we do all the work, and we're happy to receive exploding gifts in return.

Some in the village have read HB's book, *Pig, Tales from an organic farm*. The feedback has been tremendous, thank you. It's for sale for £16.00 through the pub, £18.99 in most bookstores and incredibly, about £6.00 through The Book People, an online retailer we'd not previously heard of. The paperback edition will be out around Christmas, and the audio version is already on sale. If you want to lie

in bed listening to her, with a bit of me thrown in, there's your opportunity. No actors were harmed in this production, and nor were any pigs.

I could warble on about Christmas and menus and divine food and carols round the Christmas tree in ye olde Royal Oake, but since the weather today (11th October) reads 21.5 deg on the well paved road to Ave-

bury, the seasonal tinsel seems further away than ever.

Pip pip.

TF

Letters to the Editor Re Hedgehogs

Just wanted to say how much I enjoyed Hugh's entertaining and informative talk last night which included amusing anecdotes from his work with other professionals, on TV or with other celebrities to help this ancient, much loved but declining species. His passion for hedgehogs is clear and he shared an amazing wealth of knowledge, from biology and behaviour to the importance of balance in the wider ecosystem, not only for hedgehogs but other wildlife as well. I came away knowing what we can do to encourage hedgehogs in our own garden and community, especially the need to create 'super-highways' for nature to thrive, and how and where to help raise awareness and support for the great work being done regionally and nationally.

Debbie Willis

Extra chairs were called for at the Bishopstone and District Gardening Society's meeting in October, such was the popularity of Hugh Warwick's very entertaining talk about Pam Ayres, Anne Widdecombe, and hedgehogs. I was delighted to hear that a messy garden was just the ticket for encouraging the latter; our garden appears to be just the place for several hedgehog families, though we've not seen any yet. Some people in the audience already had hedgehogs in residence. These lucky people were asked to update the hedgehog map online (bighedgehogmap.org); at the moment, our area is devoid of any reported sightings. Not only did we learn more about the life and times of hedgehogs, and how to attract them to our gardens, but we also had the chance to eat some delicious cake, drink tea, and catch up with friends. What's not to like. . .

Fiona Macanespie
Pictured bottom left, one of the rather beautiful Royal Oak hens who attended the launch of Helen's book, photographed by Sheila Collins



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Exhausted of Hinton Parva

My Dearly Beloved's wont to say that the world's gone mad. I'm sure he's right; he tells me that he always is and who am I to argue? My favourite bit of madness this week was the news that a woman has been banned from taking her baby (and we're talking *babe in arms* type baby, rather than a toddler-sized tot) to the cinema to see a film rated as 15. Fair enough if those are the rules, but apparently it'd be ok for her to go to a 12A. Why is one deemed appropriate and the other not? Answers on a postcard to the Editor, please . . .

Better news was the fact that the Bullingdon Society, best known for David Cameron's alleged antics with one of Babe's young cousin's, is having trouble recruiting members. Apparently, students are joining other clubs in preference. Unfortunately, the article didn't specify which clubs, so I'm only guessing that the news is good. If they're joining the *Frack the Shires Society* or *The Society for the Promotion of Cruelty to the Elderly*, then perhaps the Bullingdon is the lesser of two weevils (a joke that comprises the only good moment in the film *Master and Commander*, to my mind).

The most intriguing headline related to the action being taken under the fabulously named Unexplained Wealth Orders (UWO). UWOs, I understand, are intended to seize money from people suspected of getting their wealth from corruption. Quite a cunning TLA (three letter abbreviation to those who've never worked in the public sector) - after all, the things are intended to identify what *you owe*. Think about it . . .

The person being questioned is the wife of an Azerbaijanian Bank president, who is himself currently serving a prison sentence for fraud. She's apparently spent £16m in Harrods over the last 10 years, and owns both a golf course and a home near Harrods (which must be handy for all that shopping). Who doesn't dream of owning a golf course?

The report didn't make clear whether she had to prove that she had no

idea where all the money was coming from. Can she claim to have spent the last ten years thinking *how well dear Jahangir is doing at work; by the way his salary keeps on increasing I imagine the Senior Salaries Review Board must be advising his employers (after all, they've just recommended a 32% pay rise for Senior Judges)*. Or will she admit to thinking *goodness only knows where all this money is coming from; it's taking me all my time to keep on top of spending it. Perhaps there's something fishy about it?* Are the shopping, golf course and house forfeit whatever she says?

If Dearly Beloved were to come home one evening with a few million in used notes about his person, I'd like to think I'd realise that his gains were ill-gotten. And I'd certainly like to think that, if I were somehow persuaded that they were legitimate, I'd invest the gains in something a bit more exciting than a golf course in Surrey . . .

Mrs Mantelpiece

And Almost Finally...



As with so much of my life, I seem to be starting with an apology. If your newsletter arrives late, it is because I have had a cold. What a feeble excuse, but it has made me feel really pathetic and sorry for myself for the past four days. Even with all the support from the team, it has been a Herculean task, and we had to find three new ads. Hopefully the team will field all the mistakes that I have made.

I did go to the delightful hedgehog talk (pre cold) by the lovely Hugh. We were thrilled skinny to get letters on the subject. I have never had aspirations to buy a golf course, but if I accidentally acquired one I'd turn it into a hedgehog sanctuary, not being very sporty.

I'd rather have a country estate with lots of land which would be fun, just me and the hedgehogs.

What would you do?

Answers definitely not on a postcard.
mogs X (you shouldn't catch my cold)

Finally

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

Editor:

mogsboon@hotmail.com

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

mcanespie@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.

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This is what pays for the newsletter to be printed, Doug Stevens ***doug@mowerfixer.co.uk*** is in charge of the accounts. 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 parish. Donations towards the cost of production will be gratefully received by Doug.

The newsletter appears on the village website at:

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