

# Village News

for Bishopstone & Hinton Parva

January 2019



*Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
and never brought to mind?*

*Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
and auld lang syne?*

We all join hands and sing this at midnight on the 31<sup>st</sup> December, then throw our arms round each other and kiss (well some of us do). Why? Have we got any idea? Apparently, auld lang syne translates as for (the sake of) old times. I wonder how bemused Rabbin Burns would be if he witnessed the scene? I have lost two very dear acquaintances this year who certainly won't be forgot.

But on to cheerier things. Please note my elevation, page 12, bottom of column 2, was I in the New Year's honours list without noticing?

And another thing; New Year's resolutions. Guess what your editor wants you to resolve? To get your copy to the newsletter as early as possible, and ads in even earlier.

The team and I wish you all the happiest and bestest for 2019.

*Mogs, Sub, Features Editor, and, last but not least, our roving reporter, Bobbing About XXXX*

**hinton village hall**  
**new year supper**

*Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> January*  
*7.00 for 7.30pm*

*£12.00 per ticket*  
*to be paid in advance*

<https://bishopstoneandhintonparva.org> for breaking news



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## School Report

So, the festivities are over as you are reading this (they are so not in reality . . . I am firmly covered in sparkles, with my brain trying to work out if a real donkey would ever get past Health and Safety regulations and on to the stage, (although I am not sure I would be Russell's friend any longer if I did manage to wangle that one). The term is ending at high speed. We enjoyed making Magic Carpets with the Wyvern as they celebrated the pantomime, and KS2 have been buried in the rudiments of sewing . . . we managed buttons, purses and finished with beautiful hand sewn Christmas cards. That said, I think I have heard little voices saying *I have run out of thread* in my sleep lately. There must be a machine that can cut thread, help thread the needle, and remind them to tie a knot! I am, however, very proud of the outcomes; they have done fantastically well.



The oldest children have been learning fencing; burglars beware!!! (Of the sword variety, not the wooden dividers.) FOBS provided a wonderful Christmas party for the children. Huge thanks go to the parents that put in the hours required to create the food, the games, and not forgetting all things that are flashy. We could have given Blackpool Tower a run for its money, and the children were happy, excited, energetic then . . . tired. A really wonderful evening. KS1 have been trotting backwards and forwards to the hall, mastering their parts for the Christmas Nativity, which never fails to bring smiles to all who attend. I have to admit though, it is often the *unrehearsed* parts that are the best! I wonder what this year's will bring.

The New Year will bring a football final; singing in a concert of 6000 children; a trip to butterflies and, I am sure, many other adventures. Wishing all in the community a very happy 2019.

Emma Linsay



### *A Quick Glance Back at 2018*

*Animals loomed large; there was the hen that went to a book launch; cows that went to church; a stray cat, now a plump, purry, much loved puss; Blade the hamster, and, of course, hedgehogs.*

*People played parts; bounced at the fête; won prizes, and men, if not behaving badly, had lots of fun.*



## The Village Hall, Bishopstone - January

The hall is cleaned	Mondays		8.30 - 10.30am
Karate	Mondays	7 <sup>th</sup> , 14 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup>	5.00 - 7.00pm
Yoga	Mondays	14 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup>	7.15 - 8.30pm
Taekwondo	Tuesdays	8 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> , 22 <sup>nd</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 - 8.00pm
Mothers & Toddlers	Thursdays	10 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> , 24 <sup>th</sup> & 31 <sup>st</sup>	9.00 - 11.00am
School	Thursdays	10 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> , 24 <sup>th</sup> & 31 <sup>st</sup>	3.15 - 4.15pm
Private Party	Sunday	6 <sup>th</sup>	1.30 - 4.30pm
WI	Wednesday	9 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 - 9.30pm
Defib Training	Saturday	12 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 - 11.00am
Gary Sumner	Saturday	19 <sup>th</sup>	8.45am - 11.00am
Ward Councillor Surgery			
Film Night	Friday	25 <sup>th</sup>	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 - January

Beginners Bridge	Wednesdays	2 <sup>nd</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> & 30 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 - 9.00pm
Bridge	Fridays	4 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 - 10.00pm
Beginners Bridge	Tuesdays	8 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> , 22 <sup>nd</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 - 9.00pm
WI	Thursday	10 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 - 9.30pm
Village Hall Supper	Saturday	19 <sup>th</sup>	Evening

The most pretty Hall around, and free parking  
Bookings Secretary Janet 791 391 - Please leave a message if required.

From 1<sup>st</sup> January, due to increasing costs, rates will be:  
£7.00 per hour for residents of Bishopstone & Hinton Parva  
£9.00 per hour for those living outside the parish

Private Parties  
Meetings etc welcome

Catering may be available  
Free Parking

films to be selected for early 2019. It was a little like pinning the tail on the donkey but it seemed to work - no war films! As a result we commence 2019 with a party night featuring *Mama Mia Here We Go Again* (PG), the sequel to *Mama Mia*. I thought this had been placed out of reach on the feedback board but it did win hands down. We will be sure to add extra space for dancing in the aisles to make this a really fun start to the year.

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

A Star Is Born (R)

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March

Bohemian Rhapsody (PG)

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April

Widows (15)

If you receive this newsletter before the end of December, don't forget to join us on the 28<sup>th</sup> for *The Happy Prince* - Colin Firth, Rupert Everett (Rating R).

Doors open 7.00 film starts 7.45pm.

Royal Oak pre-cinema suppers..

*Richard Walker*

Richardw@eddingtons.co.uk

01793 791 913

## Wanborough's Farmers' Market

We are sorry to say we have had to cancel the January Wanborough Farmers' Market (scheduled for Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>).

From *February*, however, *except for August*, the markets will continue on:

**3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month**

**9.00am until midday**

**Wanborough Village Hall**

For more information contact:

Sue or David Birley:

01793 790 438

[sbirley@gn.apc.org](mailto:sbirley@gn.apc.org)

## Community Connect Coffee Morning

Will look forward to seeing you again in February.

Thank you for your support over the last year.

A very happy New Year to everybody from the team.



Mamma Mia  
Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> January  
(PG)

City Lights, Bishopstone, kicks off the New Year programme following some invaluable audience feedback garnered at our last performance. All films were posted onto the notice board in the hall and a cross or dot was placed on the most wanted

Dickie's Diary



As I write, we are in the Advent season. Some things never change. Christmas comes but once a year, a timeless celebration of the birth of Jesus, and a time for families to get together. But, in contrast, we now live in an ever fast-changing world, where reliable events, advice, attitudes, and working practices can alter or disappear in a generation, or much sooner.

In politics, change can come quickly. Even a week can be a long time and we are living through momentous events just now that will affect all our lives, and our country's prosperity, for a generation. I am exasperated and depressed at the deal to break the union and with trading and fishing unresolved. The whole world of retailing is tak-

ing a bashing as people desert the High Street to shop on line, then they wait for the delivery vans which rush around our narrow roads. Congestion, tail backs, and traffic jams are now a daily reality. They have become so much worse lately, as have the potholes and road edges. With hauliers allowed to carry 44 tons, it's hardly surprising. Old brands like Countrywide Farmers, which covered the countryman's needs, selling through 60 stores, have disappeared into administration. Who would have thought that so many banking outlets would close?

Butter is now safe, whilst once we were advised to eat marg. Vegans would have us change to the diet of herbivores, leaving grassland to turn to scrub, and make silly attempts to change historic place names called wool or cow. Half of doctors are retiring early and no politician is brave enough to ensure the future with some basic reforms to the NHS.

Plastic and climate change are currently big news, where attitudes do need

to change. We need to take responsibility for our own plastic rather than be exporting our waste abroad.

In employment, there is no longer a job for life and, recently, the headmasters' conference called for radical changes to the education system and exam format which has hardly changed since the war.

With health and safety protocols so prominent, and our children glued to a screen, we are in danger of raising children who have no opportunity for adventure or appreciation of the great outdoors.

However, aside from the above, the sun still comes up from the East. Farmers have planted their crops in hope, but they look well after a kind autumn with little slug damage and, as usual, the Scandinavian thrushes, the fieldfares and redwings are feasting on our berries.

A Happy New Year

*Richard Green*

\*\*\*\*\*



**Rainbow**  
Baby and Toddler Group

Bishopstone Village Hall  
Every Thursday during Term Time  
9.30 - 11.00am  
£2.50 per family, 1<sup>st</sup> 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  
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\*\*\*\*\*

**Ward Councillor Surgery**  
Bishopstone Village Hall  
19<sup>th</sup> January  
please join us 9.00 - 11.00am

I hold a monthly Ward Councillor meeting for residents (usually Wanborough Village Hall – dates on my website) but in January I will be holding my monthly meeting in Bishopstone and Robert Buckland MP will be joining me.

Please come along to talk to us about any concerns you may have? I also hope to be able to bring more details of the SHELAA (Housing sites) proposed for the Bishopstone.

Please email me in advance if I can be of help as your Borough Councillor.

Email: [gary@ridgewayvillages.co.uk](mailto:gary@ridgewayvillages.co.uk)

Call: 790 814 Cllr Gary Sumner  
[www.ridgewayvillages.co.uk](http://www.ridgewayvillages.co.uk)

## South Swindon Protection Group

12<sup>th</sup> November saw the launch of the (SSPG), set up to oppose the development along Pack Hill between the village and Inlands Farm near the A419 - but specifically the proposal for a "Science Park" to be constructed by pharmaceutical distribution company Wasdell Group.

The SSPG is a rural protection group set up by locals in response to Wasdell's plans to build 3 industrial units over 3 phases in the fields between upper and lower Wanborough and the North Wessex Downs.

It was standing room only, with 120 people in Wanborough Village Hall, as John Warr, who is leading the SSPG, outlined the Wasdell scheme being presented for planning permission. At over 40 hectares, with the land currently in agricultural use, and with plans in 2D, it is often difficult to gauge the impact of such a development – but there were gasps from the audience as the scale of the buildings and site were superimposed onto a map of the villages and outlying area - showing it to be larger than the main village of Wanborough itself.

Martin Savage went on to outline reasons why the formal application, expected in December, should be rejected. *It's right in the middle of the Non-coalescence Zone, which was specifically set up to protect Wanborough, Bishopstone and Bourton from being absorbed into urban Swindon.* Swindon Borough Council had already rejected outline proposals as being not suitable for inclusion in the Strategic Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment. Residents were advised that *abutting right up to the North Wiltshire Downs AONB, would mean the AONB would have much less protection from other developments if this was approved.*

Local Borough Councillor, Gary Sumner, explained that SBC were examining alternatives for Wasdell in designated employment development areas. He pointed out that the New Eastern Villages (NEV) plan running north of Wanborough, and east of Covingham and Liden, had already assigned

40 hectares of employment plus some 8,000 homes, and was set up in order to stop all but small scale development in the surrounding countryside.

A major strategic concern was that the Southern Connector Road (SCR), linking NEV and the A419 at Commonhead roundabout, was also a dependency for access and traffic management for the Wasdell site – and its 24 hour distribution. The SCR was already deemed by experts to only meet approximately a third of NEV's needs alone, without the additional demands that the Inlands farm development would require. Linda Cripps, went on to appeal for a call to action "for as many residents as possible to object to the planning application once it has been made". By the time you are reading this, we expect that an official planning proposal will have been submitted to Swindon Borough Council for this development. The SSPG ask that as many people as possible:

\* Visit our website [www.sspg.org.uk](http://www.sspg.org.uk) for the very latest information as it comes to light, and sign up to receive a newsletter to keep you informed.

\* Make individual objections to the planning application, either in writing to SBC, Communities and Housing, Euclid Street, SN1 2JH or via the Swindon online planning [https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20030/planning\\_and\\_regeneration](https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20030/planning_and_regeneration)

\* Look out for details of Objection Writing workshops being scheduled through January. These will provide you with more detail so that you can frame your objection on the things that are specific and important to you personally.

\* Join us for an update meeting on the latest proposal with John Warr and his team, to be scheduled throughout January in Wanborough, Liddington, Covingham and Bishopstone. Look out for details of these on: our Web site, Wanborough's facebook page, Parish Council websites, and leaflets in pubs and community areas.

\* Help with a donation to our fundraising page (link via our website) as

this will no doubt be a long and difficult objection process with the possibility of an appeal by Wasdell to the Secretary of State. We need to stand together alongside other rural protection groups such as Historic England, AONB, Highways England, Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) and various Environmental bodies to defend our position throughout this difficult journey. Last but not least – SSPG has aligned itself to our MP's Constituency for South Swindon.

Our MP, Robert Buckland, has advised our group, *I am very concerned to see that the application relates to a site that is not within the development boundaries as outlined in Swindon's Local Plan. I also note this land is not proposed as suitable for development by the Council as part of its Review of its Plan.*

*I am very supportive of the success of companies such as Wasdell and the significant contribution they make to our local economy. I have worked with them and Cllr Gary Sumner to help identify more suitable sites in Swindon where they could expand. This application, however, is not the right answer and I am unable to support it."*

Patricia Wells (PR for SSPG) 01793 790054

## Women's Institute - Inspiring Women

Thursday 10th January  
7.00 - 9.30pm  
Hinton Village Hall

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



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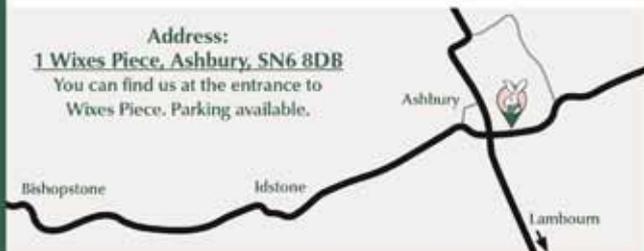


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## Church Services in the Benefice

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> January</b>		No Midweek Communion	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> January</b>	8.30am	Holy Communion	Bishopstone
	Epiphany Sunday	10.30am	Family Communion	Lyddington
		4.00pm	Carols and Mince Pie's	Hinton Village Hall
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> January</b>	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough Vicarage
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> January</b>	8.30am	Holy Communion	Lyddington
	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Epiphany	10.30am	Family Communion	Bishopstone
		6.00pm	Evensong	Wanborough
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> January</b>	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough Vicarage
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup> January</b>	8.30am	Holy Communion	Hinton Parva
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany	10.30am	Family Communion	Wanborough
		6.00pm	Evensong	Bishopstone
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> January</b>	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough Vicarage
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup> January</b>	8.30am	Holy Communion	Wanborough
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany	10.30am	Family Communion	Hinton Parva
		6.00pm	Evensong	Lyddington
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> January</b>	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough Vicarage
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	8.30am	Holy Communion	Bishopstone
	Candlemas	10.30am	Family Communion	Lyddington
		6.00pm	Evensong	Hinton Parva

All dates and times printed are as submitted to the Editor.

### Parish Contacts

**The Vicar:** the Rev Bill O'Connell  
The Vicarage, Church Road,  
Wanborough, SN4 0BZ  
01793 791 359  
villagevicar@hotmail.co.uk

### The Vicar's Letter

Happy New Year! I wonder what exciting things we have to look forward to this year. For some it might be the end of their academic studies and the start of a career. For others it might mark the beginning of retirement; a time to enjoy more of the moments in life that, until this point, had simply whizzed by. For others it may be that more of the same is expected, if not hoped for. Stability is a good place to build from, and is one of the things that the father of traditional monasteries, a guy called St Benedict, was very keen on. In business, it was interesting to note the regional variations when it came to contracts and sticking with them. In some parts of our country when a contract had been signed it held good right up until the contract ex-

pired. In other parts of the country, I wondered if the contract was worth the paper that it had been written on. Staff, their costs, and their ability to stick around, varied enormously from one region to another too.

The joy of our villages is that we have a huge variety of people. Some have been born, bred and lived nowhere else, and, living in the most beautiful part of the whole of God's creation, who could blame them. Others have only lived here for a relatively short time, either stumbling across our villages by accident, while others have moved here on purpose.

Someone wise once said that it is precisely because God loves variety that we should never judge another. One of the events that helped my decision to become an Anglican was the story of a collection of clergy who lived alongside a particular London Underground Line. Some were *High Church* some were *Low Church*, some were married, some were single, but they all met to explain and explore what had made them what they are today.

There was no rush to judgement, much less conversion, and they got to grow in wisdom and in encouragement simply by learning to appreciate each other just as they were. In much the same way as Swindon Town Football Club don't field eleven goalkeepers on a Saturday afternoon (although you sometimes wonder if that wouldn't be such a bad idea), a rainbow wouldn't be a rainbow if all of the colours were the same. These colleagues became friends because they knew that they were appreciated for who they were, just as they were. The thing is, they all had a bit of a head start. Knowing that all of us are made in the image of God, all of their gifts and talents had been given to them by God. Sure they had to learn some and practise others, and some gifts came as naturally as breathing in and breathing out. While working with the mentally ill I never came across anyone who flourished as a result of criticism. It's not in God's DNA and for this very reason it shouldn't be in ours. So, whatever the New Year holds for you,

I pray that you will be both loved and encouraged every step of the way. 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*

## Library Corner



FreeWi-Fi here

NETWORK

Swindon Community Library Trust

Password: librarytrust

Covingham Library: St. Paul's Drive, Covingham SN3 5BY 618 737

Liden Library: Barrington Close, Liden. SN3 6HF 433 647

SwindonCommunityLibraryTrust@LibraryTrust

Registered charity number. 1171371  
*Diane Rendell*

## Councillors Privacy Notice

Who we are: An elected Councillor may use your personal data to help you with ward-related matters, or for undertaking any casework about which you have contacted them.

Our statutory Data Protection Officer is the Council's Information Governance Manager who can be contacted at Swindon Borough Council Civic Offices,

Euclid Street, Swindon SN1 2JH.

They can also be emailed at

dataprotection@swindon.gov.uk

Why we process your data: The Council's elected Councillors can process your personal data under the Local Government Act 1972 and the Localism Act 2011, and under the Data Protection Act 2018 Schedule 1, Part 2, 18-19 (Elected Representatives responding to requests and Disclosure to Elected Representatives).

If you are making a request about a relative or third party, We may ask for confirmation from them that you have permission to share their personal information.

Councillors may process your data for the following purposes: To allow them to answer your enquiries and for the purpose of resolving issues that you have asked them to look into on your behalf.

Who they share your data with - They may share the information: with ward colleagues, Cabinet Members or Committee Chairs, Council Officers, and/or the local Member of Parliament.

This would be solely for the lawful purpose of resolving any issues that you have raised.

They may also sometimes share your data with the following organisations: Other public authorities and public partnerships

(e.g. councils, schools, NHS providers, Police, government departments etc.) when there is a legitimate reason for doing so.

How we keep your data secure - The data is stored on an email system that is password protected. Access is through a laptop/tablet/phone that is also appropriately secure.

As soon as practicable, your information is passed to the relevant council officer, so that your data is protected within the Council's secure IT infrastructure.

For paper records, these are appropriately secured in a locked case when not in use.

The Council's elected Councillors do not transfer your data to third parties in other countries outside of the European Economic Area.

How long we keep your data for - The Council's elected Councillors can keep your data for up to 7 years after your issue has been resolved, or until they cease to be a Councillor, if this is a shorter period of time.

Your rights - You have the following rights:

To ask for a copy of the data that Councillors hold on you.

To ask them to delete data on you that is no longer needed.

To ask them to correct data about you that is wrong.

To ask them to stop processing your data temporarily, if you think it is wrong, until they work out what is correct.

To ask them to let you take a copy of your data in a portable format to another organisation.

If you only gave your Councillor your data with consent, you also have the right to withdraw that consent at any time. Please just get in touch with us.

How to complain - You can complain to the Council in relation to elected Councillors. If you are not happy with the Council's response, you can request a review, and if, after that, you are still unsatisfied, you can then take the matter to the Information Commissioner's Office.

*Gary Sumner*

## Cleaning Rota

### St. Mary's Church, Bishopstone

**December** Sarah Best & Jenny Isles  
2019

**February** Lorna Ford & Linda Matthews

**March** Karen Stevens

**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

**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*

Happy New Year from Bishopstone & District Gardening Club. Here are the exciting events planned for 2019

**Winter Warmer  
QUIZ NIGHT**



**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February**

Are you smarter than the average bear?



**Bishopstone Village Hall**  
Doors open from 6.45 for  
7.15pm start

- Prizes to be won
- Bring a team of 6 or join a table
- £10 per person
- Price includes Chili con carne and dessert
- Bring your own drinks
- To pre-book: Tel. Sheila 790 358 or Mogs 790 626
- Let us know if you would prefer a vegetarian option

On behalf of and run by Bishopstone & District Gardening Club  
Quizmaster: Fiona McAnespie

**12<sup>th</sup> June**

**Elizabeth Gowing: Growing Bees.**

Talk & slide show. I think we're in for a treat! Elizabeth has a plethora of practical knowledge about bee keeping and teaching others, sometimes in far flung places all over the world. Elizabeth has spoken in schools, universities, on BBC's Radio 4, ABC Radio in Australia, beekeeper groups, bookshop signings and ticketed events - to name but a few.



**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July**

**Visit: RHS Hampton Court Palace Garden Festival**

by Barnes coach. Please note: Places are now fully booked but we will take names to go on a cancellation list.

**10<sup>th</sup> July**

**Helen Picton, BSc Reading: Growing Michaelmas Daisies**

Helen and her family run the Old Court Nurseries in Malvern, which the B&DG Club visited a couple of years' ago. Old Court Nurseries is the home of the Plant Heritage National Collection of Autumn Flowering Asters. Helen will be bringing some of her plants to sell - this is great news, as they make wonderful colourful displays in gardens during late summer and Autumn months.



**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March**

**James Andrews**, the new curator of Prohides, gives us a talk and slide show about his latest work. Encounter some of the wealth of wildlife on Helen Browning's Eastbrook farm. The stunning flower meadows, fruit-laden hedgerows, flowing stream and quiet pond provide a wealth of shelter, food sources, and habitats for all kinds of creatures.

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September**

**8.00am – 5.00pm: Village Produce Show**

**9<sup>th</sup> October**

**Aldetha Raymond: Insects that make Christmas**

Aldetha teaches horticulture and small-holding courses from her Little Foxes Farm, she also teaches biological sciences at Bristol University's Botanical Gardens, and is a full-time lecturer in horticulture at Lackham College.

**13<sup>th</sup> November AGM & Supper.** Venue to be advised

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. Visitors especially welcome: \*£3 per person on the door \*Price may vary according to speaker. Annual subscription of £10 per person will be due when we next get together in February 2019. You can contact Sheila or Sarah at: banddgardeningsoc@gmail.com



**10<sup>th</sup> April**

**Darren Lerigo: What do I do with this space?**

TV gardener, successful playwright, and ex-stand-up comedian becomes top topiary clipping gardener. Darren encourages organic gardening practises and is currently researching and writing a book called *Helping the Honeybee* for Northern Bee books.

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May**

Bargains galore at our **Annual Plant Sale**, where you can buy perfect bedding plants, perennials, fruit, and glorious vegetable plants. All lovingly cultivated by our own fair, green fingers. A morning-only event that gets sold out pdq.

Date to be advised

**Pimms on the Lawn afternoon in Hinton Parva**

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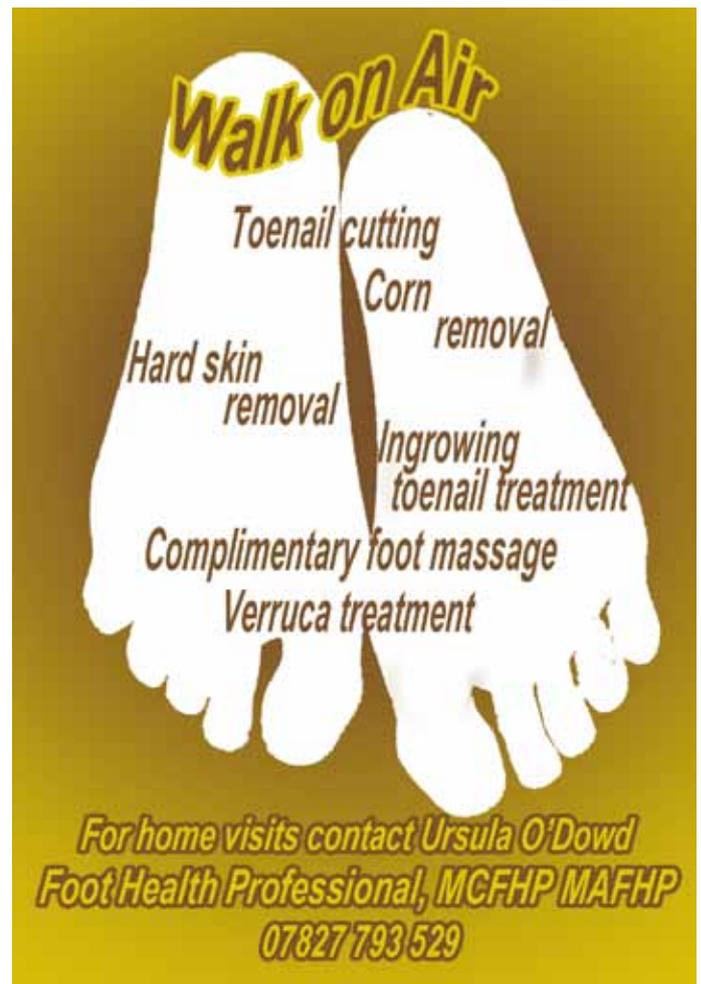
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## The Royal Oak Diary



I've sorted out the apologies for the Baileys at Winton Cottage. He agreed to get his Rottweiler off me in exchange for a couple of days of clamp free parking. I believe that a Mr J Flanagan of Mill House has also written to this organ regarding the pyromania festival we hosted on 5<sup>th</sup> November, and subsequent comments, but he was anxious to re-assure me under serious cross (very) examination and mild torture that it was all tongue in cheek, an expression I do not wholly understand.

A whole host of politics, entertainment, natural history, and sporting activities are being lined up for customers and friends in the coming 12 months at HB's Royal Oak. In sport it's the cricket Ashes in summer 2019, so Jason Gillespie, the Aussie fast bowler and outstanding coach, is lined up for supper here late June, date tbc; it's an expensive one, bringing people over from Down Under!

Fast and old cars always parade and park at HB's Royal Oak on Sunday **28<sup>th</sup> April**, handily the landlord's birthday in case anyone remembers, on national **Drive it Day**. Before that there's our farm tour and talk on agro-forestry, **9<sup>th</sup> January** (see our website and Facebook), and we're planning starling murmuration visits and coffee and cakes in mid January, around the pigs and above the Ridgeway. It ought to be cold and wet and superb.

Most importantly, the **International Pig Racing Festival** is scheduled for **2<sup>nd</sup> June**, all day, assuming the international sporting calendar accepts this date...start planning your pig training, it's arduous and pricey.

Of course, warming to my theme like a stuck record, we could be in the throes of a second Brexit referendum or general election activity by then, in which case we'll be doing our usual hustings here in the pub and at the chop house, and we're always entertained by UKIP nonsense on these occasions, if they're out of prison by then. I see that the UKIP guy who appeared here back in 2017, that election period, was subsequently interviewed by police earlier this year for that unprovoked, and apparently rather frightening, raid on a left wing London bookshop. And this Brexit lark, bringing so much entertainment to so many, will clearly have an effect on our menus if we do what the lunatics want. Turnips on toast is my best idea so far for a summer dish.

Back to wildlife and Eastbrook Farm, and the farm's Prohides boss James Andrews has a host of events for you on so many dates I can't list them here. Our pub newsletters and blackboards will keep you posted. Rugby world cup suppers and TV in the autumn, too far ahead, and odd times of day.....



## Letter to the Editor

Sir,

We in Cues Lane think it is perhaps more accurate to state that The Royal Oak has *got away with* hosting Guy Fawkes fireworks amongst, above and around our thatched homes without incident these past twelve years.

Seeing as the risks (as identified by his own Chief Safety Officer and *Wiltshire's fire safety officers* whoever they be) are so low, perhaps we could have next year's event in the farmyard amidst his own straw, which must be as flameproof as ours?

*Jamie Flanagan*

## Bishopstone 100 club

### December Winners

1<sup>st</sup> 27 Lorna Ford

2<sup>nd</sup> 53 David Whittaker

3<sup>rd</sup> 77 Peter Deal

*Jo 790 485*

*Below: How many men does it take to put up at Christmas tree?* 😊





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## Exhausted of Hinton Parva

In the grand tradition of New Year, I'm following in the footsteps of the gilets jaunes, who appear to have reached Resolution through Revolution, which is just what we expect of our French cousins. My personal resolutions this year are - well - the same as they were last year, and the year before. In fact, as I've shared with you before, (see the synchronicity?) each year they are identical to the first resolutions I ever made, back when the world was young, and Snazzy the Rainbow Warrior Horse (see December) was a mere foal. Back in those days, full of optimism, I really did make resolutions; it was some years before I realised their revolutionary nature. But at least I don't have to try to hard to think of something new each year, so that's a bit of time saved. There's always an up-side. New for this year, is my general apology to those of you who have met our rapidly-growing puppy. I understand that large, friendly puppies who have not yet learned to walk nicely to heel are not universally loved. I can understand that. When our giant puppy tries to climb onto my knee, I sometimes struggle to see the fun-

ny side. To be fair, once he's on my knee I can't actually see anything - he blocks my vision entirely.

So - I can only apologise to those of you who have been subjected to an over-enthusiastic greeting. We're working hard on teaching him that humans are boring and that a nice fresh pile of horse poo is far more deserving of his time and effort. Though, frankly, we'd rather he showed no interest in that, either.

We have a theory that, each evening, a malicious sprite creeps into our house and substitutes a slightly larger version of our original cute and tiny bundle of fur. If anyone knows how to appease such sprites, we'd be happy to hear from them before we have to consider building an extension. Similarly, if anyone knows what can be done about the calories in my wardrobe, sing out. You know the ones - the little imps that spend each night stitching your clothes up so that they're a tiny bit smaller the following morning. They seem particularly active at this time of year.

On an entirely different subject, could I encourage anyone out there who has a business to advertise to consider a slot in this august publication? Our colour printing is underwritten by advertising revenue and, understandably, advertisers come and go. When they go, panic ensues amid the editorial team and Mogs again tries to encourage us to find 12 doughty villagers to participate in a fund-raising-calendar photo shoot; yes - like the one in the film. So, to all potential advertisers I would say this - consider not just the potential boost to trade that an ad could bring, but also consider the greater public good. Take out an ad - you know it makes sense . . .

*Mrs Mantelpiece*

### **That Christmas tree again.**

*Is that Doughty villager trying to sweep away the clouds or encourage it to snow?*

## 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.

## **ADVERTISING**

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***

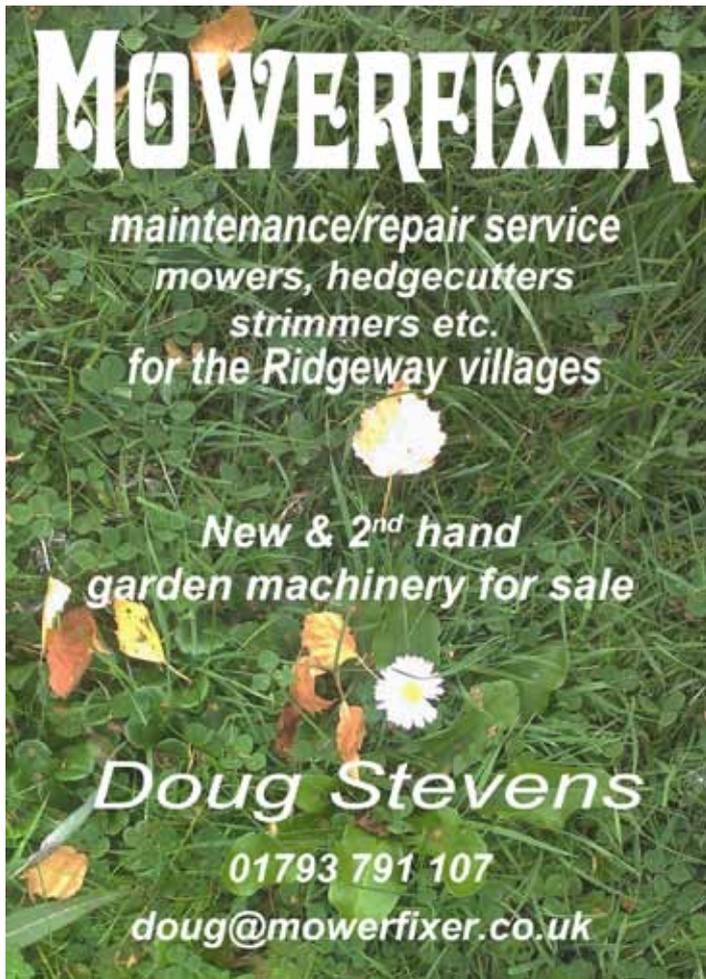
***The copy deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month but please send large items as early as possible.*** Don't forget copy must include name and contact details for validation purposes.

The newsletter is delivered free of charge to all households in the 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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