

Village News

for Bishopstone & Hinton Parva

September 2019

Looking Forward to the Autumn

The Summer holidays are over and we get to the serious business of having an interesting and fun autumn and winter.



CINEMA *The new autumn programme - see page 5*

Bishopstone & District Gardening Club



Show of Fruit, Flowers, Vegetables, Photographs, Domestic & Craft, also the October meeting is about...see page 10

A Tale of Two Villages

From fossils to photographs, a History Evening in The Village Hall, Bishopstone - see page 5



The Royal Oak Diary

Read Tim Finney's riveting account of the happenings at the pub and plans for the autumn, including a village charabanc outing and an apple appeal - see page 12



Pimms on the Lawn page 10

Picture: test driving the cunning quiz (photographed by Sheila Collins)

Parish Website and Emails

The parish website gets a makeover

As you may have seen, a refreshed parish website has been published at www.bishopstoneandhintonparva.org. The address is always recorded at the bottom of this page. The intention behind it is to provide an easy to navigate source of local information and a way to sign up for the parish email list. It is provided by the parish council for the benefit of everyone in the parish. Ideas for content are always welcome, as are any local pictures you may have. Comments can be sent directly from the site or to admin@www.bishopstoneandhintonparva.org, as the new team get to grips with the challenge. Big thanks go to Andy Greenhalgh for running the site so well over the last 7 years.

Nigel Crisp

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



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Saturday 21st September
9.00am start
 Ashbury, Oxfordshire SN6 8LS
www.theridgewayrun.com

The Ridgeway Run 2019 is proudly sponsoring Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA), a charity that makes a difference. Based in Chilton Foliat, Lambourn RDA are completely self-supporting, so fund raising is essential in order to run a local riding centre. We support children and adults from Hungerford, Kintbury, Lambourn, Newbury, Thatcham and the surrounding villages. Emma McIntosh & Patricia Cleverley founded the Ridgeway Run in 2016. Best friends and keen runners, running has always been the perfect excuse to catch up, keep fit and run the dogs; both have run their share of events, ranging from 5km to 100km, in the UK & overseas. Their vision has always been to provide a local event for local causes,

sharing with fellow runners the beautiful (and, it has to be mentioned, hilly) Ridgeway and surrounding footpaths. Over time they have forged lasting relationships with runners, local communities, landowners and some fantastic people who have volunteered their time to marshal and be part of the team. Created for everyone, the hare and the tortoise, they welcome everyone and look forward to seeing you on the day!

For registration please go to: www.theridgewayrun.com/registration and to sponsor Lambourn RDA please go to:

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fund/ridgewayrun2019>

The Ridgeway Run are extremely grateful to Bower & Bailey Solicitors, Swindon and Pinewood School, Bourton for their continued support and sponsorship of the run.

Patrica Cleverley

What3words

Emergency services have always found it difficult to find some of our properties simply because a single postcode can cover such a large rural area. It's even more difficult for homes that have house names rather than numbers. And minutes can save lives. A number of us have been promoting a mobile phone app called *What3words*. This has divided the planet into 3 metre squares and given each square a unique name using just three words. As a result, medi-

cal and other supplies are now being delivered to villages that are off the beaten track, all over the world.

Our emergency services are using this mobile phone app. increasingly. Thames Valley Air Ambulance are the latest to do so. With this in mind, can I suggest that we get the app. and make a note of the three words for our homes and stick that note either by or on our home phones.

Because the squares measure only three metres by three metres, you might find some hilarious names of squares that fall within your property. One of the squares for the Vicarage is *attends.fizzled.yacht* While serving in the RNLI it is safe to say that I did indeed attend to one or two of these, especially during Cowes Week!

So, as you can see, this can make the name even more memorable. Perhaps our neighbours who struggle with technology might appreciate a bit of help with this too.

With best wishes and prayers

Bill (Rev William O'Connell)

Bishopstone 100 club

August Winners

- 1st 73 Adrian Dent
- 2nd 82 Cath Harding
- 3rd 42 Sue Walton

I have been doing this draw now for 20 years, if anyone would like to take it over (don't all rush at once) then please ring:

Jo 790 485



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* Herbalife has 35% of the market, with over 5 million shakes consumed daily, world wide

The Village Hall, Bishopstone - September

The hall is cleaned	Mondays		8.30 - 10.30am
Legs, Bums n Tums	Mondays	9 th , 16 th , 23 rd & 30 th	3.15 - 4.15pm
Yoga	Mondays	2 nd , 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd & 30 th	7.15 - 8.15pm
Taekwondo	Tuesdays	3 rd , 10 th , 17 th & 24 th	7.00 - 8.00pm
Mothers & Toddlers	Thursdays	5 th , 12 th , 19 th & 26 th	9.30 - 11.00am
School	Thursdays	5 th , 12 th , 19 th & 26 th	3.15 - 4.15pm
WI	Thursday	12 th	7.00 - 9.30pm
Gardening Club	Saturday	14 th All Day	
Film Night	Friday	27 th	7.00 - 10.00pm

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 - September

Beginners Bridge	Tuesdays	3 rd , 10 th , 17 th & 24 th	7.00 - 9.00pm
Informal Bridge	Wednesdays	4 th , 11 th , 18 th & 25 th	7.00 - 10.00pm
Bridge	Fridays	6 th , 13 th , 20 th & 27 th	7.30 - 10.00pm
Parish Council	Monday	2 nd	7.00pm
Private Event	Tuesday	3 rd	9.00am - 4.00pm
Private Event	Monday	9 th	9.00am - 4.00pm
WI	Thursday	12 th	7.00 - 9.30pm
Private Event	Saturday	21 st	9.00am - 6.00pm

Please do come along and join in any of the classes/groups listed above. You can make new friends, enjoy yourself and, most of all, you will be made very welcome. Please note there is a charge payable for bridge classes.

The prettiest Hall around, with free parking
Bookings Secretary Janet 791 391 - Please leave a message if required.

Booking Rates:

£7.00 per hour for residents of Bishopstone & Hinton Parva
£9.00 per hour for those living outside the parish

Private Parties Catering may be available
Meetings etc welcome Free Parking

The Village Hall, Bishopstone - Recruiting now

Further notes from the village hall; I would like to thank Doris Brown, who has decided to step down from the committee. Her contribution to the Hall committee over the years will be missed, in particular her representing of the WI. Thank you, Doris! As a result of our dwindling numbers, we are now seeking additional committee members to swell our ranks. Don't worry - it's not a tyrannical regime behind those blackout curtains, we have just had a few members who have either moved away or can no longer spare the time. We now have a number of projects underway with regard to the upkeep of

the hall which could do with some additional resource and input. It's fun too, and a wonderful way to contribute to the community. Please do get in touch if you are interested to learn more. We tend to meet once per month with additional commitments for specific projects, film nights, decorating, gardening or form filling for applications licenses and so forth. If anyone would like to join our hall committee please do email me, Richard Walker:

richardw@eddingtons.co.uk
or call 791 913



The Village Hall, Bishopstone

Doors 7.00pm

Licensed bar - Ice Creams

Refreshments - Interval

After the summer recess, the volunteer committee at City Lights reconvened on one of our balmy summer evenings to take in a draught of local ale and review the selections for our autumn programme. After much debate, and a last minute pitch from our resident bar keeper, we were delighted to formalise the programme. Our first film will be Fisherman's Friends, which is a wonderful British-made film, based on a true story about a group of Cornish fishermen who formed a local a cappella group performing sea shanties. The humour may be a little predictable but the cast, including Daniel Mays and Tuppence Middleton, put on a sterling show! Come down and enjoy.

Autumn Programme

Friday 27th September

Fisherman's Friends - 12

Ten fishermen from Cornwall achieve a Top 10 hit after they are signed by Universal Records for their canny talent of being able to sing a sea shanty or two.

Friday 25th October

Rocketman - 15

A fever-dream musical, exploring

Elton John's early years as a young boy with his piano, and his rise to extravagant superstar, famed the world over.

Friday 29th November

Red Joan - 12

Joan Stanley is a widow living out a quiet retirement in the suburbs when, shockingly, the British Secret Service place her under arrest. The charge: providing classified scientific information to the Soviet government for decades, including the building of the atomic bomb.

Friday 27th December

Yesterday - 12

After a freak bus accident during a mysterious global blackout, Jack wakes up to discover that The Beatles have never existed... and he finds himself with a very complicated problem indeed.

Tickets £5 on the door, in advance from: Village Hall Committee or Richard Walker 01793 791 913
richardw@eddingtons.co.uk

Pre show suppers and tickets from: Royal Oak : 01793 790 481
www.helenbrowningsorganic.co.uk

A Tale of Two Villages

The Village Hall, Bishopstone
Friday, 11th October
7.00pm

Are you intrigued by the past of your parish? Enjoy an interesting, informal evening with local historians and guest speakers sharing their knowledge/memories of life here in earlier times.




£5 per person (including glass of wine & nibbles) Children under 16 free
Tickets available from Carol on 791 453, at the September film night, or on the door.

'Study the past if you would define the future' Confucius

YOU CAN BOOK A TABLE at the

BISHOPSTONE CRAFT FAIR

FROM 1st SEPTEMBER

It will be held on Thursday 28th November from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm. £10.00 per table. Please ensure that you book early to avoid disappointment. I try to allocate just one table per product-type; this ensures that the fair is more interesting for its (and your) customers.

For more information and to reserve your space, please contact:
Chris Thomas on 01793 790 106.
Or email littlecot2010@hotmail.co.uk



Rainbow Baby & Toddler Group

9.30 -11.00am every Thursday during term time Bishopstone Village Hall
£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 & singing. A great way to meet new friends

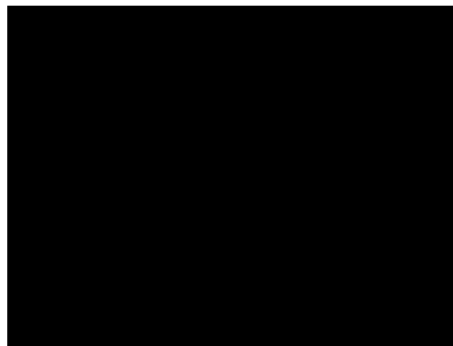
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Dickie's Diary



As I write this on August 12th, a date that hitherto was referred to as glorious, our weather here is unsettled and the combine is not making fast progress. Our rape crop was always going to be disappointing but at least it came in dry with masses of black flea beetles amongst the rape seed. They were part of the problem, inhibiting growth along with poor weed control in a non vigorous crop. We first grew rape forty years ago and despite technological advances in seed breeding and agronomy this year has turned in our lowest yield ever at close to 1/t acre 2.5t/hect. Now we are still doing spring barley. A good crop perhaps, at 3t/acre, but several fields have what we call lodged ie they are flat in patches. Barley is harder to cut than wheat so the inclement weather is not ideal. Wheat looks good, but bad weather could yet be a spoiler.



by Richard Green



Red grouse

We anticipate the above article will prompt lively debate. *Ed*

Women's Institute Inspiring Women

**7.30pm Thursday 12th September
Hinton Parva Village Hall**

Looking ahead at our meetings in the next few months we have:

12th September

7.30pm, Hinton Parva Hall

Adrian West with stories, myths and legends on *White Horse Hill Landscape with the Sky*.

10th October

7.30pm Hinton Parva Hall

Angela Punruker - *Story of Pub Signs*

7th November

7.30pm Bishopstone Village Hall
Terry Horton with a talk and demo of Tai Chi. Come and give it a try!

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

**Community Connect Coffee
Morning at the Farmers' Market
9.00am - noon Saturday 21st September
Wanborough Village Hall,
High Street, SN4 0AD**

After a break in August, the monthly Farmers' Market will appear again in September. If you haven't been down for a while here's a taste of some of what you might find: fresh veg, milk, plants and locally reared meat... plus free tea, coffee, and homemade cakes provided by the Coffee Morning team.

Huge thanks to all who came in June and supported the Hydrotherapy pool - we were able to give them £184.22, and, in July, Wiltshire Treehouse, who do wonderful work supporting bereaved children and their families, went away with a donation of £255 for which they were extremely grateful.

This month we shall be supporting Pennyhooks Farm, a beautiful, small organic beef farm near Shrivenham providing a unique experience for young people and adults with Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC).

We look forward to seeing you!

For more information contact:

Sue or David Birley:

01793 790 438

sbirley@gn.apc.org



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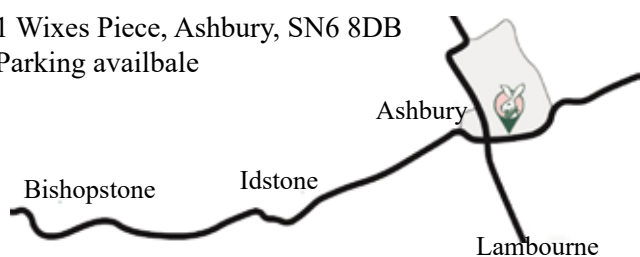


Opening Hours

- Tuesday: 10.30 - 4.30
- Wednesday-Friday: 9.00 - 4.30
- Saturday: 10.30 - 4.30
- Sunday-Monday: Closed

Whether you're here for a coffee, a spot of lunch or simply to relax with friendly company, you'll feel right at home in our cosy shop.

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Church Services in the Benefice

Sunday	1st September	8.30am	Holy Communion	Bishopstone
	11 th Sunday after Trinity	10.30am	Family Communion	Lyddington
		6.00pm	Evensong	Hinton Parva
Wednesday	4th September	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough Vicarage
Sunday	8th September	8.30am	Holy Communion	Lyddington
	12 th Sunday after Trinity	10.30am	Family Communion	Bishopstone
		6.00pm	Evensong	Wanborough
Wednesday	11th September	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough Vicarage
Sunday	15th September	8.30am	Holy Communion	Hinton Parva
	13 th Sunday after Trinity	10.30am	Family Communion	Wanborough
		6.00pm	Evensong	Bishopstone
Wednesday	18th September	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough Vicarage
Sunday	22nd September	8.30am	Holy Communion	Wanborough
	14 th Sunday after Trinity	10.30am	Harvest Family Communion	Hinton Parva
		6.00pm	Evensong	Lyddington
Wednesday	25th September	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough Vicarage
Sunday	30th September		No Services	
	15 th Sunday after Trinity			
Wednesday	2nd October	7.00pm	Midweek Communion	Wanborough Vicarage
Sunday	6th October	8.30am	Holy Communion	Bishopstone
	16 th Sunday after Trinity	10.30am	Harvest Family Communion	Lyddington
		6.00pm	Evensong	Hinton Parva

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

The Vicar's Letter

Dear Friends and Neighbours

September marks the beginning of a new academic year. Little people will be attending school for the very first time; not so little people will be beginning a new school year perhaps in a different class, school, college or even university. And every day has the potential to be the start of something amazing and new; however little we may be! Lin-Manuel Miranda goes even further - *Every day has the potential to be the greatest day of your life*. Jo and Harri were sat in a pub and came up with the following insight: our lives are like a square window with four panes. It's known as the Johari Window. Drawing this out on a piece of paper helps us to see what they mean.

Basically, it's a square divided into four equal squares. The top left hand pane holds information that we know about ourselves and that other people know about us. The top right hand

pane holds information that we know about us that other people don't. The bottom left pane holds information that others know about us that we don't, and the bottom right hand pane holds information that none of us know about us; and this is our potential - full of mystery. It's a way of helping us understand our relationships with ourselves and those around us.

Some of us may remember a childhood TV programme called Playschool. We were invited to look through a round window, an arched window or a square window, to discover something new. A bit like the fourth pane in the JoHari window. Discovery can be exciting and we don't have to hike off to another part of the world to do it. There are many in our villages that have discovered things about our local history and are only too keen to share, given the opportunity.

So what might help to make today the greatest day of our life? Jo and Harri might say it's about our relationships

and our local historians might agree, in as much as what has gone before is what we are building from. The ultimate question has to be *so where are we headed?* Crops are made to eat, beer is made to quench thirst (in the middle-ages it was safer to drink than water) and we are made to Love; something that is eternal. Just as crops need a field and beer needs a brewery, we too need to connect with where we come from. If we want a full life, we need a True Life in God (God, that three letter spelling of the word Love).

Frances J Roberts puts it this way: Many a ship has sailed from port to port with no interference from Me, because Strong Will has been at the wheel. Multitudes of pleasure cruises go merrily on their way, untouched by the power of My hand. But you have put your life into My keeping, and because you are depending on Me for guidance and direction, I shall give it. Move on steadily, and know that the waters that carry you

are the waters of My love and My kindness, and I will keep you on the right course. So whether you are beginning a new term, or simply trying to make today the greatest day of your life. I wish you *bon voyage*. 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

St Mary's Bishopstone

Cleaning Rota

September Rachel Blunt &

Caryn Greenhalgh

October Lorna Ford &

Linda Matthews

November Jill White

December Fran Shishton &

Karen Stevens

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

Parish Contacts

The Vicar: the Rev Bill O'Connell

The Vicarage, Church Road,
Wanborough, SN4 0BZ

01793 791 359

villagevicar@hotmail.co.uk

PCC Vice Chair – Alan Taylor

01793 791 666

R2attayloralan@aol.com

Church Contacts:

Tom Cripwell – St. Swithun's

01793 791 148

tomcripwell@gmail.com

Doug Stevens – St. Mary's

01793 791 107

doug@mowerfixer.co.uk

PCC members:

Karen Stevens 01793 791 107

kschurchview@gmail.com

Roz Boot 01793 790508

John Lowry 01793 790 271

Penny Green 01793 791 310

Sara Hall 01793 791 202

thecourthouse@gmail.com



Benefice Harvest Supper

Saturday 21st September

Wanborough Village Hall

doors open 6.30pm food served 7.00pm

£10 per head to include - pie & vegetables, a selection of sweets and a glass of wine, cider or fruit juice - additional to purchase if required.

There will be a quiz (entry £1 per person, paid on the night) and entertainment from the talented Barry Slade, so wear your dancing shoes!

If you would like to join us please complete the form below; also enclose your £10 per head and your pie requirement by Saturday 7th September to:- Sue Gorelle

18 Church Road, Wanborough SN4 0BZ tel: 01793 790 786
or Judy Winter 01793 5371 23

Name(s)

Tel

Chicken & Mushroom Pie.....

Steak & Ale Pie

Spinach & Goats Cheese Pie

Westmill Woodland Burial Ground, Memorial Gathering

Saturday 28th September

5.00 - 7.00pm or just 6.00 -7.00pm for the ceremony



There are many good ways to get local support with a bereavement. The Late Spring group, run by Oxfordshire Age UK, meets regularly in Faringdon and elsewhere in Oxfordshire.

Call 01235 849 434 or visit www.ageuk.org.uk/oxfordshire.

Also 01793 488 348 for Swindon Age UK.

Course runs groups and events in Oxford and Swindon.

01865 245 398 www.oxfordcruse.co.uk ,

or 01793 619 933 www.cruseswindon.org

Widowed and Young is an excellent national Cruse group. In Shrivenham, there are groups for people who have been bereaved.

rev.n.fergusson@btinternet.com 01793 710 055

or Roseanne.o@outlook.com 01793 784 017.

The Prospect hospice regularly holds Death Cafés

www.prospect-hospice.net 01793 813 355.

At Westmill Woodland Burial ground we hold a Memorial Gathering every September. The person being remembered does not have to be someone buried with us. The simple ceremony can bring a lot of comfort as we gather in a beautiful, peaceful place.

Contact us on 01367 700 615 info@woodlandburialwestmill.co.uk

or simply turn up. The kettle is always on for a cuppa and we are very easy to find just off the A420 near Watchfield.

Detailed directions www.woodlandburialwestmill.co.uk



Pimm's they said, on the lawn they said, it'll be fun they said....you know what; it was. A unique mix of merry makers, shady spies and cream tea lovers. What could have prompted this strange assembly of disparate peoples? Word on the street was that it was a charity event for Root & Branch, who devise friendly activities for people with mental health issues. A lofty ideal I thought, one that could bring reason to the county. No one needs to ask me twice to drink for a good cause, so I grabbed my sunglasses and wet suit, and prepared to bathe in the English weather (the dis-

posable weather report had as always hedged its bets on all outcomes).

In true contrarian style, sods law, decreed that, actually, the weather would be fine for the event. Even the pugnacious hoards of wasps that arrived with single minded determination to intimidate the revellers had their bellicose nature quashed by sipping small amounts of alcohol.

Through the Pimm's haze I dimly remember some sort of spy threat to the village that could be stopped... or started, I forget which, by hunting around the garden finding the right books and constructing a mysterious message, which in turn would do something, probably destroy the village. And what village event could be completed without a raffle? This one turned out to be stuck on a time loop; out of the ten tickets I bought, I must have won 5 times! Though I could have been mistaken...

All in all, it was a delightful afternoon and I hear on the wine vine that over £500 was raised for those good eggs

at Root & Branch. I personally cannot wait until the next bacchanalian revelry to wet my proverbial whistle.

Jonathon Boon

Thank you Kevin Morrison for the photograph

Well! What a great way to relax on a Sunday afternoon, sipping a fruity Pimms while being serenaded with gentle guitar playing. The cleverly devised quiz trail kept minds entertained and sharply focused - well, in my case, maybe not so very focused, when delicious cream teas were competing for my attention.

A special thank you to Marion and Rod Peck for hosting the event in their beautiful garden and to the team of cheerful gardening club helpers.

Many thanks to everyone who came, for all your donations, and making the afternoon such a success.

Sarah Bally

We meet every second Wednesday of the month at Bishopstone Village Hall, 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. Raffle/Tea/coffee/biscuits. £10 per person annual membership or £3* pp on the door, (*door price may vary according to speaker costs). We love to see new people, so please do come. You can contact Sheila or Sarah (Outings Organiser) at:

banddgardeningsoc@gmail.com

Sheila

9th October - Aldetha Raymond: Insects that make Christmas

Without these fifteen important insects working hard to pollinate a range of traditional dinner ingredients, our Christmas meal would be a very different story... (and she's not just talking about bees.) Sit back, let your taste buds tingle and gain a new insight to fruits, vegetables and even chocolate! 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.

Village Produce Show

Saturday 14th September The Village Hall, Bishopstone

Staging: 8.00 – 10.45am Judging commences: 11.00am Show opens to public: 3.00pm

Help us to keep this village tradition alive. The flowers alone are worth coming to see, not to mention the fruit and veg (especially the quirky veg). Get involved and take some photographs, don those aprons - do people still wear aprons? - and have a go at Thomas Whitaker's (age 11) recipe, or, if you fancy something slightly trickier, make a Russian Sandwich Cake. If art and craft is your thing, there are categories for all ages. Open to all who live within a 10-mile radius of Bishopstone. Trophies and prizes to be won!


Show Schedules are now available from:

Sheila Collins, 2 Poveys Place and Chris Thomas, Littlecot, High Street, Bishopstone; Mogs Boon, Brock Cottage, Hinton Parva; The Ashbury Village Shop; or you can contact us via the email address banddgardeningsoc@gmail.com.

NB: Now is the time to return last year's winning cups and trophies to: Keith Gibbison, 6 High Street, Bishopstone.

Admission 30p Children and concessions 20p

THE BREWERS ARMS
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The Royal Oak Diary



Glorious fin de siècle days here in Bishopstone as we mount our last possibly futile *protest against Brexit* from our 'umble Cues Lane stronghold. The Oak charabanc will be leaving the village about **8.30am on 19th October**, and no doubt returning late the same day with a bit of drink on board. The 2m+ people expected to attend this minor inconvenience will be asked to stage a sit down protest at the end. This could cause some extra and hugely enjoyable congestion. We might have room on the bus for up to 40 people—staff, customers, friends, neighbours, supporters—but I am realistic enough to understand that I might be the only person on it. The charge will be £10 per person, up from the fiver I previously suggested now I understand the demand for buses that day. And if you want to come please leave us a message, somewhere,

soon-ish. If you don't think a village pub should involve itself in these affairs, all rude correspondence will be accepted in the normal way, and pinned up in the ladies' loo, with other unsuitable cartoons. (We might not be the world's best business people, but our conservative estimates suggest that the Brexit farce has so far cost Eastbrook about £150k, over 3 years—milk and meat export market uncertainty, domestic retailers drawing in their horns...I am sure Mr Johnson and Mr Gove's business rescue fund won't dribble down to small local employers, but I might be wrong). Brexit and all it has involved so far will push many smaller sustainable businesses to the brink. Just what the world wants as we wash up on the rocky shores of Greenland and the Arctic.

In the normal, leisure side, of our business, we are hosting *an organic wine and charcuterie tasting* in two different locations on the farm on **13th September**, ominously a Friday, late afternoon, so it'll probably be punctuated by floods and thunderstorms. We're revising our wine list, and after a practice run last year, we find there are few better places and ways to taste wine than gazing over towards Ashdown, or being nuzzled by a small pig. Our charcuterie micro business continues to produce amazing stuff—the organic corned beef (yes, corned beef—I refused it when my mother offered it to me 50 years ago) is a world away from anything you've ever tasted before. Price per person is £50, but this includes two course a la carte supper that evening. I'm sure we could negotiate on a supper-free basis, as well.

The world of sport will be dominated this autumn by the Rugby World Cup, so the famous Royal Oak telly will be dusted down and asked to perform

at all odd hours of the day—lovely breakfast for rugby fans as we watch the goings-on in Japan. The landlord will be watching anyway, so come and join him and his organic bacon sandwiches. And it won't go on forever, you England fans. You could be bored by mid-October, and, who knows, supporting independence-loving Scotland, for all sort of reasons.

If this reaches you by **24th August, live music from Hooch** upstairs that night from 8.30pm, no tickets required—great pop dance band, and we all want to dance with Lisa on her 35th birthday, of course, don't we?



The landlord recognises that he owes a few bottles of apple juice from last year's harvest (he says he lost his book...) but The Royal Oak would love every spare apple or other suitable fruit (berries, grapes, rhubarb, pears etc) for its annual juice making, and it will try to repay the favours better this year. We can collect, or you can drop off. Please contact us if the former. If the latter, drop them near the pub back door. With a name or telephone number, please. Alternatively, if you want your own juice and have enough apples/pears etc to make it worthwhile, contact Richard Paget on 07825 372 225. He makes juice every autumn for three months, from his mobile juicer the far side of Hungerford, starting mid August.



Pip pip

TF

Picture top right:

A local resident bee in the Royal Oak garden, photographed by Ann Brown.

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Exhausted of Hinton Parva

The truth, the whole truth, and something purporting to be the truth

We are, we're told, living in the *post truth* age, with facts manipulated in a way worthy of a 1980s estate agent (apologies to any of those out there; I'm sure a few of you had integrity. Not sorry to anyone who ever used the phrase *deceptively spacious* to describe a rabbit hutch, however; you should have known better.). We see footage on TV of events as they occur, only to be told afterwards that they didn't happen. We hear that cheering throngs greeted a president's arrival, despite having seen news footage showing a turnout of about twelve angry people waving placards, bolstered by a couple of happy labradors out for a walk.

Advertisers excel at manipulating us with loosely disguised facts and pseudo-scientific phrases. *Boswellox* is still a term much used in the Mantelpiece household; it's a handy word with a multitude of uses. We generally shout it at the television when people are spouting total nonsense - as in *what a complete load of old boswellox*. We seem to be using the word more and more these days.

We have an engineer friend who vehemently dislikes a specific manufacturer of expensive electrical items, fuelled by said manufacturer's advertising of their *digital motors*. These are not, apparently, a thing; they do not exist. So he was incensed when his daughter was, as he saw it, suckered into spending several hundred pounds on a hairdryer manufactured by the digital-motor man. We thought he'd blow a non-digital gasket when told that the hairdryer's main feature was that it produced a stream of *wide air*. If you have any idea what wide air looks like, please send details on a postcard to the Editor. . .

To a lot of us, *post-truth* sounds an awful lot like lying. Which takes me neatly to the snippet I spotted in the press regarding the government team which has been set up to respond to any anti-Brexit stories, giving them a

more positive spin. Who will be on the team, I wonder?

When someone suggests we are in danger from eating chlorinated chicken, will Nigella appear in print, extolling the virtue of a quick swim after a chicken vindaloo, thus cutting out the need to use expensive chemicals to clean swimming pools? Threats of empty shelves at the supermarkets offer the ideal opportunity for Alan Titchmarsh to advise us on digging an allotment to produce tasty home-grown veg, while that nice doctor who was on *Strictly* can let us know how many health benefits there are in digging. There again, we now hear that restricting calorie intake can be a good thing for one's longevity - so perhaps we should all embrace hunger and steer clear of Tim Finney's temptingly tasty turnips.

And the most beloved Environmentalist in the nation, David Attenborough himself, can point out to us that shortages of petrol would be a good thing as we try to reduce our emissions.

Before I forget, Hinton Parva will soon be advertising for a fully qualified pole-squatter who has a good head for heights, and who is also a member of the Magic Circle, specialising in producing flags from their sleeves. Said pole-squatter will be needed should the gizmos and gadgets being developed to address our village hall flag issue (see Ed's column) fail to provide a solution. Of course, this could be a complete load of boswellox. . .



Mrs Mantelpiece

And Almost Finally...

Thank you Mrs M, Howard's appeal for a solution to how to stop the village hall flag from tearing has produced other interesting responses. Lowering via a computer programme? Not viable says a naval engineer, flags tend to wrap round the flag pole. A telescopic flag pole? An untearable flag? A virtual holographic flag? A ceremony each night lowering it to the accompaniment of a bugle?

How are your musical skills, Howard?

mogs X

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.

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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: ***admin@bishopstoneandhintonparva.org*** 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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