



# Parish Magazine

April 2026



Spring Blossom

Photo by Kate Pendleton

STaB is published by the Parochial Church Council and delivered free of charge to every home in Stratford Tony and Bishopstone. We hope you find it interesting and informative. **Donations towards publication costs are always welcome.**

Donations should be made payable to Bishopstone Parochial Church Council and sent to: The Treasurer, Bishopstone PCC, Ebble Cottage, Mill Lane, Bishopstone, SP5 4BG. Please state on a cover note that it is for STaB.

The views in this magazine are not necessarily those of the PCC.

**Editor:** Kate Pendleton: 780655

Email: **teamstab2019@gmail.com**

### **Advertising**

Robert Pendleton: 780655

E.mail: **stabads@outlook.com**

Any articles for inclusion are to be submitted by 5pm on the 20th of the month to appear in the next issue - *unless the magazine is already full.*

The editors reserve the right to edit all contributions.

### **Chalke Valley Team Ministry - Parish of Bishopstone and Stratford Tony**

**Team Rector, with responsibility for Bishopstone and Stratford Tony:**

Ruth Howlett Shipley 01722 697022

**Church Warden:** Sarah Seal 01722 780305

**Team Administrator:** Emily Broomhead 07890 262376

thechalkevalleychurches@gmail.com

### **Bishopstone Village Website**

[www.bishopstone-salisbury.co.uk](http://www.bishopstone-salisbury.co.uk)

The village website carries a wealth of useful information about Bishopstone. Everything from the practical, such as street and footpath maps, the local weather forecast and service announcements, to full details of what's on in the village. There are pages devoted to the church, the Village Hall, amenities and services, including local organisations and shops. There are even digital copies of this magazine.

If you want to have any information included on the website please contact:

Mike Ash ([mash@btinternet.com](mailto:mash@btinternet.com))

***A warm welcome to Bishopstone and Stratford Tony...***

**Welcome to the village, Ed and Heidi, now running the White Hart.**

*Please let us know if you know of anyone who moves into Bishopstone or Stratford Tony - or indeed if you yourself have recently moved in, please do introduce yourselves! - so that we can offer them/you a welcome in STaB.*



## Hello from the Revd Ruth Howlett Shipley



As you read this we will be coming to the end of the 40 days of Lent and looking forward to Easter Day.

Forty is an important number in both the Bible and in the Church's calendar. In Genesis we read about Noah and the flood when it rained for forty days and forty nights. The Israelites spent forty years wandering in the wilderness. Moses spent forty days and nights on Mount Sinai before receiving the Ten Commandments and Jesus spent forty days in the wilderness at the start of his ministry. It would appear that '40 days' stands for 'a long time', and '40 years' for 'a very long time'!

Every year in the Chalke Valley Benefice we raise funds for a Lent Project. This year we are raising money for The Bridge Youth Project which is a Salisbury-based Christian charity which offers chaplaincy in local schools. We hope to raise enough money to support a school chaplain at Longford School, in Britford, one day a week for the next two years. It is a fantastic charity and a chaplain could make so much difference to the lives of the children, staff and parents in this school.

We held a Lent Lunch in Bishopstone Village Hall to raise funds and enjoy a fantastic selection of soups and bread. Thank you to all those who cooked and served the soup and who set up the village hall! If you weren't able to attend there is still a chance to donate – look out for the leaflets in church or speak to Sarah Seal.

On **Easter Sunday** we will be holding a **Family Communion service at 11am** – we would love you to come along!

**HAPPY EASTER!**

**SAVE THE DATE...** On May 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> we will be undertaking our Benefice Pilgrimage when we will walk the length of the Chalke Valley and visit all the churches en route. We will start from Berwick St John on Friday morning and finish in Britford on Saturday afternoon. Please put it in your diary and join us for as much, or as little, of the route as you can.



## **NATIONAL LOTTERY HERITAGE FUND AWARD FOR THE REPAIR TO THE ROOF OF THE NORTH TRANSEPT OF OUR CHURCH – MARCH 2026 UPDATE**

### **Publicity**

A key requirement of any National Lottery Heritage Fund award is that it is fully acknowledged and celebrated by the recipients. Once the final details of the grant had been agreed, we were able to make a full announcement on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. A copy of the Press Release is on the Village Website. In that release Stuart McLeod, Director of England - London & South at The National Lottery Heritage Fund, said:

*“Thanks to National Lottery players, we’re delighted to support the restoration of the North Transept at St John the Baptist Church. This remarkable building has been at the heart of Bishopstone for more than 700 years and this project will secure its future for generations to come. As well as protecting an outstanding piece of Wiltshire’s heritage, the work will open up new opportunities for people to come together, discover the church’s history and enjoy it as a vibrant community space.”*

Our project and the NLHF award were covered in the Salisbury Journal, the Salisbury and Avon Gazette and even Wiltshire TV! A banner and other notices have been erected at the church and the NLHF logo will be making an appearance on all future project related announcements and publications.

### **Project Progress**

The first stage of the actual restoration has begun with the erection of scaffolding around the North Transept by the scaffolding team. At the time of writing this is only partially complete as further work is needed to build a weatherproof cover over the roof of the Transept, which should be complete by the time you read this article. There is then a need to erect scaffolding inside the church, again limited to the North Transept, which will be sealed off from the rest of the church. This can only be done once the bat hibernation period is over – so you see it is not just the HS2 railway link that has a bat problem!

During late March/early April the building contractors will move onto the site and work will begin in earnest. This means that there may well be some limitations on access to the site, in particular access to the church will be limited while the internal scaffolding is being erected. As at the time of writing this article it is not possible to be more specific. However, it should be noted that the church will be closed with effect from 4.30pm each day from now onwards until the completion of the project. Information about weekend opening times has yet to be confirmed, but it will be shared on the village WhatsApp group when clarified.

Access to the graveyard will not be restricted by the project but extra care and caution is advised.

In the meantime, a small study is beginning that will ensure that actions to achieve, meet and exceed our commitments to the NLHF Principles of Heritage, Environment, Inclusion/Participation /Access, and Organisational Stability has begun. Further details will follow.

*Roger, Toby and Mike*

## **CHURCH ACCESS RESTRICTIONS DURING THE REFURBISHMENT PROJECT**

As mentioned in this month's update for the North Transept Project, we have now clarified with the builder guidance rules governing access to the church during the reroofing project.

**These simple rules are necessary for visitor safety. Please comply.**

**We apologise for any inconvenience to parishioners and visitors.**

1. Do not try and visit the church the week after Easter when the internal scaffolding is going up. Though the doors will be open, scaffolding erection will be carried out, both internally and externally.
2. Builders will put up signs and will lock up the church at 4:30pm each day.
3. Sunday services will continue as normal, however, the church will remain closed at weekends, apart from when services are happening.
4. Once the scaffolding has been erected and the builders are working within the North Transept, which will be a semi-sealed area, we appreciate that it will be difficult to stop people going into the church, as the doors will remain open. However, **the builders are in control of the site**, and they will use their discretion to turn people away, or even lock doors if they feel that their work may be hazardous to the public.
5. Separate special arrangements for cleaning teams will be confirmed by the Church Warden.

**We thank you for your cooperation, which is for your own safety.**

## Friends of Bishopstone Church

We are immensely grateful to all our very generous donors and supporters for the contributions that have poured in since January 2025 to secure the National Lottery Heritage Fund grant. We have had help, not only in donations, but also in so many practical ways. Thank you very much to everyone.

In March Francis Taylor gave a fascinating talk on DNA in the village hall which was enjoyed by the audience.

We are so fortunate to have a wealth of talented speakers in the village who can share their knowledge and expertise in the various talks we have held.

The next events we are planning are

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March. Talk by Jerry Smith on Removing Assad's Chemical Weapons.** Jerry was Head of Operations United Nations. See poster in STaB.

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May. Garden Party at Faulston House,** Bishopstone by kind permission of Sarah Blank. From 5pm to Sunset for a range of activities. Prepare your picnic, or order a hamper from Coombe Bissett Stores. See poster in STaB.

In the autumn we have another Antiques Evening with Jeremy Lamond, by popular request, and also The Dean of Salisbury Cathedral, The Very Revd Nicholas Papadopoulos, who will give a talk - Parables from Palestine.

More details will follow in future editions of STaB.

Mike Ash has done an excellent sales pitch on selling tea towels, with a waiting list, so we were able to do a repeat order. Other merchandising available –

Jigsaws £17 each or £30 for 2. Church guides £8. Greetings cards £1.50 each  
Available from:

Anne Stutchbury [annewheelwright@gmail.com](mailto:annewheelwright@gmail.com)

Sarah Seal [theseal1@outlook.com](mailto:theseal1@outlook.com)

Payment by cash, or BACS Account Church Roof Appeal a/c 88097160 sort code 30-97-41

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30 the AGM** for The Friends will be held in the Village Hall. Please come along and join us for a glass of wine.



*Anne Stutchbury*

Chairman, Friends of Bishopstone Church [annewheelwright@gmail.com](mailto:annewheelwright@gmail.com)

Committee: Margaret Barter, Norman Barter, Richard Brett, George Brutton, Tony Clarke, Kay Mills, Sarah Seal, Alan Stutchbury

## Church Merch Update!



The sale of tea towels in aid of the Roof Appeal has been a great success. The first fifty, featuring the south window in the church, sold out very quickly. Fifty more, with a different design of scenes from around the village, sold out in a morning with orders received for another fifty! So far therefore over 150 have been sold which adds nearly £600 to the appeal – thank you everyone! We still have some of the second design available at a price of £8.00. These can be purchased at future events or direct from Mike Ash (07905606156).

The Friends are very grateful for all the help and support they have received from a number of companies in the supply of goods sold in aid of the appeal fund. These include:

Julie at Grovely Jigsaw Puzzles, Ashmore, Dorset for jigsaw manufacture.

Max at Manchester Manufacturing Group, Denton Manchester for tea towel production.

Mark and Jackie at Labelcraft UK Ltd, Old Sarum, Salisbury for printing labels and banners.



*"...ok, let's vote. Who's in favour of naming the Church gift shop 'Jesus Christ Superstore'?"*

## Bishopstone Village Hall



# April 2026

### **BISHOPSTONE COMMUNITY CAFÉ**

The Village Hall Café opens every other Thursday and is a great place to relax and catch up with others in the community. Upcoming dates are the 9th and 23rd of April and the 7th and 21st of May. Opening hours are from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Refreshments are currently offered free of charge, with donations welcome.

### **ANNUAL SPRING FAYRE**

Our ever-popular Spring Fayre will take place on Saturday 9th May, from 10.00am to 12 noon, with a tombola, book stall, local crafts and refreshments.

The plant stall will once again be a highlight, and we would be very grateful for any donations of spare plants, or seedlings of vegetables or flowers. These can be brought to the hall, which will be open to receive them on Friday 8th, between 2.00pm and 4.00pm. We hope you can join us!

### **MOVIOLA at Bishopstone**

*Friday 24th April.*

The film for April will be 'The Choral'. 'The Choral' is a warm, emotive comedy drama set in a small Northern community at the outbreak of the First World War. When a Yorkshire village's choral society is depleted as men leave for war, it is forced to recruit unlikely teenagers and the musically gifted but socially controversial Dr Guthrie. Filled with humour and hope, this latest triumph from Alan Bennett and Nicholas Hytner celebrates the strength of community in dark times.

Doors open from 7.00pm with the film beginning at 7.30pm. Entry to the film is £7.00. A cash bar with ices and snacks will be available. If possible, please book in advance with Caroline Ash on (01722) 781044 or Sue Taylor on 01722 780316.

A trailer for the film can be seen in the Events section of the village website at [www.bishopstone-salisbury.co.uk](http://www.bishopstone-salisbury.co.uk).

The title of the film for Friday 29th of May, will be announced in the next edition.

### **BISHOPSTONE COMMUNITY LUNCHESES**

The last lunch of the season will be on Wednesday, 1st April, when Tara Slater, Adviser Team Manager of 'Beyond Dementia', will talk about the support they provide for people living with dementia. She will be accompanied by her colleague Veronica Prichard, who is a Dementia Adviser.

**Booking is essential.** Please telephone Caroline Ash on (01722) 781044 and advise her of any dietary requirements. The cost is **£8.50** for a two-course lunch and a drink. The time will be as usual: **12.00 noon for a 12.30 pm** start.

## **VILLAGE HALL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

A note for your diaries is the AGM of the Village Hall Committee, which will be held on Monday 18th May at 7.30pm. Further details nearer the time.

## **BOOKINGS FOR SOCIAL EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS**

Both halls are available for hire. To enquire or make a booking, please contact the bookings secretary, Margaret Barter (01722) 780471

## **BISHOPSTONE PLAYGROUP**

The playgroup meets on Friday mornings during term time from 9.30 – 11.00 am. Breastfeeding support is available from qualified breastfeeding counsellor Cally Edwards and trained peer supporters. Find further information on our Facebook page, Bishopstone Playgroup or contact Cally on: callyedwards@me.com or 07968 797 168.

## **“EXTEND” EXERCISE CLASSES**

For further information about these exercise classes, contact Jenny on 01722 780863, email: jennyberwynjones@yahoo.co.uk

## **PILATES AT BISHOPSTONE**

For further information, contact Claudine on 07788 587937 or email: claudineblake@aol.com

## **YOGA WITH HANNAH**

For more details, please contact Hannah Stocker at 0773 856 1888 or by email: yoga\_with\_hannah@outlook.com.

## **ART GROUP**

An Art Group led by Russell Bignold meets every Thursday morning between 9.45am and 11.45am. Drawing, painting and sculpture (clay) are taught, covering all genres. Cost £20 per session, tea and biscuits provided.

Contact Russell at russellbignold@btinternet.

Website [www.russellbignoldartist.com](http://www.russellbignoldartist.com)

Friends of Bishopstone Church  
IN AID OF BISHOPSTONE CHURCH RENOVATIONS

**A talk on**  
**REMOVING ASSAD'S CHEMICAL WEAPONS**  
*UN Syrian operations in action.*



In 2012, the Syrian civil war was at its height. The Assad regime was on the defensive, with Opposition Forces closing in on the capital. Then reports appeared of strange clouds, mass poisoning, and death without visible injuries.

**Jerry Smith**, who lives in Bishopstone, was the Head of Operations for the Joint UN team that was sent to verify, disable and remove Assad's declared chemical arsenal. He outlines the challenges he faced in war-torn Syria.



Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 7:00 pm for 7:30 pm start  
Bishopstone Village Hall, SP5 4AA  
Tickets £12.50 – with canapes and a cash bar  
(18 years old and under: £5)



CONTACTS FOR TICKETS

Sarah Seal – [theseal1@outlook.com](mailto:theseal1@outlook.com)  
Anne Stutchbury – [annewheelwright@gmail.com](mailto:annewheelwright@gmail.com)

# BISHOPSTONE VILLAGE HALL




## *Spring Fayre*

Saturday 9th May 2026

at 10.00am

Refreshments and all the usual attractions,  
including the famous Plant Stall.



Friends of Bishopstone Church  
**IN AID OF BISHOPSTONE CHURCH DEVELOPMENT**

## **Garden Party**

Thursday 28th May from 5:00 pm till Sunset



Join us under a Flower Moon in the garden of **Faulston House** for an evening of summer delight

Enjoy a wander through the garden with highlights to include an abridged production of **Romeo & Juliet** by 440, singing by **The Navy Larks** and **Catch of the Day** and a **Foraging** demonstration

Bring a **picnic** or order a **delicious hamper** of local goodies from Coombe Bissett store

*Hamper order sheet available when you book tickets*

*Orders in by 1<sup>st</sup> May*

**Bar: cash & card**

Faulston House, Faulston Lane

Bishopstone, SP5 4BQ

Tickets £15

(Children under 18 with an adult: £5)

CONTACTS FOR TICKETS

Sarah Seal – [theseal1@outlook.com](mailto:theseal1@outlook.com)

Anne Stutchbury – [annewheelwright@gmail.com](mailto:annewheelwright@gmail.com)



## **Bishopstone Village Hall rates for private hire**

Bishopstone Village Hall has 2 rooms that are available for hire for a wide range of functions. The larger room is ideal for children's parties with lots of space for running around. It can also accommodate wedding receptions, charity functions and large family celebrations.

The smaller room (The Memorial Room) is a good size for meetings and smaller gatherings.

The modern kitchen is spacious and fully equipped with an electric catering range, a professional 4 minute dishwasher, water boiler, hot cupboard, microwave oven, 2 fridges and a freezer, all suitable for professional caterers. There is also glassware, crockery and cutlery for over 80 people.

The hire charges include use of heating and electricity.

### **The rates are currently:**

	<b>Villagers</b>	<b>Non Villagers</b>
Hire of both rooms (With full use of the kitchen)	<b>£17 per hour</b>	<b>£22 per hour</b>
Hire of both rooms (With tea making facilities but no other electrical kitchen equipment)	<b>£12 per hour</b>	<b>£17 per hour</b>
Full use of the kitchen <u>only</u>	<b>£12 per hour</b>	<b>£17 per hour</b>
Weddings – per event/day	<b>£200</b>	<b>£300</b>
Parties – per event/day	<b>£125</b>	<b>£175</b>

### **Broadband**

An additional charge is made for use of the broadband connection of £6 per hour with a maximum of £25 per day.

### **Large projection screen**

Use of this professional quality screen is charged at an additional £10 per event.

The hire period must include time to set up and clear away after the event.

**For further information and bookings contact: Margaret Barter 01722 780471**

## Chalke Valley Community Support

### POLICE

**Call 999 in an emergency:** an emergency is when someone is being threatened or at risk of getting injured, or a crime is in progress.

**Call 101 for non-emergencies:** such as reporting a crime that has already taken place, non-urgent incident, contacting local officers etc

To contact your Community Policing Team about a community-related matter, such as a school visit, then please email [SalisburyAreaCPT@wiltshire.police.uk](mailto:SalisburyAreaCPT@wiltshire.police.uk)

Please note that this mailbox is not monitored 24/7.

You are unable to report crimes of any type via email and please do not report any situations that require an urgent response.

#### You can follow us on:

Facebook - [www.facebook.com/salisburypolice](http://www.facebook.com/salisburypolice)

Twitter - [www.twitter.com/SouthWiltsCPT](http://www.twitter.com/SouthWiltsCPT)

Community Messaging: Sign up to Community Messaging for news and updates from your local policing team: [www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk](http://www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk)

### Sixpenny Handley and Chalke Valley Practice

Doves Meadow Surgery, Broad Chalke: 01722 780282

**Broadchalke Surgery is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays**

Sixpenny Handley Surgery: 01725 552500

[www.sixpennydocs.co.uk](http://www.sixpennydocs.co.uk)



### MOBILE LIBRARY

The Mobile Library will be calling at The Styles in Bishopstone between 1115-1135 on the following Thursdays:

9 April, 7 May, 4 June, 2 July, 30 July



### **Coombe Bissett Stores**

[www.coombebissettstores.co.uk](http://www.coombebissettstores.co.uk)

[shop@coombebissettstores.co.uk](mailto:shop@coombebissettstores.co.uk) Tel: 01722 718852

#### **OPENING HOURS, SHOP AND POST OFFICE**

Mon-Fri: 7am-6pm, Sat: 7am-1pm

### **Chalke Valley Stores Broadchalke**

w: [www.chalkevalleystores.co.uk](http://www.chalkevalleystores.co.uk)

e: [info@chalkevalleystores.co.uk](mailto:info@chalkevalleystores.co.uk) Tel: 01722 780998

#### **OPENING HOURS**

Shop: Weekdays 9am - 5pm (until 4pm on Saturdays)

Post Office: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:30am- 1:30pm

## Chalke Valley Link Scheme

Serving the Valley from Berwick St John to Bodenham since 1996 & awarded The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in 2006, the Chalke Valley Link Scheme is a Registered Charity that provides good neighbour support with transport help for Valley residents. We can provide, for example: transport to a medical appointment, visiting family members in hospital, collecting prescriptions or changing library books.

If you live between Bishopstone & Britford/Bodenham please phone: **07795 620812** (Geoff Stephens, Jenny Monds or Debby Underhill on rotation).

The co-ordinator answering your call will take your details and contact a volunteer who can help you.

If your call is answered by a recorded message, please leave your contact details and a co-ordinator will respond as soon as possible. There is no set charge, but you are invited to make a donation towards our running costs.

All our co-ordinators and drivers are volunteers so please give us much notice as possible to find an available driver.

If you would like to become a volunteer driver to enable us to continue this service to our community, please contact the above number.

*Registered as a Charity no. 1076335*



## Staying in Touch

STaB magazine is a vital source of communication in the village, keeping everyone informed as to what is happening locally. However, to keep up to date with what is going on there are three other important sources of information in Bishopstone - the village website, the Parish Council website and our own WhatsApp network.

The village website – [www.bishopstone-salisbury.co.uk](http://www.bishopstone-salisbury.co.uk) - carries all the latest news on events in the village (see page 2). Information on Parish Council meetings and initiatives is available at: [www.bishopstone-pc.gov.uk](http://www.bishopstone-pc.gov.uk).

The Bishopstone Network is a WhatsApp messaging service which enables information to be instantly shared to your mobile phone. This includes information on pretty much everything – recommendations on service providers, events, road closures, interruptions to electricity and water supplies, items being given away or for sale and the latest menu from the White Hart! You will need to download the App to your phone and then contact Piers Edwards ([piersgedwards@gmail.com](mailto:piersgedwards@gmail.com) or 07920 475009) or Kate Pendlenton ([kmpendlenton@hotmail.com](mailto:kmpendlenton@hotmail.com) or 07769202200) and ask to be added to the group.





## The White Hart

With the White Hart being such a key part of our community, it has been a concerning time since we learned of the planned departure of Zara and Tom. It is therefore all the more heartening to know that, literally at the last moment, we have a new landlord, Ed Holford.

Ed tells me it was a close-run thing to avoid a period of closure, which presented quite a few challenges. It really was a case of hitting the ground running — or perhaps keeping all the plates in the air — not least having to manage without a chef for the first week.

Fortunately, Ed has considerable experience to draw upon. He describes himself as a country lad, having been brought up in Witchampton, just down the road in Dorset. He has worked in several pubs and previously managed the Hettie Bells in Salisbury, which I am pleased to see scores highly on TripAdvisor!

Growing up, he tells me his dream was to run a village pub, understanding its essential role as a key part of the community alongside the church and the village hall — both of which he is keen to work with to ensure the pub can support and complement their activities.

Ed will be ably supported by his partner Heidi and by her eldest daughter Sienna, who will be helping out between her college studies. Some of you will have already met Sienna, doing a great job waitressing and liaising between the bar and kitchen over the opening weekend. Other younger family members will eventually be in evidence, along with guest appearances from Labrador puppy 'Violet', who will be allowed to inspect and welcome guests once she is fully trained!

Ed is especially pleased that local lads Will and Ben have been persuaded to stay on and will remain an essential part of the team.

When asked about plans, Ed says his basic ethos is to provide good homemade pub classics and great beer, while building on successful special events and making good use of the outdoor space when summer eventually arrives. He also plans to offer a takeaway menu, which I know will be most welcome.

Both Ed and Heidi greatly appreciate the warm welcome they have received in Bishopstone and are keen to ensure the pub remains at the centre of village life, where everyone feels welcome. We wish them every success.

*Ed Holford interviewed by Ian R Smith for STaB. March 2026.*

Pub opening hours are:

Tuesday (Drinks and bar snacks only) 12.00noon - 3 pm and 5 pm - 11.00pm

Wednesday – Friday (Full menu) 12.00noon - 3pm and 5pm - 11.00pm

Saturday (Full menu) 12.00 noon until 11.00pm

Sunday (Roast lunch with limited extra menu) 12.00 noon until 5.00pm

The Pub will be closed on Mondays.

Bookings can be made via WhatsApp or email at:

WhiteHart.bishopstone@gmail.com



**MINI**  
**CHALKE VALLEY**  
**CHALLENGE**  
**26 APRIL 2026**  
Obstacle fun run in aid of FOBS!

**FOBS**  
FRIENDS OF BROAD CHALKE SCHOOLS

**Race entry £5**

**Races (around the MUGA field)**

- Pre-school / reception – 200m
- Yr 1 & 2 – 500m
- Yr 3 & 4 – 1000m
- Yr 5 & 6 – 1500m
- Older children – 2000m

**Registration 9:30am**

**Chalke Valley Sports Centre**  
**Broad Chalke, SP5 5HX**

Tea, coffee and cake available - please bring cash. Stalls and games on the field!



**Register on Classlist or email FOBS@broadchalke.dsat.org.uk**

## Salisbury Foodbank

For this last month there were donations totalling £20 plus food totalling 7kgs. Thank you so much.

LONG LIFE FRUIT JUICE is currently desperately needed!

TINNED FOOD: hot dogs, mince, stew, etc. Fish (not tuna), potatoes, vegetables (peas, carrots etc), fruit, soup.

DRINKS and DAIRY: long life fruit juice, UHT Milk (1L), tea, coffee, squash.

CUPBOARD STAPLES: biscuits, crisps, snacks, sponge puddings, jam and spreads.

TOILETRIES and HOUSEHOLD: deodorant, 2 in 1 shampoo/conditioner, shower gel, razors, toothpaste, washing detergent (powder), washing up liquid.

People often ask, What is the difference between Salisbury Foodbank and The Trussell Trust. Salisbury Foodbank is an independent local charity supporting people in SP1 -SP5 and SP9. They have an independent board of trustees, who live in and love Salisbury and South Wiltshire. Like many food banks across the UK, Salisbury Foodbank is part of the Trussell community of food banks. With Trussell's guidance, they all come together to share what they're seeing, learn from each other and build a compelling case for change.

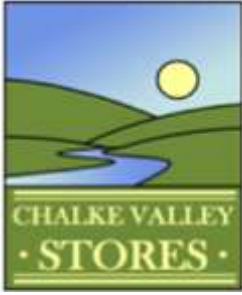
Each Foodbank in the Trussell community is an independent charity. Salisbury Foodbank is not run by the Trussell trust - donations made directly to Salisbury Foodbank go to supporting local people in our area, and donations made directly to Trussell are used to support projects across the UK. Our food bank is testament to the power of community across Salisbury and surrounding areas: It's all about local people working to end hunger together.

Thank you for the support you offer and hopefully your continuing support for this great cause.

As usual, you can leave donations either in the church or at The Old Post Office, The Cross, or call me on 01722 780306 if there's something you need collecting

With thanks,  
*Judy Barrett*





***Shop at the heart of the Community  
Owned by YOU, Run by YOU, Here for YOU.***

w: [www.chalkevalleystores.co.uk](http://www.chalkevalleystores.co.uk) | e: [info@chalkevalleystores.co.uk](mailto:info@chalkevalleystores.co.uk) | Tel: 01722 780998

### **OPENING HOURS**

**Shop:** Weekdays 9.00am - 5pm (until 1pm on Saturdays)

**Coffee Shop:** Weekdays 10am - 3.30pm (until Midday 12pm on Saturdays)

**Post Office:** Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9.30am to 1pm

**Home deliveries:** If you need a delivery, please call the Shop on **01722 780998**.

## ***URGENT APPEAL FROM CHALKE VALLEY COMMUNITY HUB***

Due to the retirement of Derek Brown, who has given us six years of valued service, we are looking for an exceptional person to take on the role of Chair of the committee which runs Chalke Valley Community Hub Limited. Whilst the Hub is of course a trading organisation, it has become the beating heart of the Chalke Valley community – it is run by the community, for the community and is an award-winning organisation.

We are now casting our net valley-wide to find a “people-person” to take on the role of Chair. He or she will already hold a stake in the local community, and will have the personality to empathise with and enthuse, our large band of Hub volunteers. He or she will ideally have experience of being involved in a charitable or commercial organisation through a period of change & development and who could, with the existing committee, develop a strategic business plan accordingly (work on this has already begun). Operational experience of running a retail business would be a distinct advantage, but this is something which has found to be best delegated to the excellent professional Hub Manager and his team. Therefore this need not be a time-consuming role for an experienced person who knows how to delegate - for in addition to the professional staff, he/she will be supported by an experienced Hub Committee including an Executive Group (Secretary, Treasurer, HR/Legal rep), other members with specific functional responsibilities and representatives from each village in the Valley.

If you can help us with any names or suggestions in our search, please contact us on [mail@broadchalke.net](mailto:mail@broadchalke.net) or ring 01722-780858.

We also seek new members of our Management Committee so if this appeals to you please get in touch for more information.



# CHALKE VALLEY

## SPORTS CENTRE

*sport for all*

### Facilities for all the Chalke Valley

### SPORTS SCENE - APRIL 2026

With the lighter nights now here, we are looking forward to a busy season of sport and activity at the Centre.

First though, **an appeal**. Our children's portable football posts have broken beyond repair and we are replacing them. Costs are £300-£400 depending on whether we just replace one and which type we go for. We want to replace ASAP so they are available for children for the longer evenings. We are seeking small donations that can be made direct to the Sports Centre's bank account:

Lloyds Bank. Sort Code 30-97-42. Account 01351926

Help would be greatly appreciated.

**Race Night:** See poster on p25 of STaB. Tickets are selling fast - 18 April. £18 including food. Bar and Raffle. Donations for the Raffle also being sought. Funds will go towards the refurbishment of the showers and water services.

**Multi Use Games Area:** Last month we had the scheduled annual professional clean of the 'new' courts. This cost nearly £900 but is money we need to invest in the facility to help maintain drainage and keep the area safe to play on.

**Tennis Update.** The Chalke Valley Tennis Club has entered a new coaching and tennis development programme with local business, FAR Sports and Rory Smith.

Rory and his Team have developed a varied midweek programme for both junior and adult players. The programme is set to begin after the Easter break. For more details, see the advert on the following page. E: [info@farsports.co.uk](mailto:info@farsports.co.uk)

**The hall is available for private hire** so if you have a family celebration in the coming weeks, why not see what we can offer?

All our sports activities are promoted through the website, see below.

General e.mail: [info@chalkevalleysportscentre.co.uk](mailto:info@chalkevalleysportscentre.co.uk)

More details can be found on our website: [www.chalkevalleysportscentre.co.uk](http://www.chalkevalleysportscentre.co.uk)

# SUMMER COACHING TIME TABLE

Chalke Valley Sports Centre

## MONDAY

15:30 - 16:15 Green / Orange (8-10)  
16:15 - 17:00 Mini Red (4-7)  
17:00 - 17:45 Yellow Ball (11-14)

## TUESDAY

08:30 - 09:30 Cardio Tennis (pay and play)  
09:30 - 10:30 Intermediate Doubles Class (P&P)

## WEDNESDAY

11:00 - 12:00 Walking Tennis (P&P)  
14:00 - 15:00 Adult Starter Group (P&P)  
15:30 - 16:15 Mini Red (4-7)  
16:15 - 17:00 Green / Orange (8-10)  
17:00 - 17:45 Yellow Ball (11-16)  
18:00 - 19:00 Tennis Xpress Improver / Intermediate  
19:00 - 20:00 Adult Team Player Coaching

## THURSDAY

09:00 - 10:00 Cardio Tennis (P&P)

## FAQ's

- Starting April 13th
- Pay and Play: **£9 members** / **£11 non-members**
- Termly 1-hour groups: **£80** for **members** / **£90 non-members**
- Termly 45-minute groups: **£60** Green / Orange (**£70 non-members**) Mini Red (4-7)
- Places limited due to court space
- **15:30** groups collected from Broadchalke School at **15:15**
- 1:1 & small private sessions available upon request.

✉ [info@farsports.co.uk](mailto:info@farsports.co.uk) | ☎ Rory 07446 841582



**CHALKE VALLEY  
SPORTS CENTRE**



Spring has sprung – at least as I write this – and there have been adventures aplenty for our pupils.



Ash enjoyed their biannual visit to PGL at Osmington Bay, where they climbed, leapt and swung their way with courage and determination. Every child challenged themselves to go further than they had before and those of us who accompanied them were so impressed with both their fearlessness and the way in which they encouraged and supported one another.

You may also have spotted our Year 6 completing their 'Bikeability' around the villages. Thank you for your patience as they completed another step of their journey towards Secondary school, greater self-reliance and independence.

In seeking to answer their enquiry question 'What is underneath our feet?', Fir visited the Etches Collection in Kimmeridge to learn more about fossils, admire the amazing exhibits and perhaps begin their own collections.



Oak – our Early Years class – had a wonderful taste of the season with their visit to Charlie's home to meet the lambs. The children saw, fed and cuddled the lambs, and were even lucky enough to meet one that was less than 12 hours old. They also enjoyed sitting in the cab of a tractor, measuring themselves against its enormous wheels, and walking there and back together, finishing the day with a picnic!



Next week, they will travel further afield – this time joined by Year 1 – to make their annual visit to the Cathedral



Elm have been learning about Easter symbols in RE. They had an Easter egg hunt around the hall to find sections of the Easter story, which they then put together, and chose their own items to represent parts of the story. A wonderful crafty morning resulted in some beautiful Easter cards to bring home for their loved ones. Year 1 are looking forward to spotting Easter symbols in the cathedral next week!



And finally...

Soon after the new year began, we welcomed *Ofsted* and are now delighted to share the outcome of its inspection, which recognises a *significant journey of improvement* and confirms that the school now meets the expected standard in all areas, with a strong standard in Early Years.

Across the school, pupils are described as enthusiastic learners who read confidently, think deeply and enjoy their learning. Behaviour is positive, relationships are strong and pupils show kindness, respect and pride in their school. The report celebrates the school's inclusive ethos, high expectations and engaging curriculum, alongside the caring relationships that ensure every child feels safe, valued and supported to succeed.

Inspectors highlighted Early Years as a particular strength, describing it as “a hive of busy and exciting learning,” where children show high levels of curiosity, creativity and independence. Children make strong progress and are exceptionally well prepared for Year 1, providing a firm foundation for future success.

Headteacher Emma Haworth said:

*“I am exceptionally proud of our children and staff and feel truly honoured to lead such an amazing team. This inspection was carried out under a new, rigorous Ofsted framework, and we are delighted that the report truly captures the heart and essence of our school. It reflects the care, ambition and dedication that make our school such a special place to learn and grow.”*

This outcome reflects how far the school has come—and its continued commitment to ensuring every child flourishes.





At Chalke there are always a few attractions that get the crowd talking. In 2025 it was the giant hayrick and the recreation of an eighteenth-century guillotine. This year a team of intrepid artisans will draw on ancient techniques, traditional knowledge, and heritage craft skills to

reconstruct a magnificent **late Iron Age Romano-British chariot**. Working from archaeological evidence and classical sources, they will race against time to create a vehicle worthy of history.

The speaker lineup now includes further big household names, including a number of national treasures and personalities from the film and TV world. Legendary food writer, chef and former presenter of *The Great British Bake Off* **Mary Berry** will join the hugely popular gardener, bestselling author and broadcaster **Alan Titchmarsh** for a fascinating talk about gardens for the National Garden Scheme. Award-winning actress, and star of iconic TV series such as *Downton Abbey*, *Wolf Hall: The Mirror and the Light* and *Killing Eve*, **Harriet Walter** will be making her debut at Chalke when she talks about visibility and representation of older women in the arts. And bestselling author and co-host of *The Rest is History* podcast **Tom Holland** will be sharing his passion for cricket when he is joined by former England spin bowler **Vic Marks** and commentator **Simon Hughes** as they debate the best England team captains from 1979 to 2025.

Those history fans with a particular fascination with the Second World War, and the lead up to it, are in for a treat this June. Bestselling author and an expert on the world's most infamous special forces unit **Damien Lewis** will be sharing tales of high-stakes operations and undercover rescues undertaken by the SAS; co-hosts of the hugely popular podcast *We Have Ways of Making You Talk* **Al Murray** and **James Holland** will be discussing the sinking the Bismarck in May 1941; leading scholar of international humanitarian law, human rights, and criminal law **Theodor Meron** will be coming to Chalke for the first time to talk about surviving the Holocaust, serving as a judge and his role as the President of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia; the ever-popular WW2 veteran **Colin Bell** returns, aged 105, to recollect the time when he flew fifty missions over Germany as a Mosquito pilot; **Saul David** on Tunisgrad will present his gripping new account of the campaign in Africa; and **Katja Hoyer** will talk about her much-anticipated book about life during the rise and reign of Hitler through the eyes of the people of Weimar.

This year's festival will have a distinctive nautical theme. As audiences enter the site, they will set eyes on a stunning replica 40ft Coastal Motor Boat, originally built in 1916 and designed to pass through a minefield to deliver a single 18-inch Whitehead torpedo. This will be accompanied by dynamic demonstrations from expert shipbuilders based at Portsmouth Historic Quarter.

More information, and tickets available at: [www.chalkefestival.com](http://www.chalkefestival.com)

# HELP WANTED

## CHALKE HISTORY FESTIVAL

### LOCAL LAUNDRY SUPPORT NEEDED

We are looking for a local person to wash and dry volunteer staff t-shirts and polo shirts during the Chalke History Festival.



#### Dates: 22-28 June

- Collect dirty shirts each afternoon
- Wash and dry overnight
- Return clean shirts the following afternoon

Remuneration: **Negotiable**



CHALKE  
HISTORY FESTIVAL

in partnership with  
**evelyn**  
PARTNERS

#### INTERESTED?

Email: [Chris.rothwell@chalkefestival.com](mailto:Chris.rothwell@chalkefestival.com)



# Race Night

Experience the excitement of a night at the races  
at your very own Sports Centre.

Join us for an unforgettable night of thrills and  
spills with a chance to bet and win on real races.

Food included with your entry ticket.

**Bar and Raffle on the night.**

Saturday, 18 April 2026  
Doors open 6.30 1st Race 7pm

Chalke Valley  
Sports Centre  
Broad Chalke



**ENTRY & FOOD £18**



Raising funds for the Shower Refurbishment



**MINIMUM BET PER RACE £2 – BRING CASH IF YOU CAN**



CHALKE VALLEY  
SPORTS CENTRE

*sport for all*



Payment Details:  
Lloyds Bank  
Sort Code 309741  
Account 01351926

To pay for tickets by credit card visit [www.chalkevalleysportscentre.co.uk](http://www.chalkevalleysportscentre.co.uk)

For tickets email  
[michaela.johns@chalkevalleysportscentre.co.uk](mailto:michaela.johns@chalkevalleysportscentre.co.uk)  
OR go to the Hub and ask at the till

## Aaron Stephens - Valentine Signs

### “He Must Have A Steady Hand”

This is a phrase you will hear numerous times a day from curious passers-by when working outside as a traditional Signwriter.

Since nowadays most people seldom see a Signwriter at work, it would be understandable to imagine my trade as a dying art after painted and handmade signage were largely replaced by cheap and identikit computerised vinyl lettering in the 80s and 90s, but in fact many such traditional crafts have seen a significant revival over the past 15 or so years as people look for something bespoke and individual for their home or business.

My career in Signwriting really began in March 2007, when I left Bishopstone to begin an apprenticeship in Signwriting and Fairground Art with Joby Carter of Carter’s Steam Fair near Maidenhead. Keeping the world’s largest vintage travelling funfair in good shape was no small task with all the rides and vintage vehicles used to move the fair being entirely hand painted, with no computers, vinyl or tape used anywhere. But plenty of Gold Leaf!

Owing to the high standards of the fair it was popular with film-makers and you may well have seen Carter’s in films such as Rocketman, The Theory of Everything, 28 Weeks Later and Paddington 2 (disguised as Kozlova’s Fair!)

Sadly in 2022 the fair ceased travelling after nearly 50 years on the road, meaning I myself needed to start my own business, and I moved back to Salisbury in 2024.

I have found myself busy so far with many projects from painting heritage trams at Beamish Museum near Durham, to painting the fairground rides of the Hyman family at the Black Country Living Museum, as well as Hortons Steam Fair from Chichester, and making signage for the historic buildings charity The Landmark Trust.

Whilst practicing a craft such as Signwriting may not ever make you a millionaire, if you are a good craftsman and you keep true to your ideals of handmaking without shortcuts, you can certainly make a living from such skills, it is worth looking at the Heritage Crafts Association website to learn more about traditional skills and crafts and how to get into them.

You may have noticed my advert in STaB - Valentine Signs - or seen a small example of my work on the wall of Pitts House in Bishopstone, so do get in touch if you would like to commission any sort of hand painted signage.

## STOP PRESS - Bishopstone in print...

With so much discussion today about the benefits system it is perhaps instructive to remember what life was like before the development of welfare and the NHS. The 19<sup>th</sup> century saw the development of Friendly Societies.

These were mutual aid organizations that provided social security to millions of working-class people. Members paid regular subscriptions to cover sickness, funeral costs, and unemployment, often meeting in pubs. In Bishopstone they were clearly part of the social scene with meetings and annual festivities held in the White Hart. The Pembroke and Montgomery Society festivities involved evening dancing and extended to a second day!

The Salisbury Times of October 1907 printed a letter from the Rector of Bishopstone on how to help men lead better lives. This advocated the provision of a room in the village where men could meet in the evening to sing hymns and drink cocoa (and not go to the pub)! "I am the last man who would wish to take the man away from his wife of an evening, but does the man remain at home to comfort his wife? In many cases I doubt it"

### Village Life in Winter.

DEAR SIR,—I am very grateful to your correspondents for the hints they give with regard to brightening the village life. I am very much in favour of bright Gospel services, and often take part in them, but I do not think you will get men to attend services every night from October to April, and if we are to give our men some place to go to where they may spend pleasant evenings it must be every night, not once and again.

In my former parish we had our room open on Sunday night as well as week nights, the only difference was that books and pictures were laid on the tables, likewise Bibles and hymn books (Sankey's), and the choice fell on the two latter. The men would sing hymns nearly all the evening.

I do not believe in introducing beer into these rooms. The first club I had to do with we had beer, but as a matter of fact cocoa and coffee were more in demand than beer.

We want to put all temptation on one side, and raise the tone of men, and while helping them to live brighter lives we also want them to live better lives. I am the last man who would wish to take the man away from his wife of an evening, but does the man remain at home to comfort his wife? In many cases I doubt it.

I am glad you opened your columns for this discussion as I think it is a subject which is of great interest to our village people. I believe it has done good.

Yours faithfully, FRANCIS RAIKES.

Salisbury and Winchester Journal June 1862

### BISHOPSTONE.

The White Hart Inn Friendly Society held their 19th anniversary on Monday and Tuesday last. Headed by their brass band they proceeded to the church, where an excellent discourse was delivered by the Rev. Chancellor Lear, from the 15th Psalm. After paying their respects to the Rector at the Rectory, they returned to their club-house, where an excellent dinner awaited them in a commodious booth, provided by Mr. Rogers for the occasion, everything passing off on both days with the greatest hilarity and good feeling.

Salisbury Times – June 1908

### PEMBROKE AND MONTGOMERY FRIENDLY SOCIETY FETE.

On Whit-Monday the Pembroke and Montgomery Friendly Society held their annual feast. The members assembled at the Club Room (the White Hart) at 9.30. The roll was called by the secretary (Mr. E. Elliott). A procession was then formed, and headed by the village band, under Bandmaster F. Elliott, and the Society's banner, carried by Mr. Stephen Compton, the oldest member of the Society, who has performed this duty for many years, the members wended their way to the parish church *via* Faulston and Mill Lane. Arriving at the church entrance the band played the National Anthem and then entered for divine service. The rector (the Venerable Archdeacon Lear) was the preacher, and he delivered a very instructive and appropriate sermon, taking for his text "The dearth was in all lands, but in the land of Egypt was bread" (Genesis xii, 54). The Rev. F. Raikes assisted during the service. Mr. J. Newton presided at the organ.

After the service the company paid a visit to the rectory and to the residences of Mrs. Larkam and Mr. A. J. Compton, and afterwards went to the Club Room for dinner, where a capital meal was put on the tables by Mr. Read, of the White Hart Inn.

The band discoursed sweet music during the afternoon. The company received a pleasant surprise by the visit of the Member, Mr. L. L. MORSE, who spoke a few words to them respecting old age pensions.

During the evening dancing was freely enjoyed. The festivities were continued on Tuesday, the only attractions other than those referred to being a cocoa-nut-stand and a fruit stall.

The balance sheet of the Society shows that at the end of 1907 the members on the books numbered 81. Of these 24 had been sick, the amount spent in their relief being £28 2s. One claim on the funeral fund had necessitated a levy of 1s. per member. The total contributions to the sick fund amounted to £53 0s. 6d., and the payments therefrom to £41 16s. 5½d., leaving a gain on the year of £11 4s. 0½d. The cash in hand at the end of the year was £153, which was an increase of £20 during the twelve months.

## Rambling with Jazzie in the Spring

At last the sun is shining again, really brightly, and the rain has stopped. Jazzie is very happy and enjoying it all, basking in the sun and fresh grass. The lawn has been mown twice in one week, it had grown so long over the winter. The daffs are at their best looking really great, longer than before and more of them. We are very lucky, enjoying about 8 different sorts of daff, which makes a lovely colourful background.



Walking is still a problem as we have been so busy getting a new car this week, and as usual, very busy with the surgery and hospital. All seems to be going well at the moment, while we await the reading from a PET CT scan. However, we did enjoy Mother's Day and Paddy's Day with usual gusto, and a Guinness or two!



Meanwhile the hedgehogs have returned to enjoy the food at night. We have seen both adults and young over the past month, as Jazzie finds them in the dark, and 'points' them out to me. She then tries to get them moving, ending with a sore nose! They seem fine, and maybe are using our hutches again.

Work seems to be starting on the Farmers Aisle roof, and it will obviously take some time to complete. Nonetheless, we continue to use the church much as before.

Another excellent talk in the Village Hall by Francis Taylor on DNA was very well supported and had us all spellbound. After several interesting questions, I think we all had learnt a lot about how DNA indicated the early movement of mankind. We now look forward to the next offering from Jerry Smith on the secure removal of Saddam Hussein's Chemical weapons. Sure to be another enlightening and fascinating evening. We owe all our speakers, all from the Village, many thanks for their efforts to raise funds for the Farmer's Aisle Roof Fund. Thank you all.

And finally, the great organisation of Wiltshire Council Highways department have been hard at work, getting the road surface cleaned to allow better tyre grip. Very good of them, BUT WHAT ABOUT ALL THE POT HOLES? Surely, they are of higher priority than cosmetic surface care? When they do get around to filling in the holes, they will only upset all the new surface, which will have to be done again. Very interesting planning!!

Well plenty to get on with, and now it is time to get back in the garden, and then go for a Jazzie walk to see the horses! Enjoy the good weather.

*(JHST 20.03.26)*



**Broad Chalke Open Gardens is back this year by popular demand!**

## **SAVE THE DATE - SUNDAY 7th JUNE 2026**

By kind permission of their owners, a varied selection of Broad Chalke's gardens will be opening to the public on **Sunday 7 June from midday to 5.30 pm.**

Entry to all participating gardens cost only £8 per person and children for free.

Entry Tickets will be on sale on the day at the Village Hall

- where Tea & Cakes will also be on sale all afternoon.



**Proceeds** this year will be split between the Village Hall refurbishment project and Broad Chalke-based CRESS - supporting Christian refugees in Africa.

**Please** come along to support these good causes, explore some lovely English gardens, and enjoy a traditional English Tea!

**Further details** will be published in the nearer the time. In the meantime, contact Ashley & Jenny Truluck at [mail@broadchalke.net](mailto:mail@broadchalke.net) for further information.

## Memories of a Bishopstone Childhood

*This is taken from 'Memories of my Childhood: Bishopstone 1913-1924' by Ted Compton. Born Edmund Albert Compton, Ted was born in Bishopstone in 1913 and died in 2005. His book of memories was passed to Canon Hendry in 2007. Sections of this booklet will be reproduced in STaB over the coming months.*

In place of peaceful Edwardian England with its golden summers came a time of what Winston Churchill later called "blood, toil, tears and sweat" from which few returned. During the next four years fifteen young men from Bishopstone lost their lives. Young farm workers who had never been farther from home than Salisbury found themselves in a world of noise, destruction and death.

These men were the best of their generation and Bishopstone was a poorer place for their loss. We can never know what grief and loneliness was felt by the women and girls who loved them.

*"Rachel weeping for her children and would not be comforted because they are not"*

A tombstone in Bishopstone Church bears the words –

*"Also of Charles Rowden Aged 20.  
Killed at Ypres 1915"*

I started school in 1918 the last year of the war. The school was of solid grey stone built in 1848. I was happy enough in the lower two classes but when the time came to go into the top class it was a different matter. The Headmaster Mr Druitt had been a P.O.W. in Germany. He was a good teacher but had a violent temper and seemed to find pleasure in using the cane for quite small offences.

My home for the first eleven years of my life was Pitts House which was joined to the shop and bakehouse.

At the back of the house there was a yard with a shed for the breadvan (the horse's stable was down the lane). There was also a wood-house, a pigsty complete with 3 pigs and a small field which contained a chicken run.

The chicken run contained an arbour of rambler roses and a variety of fruit trees, apple cherry and plum. The branches of the plum tree were nailed to the bakehouse wall – I can still remember the taste of a ripe sun-warmed plum from this tree.

Most families kept pigs in those days to produce the bacon which formed a large part of country – peoples’ diet and most villages had a pig killer. When a pig was killed this expert Albert Penny arrived – he was also Sexton at Bishopstone Church – a grim looking man in a sacking apron and a leather bag for his knives and a steel for sharpening them. The pig killing stool was brought out – a heavy wooden stool with short thick legs made by the local carpenter. The pig destined for sacrifice was dragged out protesting vigorously and laid on the stool. When Albert Penny began his gruesome task the whole village would know what was happening by the unfortunate animal’s squeals. When the pig was dead it was put on a pile of straw which was lighted to burn off the bristles. It was then scraped and washed and hung head downwards in a cool place, later to be salted and smoked.

He had two cats called Piccadilly and Tipperary after the war-time song.

Hubert Wheeler who had served in the Coldstream Guards during the Boer War called his dog Kronje after a Boer General.

## A Plea regarding Dogs

This week alone, two members of my family have had a problem with dogs in the village. Earlier this week I was running up Crouchston Drove when a dog aggressively lunged at me, ignoring the shouts of its owner. It was not on a lead. I am not terribly comfortable with many dogs due to being chased and bitten by a dog as a child, so found this unpleasant and frightening.

Today, my 8 year old son was chased up a road by a loudly barking dog, who had run out of its drive as we walked past. My son was understandably scared and upset by this. I really don’t want him to inherit my fear of dogs, but it’s difficult when things like this happen.

Earlier this year, both my sons were blocked from walking through a public footpath by two loudly barking dogs who had escaped from their garden. The boys very sensibly took an alternative route home, but were a bit shaken by the experience as the dogs were loud and appeared aggressive.

I’m purposely not being specific about dogs and places, because this isn’t to apportion blame to anyone in particular. I’m sure all the owners concerned would assure me that their dogs were ‘friendly’, and wouldn’t hurt anyone, but this is not convincing when you’re being barked at and chased. And some people just don’t like dogs as much as you do! If you own a reactive dog who barks or runs at passers-by, however much you trust that they would not hurt anyone, please, please keep it on a lead, and if at home keep it securely contained.

*Kate Pendleton*

## Wellspring Christian Community

Wellspring is a midweek morning meeting of people who enjoy being part of an informal Christian community.

It's a place where faith grows, deep friendships are formed, and the ups and downs of life can be shared.

It's a sociable and relaxed morning with members coming from different denominations and different villages up and down the Chalke Valley

10 am-12 noon in Broad Chalke Village Hall SP5 5DN, most Tuesdays in term time. Includes sung worship, a Christian speaker, and a half hour coffee and cake break with a lot of chatting!.

If you'd like to try us out, just turn up on any of the following dates this term:

**April 28th**

**May 5th**

**May 12th**

**June 2nd**

**June 16th**

**June 30th**

**July 7th.....we'd love to meet you.**

***Wellspring has the blessing of The Chalke Valley Clergy Team***

## Village Hall Talk

On Friday 6th March Francis Taylor gave a fascinating talk on DNA Who we are and where do we come from.

*Alix Ricketts*



## Police Bulletin

*A monthly newsletter from  
Philip Wilkinson, Police and Crime  
Commissioner for Wiltshire.*



Last week, Wiltshire again demonstrated the strength of a united South West approach to tackling organised crime. Operation Scorpion brought together all five regional police forces, Police and Crime Commissioners, SWROCU and British Transport Police in a coordinated effort to disrupt drug supply and protect vulnerable people from exploitation. With Wiltshire Police leading this phase, the focus was on Class A drug supply and its clear links to missing children and child criminal exploitation.

Across Wiltshire, officers arrested 26 individuals, safeguarded 24 people and visited 52 cuckooed addresses, removing around £380,000 worth of drugs and more than £22,000 in cash from criminal networks. These results are more than enforcement statistics - each reflects harm prevented, a vulnerable person supported, or an organised crime group disrupted.

I was pleased to welcome Policing Minister Sarah Jones MP to Trowbridge during the week of action, where she saw firsthand the professionalism of Wiltshire Police as they executed a warrant linked to County Lines. As I said at the time, this phase of Operation Scorpion shows the real impact of a coordinated South West approach. Wiltshire's leadership has delivered strong results and vital safeguarding.

The week also highlighted why locally rooted forces matter. Wiltshire Police acted quickly and precisely because of the strong relationships it holds with communities and partner agencies. Enforcement was only one part of the work. Officers visited schools across the county, speaking to nearly a thousand young people about exploitation and how to seek help. This early intervention plays a crucial role in preventing criminal networks from gaining a foothold in young people's lives. Alongside this, teams worked with hotels, police cadets and local services to raise awareness of exploitation and identify those at risk.

Protecting vulnerable people remains at the heart of this work. Organised crime groups rely on fear, silence and manipulation. By increasing awareness and supporting early reporting, we make Wiltshire a harder place for them to operate. Operation Scorpion shows again that our region is strongest when it stands together, and we will continue working to keep our communities safe.



# Easter Egg Hunt Word Find

Find and circle the words.

H E B O B G V L T D  
 R E H G F K R O F H B M  
 S N U E S G W M U E Y M L H  
 I I D Z N L J H Z V N I S I N N  
 U H W U A Y T P O U C S C P L G L C  
 D S U M E L S U P T N N H O H Y R J K W  
 H N O A B F W B D I R Z G T H Z H C S M V G  
 J U H C Y R C L C S J E I R W W C A G C T M I P  
 S N P L E A Z E R Y V A I A D T N P C H P J K E  
 T D L T G P X B L K S T N S M C J P W O D T N I  
 O E T G M G R C B E M S A S U P W Y O C B U U L  
 J U E O G F K V Y L B A T J I T A E H O E L U G  
 B M K D E C O R A T E R X J W X H A Y L R I G H  
 V W Z J Z I A L N O S H A O V L M S O A X P S B  
 Z E I Z R B A S K E T L S T S S C T A T M S T K  
 O T R A D I T I O N L I K T I V M E J E R F V M  
 X M Z T G U K N O W V C W O M O E R X E O D U D  
 H U O K B J Y I S I D E T P U N B W O E O N  
 O H I R U O G H K W J G F M S O H Y V P  
 P N K C N C F I J N D M S L C D T N  
 A E I Y N O N I O G B F S N P B  
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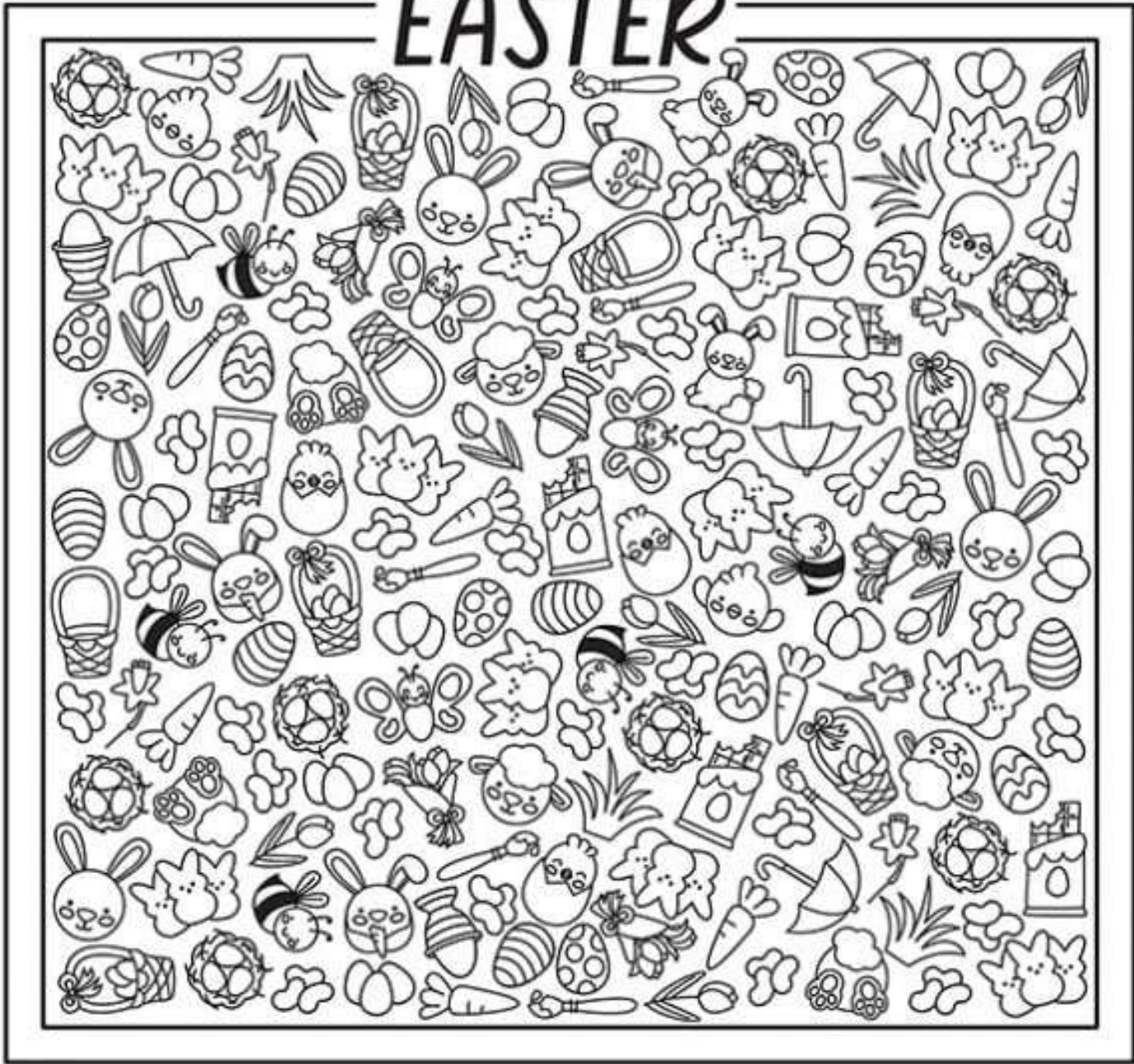
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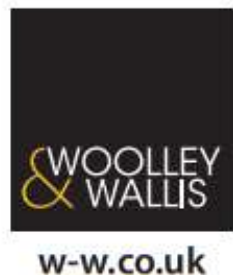
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Did you know that you can buy shares in the Chalke Valley Stores? You can buy as many or as few as you want, £10 being the cost of one share.

There is no dividend for the individual, but you are investing in a priceless Community project; to help the shop keep up with running repairs and buy new equipment .

You will be kept informed of any major changes and being a shareholder entitles you to vote at the AGM.

Anyone in the Chalke Valley can buy these, we even have one or two who live further afield.

If you are interested there will be some forms in the shop, or you can email Terry Jolly at: [terry.jolly23@gmail.com](mailto:terry.jolly23@gmail.com)

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We are a family run football club in our first playing season we won Wiltshire FA Grassroots Club of the Year 2022/23.

We have youth teams from Under 7's-U16's which all train locally to Salisbury playing in Leagues across all the Counties.

We also have Little Hotspires that starts from Age 4 (no child can play competitive football until they reach 6)

**If anyone is looking for a new team for your child, please get in touch experience or no experience we want to give all Boys and Girls the opportunity to enjoy this sport.**

All our Coaches have level 1 and 2 FA Coaching Certificates, all have Enhanced FA DBS, FA Safe Guarding Children Certificates and All have FA First Aid Certificates.

**The Exciting news-** We are bringing back football to Chalke Valley Sports Centre with our Men's Team playing Saturday afternoons in the Dorset football league, we have just been promoted to Division 3 and very keen on having players join us from the Village for Next Season.

Our Men's team Train at Sarum Academy 3G Pitch on Thursdays 8-9pm.

**If anyone is interested in joining the men's team, want to come along or want to know any more details please contact us.**



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Playschool  
Broad Chalke**

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PLAYSCHOOL**

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We provide childcare for children aged 9 months to 11 years.



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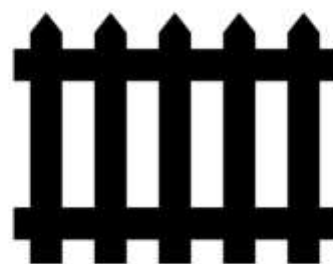


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#### ***Request from the Editorial Team:***

*If you use any of the services advertised here in STaB please do let them know that you found them/their details here in the magazine.*

*This helps them to know that their advertising is working, and helps us to continue to receive revenue from advertising fees.*

*Also, if you know of any local businesses that might be interested in advertising with us, please do pass on our details to them.*

*Our advertising editor, Rob, works hard to secure us new advertisers. STaB couldn't exist without the revenue brought in by adverts, and we hope that the magazine is an effective way for local businesses to advertise as we reach over 300 homes in the parish, plus being published on the Bishopstone village website.*



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Prices below are per annum in bold. There is a significant discount for advertisers who choose to pay for all ten editions in advance.

<b>Full page (A5)</b>  13x19cm  <b>£120 per annum</b>	<b>Half page</b>  13x9.5cm  <b>£75 per annum</b>	<b>Quarter page</b> <b>Portrait</b> 6.5x9.5cm  <b>£40 per annum</b>	<b>Quarter page</b> <b>Landscape 13x5cm</b>  <b>£40 per annum</b>
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One off/occasional advertisements will cost slightly more per issue as follows:

<i>Full Page: £15.00 per issue</i>	<i>Half Page: £9.00 per issue</i>	<i>Quarter Page: £5.00 per issue</i>
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### How to place your ad in STaB

1. Make a .pdf, .jpeg, or Word file of your ad, making sure it is the correct size for publication (see table of sizes and prices above) and that it will reproduce well in black and white. We cannot design or make advertisements for you.
2. E-mail the file to Rob Pendleton (stabads@outlook.com), stating which of the above sizes you would like.
3. The deadline for publication is the 20th of each month. Please send ad as early as possible as the e-mails will not be checked daily. If you do not send a new ad by this date, we will use the most up to date version we have.
4. When you have placed your order, you will receive an invoice with details of payment by cheque or bank transfer. Please pay within 14 days and make sure you include your reference number and business name. Donations are also always welcome.
5. The Editor reserves the right to edit all contributions.

### How to pay:

Cheques: Please write your <u>invoice number</u> on the back	Bank transfer: Please use <u>your name &amp; invoice number</u> for reference
Payable to: Bishopstone Parochial Church Council Send to: The Treasurer, Ebble Cottage, Mill Lane, Bishopstone, SP5 4BG	Bank: Lloyds TSB Sort Code: 30-97-41 Account Number: 00665145 Account Name: PCC Bishopstone Church

Terms – payment within 14 days

Queries:

Rob Pendleton, STaB Advertising: Email: [stabads@outlook.com](mailto:stabads@outlook.com)

## BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

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Piers Edwards (Vice Chairman)	01722 780079
Norman Barter	01722 780471
Wendy Prior	07873306940
Michael Pratt	07798 607742
<b>Parish Clerk</b>	
Graham Hill Corn Pitt House, Flamstone Street, Bishopstone, Salisbury, SP5 4BZ	07745 932706 <a href="mailto:clerk@bishopstone-pc.gov.uk">clerk@bishopstone-pc.gov.uk</a>
Further information is on the village website: <a href="http://www.bishopstone-salisbury.co.uk">www.bishopstone-salisbury.co.uk</a>	

## THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Treasurer - Francis Taylor	780316
Secretary - Sue Grantham	07873 596310
Entertainments - Sue Taylor	780316
Event bookings - Caroline Ash	781044
Hall bookings - Margaret Barter	780471
Hall maintenance - Nigel Peasley	07761 463737
Member - Andy Stocker	780956

*The Village Hall is an important resource and offers a venue for a wide variety of events for the benefit of all. The Hall is supported by a large group of dedicated local people in addition to the Committee. We hope you will support events whenever you can and if you would like to join the wider group of Friends of the Village Hall then please contact any member of the committee.*



FLOOD WARDENS	
West - Nigel Peasley	07761 463737
East - Michael Pratt	07798 607742
Emergency Planning - Piers Edwards	07920 475009



## Services in Chalke Valley Benefice: April 2026

BCP = Book of Common Prayer (Traditional Language), CW = Common Worship (Contemporary Language)



<b>2 April MAUNDY THURSDAY</b>	6.00pm	Commemoration of the Last Supper (CW)	Bishopstone	Ruth H-S
<b>3 April  GOOD FRIDAY</b>	11.00am 12 noon 12 noon 2.00pm	St John's Passion Stations of the Cross The Passion Devotions At the Foot of the Cross	Alvediston Berwick St John Bishopstone Nunton	Lay Led Alison Waterhouse Sally Leaver Maggie Metcalfe
<b>4 April EASTER EVE</b>	6.00pm 7.00pm	Easter Fire & Communion Easter Eve Service	Homington Charlton All Saints	Alison Waterhouse Ruth H-S
<b>5 April EASTER DAY </b>	6.00am 8.00am 9.30am 9.30am 9.30am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 11.00am 11.00am	Dawn Communion (CW) Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion (CW) Parish Communion (CW) Parish Communion (CW) Parish Communion (CW) Parish Communion (CW) Parish Communion (CW) Parish Communion (CW) Parish Communion (CW) Family Communion (CW)	Lodge Farmhouse Fifield Bavant Broad Chalke Bowerchalke Britford Odstock Coombe Bissett Berwick St John Ebbesbourne Wake Bishopstone	Alison Waterhouse Maggie Metcalfe Alison Waterhouse Kate Woolven Maggie Metcalfe Ruth H-S Ruth H-S Alison Waterhouse Kate Woolven Maggie Metcalfe
<b>12 April 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>	9.30am 9.30am 10.30am 11.00am 11.00am 11.00am 3.00pm	Parish Communion (CW) Morning Prayer (BCP) Worship Together Family Communion (CW) Parish Communion (CW) All Age Service Evening Prayer (BCP)	Bowerchalke Charlton All Saints Broad Chalke Hub Nunton Homington Alvediston Fifield Bavant	Alison Waterhouse Ruth H-S Janet Roe Maggie Metcalfe Ruth H-S Biddy Trahair Biddy Trahair
<b>19 April 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>	9.30am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 4.00pm 4.00pm	Parish Communion (CW) Parish Communion (CW) Family Communion (CW) Parish Communion (CW) Sunday Praise Sunday Praise	Bishopstone Odstock Ebbesbourne Wake Berwick St John Coombe Bissett Bowerchalke	Ruth H-S Jenny Taylor Alison Waterhouse Ruth H-S Lay Led Kate Woolven
<b>26 April 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>	9.30am 10.00am 11.00am 11.00am 11.00am 6.00pm	Parish Communion (CW) 175 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Communion (CW) Parish Communion (CW) Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Prayer (BCP) Evening Prayer	Broad Chalke Charlton All Saints Bishopstone Alvediston Berwick St John Homington	Alison Waterhouse Bishop of Ramsbury Tony Monds Alison Waterhouse Lay Led Ruth H-S
<b>3 May 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>	9.30am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion (CW) Morning Prayer (BCP) Parish Communion (CW) Family Service Morning Service	Berwick St John Britford Ebbesbourne Wake Coombe Bissett Odstock Bishopstone	Ruth H-S Jenny Taylor Biddy Trahair Ruth H-S Adrian Taylor Sally Leaver

**Ministry Team:**

Team Rector ~ The Revd Dr Ruth Howlett-Shipleigh: 01722 697022

Team Vicar ~ The Revd Alison Waterhouse: 07904 034221 / 01722 697404

Associate Priests ~ The Revd Maggie Metcalfe: 01722 325825, The Revd Kate Woolven: 07754 582395

Team Administrator ~ Mrs Emily Broomhead: 07890 262376

Assisting Clergy: The Revd Canons: Anthony Hawley 01794 390607, Tony Monds 07808 614597, Jenny Taylor: 01722 503081

Lay Worship Leaders: Angela Bridges: 01747 828383, Yvonne & Kevin Follett: 01747 897457, Caroline Lamb: 01722 780789, Sally Leaver: 01722 780447, Don Morgan: 01722 718557, Adrian Taylor: 01722 325862, Janet Roe: 01725 519242, Biddy Trahair: 01722 780666, Rhoddy Voremborg: 07785 304142, James Wardroper: 01722 718152