

News and Notes

For Bodenham, Britford, Charlton All Saints, Nunton and Odstock

October 2026

Welcome to the October edition of News and Notes. This is the time of year when thoughts turn to the excitements of autumn such as Bonfire Night, the run up to Christmas and of course, once again, to the joyous business of Pantomime. 'Dick Whittington and his Cat' is being performed in the Radnor Hall 26-28 November by the Radnor Hall Players who'd love to have your support! Come along and join the fun, & enjoy a hot main course generously provided by the Radnor Arms in the interval, and pudding, & drinks as usual from our very own Radnor Hall bar. See inside for ticket details. Volunteers to help in the kitchen are needed, please contact Nick or Liz via the editors' email.

Don't forget to add to your diary the incredible Bonfire Bash at Charlton All Saints on Saturday 7 November. There will be fab fireworks, hearty hot dogs and marvellous mulled wine. Ticket details inside.

The Britford Harvest festival will be held on 4 October, the very first Sunday of October. Please note that if you wish to go to the harvest lunch afterwards, you need to ring the organisers by Thursday 1 October so catering can be organised appropriately, so please do make contact very promptly. Offers of help would also be much appreciated. See poster on page 4 for more information.

On 1 December there's a special showing of The People's Emergency Briefing at the Radnor Hall, followed by a short, facilitated discussion. This is a film by naturalist Chris Packham along with other experts including a military general, ecologists and logistics specialists - all being pretty frank about where things are heading. But just imagine how useful it could be if after getting the measure of their message we sat down together as a community and worked out what we can do next to boost local resilience and preparedness. This is the whole idea behind this film, not to be alarmist but to get us talking together about our own locality. Local farmers will also be there to tell us about changes they've already made.

If you are concerned about climate change, this film will be of interest to you, and if you are not concerned about it then you might also want to consider seeing it because it gives significant food for thought. Minimum age 16. Come along and make up your own mind! Tickets must be booked in advance, adults £2, students £1, see inside for details.

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Deadline for November edition: 14 October 2026

Contact editor@newsandnotes.net

The Radnor Hall Players proudly present

Dick Whittington and his Cat



A pantomime written by Nunton resident Alys Hunter
Directed by Nick Stanger

IN THE RADNOR HALL

Thu 26 – Sat 28 November 7.30pm, Matinée Sat 28 Nov 2.30pm

Tickets will be available from November 1, see N&N website

Evening show £20 to include a 2 course meal

Matinée £10 for adults & £5 under 16s to include tea and cake

Huge thanks to the Radnor Arms for generously cooking the hot main course

- all proceeds in aid of Radnor Hall funds

Foil Blister Pack Collection Date

Tuesday 3 Nov 2026

Britford Notice board (Church) 09:30-09:45

Bodenham Old Post Office 09:50-10:00

Charlton All Saints Church collection box 10:15

Odstock Church Car Park 10:30-11:15

N&N Delivery in Nunton- update

Piers and Gillian Nicholson have kindly agreed to take over delivering News and Notes to the area of Nunton previously covered by Kate Bullen. Welcome to the team and thank you for being so helpful; it is very much appreciated! And many thanks to Kate for her years of helping and to all our wonderful delivery team for their work through the seasons, getting this to you.



Men Matters at the City Hall on Saturday 10 October from 10:00 am to 12:00 midday.

organised by Safer and Supportive Salisbury (SASS), following on from a highly successful inaugural event in 2025 where over 200 people attended.

Find out about everything from **getting active and stopping smoking to sexual health, gambling support and money worries.**

There will also be information about **peer support groups, caring responsibilities, friendship and social opportunities, veterans' groups, talking therapies and youth support**, alongside much more.

The event provides an easy, no-pressure way to explore what's out there – without having to make a big commitment or admit that something is wrong.

Would you like to become a Chalke Valley Link Driver?

Many of our older residents find they are unable to drive ourselves to appointments. We need more volunteer drivers for the CVLS to help them get there and back.

If you could help us, please ring Debby, Jenny or Geoff on 07795620812 for more details

Harvest Service at St Peter's Church Britford

on Sunday 4 October at 11 o'clock.

Followed by a harvest lunch at the
McCoy's Barn next to Britford church at 12:30

Donations in cash and produce
to Morning Star and St Peter's Church.

Please let Shelagh (07917 195242) or
Sarah (07586 606422) know if you can
come and with offers of help
by Thursday 1st October.

Come, join in, be generous and have fun

Everyone is welcome.



BONFIRE BASH

**Saturday 7 November
at 6pm**

Charlton All Saints Barn

**Tickets from Chris Clark
01725 510891**

**or online
newsandnotes.net**



Early Bird by 5 Nov	Standard 6-7 Nov
Adults £10	Adults £12
Kids 5-14 £5	Kids 5-14 £6

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but we do need notice please!

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Odstock Nunton and Bodenham WI



Caernarfon Castle built 1283 under the orders of King Edward 1 of England.

After the summer break we met in the Radnor Hall in September and were welcomed by our President who told us that the usual book, lunch and walking clubs will be restarting shortly. We held a Bric-a-Brac stall during the morning.

Our speaker was Nick Griffiths, talking about Castles. He told us that the first castles in Britain were wooden, built on mounds from 1066 onwards by William the Conqueror. He built around 700 in the following 10 years to help keep control of the lands he had conquered. Unfortunately, they burnt down easily so he soon started building in stone. He himself lived in a stone castle in Normandy. He also founded the Tower of London in late 1066, with the iconic stone White Tower beginning construction around 1078 and finishing around 1100.

Castles built by the Normans became larger, like Dover and Caernarfon Castles. The last castle to be built in Wiltshire was Old Wardour Castle, started in 1393. Nick informed us that Longford Castle is not considered a Castle but a Stately Home. Our next meeting is on October 12th, our speaker is Judith Hible talking about the Ecology of Downland and Wildlife Gardening, to be followed by our Autumn Lunch.

🌸 TREASURER WANTED 🌸

Odstock, Nunton & Bodenham WI

We are looking for a friendly and organised person to join our committee as **Treasurer**. You don't need to be an accountant! Just someone who is happy to keep a simple record of our finances, deal with payments and receipts, and help keep our WI accounts in order.

It's a great opportunity to get involved with our friendly WI and be part of the committee.

Interested or would like to know more?

Contact Sarah Pink at pinksarah2025@hotmail.com

🌸 **Come and be part of our WI!** 🌸



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Just One (Green) Thing

“A Society grows great when old men plant trees in whose shade they know they will never sit.”



This ancient saying, probably from our old friend Cicero, seems meant as a metaphor for selflessness, but also for the interconnectedness within a community and up & down its generations. I love how the ancients in Rome (a hot country) all those centuries ago nailed the idea not only of planting trees around their communities and peristyles (shaded central courtyards) for cooling but also recognized how interconnected working makes us stronger and greater. They realized that contributing to the public good wasn't just about doing good things for immediate gains but investing for years and decades to come. Might it be that there has never been a more important time for our community to do the same?

I was very struck by a recent article in The Times describing some of the benefits of community tree planting in cities like Medellin in S America. Trees turn out to be astonishingly good as cooling systems, reversing the intolerable oven-like effect of relentless hot sunshine on tarmac, brick and concrete as well as improving air quality. The shade they provide and the green biome that comes with them has provided huge, measurable gains for the physical and mental health of residents, with temperatures dropping by 5 °C in more shaded areas and 2 °C in open streets. They no longer need to turn up their air-conditioning units, an action which only has the disastrous effect of increasing the street temperature still further. As well as which unlike the air con, trees consume CO₂ rather than emitting more of it, and you don't have to pay for electricity to run them.

We in the UK have had a very hot couple of summers and we are told global warming is no longer so much a possibility as a fact. Some crops haven't done so well this year, the grass went brown, and some of my well-established garden plants didn't survive the drought. We don't have air-conditioning in our house and needless to say became swelteringly hot during the heatwaves. We rigged up some exterior window coverings to



shade the glass in true Heath Robinson style which worked pretty well. But now that the season for planting trees is coming up, I'm considering planting a couple more deciduous trees that tolerate drought & chalk; giving shade in summer & allowing warming sunshine in winter.

I rather fancy fresh figs in the summer, although fig trees in their early seasons need watering. Or how about an olive? Crab apples and hawthorn also tolerate chalk and drought, and with the right variety their crown will be wide enough to give you pleasant, cooling shade. It's worth remembering that house foundations don't do well with interference from roots & most of us in the villages here also need to avoid root disturbance around our drains and septic tanks, so don't plant too close!

In parts of the USA, with its hot summers, a house with a mature tree in the garden may be worth thousands of dollars more than one without. I wonder if that will happen here? Either way, planting trees makes a lot of sense. Generations yet to come may thank you for it!

Liz Stanger



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Please get in touch for more details

People's Emergency Briefing

On the climate and nature crisis

Bodenham



Film screening and discussion

The Radnor Hall
1 December 2026 6.30pm

newsandnotes.net/event-list

Chris Packham is well known for bringing environmental issues to a wide audience, combining scientific information with an accessible and engaging style. *The People's Emergency Briefing* continues that approach, presenting a concise introduction to some of the key issues surrounding our changing climate and ecology. A short, facilitated group discussion will follow the film about what steps we all think locally might be helpful, along with a few words about some of the changes our local farmers have already made to adapt to hotter, drier summers.

The aim of the film is not in any way to be alarmist but rather to stimulate discussion within communities about their resilience, and the measures that could be taken to boost it. For example, the government is already suggesting we all keep extra tins of food and bottled water at home in case of power outages or other crises.

A whole-of-society approach is strongest, building on community interconnectedness, and for this reason the film is only being shown to community groups together, rather than on TVs at home. Screenings have already taken place all over the country, including in dozens of other Wiltshire towns and villages. (You can see on-line where these and others are.)

Minimum age 16y. Entry by ticket, £2 adults/ £1 students.
Doors open 6.30, film starts 7pm.

newsandnotes.net/event-details/peoples-emergency-briefing

Focus on Food - a letter from West Wales

Fine dining in West Wales

There's certainly no shortage of great food on offer down here in West Wales. There's an abundance of great chefs popping up on a regular basis. In August I enjoyed the Michelin starred delights offered up by Tom Simmons whose restaurant in Cardiff was voted best restaurant in Wales in 2026. He's taken over Tides restaurant in Newport for the whole of August and with a five-course tasting menu going out at £80, he's sold out the entire month.

We started with home baked bread and roast chicken butter alongside whipped cod's roe and caviar, which I washed down with a foamy margarita, not on the pairing list but I thought I deserved it. Second up was a sweet chestnut and mushroom parfait with pickled shimeji, black garlic and a toasted sourdough crunch. It was absolutely sublime, an experience beyond description, leaving a memory that will stay with me for the rest of my days.

I Googled it the next day with a view to recreating it for friends. Step one of the 15 step instructions was to combine 375ml each of port, madeira and brandy, along with 500gm shallots and 40gm cater sugar and cook over a low heat for 45 minutes, reducing it to a jammy consistency then set aside. That will give you enough for 8 portions and suddenly £80 for 5 courses started to feel like a bargain. You start preparing the dish 48 hours before it's served. That was followed with a St Brides lobster ravioli, truffled leeks and lobster bisque, a Packington chicken breast with pancetta and leg boudin, and to complete the meal a dark chocolate Cremeux with Caramelia Namelaka and salted hazelnuts.

In July the London based restaurant Trullo popped up at Fforest, a venue with a beautiful wooden barn, surrounded by its vegetable, herb and flower gardens, set in an exquisite bird sanctuary on the banks of the river Teifi, just opposite Cardigan, about 20 minutes away. I think we were all feeling very spoiled as we delicately addressed the starter of monkfish carpaccio with locally foraged sea herbs and bottarga. Bottarga is a cured grey mullet roe, for those who, like me, had to Google it. It comes in at £300 a kilo from the Fine Fish Society.

September saw us booked in again at Fforest, to savour the bounty provided by another Michelin -starred, London based, Welsh chef Tomos Parry bringing his restaurants Brat & Mountain to West Wales for two nights. They work closely with local growers and foragers, and the menu isn't fully signed off until they see what's on offer the day before. We might be out in the sticks down here, but we certainly don't feel left out of the action. If you fancy an indulgent weekend in Pembrokeshire, you couldn't do better than checking this out [fforest - Jonathan Woolway](#) who's popping up the weekend of 16 October.

Of course, it all brings back fond memories of the guest chef pop ups we used to do at Bread and Flowers back in the day, happy memories indeed.

Martin Simcock



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Contact Daphne Ince daphneince3719@gmail.com or 01722 782532

Volunteers Needed

to listen & talk with patients at SDH to improve their emotional wellbeing and speed recovery

3 hours per week

Contact Liz Beadle, Stars Appeal Engage Co-ordinator,
Department of Clinical Psychology, Salisbury District Hospital
Telephone: 01722 425105 or email: sft.engage@nhs.net

Rockbourne Fair, in aid of the Stars Appeal

- Wednesday 14 October: 10am - 5pm
- Thursday 15 October: 10am - 7.30pm (*Late-Night Shopping*)
- Friday 16 October: 10am - 3pm

Venue: Salisbury Racecourse, SP2 8PN

Entry: £6 per person (*Special £3 entry after 6pm on Thursday*)

Free parking available For more information, visit www.rockbournefair.org.uk

Add your Salisbury Story to 800th Anniversary Book

Salisbury City Council is inviting people with a connection to Salisbury to share their stories for a special book, *The People's Story*, marking Salisbury's 800th anniversary. Stories could highlight a personal experience, a contribution to city life, hopes for Salisbury's future or a reflection on what Salisbury means to you.

Share your story by 1 December 2026. Submissions are now open, see [Salisbury City Council's Salisbury 800 webpage](#).



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News from the Pews

Odstock and Nunton

The summer wasn't kind to our church organs. It appears that some of the mechanisms rely upon leather membranes that completely dried out in the hot weather and caused both organs to sound somewhat cranky! The solution was humidifying the air around the organs with cloths draped into buckets of water and hey presto, both organs are as good as new. Which was a bonus for our Harvest Celebration at the end of September, funds and donations raised were given to the Salisbury Food Bank. St Mary's Church has a problematic heating system. We are working with the diocese to find solutions to this before winter so please bear with us if the church is a little chilly during October.

We continue to hold meetings on Monday afternoons between 3.30 and 5pm, quaintly named 'Curious Christians' as we share our questions and thoughts about both the bible and our faith. Please contact Stephanie Elcock if you would like to know more (stephanie.elcock@gmail.com).

Our CreativiTea sessions are always a pleasure to attend on the third Thursday of the month in the Barker Room from 2-4pm. All welcome, with or without a craft! Tea, cake and conversation are the only requirements.

We had many visitors from all over the diocese on the annual Ride and Stride event on 12th September which raises money for both local parishes and the Wiltshire historic churches trust. The churches are regularly open in daylight hours for anyone to visit and find a quiet space for reflection.

Stephanie Elcock and Mary Boydcamps, Churchwardens

Charlton All Saints

Many thanks to everyone who helped decorate the church for Harvest, and to all who made our Harvest Supper such an entertaining evening. The Larder in Downton was delighted to receive our Tower of Tins, and a good time was had by all.

We're delighted to have started an ongoing partnership with The Larder at Downton Baptist Church, which provides food to anyone in need, no questions asked. From now on there will be a permanent collection box at the back of church for long-life items such as dried pasta and tinned sauces, to be passed on to The Larder throughout the year — do keep an eye out for it and donate if you can.

Following on from the successful launch of the **Saintly Café**, our second date for your diary is **Friday 30 October, 10am-12noon**. Come along for coffee, cake, and a natter.

Our annual **Bonfire Bash is back on Saturday 7 November from 6pm**, by kind invitation of Mr and Mrs Howard Taylor at Charlton Barn. It has become one of the village's best-attended events, with fireworks and a bonfire drawing visitors from neighbouring villages too. Tickets bought up to and including 5 November are £10 for adults and £5 for children aged 5-14; from 6 November, and on the night, prices rise to £12 for adults and £6 for children. Do come and join us for a wonderful village night out.

Lastly, we seem to have mislaid our portrait of the King. If anyone sees him out and about, please can they point him back to All Saints'!

Clare Penny, Churchwarden

Britford

We were treated to a wonderful concert by 'Allegra and Friends' in September. It was a rare privilege for us to hear such wonderful young musicians playing an exciting selection of music. Cello, Sax, recorder, trumpet and, of course, voice, resounded within the walls of St Peter's and hopefully beyond. We are hugely grateful to Allegra Sturgeon and her family for initiating and enabling this very special concert.

Pet service: The dogs and owners (no tortoise this year!) enjoyed this outdoor thanksgiving and blessing for pets and all sang along in their different ways. I am always amazed however how calm the animals are in these pet services - it is lovely to be with them! **Harvest Festival** is next - **Sunday 4 October 11am at St Peter's** - everyone is very welcome. Donations please in produce and cash. **Harvest Lunch in the McCoys Barn next to the church at 12.30 will follow** - do come along, just let Shelagh (07917 195242) or Sarah (07386 606422) know by Thursday 1 October so we can cater for you!

As ever, thanks to all who make these things happen. It is hoped that they contribute to the fun and enjoyment of the community and demonstrates the importance of having the church in the village, especially such an historic one.

Rev Maggie

Allegra Sturgeon, a 15 year old living in Britford, writes:

A **huge thank you** to my friends and all those who came to my Allegra and Friends concert in Britford on 5 September. We raised £42.20 for the Gurkha Welfare Trust and made a profit of £379.79 towards my trip to Nepal in October. An anonymous donor kindly matched the sums raised to give to Britford Church. Thank you! (more detail about this concert from Allegra in the e-version)

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**A number of people from the five villages have already visited,
we would love to see you down here.**

Harvest service

at St Peter's Church Britford

on Sunday 4 October
at 11 o'clock

Followed by a Harvest Lunch
— at The McCoy's Barn —

Everyone is welcome

Allegra & Friends Britford Concert

A **huge thank you** to my Friends and all those who came to my *Allegra and Friends* concert in Britford on 5 September. It lasted one hour and had fifteen short pieces ranging from my singing *Pie Jesu* from Faure's *Requiem*, to playing the second movement from Haydn's Trumpet Concerto, followed later by *Spanish Flea* made famous by Herb Alpert; my friend Kirsty playing *The Swan* by Saint Saens on her cello; Daisy Mills playing Telemann *Sonata No1 in F Major, Vivace and Largo* by George Telemann on her recorder; Harry Mills *La plus que Lente* by Debussy on Saxophone and Frederick Lumley the *Poirot* theme also on Sax- among other pieces!

My sister and I sang *Sisters* from *White Christmas* to finish. It was a lot of fun to do, and I hugely appreciate the support of all those who helped make it happen and were able to attend- and those who couldn't come too. Thank you. We raised £42.20 for the Gurkha Welfare Trust and made a profit of £379.79 towards my trip to Nepal in October. An anonymous donor kindly matched the sums raised to give to Britford Church. Thank you!

People's Emergency Briefing Screenings

The next local screening of the People's Emergency Briefing with a follow-on discussion takes place on Friday 9 October at Whiteparish Memorial Hall from 6:30pm. Please Share, thanks! To reserve a free seat go to <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/dicross/2360796>

Other local screenings in October are at: Salisbury: 21 Oct 2026 7:00pm Salisbury Quaker Meeting House, SP27EF Stratford-sub-Castle: 23 Oct 7:30pm Stratford-sub-Castle village hall (Nearly opposite the church) SP1 3LL To find details of and reserve seats at these or any of the other 1,000 or more Nation and now Europe wide go to <https://www.nebriefing.org/screening-map>

We are running a screening in The Radnor Hall on 1 December, details on page 9.



Services in East End of Chalke Valley Benefice October 2026



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

Sunday 4 October – 18th Sunday after Trinity

11.00 am 11.00 am	Harvest Festival Family Service	Britford Odstock	Maggie Metcalfe Adrian Taylor
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Sunday 11 October – 19th Sunday after Trinity

9.30 am 11.00 am	Morning Prayer (BCP) Family Communion (CW)	Charlton All Saints Nunton	Rhoddy Voremberg Maggie Metcalfe
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Sunday 18 October – 20th Sunday after Trinity

9.30 am	Parish Communion (CW)	Odstock	Jenny Taylor
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Sunday 25 October – 21st Sunday after Trinity

9.30 am 11.00 am	Parish Communion (CW) Family Service	Charlton All Saints Nunton	Ruth Howlett-Shipley Adrian Taylor
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Sunday 1 November – 22nd Sunday after Trinity

9.30 am 11.00 am	Parish Communion (CW) Family Service	Britford Odstock	Jenny Taylor Adrian Taylor
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Ministry Team	Team Rector	The Revd Dr Ruth Howlett-Shipley: 01722 697022 The Revd Alison Waterhouse: 01722 697404 and 07904 034221 The Revd Kate Woolven: 07754 582395 The Revd Maggie Metcalfe: 01722 325825 Mrs Emily Broomhead: 07890 262376 thechalkevalleychurches@gmail.com Jane Guy: 01722 781077
	Team Vicar	
	Associate Priests	
	Team Administrator	
	Safeguarding Officer	

Assisting Clergy	The Revd Canon Anthony Hawley: 01794 390607
	The Revd Canon Tony Monds: 07808 614597
	The Revd Canon Jenny Taylor 01722 503081
	The Revd Canon Vernon White 01722 327042

Lay Worship Leaders	Angela Bridges: 01747 828383, 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 Voremberg: 07785 304142, James Wardroper: 01722 718152
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BONFIRE BASH

**Saturday 7 November
at 6pm**

Charlton All Saints Barn

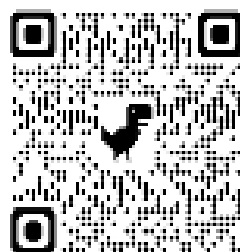
Tickets from

Chris Clark

01725 510891

or online

newsandnotes.net



**Early Bird
by 5 Nov**

**Standard
6-7 Nov**

Adults £10

Adults £12

Kids 5-14 £5

Kids 5-14 £6

**Bar with Beer & Mulled Wine
Fireworks * Hot dogs * Raffle**

Friends of Bishopstone Church
IN AID OF BISHOPSTONE CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

An Antiques Evening



Presented by **Jeremy Lamond**

The evening will be led by Jeremy Lamond,
Head of Valuations at Woolley & Wallis
Jeremy will begin with a presentation entitled:

A Day in the Life of an Auctioneer

This will be followed by a light supper
After which you will have the opportunity to show your family heirlooms for Jeremy to
discuss

(One item per household & NO jewellery please)

Friday 9th October at 7.30

Bishopstone Village Hall, SP5 4AA

Tickets **£12.50** to include a light supper and a cash & card bar



CONTACTS FOR TICKETS

Sarah Seal – theseal1@outlook.com

Tony Clarke – tonyclarke103@gmail.com





Do you heat your home with **oil**?

If you live in Wiltshire and you're struggling to afford heating oil, we might be able to help you.



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www.cse.org.uk/wsw

Warm and Safe Wiltshire is a free service from the Centre for Sustainable Energy.



Wiltshire Council

BISHOPSTONE VILLAGE HALL

OCTOBER 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 **8 and 22 October** and **5 and 19 November**.

Opening hours are from **10:30am to 12:00 noon**.

Refreshments are currently offered free of charge, with donations welcome. As ever, the bookshelves offer a wide range of titles available for a modest donation.

QUIZ EVENING

Saturday 24 October. Another classic quiz evening!

The cost is **£12.50** per head or £50.00 for a table of four. This includes supper, and a bar will be available. Guests booking individually will be joined with others to make up a team.

To make a booking, please contact Caroline Ash on 01722 781044 and advise of any dietary requirements for yourself or any guests.

MOVIOLA at Bishopstone

Friday 30 October

The film for October will be 'My Mother's Wedding'.

In this heartfelt and funny story, three sisters return to their childhood home for a momentous occasion: the third wedding of their twice-widowed mother. The family gathers to celebrate the new marriage, all with the help of unexpected wedding guests!

Starring: Kristin Scott Thomas and Scarlett Johansson

Doors open at **7.00pm** with the film beginning at **7.30pm**.

Admission 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/events.

The film for November will be '**The Christophers**' on **Friday 27 November**.

THE SUNSET CAFÉ STOMPERS

We are delighted to announce that, by popular request, the Sunset Café Stompers are returning to Bishopstone on **Saturday 21st November**.

Tickets are **£18** each with an optional supper available at an additional **£8** per person.
Doors and bar open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

Early booking is strongly advised as numbers are limited.

To make a booking, please contact Caroline Ash on 01722 781044 or Sue Taylor on 01722 780316 and advise of any dietary requirements if taking the supper.

BISHOPSTONE COMMUNITY LUNCHES

The first lunch of the season will be on **Wednesday 7 October**, when the guest speaker will be sign painter Aaron Stephens.

Times as usual: **12.00 noon for 12.30pm.**

Advance 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.

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 – 11.00am.

Breastfeeding support is available from qualified breastfeeding counsellor

Cally Edwards and trained peer supporters. Find further information on our Facebook page, *Bishopstone Playgroup* supporters. *Bishopstone Playgroup* or contact Cally at callyedwards@me.com



Enjoy the outdoors but 'be tick aware'

Ticks can transmit microbes that cause infections such as Lyme disease or tick borne encephalitis.

Being tick aware by using the following information can help to reduce the chance of tick bites and of being infected:

- you could be exposed to ticks whenever you spend time outdoors, including when in your garden or the local park
- ticks mainly attach to animals, but sometimes they may bite you, your family or your pets
- you can reduce the chance of tick bites by walking on clearly defined paths, using insect repellent and performing **regular tick checks**
- ticks can bite anywhere on the body, including in your hair. More than one tick can be attached to you at a time
- some tick bites can result in infection, so it is important to remove ticks safely and as quickly as possible
- the safest way to remove a tick is by using a pair of **fine-tipped** tweezers or a tick removal tool
- if you begin to feel unwell with flu-like symptoms, persistent headache, confusion or develop a spreading circular red rash (which usually appears within 1 to 4 weeks after being bitten), **contact your GP or NHS 111 promptly**. Mention if you were bitten by a tick or have recently spent time outdoors

Tick sizes compared to a one penny coin



Tick in the environment



Tick attached to skin



Lyme disease bullseye rash



Tick found under hair



For more information, search for the phrases 'ticks' and 'Lyme disease' on these websites:

www.nhs.uk www.gov.uk www.nice.org.uk/guidance

GOV-11370



Volunteers Needed

Engagers are a team of volunteers specially trained to enhance the emotional wellbeing of patients during their hospital stay.

Can you spare 3 hours each week to provide some extra company, support, and stimulation for patients at Salisbury District Hospital?

What is involved:

- ★ Listening, talking, and reminiscing.
- ★ Reading newspapers/magazines/books.
- ★ Playing cards or crosswords/games/puzzles.

Benefits:

- ★ Rewarding for patients - improving emotional well-being, reduces isolation and helps speed recovery.
- ★ Rewarding for volunteers – fulfilling, provides social connection and become part of a valued team.

If this is something you feel drawn to help with, please contact us to find out more:

Liz Beadle, Stars Appeal Engage Co-ordinator,
Department of Clinical Psychology, Salisbury District Hospital
Telephone: 01722 425105 or email: sft.engage@nhs.net





Enjoy three days of boutique shopping at Rockbourne Fair and help support the Stars Appeal



Get Christmas wrapped up early at Rockbourne Fair and help support the Stars Appeal



Rockbourne Early Christmas Fair returns to Salisbury Racecourse bringing three days of boutique shopping, festive atmosphere and community spirit - all in support of the Stars Appeal, Salisbury Hospital's Charity.

The Fair, which attracts thousands of visitors every year, takes place from Wednesday 14th to Friday 16th October. The Fair will stay open until 7.30pm on the Thursday evening, offering visitors the chance to enjoy late-night shopping.

With over 90 handpicked stalls packed with fashion, jewellery, homeware, cosmetics, gourmet food, and unique gifts, there is plenty on offer for visitors searching for their perfect Christmas gift - many of which are not available on the high street. This year, the Fair has over 30 new stalls.

Bev Moulding, the Chair of the Rockbourne Fair Team, said: "With its welcoming atmosphere and a wide range of stalls, Rockbourne Fair offers a unique early

Christmas shopping experience. The Fair is about more than just shopping; it's an opportunity to make a real difference. Every purchase made helps the Stars Appeal provide the latest diagnostic and treatment equipment and enhance care for hundreds of patients and their loved ones every day at Salisbury District Hospital, bringing comfort and support when it is needed most."

The money raised will help the Stars Appeal towards the £2million it aims to raise this year to fund projects across Salisbury Hospital. These include new equipment such as a mammogram machine for the Breast Unit, enhancements to buildings, and ongoing projects across the hospital, including support for people with cancer, a dedicated play assistant on the Children's Unit, and Stars Appeal Wi-Fi.

Last year, Rockbourne Fair raised a record-breaking total of £68,191, surpassing the £62,081 raised in 2024.

Also returning to the event is the popular Rockbourne Fair Lunch Menu, available in the on-site restaurant, offering seasonal dishes, coffee and cake deals, and even a glass of fizz for those in the festive spirit. Wood-fired sourdough pizzas will also be available to enjoy al fresco during the Fair.

The Fair opens from 10am and free parking is available. For more information, visit www.rockbournefair.org.uk

Event Details

Dates & Times

Wednesday 14 October: 10am - 5pm

Thursday 15 October: 10am - 7.30pm (*Late-Night Shopping*)

Friday 16 October: 10am - 3pm

Venue: Salisbury Racecourse, SP2 8PN

Entry: £6 per person (*Special £3 entry after 6pm on Thursday*)

Free parking available

Stars Appeal's *Walk for Wards* raises record-breaking total for second consecutive year

Salisbury Hospital's Stars Appeal is celebrating another record-breaking total raised at *Walk for Wards*.

A whopping £170,477 was raised at the charity's sponsored walk on Sunday, 5 July, which exceeds the record-breaking total of £166,946 raised in 2025. Over 2,200 walkers registered to take part in this year's event at Wilton House.

Participants walked 3k, 5k, 10k or 15k to thank the hospital for the care they or their families have received across various wards and departments, with some dedicating their walk in memory of a loved one.

The President of the Stars Appeal, The Earl of Pembroke, said: "I want to say a huge thank you to everyone who took part in *Walk for Wards*, sponsored a participant, volunteered, or helped organise the event. Thanks to your incredible support and generosity, *Walk for Wards* has raised a record-breaking total for the second year running. Every step walked and every pound raised will help the Stars Appeal fund projects that enhance care and support for patients and their families at Salisbury District Hospital during some of life's most challenging moments.

"It is wonderful to see how *Walk for Wards* has grown into such a treasured tradition, bringing our community together in support of our local hospital. I look forward to welcoming participants back to Wilton House for the 22nd *Walk for Wards* next year."

The funds raised from *Walk for Wards* will help the Stars Appeal, Salisbury Hospital's Charity, towards the £2million it aims to raise this year to fund projects across Salisbury Hospital. These include new equipment such as a mammogram machine for the Breast Unit, enhancements to buildings, and ongoing projects across the hospital, including support for people with cancer, a dedicated play assistant on the Children's Unit, and Stars Appeal Wi-Fi.

Walk for Wards is held by kind permission of Lord Pembroke and Lady Pembroke and is sponsored by Salisbury Reds. The event is also supported by Wilton and Salisbury Rotary Clubs, who marshal the event, and many other local people and organisations.

Walk for Wards 2027 takes place on Sunday, July 4, at Wilton House. To find out more and to register for free go to the Stars Appeal website www.starsappeal.org

Could the man in your life be living his best life?



This Salisbury event gives everyone a chance to help the men they care about find support, friendship and new opportunities

Saturday 10 October 2026 | 10am–12 noon | Salisbury City Hall | Free entry

Men and Women across Salisbury are being encouraged to bring the men in their lives along to **Men Matters 2026**, a free, friendly drop-in event designed to help men discover the activities, support, friendships and opportunities available to them in the city and surrounding area.

Whether it's a partner who has become isolated, a dad who has stopped seeing friends, a brother who could do with some support, or simply a friend who could benefit from trying something new – **Men Matters is about helping men find the things that can make life healthier, happier and more fulfilling.**

The event, hosted by **Safer and Supportive Salisbury** and funded by the **Salisbury Area Board**, brings together organisations offering practical advice, support and opportunities for men of all ages.

Visitors can find out about everything from **getting active and stopping smoking to sexual health, gambling support and money worries**. There will also be information about **peer support groups, caring responsibilities, friendship and social opportunities, veterans' groups, talking therapies and youth support**, alongside much more.

And importantly, **you don't have to come alone**. Friends and partners are very welcome to join the event; there's even free tea and coffee throughout the morning too.

Belinda Chandler, Project Manager for Safer and Supportive Salisbury says "The message behind Men Matters is simple: **men matter, their wellbeing matters, and nobody should have to tackle life's challenges on their own**".

"For some men, the hardest part can be recognising that something needs to change. For others, it might simply be that they haven't yet found the right activity, group, hobby or source of support".

"Attending doesn't mean something is wrong, just that you would like to see what else is out there for you and Men Matters provides an easy, no-pressure way to find out more – without having to make a big commitment".

So, if there's someone in your life you'd like to see **healthier, happier, more connected or simply getting more out of life**, why not suggest that they come along?

You could even come with them or come along and pick up our directory of clubs, activities, groups and support services to take away.

Men Matters 2026 takes place at **Salisbury City Hall, Malthouse Lane, Salisbury, SP2 7TU, on Saturday 10 October from 10am until midday. Entry is free.**

Website: <https://safersalisbury.org.uk/>

U3A

Learn, Laugh, Live think better - age better.



As a writer and contributor to local newspapers and magazines I was well aware of the third age movement. I had interviewed the founding members of what is now a very large u3a, witnessed how their group operated and grew. So I knew what u3a stood for and how much it offered to people no longer in full-time work. Even when retirement seemed a long way off I knew it was something to look forward to. I had seen how u3a members had rich and fulfilling lives.

A quick look at our website, especially the Groups and Newsletter pages, will show you just how much Spire u3a offers for the people of Harnham and nearby villages.

<http://spire.u3asite.uk>

Ian Merriman was so concerned that he would lose his extensive social network when he retired that he joined u3a while he was still working. He says: "Getting involved with u3a has provided me with a positive transition between a long working career and retirement."

Ian Cassidy, u3a CEO, points out that: "With the right opportunities to learn, belong and take part, life beyond f/t work can be active, connected and full of purpose. For many it can become one of the richest and most fulfilling periods of life."

The September meeting in the Memorial Hall, welcomed a speaker from Windsor who had made it his business to investigate and photograph art on the London Underground. His talk left members both impressed and entertained - having had a wonderful lesson into how to look around us.

During u3a Week, also in September, the Spire u3a committee laid on some extra social events to add to our wellbeing - a cream tea with appropriate readings from literature, a men's breakfast, a picnic in The Close followed by an opportunity to see an embroidery demo and a morning walk round the city finishing with coffee and cake. What's not to

look forward to? (Since we are part way through the year Spire is offering a reduced membership fee £9 renewable in April.)

Mon 12 Oct: Leigh Chalmers and others from Wessex Archaeology - Harnham Field Notes.

Mon 9 Nov: Frank Bryant - Ladies of Lighthouses.

The Memorial Hall, doors open 10am for refreshments, SP2 8JH - just turn up!

Salisbury Charter Fair returns for four days of fun



Salisbury Charter Fair will return this October, bringing rides, entertainment, food and traditional fairground fun to the city centre for visitors of all ages.

The fair will be open from Sunday 18 October to Wednesday 21 October, kicking off at 2pm on Sunday with the traditional civic parade through Salisbury Market Place.

Visitors will be able to enjoy the festivities from 2pm to 9pm on Sunday, and 11am to 10pm Monday to Wednesday.

Expect a mix of much-loved fairground classics and more thrilling attractions throughout the four-day event. Fairground favourites including the carousel, dodgems and waltzer will sit alongside high-energy rides such as Super Star and Star Flyer, keeping both families and thrill-seekers entertained.

There will be plenty more to discover, with fairground games such as hook-a-duck and hoopla, a mini arcade, and a tempting selection of sweet treats and street food on offer. Please note that, due to the fair, Salisbury Charter Market will not take place on Tuesday 20 October.

Visit the [Salisbury City Council website](#) to learn more.

The fair has been part of Salisbury's story for almost 800 years. Its origins can be traced back to 1227, when King Henry III granted a charter to the Bishop of Salisbury to hold a fair on the third Monday in October. Centuries later, the event continues to bring people into the city and remains a treasured annual tradition.

With 2027 marking 800 years since that historic charter, next year promises to be a landmark year for Salisbury- further information available on the [Salisbury City Council website](#) and [Experience Salisbury website](#). The Charter Fair will also form part of this, with more details about next year's event to be announced.

Police Commissioner's Reports

Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Wilkinson has welcomed plans to roll out specialist rape and serious sexual offence courts across England and Wales, saying the changes could help victims receive justice more quickly, while also raising questions about how the reforms will be delivered locally.

The Government has announced that every Crown Court will receive at least one specialist courtroom set up for rape and serious sexual offence cases, alongside dedicated facilities for victims and measures to prioritise cases through the court system.

As Chair of the Wiltshire Criminal Justice Board, Mr Wilkinson said the reforms have the potential to improve the experience of victims and reduce delays, but that further detail is needed on how they will be implemented in Wiltshire and whether sufficient resources will be made available to deliver the promised improvements.

According to the announcement, rape and serious sexual offence cases will be given greater priority within the courts, with fixed trial dates rather than being placed on floating lists, alongside specialist facilities including separate entrances, exits and waiting areas for victims. The measures are designed to reduce delays, improve victims' experiences and help bring more offenders to justice.

Mr Wilkinson said: "Victims of rape and serious sexual offences have waited far too long for justice for far too long. The impact of these crimes is devastating and lengthy delays through the criminal justice system can add significantly to the trauma experienced by survivors.

"The principle behind these reforms is absolutely the right one. Prioritising rape cases and creating specialist court environments should help victims feel better supported and, crucially, reduce the time they must wait for their cases to be heard and concluded.

"There are, however, important questions around how these changes will be delivered in Wiltshire and whether the resources will be available locally to make them a reality.

"We need to understand what additional capacity will be created within the court system and whether individual court buildings will actually receive funding to provide the separate waiting rooms, entrances and exits that have been announced.

"Anything that helps victims remain engaged with the process and increases confidence in the criminal justice system is to be welcomed but implementation will be key to ensuring these reforms deliver the improvements victims deserve."

The rollout will take place over the next two years and will be supported by additional investment, trauma-informed training for court staff and measures designed to put victims at the centre of the criminal justice system.

Mr Wilkinson added: "If these reforms help reduce delays and ensure more victims remain engaged with the criminal justice process, they have the potential to make a real difference.

"Through the Wiltshire Criminal Justice Board, we will continue working with partners across policing, the courts, the Crown Prosecution Service and victim support services to ensure victims receive the support they need and deserve throughout their journey to justice."



One thing I hear time and again when I meet farmers, landowners and rural residents is the frustration caused by rural crime.

Too often, people think of it as low-level offending or opportunistic theft. The reality is very different. Many of the offenders targeting our farms, businesses and rural communities are organised criminals. They travel across force boundaries, target valuable equipment and think nothing of the damage they leave behind.

As Police and Crime Commissioner, tackling rural crime remains one of my priorities. That is why I have invested £10,000 to provide around 280 forensic security marking kits for trailers used by farmers, landowners and rural businesses across the county. It is a practical step that will help deter thieves and improve the chances of stolen property being recovered.

Wiltshire Police is also working closely with the National Rural Crime Unit, neighbouring forces and partners through Operation Ragwort to identify offenders, disrupt criminal networks and protect our countryside.

But policing alone is not enough.

Hare coursing is a good example. Some people see it as little more than trespass or antisocial behaviour. The reality is that those involved are often linked to organised criminal networks. Intelligence and enforcement activity has repeatedly highlighted connections between some rural offenders and other forms of serious criminality, including violence, drug offending, firearms offences and exploitation.

That is why I continue to challenge the wider criminal justice system to recognise rural crime for what it is. These are not victimless crimes, and they should not be treated as lesser offences. When organised criminals target rural communities, the courts must recognise the wider harm they cause and ensure the punishment fits the crime.

Our rural communities deserve nothing less.

PCC urges public to report signs of organised crime in their communities

Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Wilkinson is urging residents across Wiltshire and Swindon to report information that could help tackle organised crime and protect vulnerable people from exploitation.

While often hidden from view, organised criminal networks rely on exploitation, criminal finances, rogue businesses and online activity to operate within communities.

Residents are being encouraged to be aware of the warning signs which can take many forms, including properties with a constant flow of visitors at all hours, people appearing frightened or controlled by others, workers who seem unable to speak for themselves, or businesses that appear to operate with little visible trade.

Other indicators may include individuals suddenly living beyond their means, acquiring expensive items with no obvious source of income, or asking others to move money on their behalf.

Parents and carers should also be aware of signs of exploitation, such as young people becoming secretive, carrying multiple mobile phones or making unexplained journeys.

Criminal networks are also increasingly using online platforms to recruit and exploit people, making suspicious job adverts, offers that seem too good to be true, or requests from online contacts to receive parcels, store items, or facilitate accommodation, employment or transport arrangements important warning signs to report.

Mr Wilkinson said: "Behind organised crime are vulnerable people being exploited for profit, while criminal networks show little regard for the harm they cause to individuals, families and communities.

"Police cannot tackle this issue alone. Some of the most valuable intelligence comes from members of the public who notice something unusual and report it.

"Criminal groups rarely operate in isolation. They rely on networks, relationships and opportunities within our communities, which is why information from the public is so important.

"What may seem like a small concern on its own could form part of a much wider intelligence picture, helping police identify patterns, safeguard victims and disrupt organised criminal activity before more people come to harm."

Detective Chief Inspector Megan Elkins said: "Serious and organised criminals rely on secrecy, which is why information from our communities is so important.

"Whether you've noticed suspicious visitors to a property, unusual financial activity, concerns about a local business, or signs that someone is being exploited, we want to hear from you.

"No single report tells the whole story, but together they can help us build a clearer picture and take action against those causing harm. If you see the signs, please let us know."

Anyone with information relating to organised crime can report it to Wiltshire Police online. Please quote #OIMCR to help ensure intelligence is directed to the appropriate teams.