

News and Notes

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

June 2026

White, Green, Pink and the Colours of Summer

This June edition of N&N comes as the weather turns suddenly hotter, with a recent swing of 16 degrees Celsius in just a few days heralding a late May heatwave. Welcome as the sunshine is, many gardeners will be keeping a close eye on things. The high temperature can quickly take its toll. Some gardens have barely recovered from last year's drought. At least the lawn is finally looking better again, and many gardens are at their bright and colourful best. We hope you enjoy our 'plant of the month' article on the luminous joys of white flowers at dusk.

In recent years, as our climate warms, health warnings have become a frequent feature of long, hot, dry spells of summer. Checking on older or disabled neighbours or offering to collect shopping or help with some essential chores could be much appreciated and make a big difference to their wellbeing. Spare a thought too for our farmers, our essential food-producers, who face challenges during a heatwave which can be so serious as to threaten crops and livestock. Not to mention rising fuel and fertiliser costs following the recent US war in Iran.

Perhaps those current fossil fuel supply issues will trigger political momentum towards reducing global dependency on oil. Some small-scale community-based renewable energy projects in Britain are already up and running, helping the shift away from oil and gas for heating homes. Might our villages be a candidate for such a project?

What else can we do that might help? One thing is to source as much food locally as you can. Fewer food air miles and transportation costs means a smaller carbon footprint and more support for our local economy. Surrounded as we are by local food producers it makes so much sense to "buy local!"

Having a plan in place, a personal, human, and moral strategy in readiness for future challenges, also helps. Whether taking cold drinks to neighbours or working out options to provide heat and light to a community in a warming world, good preparation links us not only to the Boy Scouts whose great motto is 'Be Prepared', but also our old friends the ancient philosophers.

Epictetus asked what is philosophy if it isn't preparing ourselves for what may come? Which is probably a very good reason to go and put some nice pink* wine in the fridge to enjoy before you light the evening bbq . .

* other colours are available

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Website: Clare Penny - www.newsandnotes.net

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Contact editor@newsandnotes.net



PLEASE COME AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO

'SONGS AND SAUSAGES'

SUNDAY 28 JUNE 2026

AT 6.00PM

IN ST PETER'S CHURCH, BRITFORD

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Saving our Swifts & Nature Count

Sunday 7 June 2pm
All Saints' Churchyard
Charlton All Saints

Learn more about the enigmatic Swift
from Swift enthusiast, Richard Reed

Citizen Science - Wildlife Survey



- Count all the wildlife you can find in the Churchyard
- Check our Hedgehog Home and Bug Castle
- Mini Beast Hunt
- Coffee & Cake Stall
- Learn about Eco Church
- Join in or just sit & chat
- Free community event
- Inside Church if wet



Charlton All Saints

Village Barbecue & Auction of Promises

Saturday 11 July

Charlton Churchyard

5 pm Bar Open

6 pm BBQ Food

7.30 pm Auction of Promises

Meat & Veggie BBQ with salads

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DROP IN! Third Thursday of the month 2pm - 4pm
THE BARKER ROOM - ST ANDREWS CHURCH - NUNTON

Car Boot Sales

Nunton Recreation Ground, Nunton SP5 4HW

What3Words: uppermost.hazy.roadmap

2026 Dates

MAY 24th

JUNE 28th

JULY 19th

AUGUST 16th

Timings & Costs

SELLERS: 7.30 AM

Cars: £5

Small Vans / Trailers: £8

Large Vans: £15

BUYERS: 8.30 AM

Adults: 50p

Refreshments available, including bacon rolls, tea, coffee.

Organised by ONB Community Fund Committee. Visit: www.newsandnotes.net/event-list

Message from the Fire Brigade

Picnic rather than barbeque!



Warmer and breezy weather increases the risk of accidental or deliberate fires. A wildfire can escalate quickly, so we are asking everyone to follow some simple steps:

- Stay alert for signs of fire—smoke, heat, or unusual smells. Call 999 immediately. Consider downloading What3Words to identify your exact location.
 - Avoid having open fires or using barbecues in the countryside. Disposable barbecues and campfires are banned in many parts of Dorset.
 - Extinguish cigarettes properly, don't throw on the ground or out of car windows.
- If you're at the beach, don't set off flares, have campfires or light barbecues as these can easily lead to gorse and foliage fires on the cliffs
 - Report any anti-social behaviour on our heaths to CrimeStoppers by calling 0800 555 111 (100% Anonymous)

For more information on heath fires and countryside safety, please visit our website Dorset & Wiltshire Fire Service | Heath fires and countryside safety

Wiltshire Community Lottery

NEW! You can now support local good causes while having the chance to win exciting prizes

The lottery offers a simple way to make a difference, with 50p from every £1 ticket going directly to local clubs, groups and charities that make a real difference in Wiltshire & chosen by players. The first weekly prize draw takes place on 6 June.

You have a chance to win prizes of up to £25,000.

Get your tickets now at <https://www.wiltshirecommunitylottery.co.uk>

National Walking Month

Did you know that May is National Walking Month? But just because it's now June, doesn't mean you can't join in. People of all ages and backgrounds can get outside for the simple but effective health benefits of walking! It's free, easy and accessible and our increasingly sedentary lifestyle will benefit from you taking action! Connect with others in a healthy, enjoyable way - why not set up a walking group for your lunchtimes at work or, to keep the motivation up, join with your neighbours, friends or family to walk a local route? You can explore local parks, nature trails, or urban walks together. Follow the links for more info!

<https://www.livingstreets.org.uk>

<https://www.ramblers.org.uk>

Photo Competition

**Winner - Lisa Cox-Boughton from Charlton All Saints with her image
'Sunset from Charlton's Water Meadows'**

'A beautiful and clever composition. The leading line of the fence takes the eye to the distant dwelling and warm sunset, backlighting the grasses to add contrast and atmosphere. Congratulations to Lisa!'



Also congratulations to runner up Nicolette Beardsmore for her wonderful photo into the blackbirds' nest in their woodstore.



Odstock, Nunton and Bodenham W.I.

Our Annual AGM on 11 May was opened by our President Hatty Hillier who announced the matters arising and explained that the committee were keen to move the WI forward and gradually adopt more modern technology as well as finding new ways for members to meet - for example having a coffee club.

Hatty referred members to the diary for Activities- Book Clubs, Lunch Club meeting at The Green Dragon with Sue Humby leading and The ONB Walkers. She then talked about the upcoming events, The Mad Hatters Tea Party, our June Gardens Visit and the July outing to Arundel Castle.

Eileen Lattimer, Treasurer, took the stage next. She announced the starting and end of year figures. The Table Top Sales helped raise the finances as well as the Fashion Show and Ebblefest.

Adrian Taylor was adopted as the Independent Financial Examiner.

Sarah Pink as Secretary gave the Committee's annual report. This highlighted the events of the year and the speakers at the meetings.

Hatty Hillier gave her concluding address and thanked everyone individually who had contributed to the smooth running of the year's meetings and events.

Coffee break time came at last during which the Sale of Plants took place and raised £101.46. This was followed by quizzes: a set of anagrams about items of clothing and another of cryptic flower names.

The next meeting is the Summer Party 'Mad Hatters Tea Party' on Monday 8 June.

Foil Blister Pack Collection

Next collection date Tuesday 7 July

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 Carpark 10:30-11:15



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The Whitsbury Road Spring Challenge

This month Whitsbury Road offers the readers of News and Notes a Spring challenge! With the spring flowering season at its peak I have spent the last week or two identifying as many flowers as I can in the road with the help of my phone - as any self-respecting amateur botanist would do! Amazingly, I have identified forty-one different flowers on plants, shrubs and trees. Some are almost over, some just beginning, the early yellows and blues of the primrose, celandine and bluebells now giving way to the whites and reds. Why is the natural spring so colour coded? Also, some that are found at the bottom of the road are not found at the top. Is that down to the soil, the light or temperature changes?

Anyway, back to the challenge! I have listed below the forty-one flowers spotted in the hedgerows. The Whitsbury challenge is for you to do a tour of your garden and see if you can match this number. And yes, you can start with dandelion and daisy!

Primrose, creeping buttercup, bluebell, dandelion, purple or bush vetch, wood anemone, elderflower, herb robert, holly, white campion, red campion, white nettle, yellow nettle, lilac, hogweed, dock, greater celandine, greater stitchwort, periwinkle, garlic mustard, cow parsley, common sow thistle, herb bennet, speedwell, dog rose, cornflower, red valerian, wild garlic, green alkanet, daisy, hedge mustard, forget-me-not, European dewberry, bedstraw, wild strawberry, comfrey, white violet, purple violet, chestnut candle, hawthorn and blackthorn.

If you can match the forty-one of Whitsbury Road then congratulations to both you and your garden centre whose owners are likely to have booked a weekend break away on the proceeds of your horticultural investment! If not, then why not take a slow stroll up the Road and enjoy the natural riches of our local environment.

The Whitsbury Wanderer



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Focus on Food - a Letter from West Wales

I've just driven from Wilton to Poole across the lovely rolling, bucolic Wiltshire landscape. Bee and I are on our way from Fishguard to Barcelona, port to port so to speak. Down in Fishguard harbour, the boats, which have overwintered in the boatyard at the mouth of the river Gwaun were craned back into the water a few weeks ago marking the start of sailing activities stretching through to October when they are hoisted back out again. The crane operates when the tide is out, so the boats are lined up in a row on the sand waiting for the tide to return and lift them off and over to their moorings. It's a hive of activity on the water and on the shore, with the first appearance of the RNLI inshore inflatables practicing manoeuvres around the various slipways.

Suddenly everything comes to life in the harbour and even the craggy Preselis and the sharp valleys etched into the hillsides are softened with the arrival of bluebells, buttercups, pink campion and cow parsley. The flora thickens down the narrow tracks and green lanes in a few weeks' time to include foxgloves the size of hollyhocks and forests of nettles dribbling spittle and anchoring nets of spider's webs, glistening in the morning sun and low mist.

Back on the harbour it's time to start foraging for razor clams and mussels, the best time for the clams according to Nono our local expert is a couple of days after a full moon when the tides are really low and retreat right out into the bay. I joined a party, equipped with bucket and a tub of Saxa fine table salt, other brands would do just as well, but keep the Malden for the table. It's a fascination yet simple technique, find an indent in the sand indicating where the beast is lurking and sprinkle a tablespoon of salt into it.

More often than not nothing happens, but occasionally water starts spurting out of the hole after which the long sleek shell emerges. When this happens, just grab it and gently pull it fully out and pop it in your bucket. Occasionally they will extricate themselves fully and you can gather them up lying by the side of the salt mound. Nono regularly bags 50, I managed to get 3 which I purged in seawater overnight and had for breakfast, pan -fried in olive oil, garlic, a splash of Fino sherry and a scattering of finely chopped parsley. Toast, marmalade and a pot of coffee finished the meal perfectly.

Whilst many a wily clam gets away during this process, there's no getting away from the vegans these days, so for balance, I'm just tipping you off to a sensational breakfast of scrambled, smoked tofu, bear with. Non-vegans love it and even people who don't like tofu love it. Start with the flavour element as tofu doesn't have any and use the smoked variety as that does impart something into the mix.

Sautee finely sliced shallots in lots of olive oil, garlic, smoked paprika, cumin seeds and turmeric for ten minutes. Throw in a bunch of cherry tomatoes and Sautee them for 6 or 7 minutes, season with salt and pepper until they start to pop. Slice the tofu into thick slices and break into a bowl, then with a fork, mash half of the broken bits. You're looking for a variety of textures. Once done, fold the lot into the pan, cook for another 6 minutes or so and it will take on the colour of the turmeric and start to look remarkably like scrambled egg. Finish with finely chopped parsley for a colourful, hearty, protein filled breakfast.

Before you know it, you will have moved onto Tempah and Seitan, pronounced Satan, and for probably good reason. Your growing arsenal of vegan friendly dishes will fill your children's hearts with admiration. Having said that, at the last writing retreat I cooked for, there were two vegans who were more than happy to eat fresh oysters and clams, apparently bivalves are officially ok to eat when following a vegan diet. Who knew. Next thing they will be asking for caviar! *Martin Simcock aka The Constant Cook*

Holiday Cottage To Let: Fishguard Harbour, Pembrokeshire



Having lived in Pembrokeshire now for ten months, I can honestly say that any time of the year is great to visit. Rain or shine, it's a spectacular spot. Here's a link to the website where you can read all about it <https://quaystreetcottages.com/cottages/no-37-quay-street> or give Bee a call on 07974 199469 if you would like further details. A number of people from the five villages have already visited, we would love to see you down here - Martin Simcock

Chalke Valley Link Scheme

Tel: 07795 620812

A co-ordinator will take your details and contact a volunteer to help you. If your call is answered by a recorded message, please leave your contact details and a co-ordinator will respond asap. No set charge, but donations towards running costs are welcome. Want to volunteer? Call the above number.

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News from the Pews

Odstock and Nunton - How this year is running away with us. Ascension and Pentecost may have been celebrated but we continue to share the Easter message of Christ risen. Our Annual meeting has been held, churchwardens re-elected and two new members have joined the PCC.

At the beginning of May, a few from our congregation joined with others from the Benefice and some of the clergy team for a weekend at Lee Abbey. A time of reflection, conversation and peace on the beautiful North Devon coast. Back in the parish, willing volunteers, armed with dusters and brooms, met to give St Andrews its spring clean and hopefully will meet again to spring clean St Mary's on 6 June. On 31 May, (a 5th Sunday in the month) St Mary's hosted the Benefice communion service.

Creativity will be on Thursday 18 June with tea, cake, chat and some crafting.

Parish members were pleased to join in with hosting the 2nd car boot sale on 24 May in aid of Community Funds. Anyone interested in volunteering time on the gate or in the kitchen on 28 June, 19 July or 16 August, please contact Sherwood on 01722 334398.

Take care, and be kind to your neighbours.

Stephanie Elcock and Mary Boydcamps churchwardens

Charlton - The 175th Anniversary of the consecration of All Saints' Church on 26 April was celebrated in style with a Communion Service led by Bishop Andrew, and followed by lots of birthday cake, tea and coffee in the marquee. Please see our full article on this joyous event, with photographs, in the e-version of News & Notes.

The celebrations are continuing all year, with additional events. In May we had our Plant Swap, which raised £260 in donations. It was a good opportunity to catch up with neighbours and enjoy some coffee and cake. At the APCM, the Treasurer Martin Westall resigned after 16 years. The PCC presented him with a personalised tankard, and our grateful thanks for his years of service. Our Electoral Roll stands at 30.

Dr John Elliott presented an illustrated talk later in May on All Saints' Church: The Church and its Architect. This was highly informative and we are very grateful to Dr Elliott who gave his time and expertise for free.

Our upcoming events – see separate notices – are the annual Nature Count at 2pm on Sunday 7 June, at which we do a bit of citizen science. We count all the wildlife in the churchyard and send this on to the National Biodiversity Network Atlas. This year, we have the added interest of a talk by local swift enthusiast, Richard Reed, on 'Saving our Swifts', which is particularly apposite as many in Charlton have recently had swift boxes installed. And on Saturday 11 July there is the Village BBQ at 5pm, followed by an Auction of Promises – come along and grab a bargain! *Clare Penny, churchwarden*

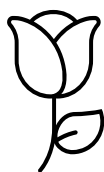
Britford - Many thanks to all those who came to our history talk on 21 May and especially to Hadrian Cook and John Elliott for generously donating their time and sharing their expert knowledge. More about this in next months' edition.

Sunday 31 May is Trinity Sunday which we will celebrate with the iconic Cream Tea trinity of scones, cream and jam at 3.30pm (hopefully outside) St Peter's Church. Do come along, combine it with a walk around this beautiful village, bring friends and enjoy a summertime treat!

28 June at 6pm sees our popular Songs and Sausages – this year augmented by original verse written and presented by Jonathan Lamb. Jonathan lives most of the year in Uruguay with his wife Beatriz. His poems are known for their great humour and insight so we are in for a wonderful treat and there will be some of his books on sale! Again, bring your friends and family for a good sing, some delightful poetry and prose and some delicious sausages in beautiful surroundings. Helpers welcome!!

On a more serious note, we have our 5 yearly inspection in early June which will tell us what work needs to be done to maintain the church building and grounds. Please consider how you might be able to contribute to funds to enable this work. Churches get NO public funding and are dependent on local support. We will be exploring what grants might be available to help, although these usually come in the form of match funding so we will have to raise significant amounts ourselves. Please contact the treasurer Simon Whaley for more information: simonwhaley@outlook.com Rev Maggie

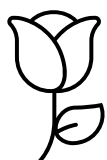
Flower of the month - it's those white ones



One of the joys of May for me comes as dusk approaches and evening light magically seems to magnify white flowers in the garden into wonderful, huge white dollops of luminescence daubed around the flowerbeds. Have you ever noticed this? Bright colours that scintillate in daytime hours completely fade away at twilight to a mirky darkness, while the white petals of daisies, roses, philadelphus, hydrangea, viburnum and all the others just pop with incandescent brightness. And the contrast between bright and dull is completely reversed at different times of day. How does this even happen? Red petals, bright against green leaves in daytime, at dusk look almost black alongside leaves that now very oddly seem pale. It's most peculiar.



Using colour to alter our perception of space is well known to garden designers: put pale colours at the edge of the garden and bright flowers closer to the centre to make the garden seem larger. But this 'evening light phenomenon' is something else.



The backs of our eyes preferentially use the rod cells on the retina at times of low light. These only perceive black and white. Cone cells by contrast are good at perceiving colour but need much higher light levels to function, so won't work in dim light. As the light gradually fades, and before they decide it is too dark to pick up colour at all, cones also become less able to detect the yellow/red end of the colour spectrum. They only pick up blue/greens. So where there is no white we see only a mirky dark green-grey. Finally, white objects reflect all wavelengths of visible light. So, any remaining sunlight, together with May's moonlight and starlight, is reflected right back to our starry, starry eyes by the white flowers. The contrast of white against dark splashes and sings forth in all its splendour.

Whatever the reasons, it's a magical effect & I can hardly stop staring at it on May evenings when I am meant to be doing the washing up. If you haven't noticed it before, it's well worth keep your rods and cones open for!

Services in the Chalke Valley Benefice:

June 2026

Charlton All Saints, Britford, Bodenham, Odstock and Nunton

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

7 June - 1st Sunday after Trinity			
9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	Britford	Ruth H-S
11.00am	Family Service	Odstock	Adrian Taylor
14 June - 2nd Sunday after Trinity			
9.30am	Morning Prayer (BCP)	Charlton All Saints	Jenny Taylor
11.00am	Family Communion (CW)	Nunton	Alison Waterhouse
21 June - 3rd Sunday after Trinity			
9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	Odstock	Jenny Taylor
28 June - 4th Sunday after Trinity			
9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	Charlton All Saints	Maggie Metcalfe
11.00am	Family Service	Nunton	Adrian Taylor
6.00pm	Songs & Sausages	Britford	Maggie Metcalfe
5 July - 5th Sunday after Trinity			
9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	Britford	Maggie Metcalfe
11.00am	Family Service	Odstock	Adrian Taylor
Ministry Team: Team Rector ~ The Revd Dr Ruth Howlett-Shipley: 01722 697022 Team Vicar ~ The Revd Alison Waterhouse: 07904 034221 or 01722 697404 Associate Priests ~ The Revd Maggie Metcalfe: 01722 325825, The Revd Kate Woolven: 07754 582395 Team Administrator: Mrs Emily Broomhead: 07890 262376 thechalkevalleychurches@gmail.com			
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Nunton Recreation Field and Dog Mess

We are having challenges with dog mess on the football field. This is a very unpleasant health hazard for those playing football there and others using the field, so it is really important that mess is cleared up promptly.

The Parish Council is considering whether dogs need to be kept on a lead on the field in the future to try to address this problem.



Community Car Boot Sale Update

We are pleased to report a very happy community team effort taking place in aid of local fund-raising for our villages. In lieu of Ebbfest. Community Car Boot sales are launched!



I think it is true to say that it was an enjoyable morning for the helpers, coming together to work alongside friends and neighbours for the benefit of the community. There are two or three more to come this summer on the Sunday mornings of 28 June, 19 July and 16 August. Please get involved to help or come to the pop-up café that serves hot drinks and bacon rolls, all to raise funds supporting our local facilities.

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What eternal human truths do they touch upon? Do they show us how little has fundamentally changed in our human lot, beyond the use of different technologies? A small group of inquisitive readers meets informally at one of our houses every couple of months to read and discover this.

And every other month we read a more recent play for light relief!

NEXT MEETING: Monday 10 August to read Aeschylus' Agamemnon.

If interested, please email Annabel.lawson@cantab.net

Visit a farm & discover the world of farming!

7 June 2026 - Nunton Farm
Nunton Drove 11 am - 4pm

- Tractor & trailer rides around the farm - see cows grazing and learn about how we farm as you go
- Milking in action - see where your milk comes from!
- Farm machinery up close
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CREATIVE WORKSHOP FOR UNPAID CARERS

12 JUNE 2026 - 2PM TO 4PM

THE ART SPACE - SALISBURY ARTS CENTRE,
BEDWIN STREET, SALISBURY, SP1 3UT

Celebrate Carers Week with a free, relaxed, creative session making paper roses. Join Alison Richards from Bosky Creative to learn, step by step, how to create your own flowers using recycled papers & natural materials.

TO BOOK YOUR PLACE PLEASE CALL
01380 710 300 - OPTION 2

Ebblefest? Sadly no but the Ebble Duck Race? Yes!!!

There may be no Ebblefest this year, but the Great Duck Race is STILL ON!!

WHEN?

Saturday 18 July at 10am from the bridge in Odstock to the Jubilee Gardens

WHY?

To raise money for Morning Star, a charity based in Salisbury which works to combat homelessness - check out their website: <https://morningstarsalisbury.co.uk/>

SO HOW DO I BUY A DUCK??

Ducks will be on sale outside The Radnor on the evening of Radnorfest Friday 17 July. They will also be available during the week running up to 17 July by ringing the doorbell of Holly Lodge in Odstock (house next to the phone box).

Just like at the fete, you choose your duck numbers and names for the quacktastic price of £1 per duck, cash only (donations to the charity also gratefully received). You can come along to cheer on your brave ducks and there will be PRIZES for 1st, 2nd & 3rd placed ducks and for the duck with the funniest name. Easy peasy!

So come & support the Duck Race - you'd be quackers not to!!



Wiltshire Community Lottery

Raise funds for your club,
group or organisation
with Wiltshire
Community Lottery

Tickets just £1, with 60p
going to local good causes.

No application fee, terms
and conditions apply.



NEW! You can now support local good causes while having the chance to win exciting prizes through the Wiltshire Community Lottery.

The lottery offers a simple way to make a difference, with 50p from every £1 ticket going directly to good causes chosen by players. Tickets are now on sale, with the first weekly prize draw taking place on 6 June. You have a chance to win prizes of up to £25,000.

By playing, you'll be helping to support local clubs, groups and charities that make a real difference in Wiltshire, all while being in with a chance of winning.

[Get your tickets now](#) [Find out more about the Wiltshire Community Lottery](#)

National Walking Month



Did you know that May is National Walking Month? People of all ages and backgrounds can get outside for the simple but effective health benefits of walking! It's free, easy and accessible & our increasingly sedentary lifestyle will benefit from you taking action! Connect with others in a healthy, enjoyable way- why not set up a walking group for your lunchtimes at work or, to keep the motivation up, join with your neighbours, friends or family to walk a local route? You can explore local parks, nature trails, or urban walks together. Follow the links for more info!

[Living Streets – National Walking Month](#)

[Ramblers Association](#)



Bishopstone Village Hall

June 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 **4 and 18 June** and the **2, 16 and 30 of July**. Opening hours are from **10:30 a.m. 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.

Perfect for stocking up on holiday reading!

MOVIOLA at Bishopstone

Friday 26th June.

The film for June will be *'H is for Hawk'*. 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.

The last film of the season on **Friday 24 July 24** will be *'Hamnet'*. There will be an optional summer buffet supper starting at **6.00pm** for an additional **£7.00**. Please book in advance for the supper, stating any dietary requirements.

BISHOPSTONE COMMUNITY LUNCHES

A home-cooked lunch is served monthly from October until April. Lunches will resume in the autumn.

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 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.com.

Website www.russellbignoldartist.com.

Stars Appeal - Walk For Wards



Family step up to support Stars Appeal's Walk for Wards to thank Neonatal Unit

A Wiltshire mum is supporting the Stars Appeal's sponsored walk to thank the "angels" on the Neonatal Unit at Salisbury District Hospital who cared for her baby.

Her son Ryder was born two months early in October 2025 and spent four weeks on the Neonatal Unit. During this time, Chantelle and her partner Richard Hall were able to stay with him in the Stars Appeal parents' accommodation.

Chantelle, 32, said: "To begin with it was very scary and we were very much in the unknown, however, the staff on the Neonatal Unit

soon made us feel supported and cared for. People who donate to the Stars Appeal ensured that Ryder's dad and I could stay in a bedroom next to the ward and could be with our son 24/7.

"We could take it in turns to sleep whilst the other was with Ryder. This gave us time to recoup, refresh and relax knowing one of us was with him. Having Richard there to support me made a huge difference to me mentally, physically and emotionally."

The Stars Appeal parents' accommodation on the Neonatal Unit provides four en suite family rooms, six 'mother and baby' rooms, plus a playroom, kitchen and quiet room. It is one of the only Neonatal Units in the country where every mum can stay with their baby.

Chantelle, who lives in Collingbourne Ducis, about a 45-minute drive from the hospital, adds: "If we hadn't been able to stay with Ryder, it would have been so much harder to process everything that was going on. Every mum wants to be with her baby, especially when they are poorly."

The Stars Appeal also provide the latest equipment including state-of-the-art incubators and phototherapy lamps to treat babies with jaundice, as well as soothing live music.

Chantelle said: "We cannot wait to do Walk for Wards. We are doing it to give something back to the Neonatal Unit. The staff are truly angels that walk this earth. The hours and love they put in to care for Ryder and our family was outstanding. We couldn't have got through it all without the Neonatal Unit and the Stars Appeal who supported us every step of the way."

To support families like Chantelle's, sign up to Walk for Wards on Sunday 5 July at Wilton House via Stars Appeal website

www.starsappeal.org/event/walk-for-wards/

Participants can walk 3k, 5k, 10k or 15k for their chosen ward or department at Salisbury Hospital.

Registration is free and entry includes lunch and admission to the Wilton House gardens and adventure playground.

A promotional graphic for the 'Walk for Wards' event. It features a photograph of a group of people, including children and adults, walking together outdoors. The graphic has a blue and yellow color scheme with a large yellow star. Text includes the event name 'Walk for Wards', the date 'Wilton House | Sunday 5th July', a QR code with 'ENTER HERE' below it, and the Stars Appeal logo with 'Salisbury Hospital's Charity' and 'Registered Charity: 1052284'.

Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service



One spark can start a fire



Be Wildfire Aware

If British Summer Time and warmer days mean you will be visiting one of Dorset and Wiltshire's local heathlands or outdoors spaces to enjoy the wildlife and wilderness, please take a picnic.

Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service (DWFRS) is encouraging residents and visitors to bring a picnic and not a barbecue when out and about. Warmer and breezy weather increases the risk of accidental or deliberate fires in our open spaces.

A wildfire can escalate quickly, so we are asking everyone to follow some simple steps:

- If you are enjoying our open spaces stay alert for signs of fire—smoke, heat, or unusual smells. If you spot anything worrying, call 999 immediately. Consider downloading and using What3Words to identify your exact location.
- Avoid having open fires or using barbecues in the countryside. Disposable barbecues and campfires are banned in many parts of Dorset.
- Extinguish smoking materials properly, and don't throw cigarette ends on the ground or out of car windows – take your litter home.
- If you're at the beach, don't set off flares, have campfires or light barbecues as these can easily lead to gorse and foliage on the cliffs catching fire.
- You can also help by reporting any anti-social behaviour on our heaths to CrimeStoppers by calling 0800 555 111 (100% Anonymous).

For more information on heath fires and countryside safety, please visit our website [Dorset & Wiltshire Fire Service | Heath fires and countryside safety](#)

FREE PRACTICAL HELP WITH YOUR PHONE, TABLET, IPAD OR LAPTOP

Funded by the
Southern Wiltshire
Area Board

Join us for a cuppa, cake
and support with your
digital device



Monday 15 June 2026

1.00pm - 3.30pm

(45 minute sessions available)

Winterslow Village Hall, Middleton Road, SP5 1PQ



Join us for one to one support for
what YOU need



Free of charge - bring your phone,
laptop or tablet



Refreshments provided

*Book!
Now!*

Contact
Karlene Jammeh,
Wiltshire Council:

01722 434437

Lover
 Repair Café

Wiltshire Council



PLEASE COME AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO

'SONGS AND SAUSAGES'

SUNDAY 28 JUNE 2026

AT 6.00PM

IN ST PETER'S CHURCH, BRITFORD

With original verse written and presented
by Jonathan Lamb

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!



Stars Appeal Trekkers Overcome Challenges

A group of 29 local people took on steep mountain trails and high altitudes in the foothills of the Indian Himalayas to raise money for the Stars Appeal, Salisbury Hospital's Charity. Last month, the trekkers journeyed to Delhi, then travelled on the night train to McLeod Ganj, home of the Dalai Lama. Over five days the team wound up and down mountain trails for around eight hours each day, through villages, meadows and forests, reaching altitudes of 3,000m, and resting in mountainside campsites at night.

First-time trekker Claire Sheppard, a mum of three from Fordingbridge, who works in the Cardiology Department at Salisbury District Hospital and has personal experience with the cancer, eye, and stroke teams at the hospital, explains: "For me the challenges included homesickness, uncomfortable planes, trains, buses and tents, 'interesting' toilets, surviving on a couple of hours sleep a night, 40 degree heat, heavy rain, fog, hail, thunder and lightning, traveller's tummy and mild altitude sickness.

"Hiking to Triund on relentless uphill rocky terrain was one of the hardest things I've done and all whilst feeling slightly delirious on very little sleep and sensory overload. I discovered I'm tougher than I thought. I got through it and feel proud to have challenged myself on so many levels, and to support the charity which is so close to my heart. Adrenaline, endorphins, teammates and chocolate got me to the top, and back again."

Another first-time trekker, Cardiology Consultant Dr Susie Lewis, who is also a Stars Appeal Ambassador, added: "It was wonderful to be part of this inspiring trek and to join so many hugely committed people supporting our hospital charity, the Stars Appeal, which makes such a difference to the patients I care for and so many others across the hospital." Now the trekkers, ranging in age from 31 to 85, have returned to the UK and are collecting their final sponsorship ahead of the announcement of the grand total on June 2.

To support their fundraising efforts, visit their online fundraising page, <https://starsappealtrek26.enthuse.com/salisburydistricthospitalstarsappeal/profile> or drop into their last fundraiser in the Old George Mall in Salisbury on Saturday, May 30, 11am to 2pm.

Trekkers from six of the charity's previous treks will be at the Celebration of Stars Appeal Treks event.



Wiltshire Council Courses:

Help with Parenting and Preparing for Employment

The Council is running a course to prepare for Working in Early Years, online in June. This accessible, practical, five session course is perfect for anyone considering a job in this area. It gives a taste of what to expect and an introduction to the skills required. Learners will explore the roles and responsibilities involved in supporting children up to six years old; they will look at behaviour management, SEND and Five to Thrive; and they will develop an understanding of curriculum guidelines, GDPR and record keeping. Working in Early Years comprises five consecutive weekly sessions of two hours each from 16 June to 14 July.

We are also running our bite size, single session courses supporting individuals back to work. Our looking for work series runs online from 21 May through to 25 June. Learners can join individual sessions or all four sessions. Dates and times are listed below.

We are also running Resilience and Readiness throughout Wiltshire as part of the Connect to Work project. Resilience and Readiness is a four week course that supports learners to develop emotional and practical skills to feel ready to start or return to work. Our next dates are in Salisbury and Devizes in June and July.

Dates and times:

21/05/2026	Thursday	Budgeting for Work	10:30-12:30	online
04/06/2026	Thursday	Planning for Work	10:30-12:30	online
08/06/2026	Mondays	Resilience and Readiness	10:00-14:30	Salisbury
16/06/2026	Tuesdays	Working in Early Years	10:00-12:00	online
18/06/2026	Thursday	Applying for Work	10:30-12:30	online
25/06/2026	Thursday	Communication for Work	10:30-12:30	online
07/07/2026	Tuesdays	Resilience and Readiness	10:00-14:30	Devizes

To book a place on a course, new learners need to complete an enrolment form, which they can do with us on the phone or online (Enrolment - Work Wiltshire). We follow up applications with a phone call to check suitability, eligibility and confirm bookings.

Eligibility: Courses are no cost to learners who meet our eligibility criteria. Learners must be aged 19+ on 31 August of this academic year; they must have a Wiltshire postcode and meet residency requirements. Learners must also be able to tick one of the following criteria: individual income less than £25,750 a year; in receipt of benefits (other than child benefit); be a care leaver, foster carer or carer; be a military family or ex-armed forces personnel; have refugee or asylum seeker status; have a learning difficulty or disability; be looking to go into work, now or in the future.



Family and Community Learning Courses May – July 2026

Family Skills

Course	Date	Day	Time	Sessions	Location
Helping My Child with Anxiety and Worry	11/05/2026	Monday	16:00-18:00	1	Online
Supporting My Teen with Anxiety	18/05/2026	Thursday	12:30-14:30	1	Online
Understanding School Anxiety: Early Signs of EBSA	11/06/2026	Thursday	10:00-12:00	1	Online

Adult Skills and Wellbeing

Course	Date	Day	Time	Sessions	Location
Walk and Talk for Wellbeing	06/05/2026	Wednesday	12:30-14:30	10	Studley Green
Discovering Wellbeing	07/05/2026	Thursday	10:30-12:30	1	Online
Budgeting for Work	21/05/2026	Thursday	10:30-12:30	1	Online
Discovering Confidence	28/05/2026	Thursday	10:00-12:30	1	Chippenham
Discovering Wellbeing	04/06/2026	Thursday	10:00-12:30	1	Chippenham
Planning for Work	04/06/2026	Thursday	10:30-12:30	1	Online
Resilience and Readiness	08/06/2026	Mondays Thursdays	10:00-14:30 10:00-12:00	12	Salisbury
Confidence and New Directions	08/06/2026	Mondays	12:30-14:30	5	Chippenham
Working in Early Years	16/06/2026	Tuesdays	10:00-12:00	5	Online
Applying for Work	18/06/2026	Thursday	10:30-12:30	1	Online
Working in Schools	22/06/2026	Monday	10:00-12:00	5	Online
Communication for Work	25/06/2026	Thursday	10:30-12:30	1	Online
Resilience and Readiness	07/07/2026	Tuesdays Thursdays	10:00-14:30 10:00-12:00	12	Devizes

Wiltshire Remains One of the Safest Counties

New crime figures released by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) show an increase in recorded crime across Wiltshire in the year ending December 2025 compared with the previous year. Total recorded crime in Wiltshire rose by just over seven per cent (39,642 to 42,711) and increases were seen across every crime category, from violence and sexual offences through to public order offences and drug-related crime.

Despite the year-on-year increase, Wiltshire continues to record the lowest crime rate in the South West and remains among the lowest within its most similar group of police force areas when population is taken into account (55.64 crimes per 1,000 residents), well below the national (83.53) and regional (73.17) levels. The data also reflects national trends showing increased reporting of crimes that have historically been underreported, particularly offences related to violence, sexual harm and public order.

This reflects ongoing efforts within policing in Wiltshire to improve victim confidence and ensure crimes are recorded fully and correctly. Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Wilkinson said: "Any increase in crime is a concern, as behind every statistic is a victim of crime and these figures rightly remind us that there is more work to do. However, it is vital that these numbers are looked at in proper context.

"The fact that we are seeing rises across every crime type strongly suggests that improved crime recording practices, better identification of offences, and increased public confidence in reporting crime are contributing factors. When crimes are reported and recorded accurately, victims are more likely to receive the support they need and offenders are more likely to be held to account." " My office will continue to work closely with Wiltshire Police to understand the drivers behind these figures, support effective crime prevention, and ensure resources are focused where they are needed most.

"Our priority remains keeping communities safe, supporting victims, and making sure offenders are brought to justice. Accurate crime data is essential to that mission, and while no rise in crime should be ignored, these figures show a system that is increasingly open, accountable and focused on protecting the public."

Wiltshire Police Deputy Chief Constable Mark Cooper said: "This consistent pattern across all offence types can be attributed to, in part, to improvements in how crime is identified, recorded and reported, rather than representing a single underlying spike in offending. "As a force we continue to work closely with our communities and partner agencies, including the OPCC, to robustly tackle criminality and address the underlying factors, in order to keep Wiltshire safe."

These crime figures follow Wiltshire Police's most recent PEEL inspection, which identified areas for improvement, including safeguarding, while also emphasising the need for consistent crime recording and strong victim focused practice. Improvements in how crimes are identified, recorded and followed through are a key part of building public confidence and ensuring victims feel able to come forward. Mr Wilkinson added: "Last week's PEEL findings and today's crime statistics should be seen together. When victims have confidence to report crime, and when officers are recording offences correctly and consistently, we will often see recorded crime rise.

"While that does not remove the need to tackle offending head on, it does show policing becoming more open, more victim focused and more accountable. My role is to ensure that the learning from the PEEL inspection directly feeds into improved standards, stronger performance and better outcomes for communities across Wiltshire."

Full Council Passes Motion on St Peters Place

Salisbury City Council's Full Council has approved a motion relating to the St Peters Place Section 106 agreement at its meeting on Tuesday 26 May.

The proposal related to a Section 106 planning obligation associated with the St Peters Place development, agreed between Persimmon Homes Ltd, Wiltshire Council, and two private landowners.

The agreement allows for the transfer of two football pitches to the City Council, together with a financial contribution of £799,297, to support the ongoing maintenance of the pitches and the construction of a changing room facility.

Full Council agreed in principle to accept the planning obligations, allowing officers to progress with the formal legal agreement with Wiltshire Council. This will confirm the transfer of the pitches and receipt of the Section 106 funds, before proposals for the construction of the changing room facility are developed.

The facility would primarily support use of the pitches, designed to meet Sport England, Football Association, and Building Regulation requirements, while also offering flexibility for wider community and recreational activities where appropriate.

Under the same planning agreement, the City Council has already agreed to accept the transfer of two allotment sites as well as take on the cemetery obligations. The proposal represents a continuation of the Council's role in adopting and managing community assets secured through the development.

Cllr Sam Charleston, Leader of Salisbury City Council, said, "We are delighted to take on this responsibility for these pitches, as well as starting the process for a changing area that can become a real community asset for residents."

New Footbridge for Queen Elizabeth Gardens

At its meeting on Tuesday 26 May, Salisbury City Council's Full Council approved the transfer of funding to replace a footbridge in Queen Elizabeth Gardens.

The report presented sought to approve the transfer of the remaining £39,830 from the Queen Elizabeth Gardens S106 funding into the Council's general reserves, to go towards the replacement of at least one of the footbridges in Queen Elizabeth Gardens. This transfer of funds will provide a revenue budget in the 2026/27 financial year.

Since the £45,550 of S106 funding designated for the maintenance of the footbridge was transferred to the Council, officers have incurred costs of £5,720 relating to structural surveys, drawings, and associated plans for the bridges.

The date the bridges were installed in the park is unknown but predates the 2010 park refurbishment. Replacing the footbridge maintains public access through the park and supports the longevity of the recreational open space, as well as discharging the Council's legally binding planning obligation.

Cllr Sam Charleston, Leader of Salisbury City Council, said, "Starting this work now will help to ensure the future of Queen Elizabeth Gardens as a community hub for residents to enjoy."