

*The Broad Hinton
Uffcott and
Winterbourne Bassett*



LOCAL NEWS

March 2026

*Incorporating the Upper Kennet Team Ministry News
Published on behalf of the Local Community by
Broad Hinton Parochial Church Council*

Simone Dawood

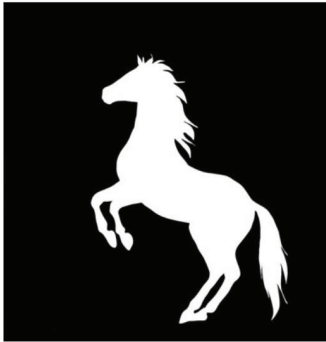
Many thanks to Simone Dawood a local artist from Bushton who has allowed us to use one of her pictures for our front cover.

To see more go to her



Website: www.simonedawood.com

Instagram: [@simone_dawood](https://www.instagram.com/simone_dawood)



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Parish Council

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Tuesdays	weekly	Termtime	9am-12	Post Office	Village Hall
Tuesdays	weekly		10am - 12	Coffee Morning	Village Hall
Sunday	1	March	10am	Parish Communion	St Peter Ad Vincula
Tuesday	3	March	7pm - 9pm	Phil's Shed	Village Hall
Wednesday	4	March	7.30pm	Ridgeway Ladies	Village Hall
Saturday	7	March	9am	Church Clean Up	St Peter Ad Vincula
Saturday	7	March	9am-11am	Bottomless Breakfast	The Crown
Tuesday	10	March	3.15-4pm	Mobile Library	Village Hall
Thursday	12	March	7pm	Flower Arranging	tbc St Peter Ad Vincula
Saturday	14	March	Book 2-4pm	Mothers Day Afternoon Tea	The Crown
Saturday	14	March	9.30am	Village(s) Clean up	See page 9
Sunday	15	March	10am	Mothering Sunday Service	St Peter Ad Vincula
Wednesday	18	March	Book	St Patrick's Day Set Menu	The Crown
Friday	20	March	7pm	Pudding Evening	Clairemont, WB
Thursday	26	March	12-2.30pm	Lent Lunch	Winterbourne Monkton
Wednesday	1	April	7.30pm	David Bailey 'Wild Homes'	Village Hall
Saturday	2	May	evening	Wine Tasting	Village Hall
Saturday	16	May	6-8pm Book	Mexican Evening	The Crown
Saturday	13	June	save the date	Barn Dance	Village Hall
Saturday	19	September	save the date	Hackpen Beer & Gin festival	Village Hall
Saturday	5	December	save the date	Christmas Party	Village Hall

WASTE AND RECYCLING DATES

Friday	27th	February	WB General Recycling	Blue Bin & Black Boxes
Monday	9th	March	General Recycling	Blue Bin & Black Boxes
Tuesday	10th	February	Household Waste	Black Bin
Thursday	12th	February	Garden Waste	Green Bin
Friday	13th	February	WB General Recycling	Blue Bin & Black Boxes
Monday	23rd	February	General Recycling	Blue Bin & Black Boxes
Tuesday	24th	February	Household Waste	Black Bin
Thursday	26th	February	Garden Waste	Green Bin
Friday	27th	February	WB General Recycling	Blue Bin & Black Boxes

Dear All,

Sadly I missed the Farmers' Market this month having been away for some winter sun. Having looked at the weather reports, I think we chose a good time to be away. Things are looking up now, with the daffodils blooming and looking cheerful, and the sun out for the first time in a while.

The village hall has finished upgrading its heating system, see report and pictures on page 6 and 7, and they have a few new dates for your diary later in the year.

A great new initiative begins this month with Phil's Shed, a men's mental health club, which meets for the first time on Tuesday 3rd March at the village hall, see page 10 for details. You don't need to be at the end of your tether to join in, this is a chance to make new connections, or re-establish old ones, in a mutually supportive atmosphere.

The Neighbourhood plan has entered a new

phase, as the Independent Examiner takes his look at it.

The Ridgeway Ladies have shared their calendar for the year (page 17) which includes a talk by a chocolatier next month, and in April, a presentation by a wildlife photographer which is open to all (page 16).

Please don't forget to don your gloves, and join in the CLEAN UP happening in all three of our villages on Saturday March 14th, see page 12 for details of where to meet.

Liz

Copy Date

The Copy date for the April copy of Local News will be 20th March 2026.

Please email copy to the **Editor Liz Moakes** at 3villageslocalnews@gmail.com, or phone 077761 88805.

For information regarding advertising please contact the **Advertising Co-ordinator Steve Cutler** at the same e-mail address 3villageslocalnews@gmail.com or phone 07761 577998

Please prefix the title message with "NEWS" for Liz and "ADVERT" for Steve making it easier for them to separate the messages thereby enabling them to respond more quickly to you.

Items submitted to the Local News are considered for publication at the editor's discretion and are

assumed to be intended for publication unless otherwise stated. Articles will only be printed anonymously if the editor is informed of the name of the author. It is your responsibility to inform the editor if, for any reason, you do not wish your name to appear in the Local News and associated websites. An electronic version of this newsletter is available, along with many other things of local interest on the village hall website at www.broadhinton.org.uk/the-villages/local-news

If you would to be emailed a link to the pdf version of the local news every month, please send us an email to be added to the mail out list.

Useful Website Addresses:

Broad Hinton Village Hall: broadhinton.org.uk
Parish Council: bhwbparishcouncil.org.uk
Cricket Club: whitehorsecricketclub.co.uk
School: broadhintonschool.org
Wiltshire Council: wiltshire.gov.uk
Churches: kennet8.org.uk

Advertising Rates:

A4 page	£30
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3 months for 2	
Sponsorship	£25

VILLAGE HALL MARCH NEWS



A reminder of who's who in our trustee team:

Nick Moakes - Chair

Mark Miller - Vice-Chair

Katein Nye - Treasurer

Kate Marshall - Secretary

Sarah Kromer – Deputy Treasurer & Charity Commission contact

Sue Robinson - Hiring administrator

Adam Gilmore - Parish Council rep trustee

We'd welcome any new trustees, especially from Winterbourne Bassett or Uffcott. Chat with any of us at any time or email us on villagehall@broadhinton.org.uk

The new team have created a brand-new vision for Broad Hinton Village Hall (BHVH) and objectives we'll be working towards:



***Placing the Village Hall at the heart of our community
— evolving, improving, and responding to local needs.***

Objectives

1. *Hirers & Users*

Boost community use of the hall by making booking easier, more welcoming, better tailored to local needs and as affordable as possible.

2. *Volunteers*

Attract, retain, and engage volunteers and trustees.

3. *Finance*

Maintain a sustainable financial model with surpluses reinvested into the hall and community.

4. *Operations*

Simplify, automate, and improve the efficiency of all hall operations.

There is more detail with each of these headings, and we've published the document on the BHVH website.

We've conducted a thorough review of our finances. We've written a **Strategic Reserve Policy**, which provides a clear picture of the funds we need in reserve for emergencies and replacing assets on an ongoing basis. This will enable us to know what we have available to reinvest.

As a result, we're reducing hiring rates and introducing new, risk-assessed refundable deposits for residents of Broad Hinton & Winterbourne Bassett parishes and groups of direct benefit to the community. Our Hall Hiring Policy is effective from 1st April 2026.

New hiring rates

We're delighted to announce a **20% cost reduction for local residents and organisations**.

Room	Hourly rate	Daily rate
Main hall	£13	£130
Meeting room	£10	£100
Whole venue	£20	£200
Weddings	£300 from Fri midday to Sun midday	

Refundable deposits

There will be **no refundable deposit required for most resident hirings**, just a £250 deposit for higher risk events. Refundable deposits remain for non-resident hirings, of between £250 - £1,000, depending on risk.

We're also introducing **Special Rates** for groups or people trying out a new activity which benefits the community. £1 per hour for the first 6 sessions, then a 50% discount for the next 6 sessions.

A great example of this is Phil's Shed, a Men's Mental Health Club starting on Tuesday 3rd March 7pm-9pm, which you'll no doubt see advertised elsewhere in the Local News. If you have an idea for a club or class you'd like to run, email us at villagehall@broadhinton.org.uk.

You can view the *Vision & Objectives* document, the *Strategic Reserve Policy* and the *Hall Hiring Policy* on the BHVH website broadhinton.org.uk/governance.

Heating Progress

Great news, the work to replace the old heating system is complete and BHVH is back to normal operation. Here's some photos to show you the work in progress. We now have an up-to-date system, which we can monitor and control with technology, to make sure we're making the best use of the energy it uses. Our next project is the battery to store energy we produce from the solar panels.



Air Source Heat Pump delivered and installed, the plant room and the piping





Diary Dates For This Year's Exciting Events

- *Saturday 2nd May – Wine Tasting.* Our Tour de France! 8-9 wines, different regions and styles. With our Chair and wine enthusiast, Nick Moakes. Tickets on sale now: <https://broad-hinton.lemonbooking.com/page/events> tickets@broadhinton.org.uk or Sarah Kromer on 07885 519 221.
- *Saturday 19th September Hackpen Beer & Gin Festival.* Details coming soon.
- *Saturday 5th December Christmas Party.* More details later in the year.

March Hirings

Sunday 1st – 80th Birthday Party 70 guests. 1pm-5pm

Tuesday 3rd – Phil's Shed - A men's mental health club 7pm-9:30pm

Tuesday 10th – White Horse Cricket Club AGM 7pm-9pm

Wednesday 11th - North Wessex Downs National Landscape Meeting 8am-2:30pm

Friday 20th – Wedding reception set up 10pm-11pm

Saturday 21st - Wedding reception 8am-11pm

Sunday 22nd - Wedding reception clear up 3pm-6pm

February 300 Club Winners

£50	191	James Gates
£25	238	Brian Poulton
£20	123	Chris O'Neill
£20	32	Jo Trinder
£10	167	Alexis Hammer



Like us on Facebook Broad Hinton Village Hall



www.broadhinton.org.uk

The Crown Inn Broad Hinton
Mothers Day Afternoon Tea
Saturday 14th March 2pm - 4pm
Sweet & Savoury with Bottomless Tea / Coffee
£21.50 pp
By Booking Only: 01793 731302



THE CROWN INN BROAD HINTON PRESENTS

ST. PATRICK'S SET MENU
MARCH 18TH



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MAIN
IRISH LAMB STEW
 SERVED WITH CREAMY CHAMP & SPRING ONION
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The Mobile Library

Stops on

Tuesdays (every 4 weeks)

at

Broad Hinton, Village Hall, Yew Tree Lane

arr 15:15 - dep 16:00

Next dates 2026:

13th January, 10th February, 10th March

For more information visit the website www.wiltshire.gov.uk/libraries



Wiltshire Council



Phil's Shed

REPAIR, RESTORE & RELOAD

A men's mental health club built on connection,
conversation and community

**Lets get together for a bite
to eat, a drink and a real
conversation**

Tuesday 3rd March, 7pm-9pm at Broad Hinton Village Hall
every 1st Tuesday of each month
In memory of Phil Allinson-James

THE CROWN INN
BROAD HINTON
**BOTTOMLESS
BREAKFAST**



1ST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

10AM - 11AM / £15

7TH MARCH

BOOK YOUR TABLE: 01793 731302

VILLAGES CLEAN UP DAY

14th MARCH 9.30am



High vis bibs, litter pickers and bags provided

Bring your own gloves

Meet at The Crown or The Winterbourne,
or at Mulberry House in Uffcott

Bacon butties for everyone who helps!

Help us to keep our villages and the countryside clean and
safe for ourselves and wildlife.

For more information please contact

Damian Le Gresley in Winterbourne Bassett, damian.legresley@bhwbparishcouncil.org.uk

Louise Skillen in Broad Hinton, louise.skillen@bhwbparishcouncil.org.uk

and Adam Gilmore for Uffcott, adam.gilmore@bhwbparishcouncil.org.uk

**NEW
DATE**

PUDDING EVENING

**NEW
DATE**

Friday 20th March 2026

 **7:00 PM**

All Proceeds to Winterbourne
Bassett Parish Church

-  Clairemont, Winterbourne Bassett, SN4 9QF
-  Join us for an evening of a Ploughman's Supper followed by a selection of delightful puddings.
-  Tickets: £20 per person, bring your own drink.

Glass of Fizz on Arrival!

Your sweet presence makes a difference!

For tickets please contact:
Alison Windel: 07715 107679
Claire Stiles: 07880 583095



BROAD HINTON VILLAGE HALL

WINE TASTING

Saturday 2nd May

Our Tour de France!

8-9 wines, different
regions and styles.

With our wine
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Nick Moakes

Tickets £25

broad-hinton.

lemonbooking.com/page/
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tickets@broadhinton.org.uk

Or Sarah Kromer 07885 519 221



Will you be going to University in 2026?

Wiltshire & Swindon Community Foundation is offering University Bursary grants to help young people from Wiltshire and Swindon with the costs of studying for an undergraduate degree. The bursary is worth £1,900 per year, for each year of the course, and can be used towards everyday essentials such as travel, books, or general living costs. As long as their circumstances stay the same, funding will continue for each academic year of their degree.

Who can apply?

To be eligible, a young person must:

1. Have parents or guardians, or themselves, claiming at least two means-tested benefits or two elements of Universal Credit, or be a Looked After Child in the care of Wiltshire Council or Swindon Borough Council
2. Be aged 17 to 24 at the point of application
3. Have lived in Wiltshire or Swindon for at least two years, or have their family home there if they are already at university
4. Be eligible for funding from Student Finance England
5. Be planning to start, or already studying for, their first undergraduate degree at a UK university, college, or institution

Don't Miss Out! Applications close on 10 April 2026 – apply today by visiting www.wscf.org.uk/grants-and-support/individuals/university-bursary-one-degree-more/
Grants Team

Wiltshire and Swindon Community Foundation
Sandcliff House



BROAD HINTON YOUTH CLUB

Come and join our youth club!

We meet every Friday from 7:00pm until 9:00pm during term-time in Broad Hinton Village Hall. The club is for 10-14 year olds and the cost is £3 per session (plus tuck shop money!)

New members are always very welcome. We have table tennis, table football, a snooker table, an indoor net for badminton or volley ball, a PS4, a Wii and an Xbox, as well as a tuck shop.

We sometimes have other activities such as art and craft or different sports. During the summer months we have use of the school field behind the village hall for outdoor activities.

Please visit our webpage on the Broad Hinton Village Hall website:

<https://broadhinton.org.uk/clubs/youth-club/>

and for more information please email bhyouthclub23@gmail.com

THE RIDGEWAY LADIES

On Wednesday 4th February the ladies were delighted to welcome Marie Brewer to their meeting to talk about Beckford's Tower. Marie works with the Bath Preservation Trust and is the Learning Engagement Officer for Beckford's Tower.

Beckford's Tower was built between 1826 and 1827 is situated on Lansdowne Road in Bath. It was the creation of William Beckford, a controversial figure who inherited a vast fortune from his family's involvement in the transatlantic slave trade. The Tower is a Grade 1 listed building. It has recently undergone extensive restoration (taking three years) and is today looked after by the Bath Preservation Trust.

Marie gave us a resume of the life of William Beckford - an intelligent, cruel man who seems to have built the Tower to be seen by all but kept it as his own personal retreat. He filled the Tower with paintings, furniture and decorative art objects that were at the forefront of taste and design in England. Marie also gave us the history of the Tower.

Due to the sensitive nature as to the origins of the Tower and the life of William Beckford (i.e. the links with the slave trade) The Bath Preservation Trust has consulted extensively with their Community Advisory Panel, local communities and other stakeholders about the Tower, its contents and the interpretation of the contents. As a result a balance has been created in celebrating the unique building and the extraordinary collection alongside talking about how it was funded.

Beckford's Tower is open to the publicrefer to beckfordtower.org.uk for further details.

Thank you Marie for an interesting, informative talk ...much enjoyed by all.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 4th March when Amy Levine (a chocolatier) will be the speaker. All ladies welcome...please come and join us.

DAVID BAILEY

Renowned Wildlife Photographer

on

WEDNESDAY APRIL 1ST 2026 at 7.30

In Broad Hinton Village Hall

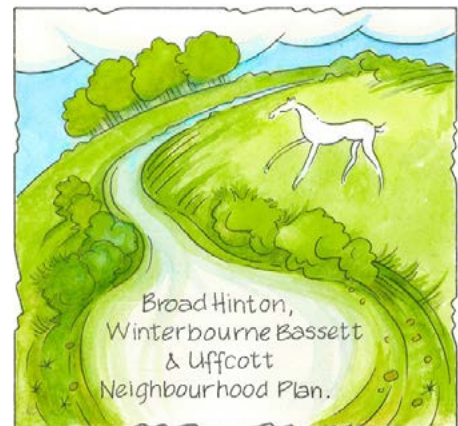
Will be giving a talk entitled

'Wild Homes'

David's PowerPoint presentation will captivate you with stunning visuals, captivating stories and insightful tips about wildlife photography and conservation. Whether you're a photography enthusiast, a lover of nature or just looking for an inspiring evening David's talk is not to be missed.

EVERYONE WELCOME

(£5.00 including tea or coffee)



Neighbourhood Plan Update

Regulation 16 of the Neighbourhood plan closed on the 16th of February. The steering group would like to thank all of those who made comments for your input. The next stage of the process is for the Independent examiner to review the plan and the accompanying documents and comments. This part of the process is now underway.

RIDGEWAY LADIES SCHEDULE 2026

Month	Speaker	Topic
January 7 th		AGM & Quiz
February 4 th	Marie Brewer	Beckford's Tower Bath
March 4 th	Amy Levine	Chocolatier
April 1 st Open Meeting all welcome	David Bailey	Wildlife Photographer
May 6 th	Victoria Nye	Cadenham Manor
June 3 rd		Summer Outing
July 1 st		Summer Party
September 2 nd	Nicholas Baxter	The Boy Ghost of Bowood
October 7 th		Skittles
November 4 th	Margaret Hiscock	Craft Session
December 2 nd		Christmas Party

Ridgeway Ladies meetings are held at 7.30 pm on the 1st Wednesday of the month in Broad Hinton Village Hall. We also have a summer and Christmas party and a theatre trip.

We would love to see you so please come along or contact me if you have any questions.

Marilyn Martin, Chair

Email: larkswood958@gmail.com

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Launching in 2026!

thameswoodvets.co.uk



Church Spring Clean

Saturday, 7th March 9.00 am

Our lovely church needs a little care and attention.

If you have an hour or two to spare, please come along and lend a hand.

Help us polish the brass or clear away some cobwebs!

All are welcome

gill.crabtree1@gmail.com

Flower Arranging Workshop

Learn the Art of Floral Design with Gemma from Nightingale Florists

Date: Thursday, 12th March

Time: 19:00

Venue: St Peter's Broad Hinton (to be confirmed)

What You'll Learn

- Create a moss base
- Wire different flowers
- Use of tape in arrangements
- Secure oasis in a plastic tray

Make a posy decoration to take home for Mothering Sunday

Cost: £50 (includes all materials)

Reserve your place and enjoy a creative evening. Perfect for all skill levels!

Please email gill.crabtree1@gmail.com or telephone 07774 424125 Deadline 5th March

PCC Parish News



Following the Police and Crime Panel's approval of my proposed 2026/27 budget, Wiltshire Police will be able to protect officer numbers and maintain community visibility. The decision comes as forces across the country face significant financial pressures, and Wiltshire is no exception. The Police and Crime panel is a cross-party panel of councillors from across the county who oversee the work of the PCC.

Due to a real-time reduction in government funding and despite delivering £8 million in efficiencies this year, Wiltshire Police must still find a further £4.6 million of savings in the next financial year as costs continue to rise across policing. To meet these pressures, the Panel approved an increase of £15 per year for a Band D household, around £1.25 a month. This forms a crucial part of the overall police budget, alongside Government funding, and directly helps protect the frontline services residents tell us matter most.

As I said to the Panel, this was not an easy decision, but it was but it was the only option to protect vital services and support the continued progress Wiltshire Police is making for our communities. Wiltshire remains one of the lowestfunded forces in the country, but continues to improve visibility, outcomes and public confidence. If Wiltshire Police was funded to the national average we would have an additional £49.6 million to spend on front-line services.

I have been clear that there are no simple savings left. Without this increase, we would face reductions to services that people rely on every day. Protecting neighbourhood policing and publicfacing services must come first. This budget ensures we can maintain visible policing, strengthen neighbourhood teams and continue investing in

modern operational capability so we can respond effectively to changing demand.

I am grateful to the 1,015 residents who took part in our consultation, with 56 per cent supporting the proposal. Their feedback played a vital role in shaping the final recommendations. After detailed scrutiny, the crossparty Panel agreed the proposal strikes a fair and responsible balance during a challenging financial climate.

This budget enables Wiltshire Police to save, sustain and transform—continuing its improvement while remaining rooted in the communities it serves. While no decision involving increased costs is easy, this one is essential to maintaining an effective, visible and resilient police service for Wiltshire and Swindon.

Upper Kennet Churches Winter Crisis Appeal

Are you able to help?

Ten years ago, the Upper Kennet Churches launched a Winter Crisis Appeal Fund to help those who were experiencing short term financial problems.

Over that period, we have had many donations and we have been able to help a large number of families who were in desperate need.

This year, again, we would ask if you could make a donation if you are able to.

If so, please give your donation to a church warden, or send a cheque to Upper Kennet Churches Office, St. Michael & All Angels Church, Church Hill, West Overton, SN8 4ER; or BACS transfer using sort code 30-92-63 (Lloyds Bank-Upper Kennet Churches Council) account 01498496 (ref: WCA).

Thank you.

Do you need help?

If you:

- live in one of the Upper Kennet Villages
- are worried about where the next meal is coming from
- have to choose between heating and eating
- are facing a sudden financial emergency

we might be able to assist with a week's food supply, or fuel support, or just general advice. Contact Rev'd Jonathan Poston on 01672 560584, or a Lay Pastoral Assistant on 01672 861786. Your call will be treated in total confidence.

This is not a substitute for Social Benefits or the Food Bank. It is a gesture from people who understand what you are experiencing. Upper Kennet Churches Winter Crisis Appeal

News from the Marlborough Deanery Partnership with the Diocese of Morobo



The Advent Appeal for Bibles raised the splendid sum of £600. This will enable around 60 Bibles to be given to soldiers on both sides of the conflict who have decided to follow Christ, helping them to grow in faith. We are most grateful to all who contributed in response to the appeal, and we pray that the continuing efforts of the Morobo Church to bring peace to the region will bear fruit.

We have also been able to send money for the purchase of 15 sewing machines for the Mothers' Union. 40 trainees have enrolled for tailoring training, and the machines are in use and working well.

The Agricultural Project has yielded good harvests of maize, beans and groundnuts, and the grinding mill which we provided has proved to be of great value to the community, as well as relieving long-suffering women of the drudgery of grinding by hand.

Thank you again to all who are supporting this partnership by prayer and giving. It continues to be a blessing to many.

Join us for our weekly Lent
discussion on:

JOURNEYS AND RESTING PLACES

"You mark out my journeys and my resting place and are
acquainted with all my ways."

Psalm 139:2



AT THE RECTORY EVERY WEDNESDAY EVENING

6-7:30PM

25TH FEBRUARY (at the Old Manor, WO)

4TH MARCH

11TH MARCH

18TH MARCH

25TH MARCH

Coffee Morning



BROAD HINTON VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNINGS EVERY TUESDAY FROM 10am to 12 Noon

A mug of real coffee and a piece of homemade cake will only cost you £3!! if you come along to the Village Hall Coffee Mornings on Tuesdays between 10am and noon. Pop in for a mid-morning break if you work from home or stay for longer and have a chat.

The first Coffee Morning was in the summer of 2009 and to date £51,942 has been raised and shared between the Church and the Village Hall. The mobile Post Office is also open from 9 to 12 on Tuesdays in the Meeting Room.

Andy & Jo McCombe
Geoff & Marilyn Martin

A Village Education

The history of East Kennett school
and
The History of the School at Lockeridge
Copies available - £5 each
Ruth Lamdin
ruth.lamdin@gmail.com
01672 861550



CAN YOU HELP?

We need some extra help, again about two or three times a year, to sweep, dust or polish and tidy the church.

We also need some occasional help with Church, perhaps two or three times a year. You don't need to be an expert flower arranger, just some flowers in a vase will be fine. It'll make you smile.

If you can offer help, please contact
Marjorie Sykes on 07762 109430/ 731471,
or Gill Crabtree – 07774 424125/ 731627



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SCAN ME



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Flower Arranging Workshop

Learn the Art of Floral Design with Gemma from
Nightingale Florists

Date: Thursday, 12th March

Time: 19:00

Venue: St Peter's Broad Hinton (to be confirmed)

What You'll Learn

- Create a moss base
- Wire different flowers
- Use of tape in arrangements
- Secure oasis in a plastic tray

Make a posy decoration to take home for Mothering
Sunday

Cost: £50 (includes all materials)

Reserve your place and enjoy a creative evening.
Perfect for all skill levels!

Please email gill.crabtree1@gmail.com or
telephone 07774 424125

Deadline 5th March

GARDENER

I am a gardener looking for gardening
work in the Avebury, Winterbourne
Bassett, Broad Hinton and East Kennett
area.

I am experienced and qualified but as I
don't drive you would need to provide
tools.

I'm happy to cycle or use public
transport to reach you and I
look forward to hearing from you.

If you are interested please contact me:

Martin Andre

martinjandre@gmail.com

01672 539641

07887 717626

A Date for your Diary - Coffee Morning at West Overton Church on Saturday 18th April, 10am - 12 noon

This Coffee Morning at West Overton
church will be in aid of the restoration
of the bells. There will also be the
opportunity to go up to the viewing
room in the tower.

Donations of cakes would be welcome.

Please contact Debbie Marsh for more
details – debbiem1965@icloud.com



MONKTON LENT LUNCH

Thursday March 26th

12.00pm -2.30pm

Do join us for a bowl of soup,
bread and cheese

At The Granary (Next to the Church)

Parking available

Donations to St Mary Magdalene
Church Winterbourne Monkton and
Morobo Diocese, S Sudan(Partnered with the Marlborough
Deanery)

View From The Rectory



*We had fed the heart on fantasies,
The heart's grown brutal from the fare,
More substance in our enmities
Than in our love; O honey-bees,
Come build in the empty house of the stare.*

W.B. Yates

Many years ago, decades in fact, I used to keep and tend a couple of hives of bees. A good friend of mine who was a master beekeeper got me started and guided me over a year or two until I was able to look after them by myself.

One of the things I loved about beekeeping was how it helped me engage with the seasonal rhythm of the earth. During the winter a colony of bees can reduce to about 5,000 bees, which sounds a lot, but it is only just enough for them to survive. As the first spring flowers start to bloom, nature's nectar flow begins and the colony start to increase in size too, as the life of the earth rises and the nectar they collect from the flowers increases. So keeping bees gave me a very real sense of the expansion of the colony in the hive as the seasons progressed. At the height of the summer the hive can contain between 40 - 60 thousand very busy bees! Then their numbers bottom out a bit, until being sustained by a minor late Autumn nectar flow in late August.

I have just been out for a walk in Avebury and the people wandering around the stones seem to be starting to increase too. The Avebury visitors' numbers also seem to increase with the changing season and the nectar flow (though there is no season with a dearth of skinny lattes and cappuccinos!). We are so much more connected to nature than we realise.

The church too has two main rhythms - its own 'nectar flows' over the year. We've just experienced one with Advent to Christmas to

Epiphany and to Candlemas/Imbolc. The one we are about to enter has now started with Lent and will progress into the mysteries of death and resurrection, Easter, and the full coming into being of the spirit in each of us at Pentecost.

As I have an intuitive and embodied connection with the earth's seasons, Lent is always a struggle for me. A period of discipline and austerity at a time when the earth is waking up and calling us into action and movement and sociability makes my Lenten discipline that much harder. But the rewards are worth it, even if I usually fail to achieve all I set out to do.

As a society we are getting less and less used to sacrificing something in the short term for long term gain. We want both/and of everything, and if things aren't going quite how we want them these days we escape to our phones and devices to lose ourselves into something - anything.

One thing I hope we might do this year is to develop a monthly Saturday afternoon gathering/ service at Avebury, where our parish and visitors congregate, to create a space for conversation, fellowship, creativity, music and stories. A place to feel the nectar flow of the landscape and the call to our own personal adventures that God calls us to. A sharing with fellow travellers and with an unapologetic sideways glance to the divine - to the Son of Light who understands completely the challenges and joys of human life and has an amazing blueprint for every single one of us on how to live that life to its fullest. Watch this space.

May you feel the flow.

Every blessing,

Jonathan – the Rector.

Upper Kennet Churches- Home Visits & Home Communion

Please contact the Church Office if you would like one of our Pastoral Team to come and visit you or if you cannot get to church and would like Home Communion.
Telephone: 01672 861786
e-mail: upperkennetchurches@gmail.com

Morning Prayer 8.30-9am daily



Join us by zoom for half an hour to start the day in an atmosphere of quiet prayer and reflection with others, from the comfort of your own armchair. We are a small group who value this wonderful opportunity to gather ourselves for the day, to focus on what lies ahead and to enjoy silence together.

For more details, the service sheet and the

zoom link, contact

Sibella Laing:

01672 861600 or

sibella.laing@outlook.com

Can you give yourself 25 minutes a fortnight?

Just to relax, turn off, and forget the trials and stresses of life, and everyday pressures, and to enjoy a time of peace, calm and silent reflection.

Every fortnight on a Wednesday evening at East Kennett Church from 6.00 to 6.25pm we hold a Taize meditation service: a chance to just sit quietly and relax and enjoy the silence and the peace by candlelight, with a background of occasional singing - often accompanied by guitar playing, plus a few words of wisdom and brief prayers – but mainly peace and calm.

No complicated service to follow, just peace and relaxation.

Put these dates in your diary and drop in to join us when you feel like it:

Wednesday 4th February 2026

Wednesday 18th February 2026

Wednesday 4th March 2026

Graham Kitchen, Jo Snape and Lindie White

Flower and Cleaning Rotas for March

Flowers

March 7th & 14th No flowers during lent
March 21st & 28th No flowers during lent

Cleaning

Helen Miller & Candace Gaisford
Jo and Andy McCombe

Readings for March 2026

**1 March – Purple
2nd Sunday of Lent**
Genesis 12.1-4a
Psalm 121
Romans 4.1-5, 13-17
John 3.1-17

**8 March – Purple
3rd Sunday of Lent**
Exodus 17.1-7
Psalm 95
Romans 5.1-11
John 4.5-42

**15 March – Purple
4th Sunday of Lent**
1 Samuel 16.1-13
Psalm 23
Ephesians 5.8-14
John 9
Mothering Sunday Readings
Exodus 2.1-10
John 19.25b-27

**22 March – Purple
5th Sunday of Lent**
Ezekiel 37.1-14
Psalm 130

Romans 8.6-11
John 11.1-45

**29 March – Red
Palm Sunday**
Matthew 21.1-11
Psalm 118.1-2, 19-end

**Thursday 2 April – White
Maundy Thursday**
Exodus 12.1-4 [5-10] 11-14
Psalm 116.1, 10-end [or 116.9-end]
1 Corinthians 11.23-26
John 13.1-17, 31b-35

**Friday 3 April – Red
Good Friday**
Isaiah 52.13-end of 53
Psalm 22 [or 22.1-11 or 22.1-21]
Hebrews 10.16-25
or Hebrews 4.14-16; 5.7-9
John 18.1-end of 19

WHO'S WHO in the Upper Kennet Churches

RECTOR: REV'D JONATHAN POSTON 01672 560584

The Rectory, 27 High Street, Avebury, SN8 1RF

Email: jont.post@gmail.com

If you require a priest in an emergency and are unable to contact Rev'd Jonathan please telephone one of the churchwardens.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES: Mrs Elizabeth Daley 07710 082308
Mr Roderick Palfrey 07799 221816

LICENSED LAY MINISTER (PTO)

Mrs Sibella Laing 01672 861600 sibella.laing@outlook.com

LAY PASTORAL ASSISTANTS

Mrs Claire Stiles 01793 731620 c.j.stiles@hotmail.co.uk
Mr Graham Kitchen 01672 861798 graham@grahamkitchen.com

LAY WORSHIP LEADERS

Mrs Claire Stiles 01793 731620 c.j.stiles@hotmail.co.uk
Mrs Alison Andre 01672 539641 (also a Lay Pastoral Assistant)
Mrs Angharad Hughes 07771 615534
Mr Magnus Thompson

UPPER KENNET CHURCHES OFFICE: 01672 861786 upperkennetchurches@gmail.com

Anne Robinson & Sophie Roberts

(Mon-Wed, 10am-1pm & Fri 11.30am – 2.30pm)

St Michael and All Angels Church, Church Hill, West Overton, Marlborough SN8 4ER

Parish Website: www.kennet8.org.uk

CHURCHWARDENS

AVEBURY	Mrs Maureen Dixon	01672 539690	
	Mrs Sandra Hues	01672 539444	shues01@hotmail.com
	Mrs Helen Vickers	01672 539482	brian.helen.vickers@googlemail.com
BROAD HINTON	Mrs Gill Crabtree	07774 424125	gill.crabtree1@gmail.com
	Mr Robert Fitzpatrick	07778 175699	fitzpatrickrobert16@gmail.com
EAST KENNETT	Mr Graham Kitchen	01672 861798	graham@grahamkitchen.com
	Mrs Jo Snape	01672 861267	Josiesnape@aol.com
WEST OVERTON	Mrs Susan Rogers	01672 861374	sjrogers44@gmail.com
	Mr Stuart Laing	01672 861600	stuart-laing@outlook.com
FYFIELD please contact	Vicky Evans	01672 861622	bixevans@gmail.com
WINTERBOURNE MONKTON	Ms Penny Gold	01672 539158	goldpennygold@aol.com
WINTERBOURNE BASSETT	Mrs Claire Stiles	01793 731620	c.j.stiles@hotmail.co.uk

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Co-lay Chairs: Simon Jones 07768 008160
Angharad Hughes 07771 615534

PCC SECRETARY:

LOCAL CHURCH COMMITTEES—SECRETARIES

AVEBURY	Lindie White	01672 861864	lindiew@btinternet.com
EAST KENNETT, FYFIELD & WEST OVERTON	Sophie Roberts	01672 861786	
WINTERBOURNE MONKTON	Mrs Jenny Scott	01672 539104	
WINTERBOURNE BASSETT	Rose Barclay		rosebarclay@gmail.com
BROAD HINTON	Mrs Liz Palfrey	01793 731067	lizpalfrey@btinternet.com

MAGAZINES

UPPER KENNET NEWS in Fyfield, West Overton, East & West Kennett, Beckhampton, Avebury Trusloe, Avebury, Winterbourne Monkton & Berwick Bassett:

Editor: David Throup, Longmynd, Lockeridge SN8 4ED 01672 861279 davidthroup@aol.com

Please send all copy including advertising and payment to David Throup.

Final copy date 20th of each month.

LOCAL NEWS in Uffcott, Broad Hinton & Winterbourne Bassett:

Editor: Liz Moakes 07776 1888053 villageslocalnews@gmail.com

Final copy date 20th of each month, except December when it is 16th.

Upper Kennet Church Services - March 2026

	St Nicholas FYFIELD	St Michael & All Angels WEST OVERTON	Christ Church EAST KENNETT	St James AVEBURY	St Mary Magdalene WINTERBOURNE MONKTON	St Katherine & St Peter WINTERBOURNE BASSETT	St Peter ad Vincula BROAD HINTON
1 March Lent 2	<u>8.30 am</u> Holy Communion					<u>10.30 am</u> Morning Service	<u>10 am</u> Parish Communion
Wednesday 4 March			<u>6 pm</u> Meditation Service (Taizé)	<u>10.30 am</u> Celtic Communion Service			
8 March Lent 3		<u>10 am</u> Morning Service		<u>10 am</u> Parish Communion			
Wednesday 11 March				<u>10.30 am</u> Celtic Communion Service			
15 March Lent 4 Mothering Sunday			<u>8 am</u> Holy Communion	<u>3 pm</u> Mothering Sunday Service	<u>10 am</u> Parish Communion		<u>10 am</u> Mothering Sunday Service
Wednesday 18 March			<u>6 pm</u> Meditation Service (Taizé)	<u>10.30 am</u> Celtic Communion Service			
22 March Lent 5		<u>10 am</u> Parish Communion					
Wednesday 25 March				<u>10.30 am</u> Celtic Communion Service			
29 March Palm Sunday	<u>WINTERBOURNE BASSETT</u> <u>9.45 AM</u> - GATHER AT THE WINTERBOURNE PUB FOR PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION <u>10 AM</u> - PALM SUNDAY HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE IN THE CHURCH						

Notice Board

Baptism

Dougie Marsh

West Overton

15th February 2026

Funerals

Patricia Ann Francis
Cyril Harold Coombes
John Boyd Butler

West Overton
Broad Hinton
West Overton

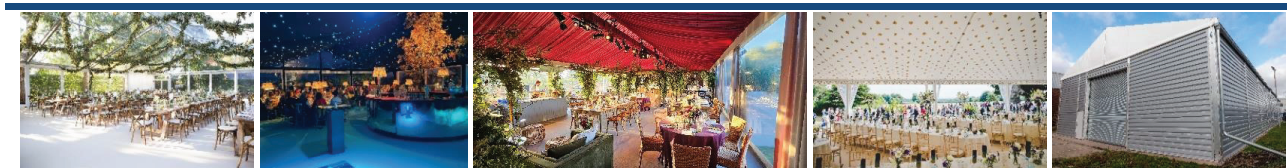
5th February 2026
10th February 2026
19th February 2026



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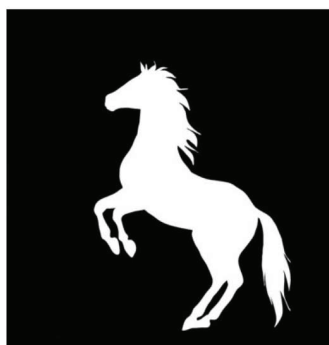
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