



Parish Magazine

November 2025



The Beeches in Autumn
Photo by Rob Pendlenton

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

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

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

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

The editors reserve the right to edit all contributions.

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thechalkevalleychurches@gmail.com

Bishopstone Village Website

www.bishopstone-salisbury.co.uk

The village website carries a wealth of information about Bishopstone. There are pages devoted to the church, the Parish Council, what's on at the Village Hall, meetings, clubs, local organisations and village walks. There are even digital copies of this magazine.

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

Mike Ash (*bishopstoneclerk@btinternet.com*)

Or Roger Stockton (*rogerstockton@icloud.com*)

A warm welcome to Bishopstone and Stratford Tony...

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



Hello from the Revd Ruth Howlett Shipley



'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God'

Don't we all want more peacemakers in our world! The news reports from the Holy Land and from Ukraine constantly remind us how little peace there is in our world... and that is before we think about all the other conflicts across the world that don't even make the threshold, that aren't not newsworthy enough, to appear on televisions, radios, newspapers and online screens.

At the start of November we mark the Feast of All Saints when we celebrate and give thanks for the men and women in whose lives the Church as a whole has seen the grace of God powerfully at work. It is an opportunity to give thanks for them, but also to realise that saints are not necessarily extraordinary individuals; sanctity may grow and develop in the very ordinary circumstances of human living.

At the start of November we also marked the Feast of all Souls when we remember the saints in a more local and intimate way. It is a time when we remember with thanksgiving before God those who we have known more directly; those who have given us life or have nurtured us in faith but whom we see no longer. I am sure I am not alone in remembering some people who have had a significant impact on my life at this time.

And then we will move onto Remembrance Sunday when we will bring to mind those who made the ultimate sacrifice in World Wars; giving their lives so that we may live in freedom.

In amid all of this, whether we are thinking of current or past conflicts, saints with both a capital 'S' or a lower case 's' let us remember that these were all real people; people who were fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, husbands and wives. Their lives were not just an inscription on the war memorial, in the history books or on a family tree – they were people who loved and were loved. Let us not lose sight of the humanity that is at the heart of all conflicts and let's pray for more peacemakers in our troubled world.

There have been several funerals and internments of ashes in Bishopstone Church over the past month. Our deepest sympathies to those who have lost loved ones.

Our upcoming **Service for All Souls** is an opportunity to come to the church for a time of quiet meditation, music, readings, and a chance to light a candle to remember family and friends who are no longer with us.

Sunday November 2nd, 6pm, Bishopstone Church

Friends of Bishopstone Church



We have had a couple of fundraising events since the last edition of STaB. The Christening Gown exhibition was a great success. Visitors were amazed at Liz Coward's collection and the Village Hall was a good venue for the display. The event made over £1,600. We are very grateful to Liz.



The next event was a fascinating talk on The Troubles of Northern Ireland, given by Roger Stockton as a personal account of his time in the Province. The evening raised £853 which is another really generous amount towards our Roof Appeal. On **Friday 7th November** Toby Mills will be giving a talk on Introduction to Rocket Science. See poster in STaB. Coming shortly after Guy Fawkes Night, it's anyone's guess what might happen! The event is open to children too, so anyone studying or interested in sciences is welcome to join us.

The projected figure for the repair work to the North Transept roof is in the region of £300,000. Roger and Toby are hoping to submit the application for the Heritage Lottery Fund very soon.

Next year we have a full programme of fund-raising events which will be covered in future editions of STaB.

Anne Stutchbury, Chairman, Friends of Bishopstone Church

annewheelwright@gmail.com

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

The Friends of Bishopstone Church

If you would like to help the Friends of Bishopstone Church with their work of preserving the fabric of this beautiful building, please contact the Treasurer Norman Barter (01722 780471).

Bishopstone Church Roof Repairs

HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND BID FOR REPAIRS TO THE ROOF OF THE NORTH TRANSEPT OF OUR CHURCH

It has been a very busy month for the bid team. We are in the very last stages of completing the bid and have taken advantage of a kind offer from the National Heritage Lottery Fund (NLHF) team to proof read our draft submission. This enabled them to check for completeness and compliance, especially our response to their four Investment Principles of Heritage, Environment, Inclusion/Participation/ Access and Organisational Stability. These principles are an essential and key part of our response. We accepted their kind offer as a great deal of hard work has gone into ensuring that our documentation meets their very stringent requirements.

Some minor suggestions have caused us to amend some aspects. We are now waiting for letters of support from various bodies that will also be included in our response, before hopefully submitting our formal application within days. Providing this submission occurs within the first week of November we anticipate hearing a result from the NLHF in early January.

It should be said that the bid writing has been difficult process as the NLHF require the PCC to have procedures in place to prove their efficacy. Though this has been time-consuming, it must be remembered that the bid application is for a large sum of money.

Details of the selected building contractor will be announced when the NLHF application confirm our application has been successful.

Toby and Roger

Church Cards for Sale



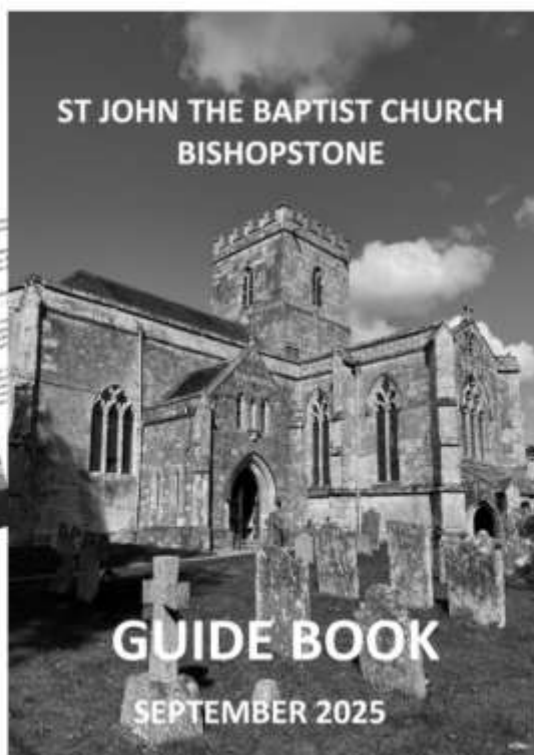
Look out at future events and services for some new cards being sold in aid of the Bishopstone Church Roof Appeal. These have been designed and professionally printed using a lovely photo of the village church, taken by Roger Stockton.

At A6 size (A5 folded) these are the perfect size for notecards or small greetings cards

All proceeds will go to the church.



A new guide to the history, fabric and contents of Bishopstone church has been produced to be sold in aid of the Roof Restoration Fund.



BUY THE NEW CHURCH GUIDE

Based on the existing Guide in our church, this revised and updated Guide Book, with new text and pictures, is in a more accessible A5 format (the same size as this STaB). This book takes you on a trip around the church, dealing with everything of note in each area in turn.

We in Bishopstone are lucky to have a particularly beautiful and historically interesting parish church. Buy the Guide for your own reference, for the information of visitors and as a donation to the restoration fund.

To get your copy please contact:

Anne Stutchbury (annewheelwright@gmail.com) or
Sarah Seal (theseal1@outlook.com)



New Bishopstone Parish Clerk



Dear Bishopstone residents,

My name is Graham Hill and I have the honour of taking over the role of Parish Clerk from Mike Ash on the 1st of November 2025. Mike has represented the Parish for over 15 years and has done an absolutely sterling job and I know there are some big boots to fill, but I will do my best to represent you.

I am a retired Orthopaedic Consultant surgeon at QA in Portsmouth and ex military surgeon having spent 35 years in the Royal Navy. I moved to the Parish of Bishopstone in 2021 having met my lovely now wife Sandra who many of you will know. Having left the Royal Navy I worked in Southampton for five years before stopping work last year. I still have an active brain and needed a challenge so the opportunity to take over as Parish Clerk was one to be relished.

My first task prior to taking over is to develop the new Parish Council website which will go live in November. Check out www.bishopstone-pc.gov.uk in November. I hope to encourage more of you to get engaged with the Parish Council and also to help me to develop the website to add useful things that you would like to see in it.

My contact email will be clerk@bishopstone-pc.gov.uk and my contact mobile number is 07745 932706

BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting of Bishopstone Parish Council will take place on **Thursday 13th November 2025 starting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**. All are welcome to attend.

The agenda and any papers for the meeting will be posted on the Village Notice Board and on the Parish Council's new website – www.bishopstone-pc.gov.uk.

Village Hall



November 2025

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 **6th & 20th November and the 4th & 18th December**. Opening hours are from **10:30 am to 12:00 noon**. Everyone is warmly invited to stop by for a coffee and a chat. Refreshments are currently offered free of charge.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Saturday 15th November. We are delighted to welcome back the jazz group, ***The Sunset Café Stompers***. Join us for an unforgettable evening of great music and good company. Tickets are **£17.50** per person, with an optional supper available for an additional **£7.50** each.

Doors and bar open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Please book in advance with Caroline Ash on (01722) 781044, or Sue Taylor on 01722 780316, stating any dietary requirements if taking the supper.

MOVIOLA at Bishopstone

Friday 28th November.

Join us for 'Four Letters of Love', Starring an outstanding cast including Pierce Brosnan, Helena Bonham Carter, and Gabriel Byrne. This moving story explores destiny, love, and the mysterious forces that shape our lives.

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.

BISHOPSTONE COMMUNITY LUNCHES

The **November** lunch will be on **Wednesday, the 5th**.

The speaker will be Mike Ash, with a talk entitled **"Stop Press - Bishopstone in print"**.

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

The special **Christmas lunch** will be on **Wednesday, December 3rd**.

THE CHRISTMAS FAYRE

The Christmas Fayre will be held on **Friday, 5th December**, from **6.00pm until 7.00pm**. There will be a variety of stalls, including Tombola, Cakes and Produce, Local Crafts, Books, and other attractions to enjoy.

Donations for the Book, Tombola, and Cake stalls will be most gratefully received. The Hall will be open between **2.30pm and 3.30pm** to receive contributions. We warmly invite you to join us and share in the spirit of the season.

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 Fridays during term time from 9.30 – 11.00 am.

Breastfeeding support is available from qualified breastfeeding counsellor Cally Edwards and trained peer supporters. Find further information on our Facebook page, *Bishopstone Playgroup* or contact Cally on: callyedwards@me.com or 07968 797 168.

“EXTEND” EXERCISE CLASSES

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

PILATES AT BISHOPSTONE

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

YOGA WITH HANNAH

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

VILLAGE CRAFT GROUP

The Village Craft Group meets on the first Tuesday of the month from 7 – 9pm. Any crafters are welcome. For further details, please contact Sue Porter on 01722 780459 or Jacqueline James on 01722 335866.

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.

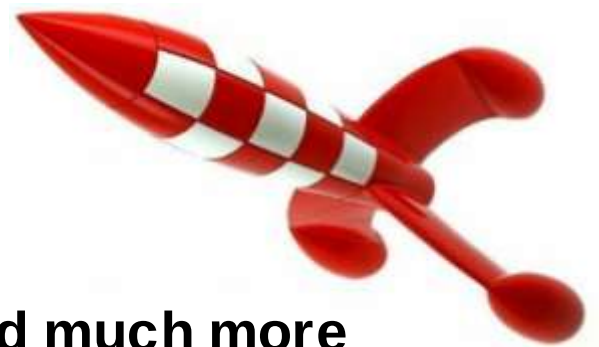
**Friends of Bishopstone Church
IN AID OF BISHOPSTONE CHURCH ROOF APPEAL**

It's Not Rocket Science

(Well, it is actually . . .)

**Come and join me, Toby Mills,
a real Rocket Scientist and learn about**

- **The history of rockets**
- **How rockets work**
- **Getting into orbit**
- **Travelling the cosmos**
- **The future of rocketry and much more**



No mathematical knowledge required!

Never again will you wonder how a rocket works

Amaze your friends with your new knowledge

**on Friday 7th November 2025 at 7.00pm for 7:30pm
in the Bishopstone Village Hall**

**Tickets £12.50 – includes first drink and snacks
(18 years old and under: £5)**

CONTACTS FOR TICKETS

Sarah Seal – theseal1@outlook.com

Anne Stutchbury – annewheelwright@gmail.com

BISHOPSTONE VILLAGE HALL

SP5 4AA

WELCOMES BACK THE RENOWNED



**FOR AN EVENING OF NEW
ORLEANS JAZZ**

Saturday 15th November at 7.30pm

Doors and bar open at 7.00pm

Tickets : £17.50 Supper option : £7.50

Book online at

bvhticketoffice@btinternet.com

Or call 01722 781044 / 780316

Bishopstone Village Hall rates for private hire

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

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

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

The hire charges include use of heating and electricity.

The rates are currently:

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

Broadband

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

Large projection screen

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

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

For further information and bookings contact: Margaret Barter 01722 780471

Chalke Valley Community Support

POLICE

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

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

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

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

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

You can follow us on:

Facebook - www.facebook.com/salisburypolice

Twitter - www.twitter.com/SouthWiltsCPT

Community Messaging: Sign up to Community Messaging for news and updates from your local policing team: www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk

Sixpenny Handley and Chalke Valley Practice

Doves Meadow Surgery, Broad Chalke: 01722 780282

Broadchalke Surgery is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays

Sixpenny Handley Surgery: 01725 552500

www.sixpennydocs.co.uk



MOBILE LIBRARY

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

20 Nov, 18 Dec, 15 Jan, 12 Feb, 12 Mar



**Coombe
Bissett
Stores**

www.coombebissettstores.co.uk

shop@coombebissettstores.co.uk Tel: 01722 718852

OPENING HOURS, SHOP AND POST OFFICE

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

**Chalke
Valley
Stores
Broadchalke**

w: www.chalkevalleystores.co.uk

e: info@chalkevalleystores.co.uk Tel: 01722 780998

OPENING HOURS

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

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

ST MARY & ST LAWRENCE
STRATFORD TONY
SP5 4AT

CAROL SERVICE



PLEASE JOIN US

on **SUNDAY** 7TH DECEMBER 2025 at 6.00pm

with THE REVD DR RUTH HOWLETT-SHIPLEY

PLEASE BRING TORCHES AND APPROPRIATE FOOTWEAR AS THERE WILL BE
LIMITED LIGHTING FROM THE CAR PARK TO THE CHURCH AND THE GROUND
UNDERFOOT COULD BE MUDDY

COLLECTION IN AID OF THE CHURCHES CONSERVATION TRUST & BISHOPSTONE CHURCH



C H R I S T M A S S E T M E N U

2 Courses - £28.00

3 Courses - £32.00

Starters

Celeriac, Truffle & Camembert Soup (Vegan without Camembert)

Chilli and Pernod Spiked Tomatoes with griddled King Prawns and Toasted Sourdough

Sticky Honey & Sesame Glazed Belly Pork bites with Cider Apple Compote

Mains

**Traditional crown of roast Turkey served with Sage & Garlic
Stuffing, Pig n Blanket and Rich Gravy**

Herb Crusted Salmon Fillet with a Prosecco & Saffron Crab Velouté

Wild Mushroom, Chestnut & Spinach Pot Pie with Parsley Sauce

Braised Beef Short Rib in a Red Wine Jus

**All served with Roast Potatoes, Roast Parsnips, Cauliflower Cheese, Honey Glazed Carrots,
Braised Red Cabbage & Brussel Sprouts**

Desserts

Baileys & Chocolate Torte served with Minted Chantilly Cream

**Christmas Pudding Sundae
(Layers of Christmas pudding, Morello Cherries, Honey & Fig Ice Cream
topped with Brandy Whipped Cream)**

Sticky Toffee Pudding with Salted Caramel Sauce & Clotted Cream

**Call now to book
01722 780244**



THE CHALKE VALLEY LINK SCHEME

**exists to provide transport and other good neighbour support
in a local, personal and friendly way to members of
the Chalke Valley community who need it.**

If you live between Bishopstone and Bodenham, and need help getting to your medical appointment, local shopping or visiting family members in hospital, **please phone the Joint Co-ordinators on 07795 620812 (Roger Brown, Jenny Monds or Debby Underhill) who will be on duty in rotation. Please note the new phone number.**

There is no charge but you are invited to make a donation towards our administrative costs. All our co-ordinators and drivers are volunteers, and there may occasions when you will be asked to leave a message, which will be answered. Please give us as much notice as possible to find an available driver.

We are always looking for Volunteer Drivers to enable us to continue to provide a useful service for the community. If you feel you can help – you won't be committed to any particular date or time, only when you are free – please contact any of the above for further information.

Registered Charity No 1076335

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

Staying in Touch

STaB magazine is a vital source of communication in the village, keeping everyone informed as to what is happening locally. However, the Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the fact that situations can change very rapidly. To keep up to date with what is going on there are two other important sources of information in Bishopstone - the village website and our own WhatsApp network.

The village website – www.bishopstone-salisbury.co.uk is updated in real time and carries all the latest news on issues that affect the village.



The Bishopstone Network is a WhatsApp messaging service that has more than proved its worth during the pandemic, and more recently during the storms when residents were able to report fallen trees and blocked roads to the Emergency Planning Officer. Information can be instantly shared to your mobile phone about support services being provided in the village and on a variety of other matters – everything from the length of electricity black-outs to what is available from the White Hart take-away service! You will need to download the App to your phone and then contact Piers Edwards (piersgedwards@gmail.com or 07920 475009) or Kate Pendlenton (kmpendlenton@hotmail.com or 07769202200) and ask to be added to the group.

Salisbury Foodbank

In my hurry to get my report in last month, I forgot to say that in August there was a donation of £20. I am very sorry. It was taken to the Foodbank, but not mentioned in my report. I will try harder in the future.

This last month there was another £20 donation plus food totalling 9.2kgs.

They are in need of anything you can provide; people are still in desperate need of help, with costs still rising faster than incomes. Please give generously to help alleviate worries that so many are suffering at the present time. Everyone should be able to feed and clothe themselves and their families, and provide a home without the risk of it all being whisked away.

Please give whatever you can at this time.

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

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

Judy Barrett



Don't forget that the annual Fireworks and BBQ at the White Hart is raising money for the Foodbank. Please come along from 6pm onwards on Saturday 1st November, enjoy the food and fireworks and support this worthwhile charity.

Chalke Valley Link Scheme



Please note that the number to phone to ask for a lift with the Chalke Valley Link Scheme has changed, and the old landline number will no longer be answered.

Please phone this number to book a lift

07795 620812



Please join us for the
Annual Service of Remembrance

Sunday **9th** November 10:50am
Church of Saint John the Baptist, Bishopstone

Following the service there will be a
Curry Lunch in The White Hart
12.30pm
All are welcome

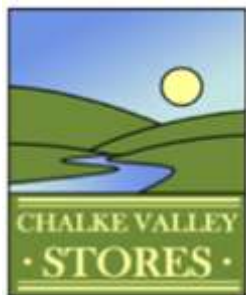
(please ring Tom or Zara on 780244 to reserve places)

Poppy Appeal 2025

The annual Poppy Appeal is the Royal British Legion's biggest fundraising campaign. Held every year in November, during the period of Remembrance, collections from the Poppy Appeal make a vital contribution to supporting retired and injured Service personnel and their dependants in almost every aspect of daily life. It raises money to support the Armed Forces community, including serving personnel, veterans, and their families. Once again, our Bishopstone team of collectors will be going door to door selling poppies, which will have begun on 23 October. Please give generously.

Rob Pendlenton





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

w: www.chalkevalleystores.co.uk | e: info@chalkevalleystores.co.uk | Tel: 01722 780998

OPENING HOURS

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

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

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

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

As the mornings get darker and the evenings draw in, we're here to brighten your day at Chalke Valley Community Hub.

♥ **New Winter Menu** - Our café is now serving warming soups, traditional breakfasts, and comforting puddings. Whether you're popping in for a hot drink or a hearty lunch, we've got something to lift your spirits.

♥ **Spotlight on Locals:** This month's featured maker and supplier to the shop is Kate's Sourdough, offering beautiful hand-made sourdough bread and cereals for sale. They come to us from Rockbourne, so only a stone's throw away from the Hub.

♥ **Volunteers Welcome** We're looking for helping hands in the shop and café. If you have a little time to spare, we'd love to have you join our friendly team. It's a great way to stay active and to meet others. If you are interested please contact :

- Tony Patel tony@chalkevalleystores.co.uk,
- Liz Wiltshire bizzielizzie505@yahoo.co.uk (for volunteering in the shop, or
- Hilary Brown hilary.brown780@gmail.com (for volunteering in the café) .

♥ **A Warm Space for All** We know the season can feel a little quiet, so come in for a chat, a smile, and a seat in the café. Together, we'll make the colder days feel a little warmer.

Thank you for being part of our community.
Your support for our shop and café makes all the difference.

***NB There is a Trussell Trust Collection Point in the Hub for any donations of
foodstuffs you may wish to make.
Your generosity will help those most in need.***

Rambling with Jazzie in the Autumn



Good that it has stayed dry for a while, as we settle into autumn. Jazzie has been out again and enjoying walks in the cooler weather! Near the church we met Dora, and the dogs had a good chat, but were keener for a walk! Jazzie is not too pleased with the very superior smooth grey coated cat who often sits outside the study window!

The church Harvest Festival saw plenty of wonderful home produce on show, and beautiful floral arrangements in the windows. There was a trug from the garden with toms, courgettes, apples, beetroot, carrots, French beans, small cucumber and a loaf of home-made bread! The west door was decorated with some bountiful hop-vines and we all enjoyed a good service.

With the grass growing and apples to pick, there is plenty to do in the garden. Courgettes and beans are over, but lettuces continue in a trough. Our hedgehogs keep coming nearly every night for their feed. We have a large one, a medium one and a youngster to amuse Jazzie. She also enjoys chasing the resident squirrels nicking the hazel nuts. Do they really remember where they bury them?

The Church Roof Appeal has had a very good month, with the great response to the exhibition of Liz's collection of Christening Gowns, and then Roger's fascinating talk on Op Banner in Northern Ireland. The human statistics he gave were truly staggering, as was the total length of this operation, all within the United Kingdom. We must thank them both for their efforts on behalf of our Church, and their wonderful presentations. We now look forward to Toby expounding on Explosives and Rockets in November. Should go with a bang!

This is written earlier than usual, as we are off to London for the Final London Lunch of my original regiment, the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

We are getting too old to carry on after 300 years, and so many lunches!



Very sorry to see that Mike Ash is retiring from the PC. He has been an outstanding Parish Clerk for a long time, and it is time he was relieved. He helped us so much with his intimate knowledge of planning and Council business. Thank you Mike, and best wishes to Graham in

his new post. Meanwhile there is a new art exhibition in the hospital from 17th Oct to 21st Nov by the Salisbury Group of Artists. Go and have a look.

Remember, remember the 9th of November- **Remembrance Sunday**. Let's all wear our poppies with extra pride on the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, and for all the campaigns since then, especially Northern Ireland.

James Thompson (13.10.25)



STOP PRESS - Bishopstone in print...

BISHOPSTONE. A BRUTAL ASSAULT UPON A POLICEMAN. A FATHER AND SON SENT TO PRISON.

Continuing the story of the Baker family from last month: From the Salisbury Times and South Wilts Gazette of June 1893. At the County Petty Sessions in Salisbury, John Baker, Jane Baker, Joseph Baker and Sidney Baker, all of Bishopstone, were charged with having assaulted Police Sergeant Wallis whilst in the execution of his duty.

P.S. Wallis said on the evening of June 10, about quarter to ten, he was on duty near the White Hart, Bishopstone. Hearing some noises in the direction of Mr. Sidford's, he passed by the defendant's house, where the father and mother and Joseph Baker were standing at the door. Witness went to where the noises were coming from, and he saw they were being made by the defendant, Sidney Baker. The others had followed him and he said to the father that he wished he would keep his son from making such noises. The father replied insolently, and swearing said it did not hurt the constable. The constable said it didn't, but it disturbed people after they had gone to bed.

Sidney Baker at the same time came up to witness and

STRUCK HIM ON THE LEFT EAR.

He was very much astonished and pushed the boy back into the ditch. The parents then fell upon him, got hold of his collar, dragged him to the ground and beat him. He asked them to let him get up, because he had not done anything to them to cause them to treat him in that way. He eventually got up and then Joseph came up to him in a fighting attitude. The Sergeant thought it time then to act in self-defence, drew his truncheon, and struck his assailant once on the head and arm. The father also came up to him and he struck him with his staff as well. He then, in order to get away from them, ran up the road, but the others followed him and Joseph tripped him up and fell on the top of him. While on the ground, he heard Sidney say "give it to the b—— father, give it to him." Immediately the father kicked him on the left arm, causing it to bleed. Witness said "Don't kill a fellow, let's get up and go to Mr. Sidford's."

Police Sergeant Wallis, stationed in Broad Chalke, was on duty near The White Hart in Bishopstone when he was set upon by the Baker family for trying to stop one of them, young Sidney Baker, from making a noise that would "disturb people after they had gone to bed".

Sidney Baker then hit PS Wallis and the others proceeded to beat him severely. PS Wallis responded by hitting his assailants with his truncheon. Sidney Baker is heard to say "give it to the b..... father, give it to him". Whereupon John Baker kicks P S Wallis on the arm. The Police Sergeant cries: "Don't kill a fellow, let's get up and go to Mr Sidford's".

As noted previously, Mr Sidford, who lived at Faulston House, was considered an honest arbiter in many local disputes.

In evidence Mr Sidford said that the Sergeant came to him and made a statement and that "the Policeman was not in drink". A doctor testified to the policeman's injuries.

After Mr. Sidford had seen the state in which he was in, the constable went to Doctor Longman, and was attended by him. Up till that day he had had

HIS ARM IN A SLING.

His ankle was also so painful that he could not bend it. He had not been on duty since.— By Mr. Jackson: He did not use his cane at all. It went from his hand when he was knocked down. He only used his truncheon in self-defence, after being hit by defendants.— By Mr. Powning: He used his truncheon after being hit five times by the defendants.— The tunic and helmet which the constable was wearing at the time were then produced, and bore evident marks of ill-usage.— Mr. Frederick Sidford said he heard a noise on the night of June 10. The sergeant came to him and made a statement to him. The tunic was in the same state as when produced. The policeman was not in drink and in consequence of what he told him he accompanied him down the road. He saw the defendants outside in the road.— By Mr. Jackson: He had said he thought that Sidney was not so bad as the others.— Dr. Longman deposed that he examined the sergeant and found a bruise and sore on his left arm. His right ear was a good deal swollen and red. He dressed the arm, putting it in a sling, and told the policeman not to go on duty.— Mr. Jackson, in opening the case for the defence, asked whether he might be allowed to put one of the defendants in the witness box, but Mr. Powning objected and the Bench did not grant permission.— Mr. Jackson admitted that there had no doubt been

A GENERAL MELEE

and the question was: Who started the assault and who took part in it? As regards the father he urged the Bench to believe that the assault committed by him was aggravated by the blow on his wife, which they alleged the policeman struck. If the Bench believed that statement it would greatly modify the gravity of his assault. Then as regards Sidney, Mr. Jackson asked the Bench to dismiss the case against him, because there was no evidence to show that he struck the policeman at all. Beyond that he could only ask the eldest defendant's employer to speak as to his character.

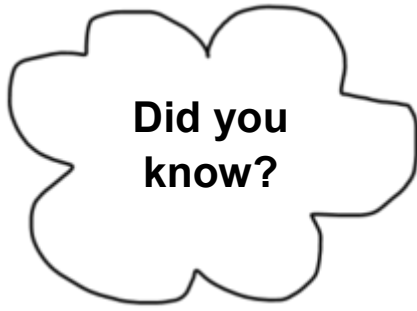
A VERY BAD CASE,

especially as regarded the father and Joseph. The father should have known better how to have kept his children from taking part in this business and the son should have left off when he could. John (the father) and Joseph would be sentenced to 6 weeks' hard labour, Joseph on coming out to be bound over to keep the peace for nine months. Jane (the mother) and Sidney would be let off with a caution, but bound over to keep the peace for six months.

The defence accepted that there had been a "general melee" but argued that the assault committed by John Baker was "aggravated by the blow on his wife" which he alleged the policeman struck. The bench were asked to dismiss the case "because there was no evidence to show that he struck the policeman at all".

There followed evidence as to John Baker's good character — John Wheeler, a farmer, said he had worked for him for 20 years and had been a very good labourer but that he had "too much mouth". The Chairman of the bench asked: "whether the defendant's mouth admitted drink"? However, evidence of previous offences was also presented — including disorderly conduct and disturbing the congregation at Bishopstone church. In February 1891 he was bound over to keep the peace for using threats to "do for" a man named Sidney Emms, and there were other charges of being drunk and disorderly. The father was found drunk lying beside the road but, as he was not making a disturbance, he was not summoned.

The bench decided that this was a "very bad case". John and Joseph Baker were sentenced to 6 weeks' hard labour with the latter bound over to keep the peace for nine months. The others were let off with a caution but bound over to keep the peace.



Miscellaneous facts from St John the Baptist Church, Bishopstone

DOORS & DOORWAYS

There are some beautiful doors in the church. The one with a chequered history is the **West Door**. On the outside it is reputed that the bullet holes were made by the Roundheads when they were attacking churches during the Civil War. While the brave Reverend John Earle was giving his sermon, and the soldiers entered the church, he calmly carried on with his sermon telling them 'You must do your duty and I will do mine.'



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The **Priest's Door** to the south of the altar has a very interesting exterior stone canopy with some intricate stone carving. Look underneath to find graffiti and grotesque figures.



An illustration from
Some Account of Bishopstone
1845 by O.B. Carter



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Can you and the local community help?

We have just launched our Winter Appeal for 2025, focussing on the issue of veterans' homelessness. Sue served her country before working in bars and restaurants. When the COVID pandemic struck and she was furloughed, Sue found it hard to make ends meet, lost her home and possessions, and was separated from her children. She was sleeping in her car, feeling hopeless, forgotten, and ashamed, when she came to ALABARÉ.

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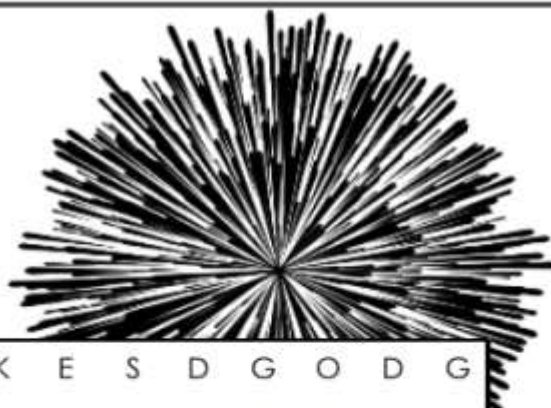
ALABARÉ has been supporting vulnerable and marginalised people for more than three decades, and last year we helped more than 3,200 people like Sue across Wiltshire, the South West and Wales to rebuild their lives. **Demand is rising, and so any support you can give us, individually or by raising funds in the community, would make a huge difference to our staff and clients.**

You can find out more by searching 'ALABARÉ Winter Appeal'. Your donation could make a real difference to someone who's facing homelessness. Thank you for your support.

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Police Bulletin

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



As your Police and Crime Commissioner, I remain deeply concerned that the existing national police funding formula, established by Tony Blair's government is seriously disadvantaging Wiltshire Police and limiting the service that we can provide our communities. The government's central grant allocates us approximately £115 per head of population while the national average is £164.

The current police formula does not recognise the reality of policing a largely rural county, across a wide area, with diverse challenges: rural crime, county lines, cyber crime, serious violence, mental health, victim support, and more. Without stable, fair and long-term commitments to funding, we are pushed into short-term fixes that slow innovation and jeopardise technology investment.

I have written to the previous and current police ministers and home secretaries asking them to address the disparities in police funding. Both the previous government and this one may appear annually to allocate the police more money, but in fact they do not cover inflationary pressures and increasingly expect PCCs to increase local taxes to compensate for this reduction in central funding - placing the burden on residents.

Over the last year Wiltshire Police has squeezed out just about every possible cost efficiency through their Financial Review Programme — cutting estate and fleet costs, departmental staffing reviews and tightening procurement. But there is only so much that can be trimmed before it begins harming the core service.

We also face a workforce challenge: bringing in new officers is important, but retaining experience, investing in training, and giving officers the tools they need is critical.

I applaud the progress Wiltshire Police has made under Chief Constable Catherine Roper — being removed from 'special measures' and achieving service improvements locally. Residents are telling me that they feel safer, yet none of that is guaranteed unless our funding is fair and sustainable.

This is not about balance sheets — it is about service. An outdated and unfair funding formula means slower responses, fewer officers visible in our communities, overworked teams, and delayed investigations. Wiltshire residents deserve policing that delivers and keeps them safe and that is what I am fighting for.

I will continue to campaign for multi-year settlements and reform of the funding formula to reflect the true demands of modern policing. I'm committed to ensuring that Wiltshire has the resources it needs to be safe and well served.



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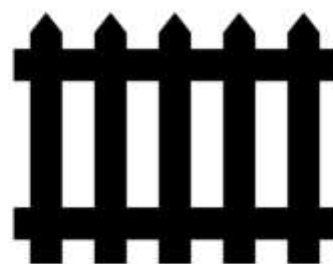
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Our magazine is a source of information for all households in the parish and is used by residents as a handy directory of local news, events and services. It is delivered free to over 300 households, and also viewable online at <https://www.bishopstone-salisbury.co.uk/parish-magazine-stab>. It is published in 10 x monthly editions with combined editions for Aug/Sep & Dec/Jan.

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

Full page (A5) 13x19cm £120 per annum	Half page 13x9.5cm £75 per annum	Quarter page Portrait 6.5x9.5cm £40 per annum	Quarter page Landscape 13x5cm £40 per annum
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One off/occasional advertisements will cost slightly more per issue as follows:		
<i>Full Page: £15.00 per issue</i>	<i>Half Page: £9.00 per issue</i>	<i>Quarter Page: £5.00 per issue</i>

How to place your ad in STaB

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

How to pay:

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

Terms – payment within 14 days

Queries:

Rob Pendleton, STaB Advertising: Email: stabads@outlook.com

BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Councillors	Telephone
Ali Thorne (Chairman)	07768 514133
Piers Edwards (Vice Chairman)	01722 780079
Norman Barter	01722 780471
Anita Smith	01722 781213
Nicky Rigg	07786 806914
Wendy Prior	07873306940
Michael Pratt	07798 607742
Parish Clerk	
Mike Ash Lower Thatch Flamstone Street Bishopstone SP5 4BZ	01722 781044 bishopstoneclerk@btinternet.com
Further information is on the village website: www.bishopstone-salisbury.co.uk	

THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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

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

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



Services in Chalke Valley Benefice November 2025

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



2 November ALL SAINTS' DAY	9.30am	Patronal Festival Communion	Broad Chalke	Alison Waterhouse
	9.30am	All Souls Service	Berwick St John	Lay Led
	9.30am	Parish Communion	Britford	Maggie Metcalfe
	11.00am	Morning Prayer (BCP)	Ebbesbourne Wake	Pen Milburn
	11.00am	Parish Communion (CW)	Coombe Bissett	Alison Waterhouse
	11.00am	Family Service	Odstock	Adrian Taylor
	6.00pm	All Souls Service	Bishopstone	Sally Leaver
9 November REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 	10.45am	Remembrance Service	Berwick St John	Barney Hopkinson
	10.45am	Remembrance Service	Bowerchalke	Kate Woolven
	10.50am	Remembrance Service followed by Communion in church	Broad Chalke	Alison Waterhouse
	10.50am	Remembrance Service	Bishopstone	Tony Monds
	10.50am	Remembrance Service	Coombe Bissett	Ruth H-S
	10.50am	Remembrance Service	Odstock	Maggie Metcalfe
	11.20am	Remembrance Service	Ebbesbourne Wake	Jenny Taylor
16 November 2nd Sunday before Advent	9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	Bishopstone	Ruth H-S
	9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	Odstock	Maggie Metcalfe
	9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Bowerchalke	Alison Waterhouse
	11.00am	Family Communion (CW)	Ebbesbourne Wake	Kate Woolven
	11.00am	Family Communion (CW)	Coombe Bissett	Ruth H-S
	11.00am	Parish Communion (CW)	Berwick St John	Alison Waterhouse
23 November CHRIST THE KING	9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	Charlton All Saints	Ruth H-S
	9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	Broad Chalke	Alison Waterhouse
	11.00am	Family Service	Nunton	Adrian Taylor
	11.00am	Parish Communion (CW)	Bishopstone	Ruth H-S
	11.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Alvediston	Alison Waterhouse
	11.00am	Morning Prayer	Berwick St John	Lay Led
	6.00pm	Evening Prayer	Homington	Ruth H-S
30 November 1st Sunday of Advent	10.00am	Benefice Communion (CW)	Bowerchalke	Alison Waterhouse
	11.00am	Benefice Communion (CW)	Nunton	Ruth H-S
7 December 2nd Sunday of Advent	9.30am	Family Communion (CW)	Broad Chalke	Kate Woolven
	9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Berwick St John	Alison Waterhouse
	9.30am	Parish Communion	Britford	Ruth H-S
	11.00am	Morning Prayer (BCP)	Ebbesbourne Wake	Biddy Trahair
	11.00am	Parish Communion (CW)	Coombe Bissett	Ruth H-S
	11.00am	Family Service	Odstock	Adrian Taylor
	6.00pm	Carol Service	Stratford Tony	Ruth H-S

Ministry Team:

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

Team Vicar ~ The Revd Alison Waterhouse: 07904 034221

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

Team Administrator ~ Mrs Emily Broomhead: 07890 262376

Assisting Clergy:

The Revd Canon Anthony Hawley: 01794 390607, The Revd Canon Tony Monds: 07808 614597

Lay Worship Leaders: Angela Bridges: 01747 828383, Yvonne & Kevin Follett: 01747 828785, 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

If there are any problems with the delivery of STaB please contact Sue Porter on porter1totalserve@gmail.com or 01722 780459.