

THE VILLAGE VOICE

A Monthly Newsletter for Chilmark & Ridge and Fonthill Bishop with Berwick St Leonard

Annual Parish Assembly and Chilmark PC AGM

The Annual Parish Assembly will be in the Reading Room on Wednesday 7 May, 7pm, followed by the Parish Council AGM. This will be the first meeting of the *new* Chilmark Parish Council after the Local Elections on Thursday 1 May. All welcome to attend.

VE Day 80th Anniversary

Please join VE Day Celebrations in Forbes Field on Thursday 8 May, 5pm, which are being hosted by Forbes Field Management Committee and the Reading Room Committee, p 5 & 7.

Church Fete Date

Saturday 28 June is the date for this year's Chilmark Church Fete in the grounds of The Old Rectory, courtesy of Hugo and Olivia von Halle. All help gratefully received – contact Felicity Pattenden on fgpattenden@hotmail.com or 01722 716271.

Watercress Run

Fortnightly deliveries to Chilmark of Chalke Valley's delicious watercress are back on, thanks to Tim Stoop. Please contact him if you'd like to order some: timangistoop@gmail.com

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Welcome to the April issue of The Village Voice



Village news

Central to the agenda at the March Parish Council meeting was Flood Warden Carl Jacobs' presentation on flood mitigation measures following a repeat of flash flooding in Frog Lane at the end of January. Roll forward two months, with the current sunshine and spring blooms, it's hard to imagine Chilmark under water. However, residents are being urged not to forget what winter brings and, if possible, step up to join Carl's *Flood Resilience Operation Group*, and become a volunteer FROG. It's hoped Carl will have a willing group of helper FROGs, come the autumn, p4.

In anticipation of the local elections on 1 May, the PC Chair Richard Packer thanked his fellow councillors for their hard work over the past four years. As reported in the last issue, three PC members are not seeking re-election; however, we understand a further three residents have

submitted nominations for the election and so, fingers crossed, the Council will be able to continue operating at its full capacity of 7 members.

This issue includes alarming reports of dogs not being kept under control by their owners, resulting in a fatal sheep-worrying attack on the Fonthill Estate and of a resident being bitten while she walked through Chilmark, p16. As this issue went to press, Wiltshire Police issued its third statement in less than 10 days about the risk posed by *out of control* dogs. The key message was *keep dogs on leads and under control at all times to avoid committing a criminal offence*.

An article entitled *Changes in Village Life* written in 1980 by former Chilmark resident Maurice Flower (1899-1988) provides an entertaining insight into village life during the first half of the 20th century, p10 & 11. Whilst on the subject of change, several residents have asked us to express their gratitude to Grace Bey for her 15 years of service delivering newspapers to some 40 homes in the village, day in day out, in all weathers. Sadly, with the closure of Wylve Post Office, Grace's newspaper round has come to an end. It is already being missed.

Future of village newsletter

As we approach the final issue of The Village Voice (July 2025) we would like to remind readers that we will continue to produce and send out a weekly email - Chilmark this Week – to keep villagers informed of upcoming events. We ask our readers to please let us know of any neighbour or family member who is unable to receive emails so that we can arrange some way to provide them with news.

Best wishes for a happy April & Easter,
The Editorial Team



The Village Voice - Directory

The Village Voice Editorial Team

Copy deadline 20th of each month. Please note that there will be one issue for December & January (copy deadline 20 November) and one issue for July & August (deadline 20 June). Items will be welcomed from any individual or village organisation and should be sent to the Editor. However, newsletter content remains at the discretion of the Editorial Team and on some occasions will be space dependent. If you wish to advertise in the newsletter, please contact the Treasurer.

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The Village Voice - online www.chilmarkvillagevoice.co.uk

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Flood Warden	Carl Jacobs 07890 894570 cjacbos@aol.com
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Forbes Field	Mungo Melvin 01722 716171 mungo.melvin@live.co.uk
Chilmark Horticultural Society	Mike Scott (Sec/Treasurer) 07799 437074 mike.scott@scott-ryle.com
NHS 111 Service	Call 111 when you need medical help fast but it's not an emergency - 999
Police (non-emergency)	Tel: 101 (emergency? - call 999)
Pothole & Fly Tipping Reporting	go to www.wiltshire.gov.uk and select 'Report'
Reading Room bookings	Mrs Jenny Gavin 01722 716306 bookings@chilmarkreadingroom.co.uk
Salisbury & South Wiltshire MP	John Glen 01722 323050 john.glen.mp@parliament.uk
Scottish & Southern Electricity	0800 0727282 Power Cut? dial 105 or visit www.powercut105.com
Tisbus	07500 802525 www.tisbus.co.uk
Tisbury Sports Centre	01747 871141 tisburysc@wiltshire.gov.uk
Tisbury Library	01722 434205
Wessex Water	Leaks: 0800 692 0692 Supply & Sewerage: 0345 600 4600
Wiltshire Council	0300 456 0100 www.wiltshire.gov.uk
Wiltshire Councillor	Cllr Bridget Wayman 01747 830406 bridget.wayman@wiltshire.gov.uk

The Village Voice - Diary

		April Dates for your Diary	
Friday 4th	10.30am	Art Group Life Drawing	Chilmark Reading Room (CRR)
Wednesday 9th	9am	Kettlercise Class	CRR
Wednesday 9th	10.30-12noon	Chilmark Coffee Kitchen	CRR
Tuesday 15th	2.55-3.20pm	Mobile Library	Hops Close
Tuesday 15th	7pm	Social Stitchers	CRR
Wednesday 16th	9am	Kettlercise Class	CRR
Friday 18th	5pm	Good Friday Service	Chilmark Church
Saturday 19th		Easter Flowers	Chilmark Church
Saturday 19th	10am-12noon	Fonthill Book Swap	Fonthill Bishop Reading Room
Sunday 20th	11.15am	Easter Sunday Service	Chilmark Church
Wednesday 23rd	9am	Kettlercise Class	CRR
Wednesday 23rd	10.30-12noon	Chilmark Coffee Kitchen	CRR
Wednesday 23rd	6pm	CCC first match of season T20	Fonthill Cricket Ground
Friday 25th	6pm	CCC T20 v The Authors	Cleeves Farm Cricket Ground
Sunday 27th	12noon-5pm	Fonthill House Open Gardens	Fonthill House
Sat 26-Wed 30th	9am-5pm	Food Bank Collection	Chilmark Church
Wednesday 30th	9am	Kettlercise Class	CRR
Wednesday 30th		Deadline for Church Electoral Roll	Chilmark Church
		May	
Thursday 1st	7am-10pm	Nadder Valley & PC Elections	CRR
Sat 3rd-Sun 11th	10.30-5.30pm	Wyle Valley Art Trail	Multiple Venues
Wednesday 7th	7pm	Annual Parish Assembly/PC AGM	CRR
Thursday 8th	5pm	VE Day 80 th Anniversary celebration	Forbes Field

Activities Contacts:

Social Stitchers - Emily Wilkins 07523 131630

Art Group - Rose Chapman 01722 716502 - rosechapmaneva@gmail.com

Reading Group - Sally Butcher 01722 716387 - odneyo@btinternet.com

Astronomy - Rod Greening 01722 717462 - barrod888@gmail.com

Wednesday Kettlercise Class - Annabel Webb 07816 621300 or annabelwebb@gmail.com



Unit 2, Chaldicott Barns
Semley, SP7 9AW

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Saturday, 9am - 3pm

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The Village Voice

Parish Council News

To read the latest draft minutes and future agendas, visit:
www.southwiltswilts.com/site/chilmarkparishcouncil

Chilmark Parish Council met in the Reading Room on Wednesday 5 March. Sixteen members of the public were present, along with six PC members, the Parish Clerk and Wiltshire Cllr Bridget Wayman.

Highways & Parking

Cllr Wayman confirmed that a Traffic Survey on the B3089 Salisbury Road was due to take place at the end of March in the agreed position; meanwhile an application for a Speed Indicator Device (SID) in two positions on the B3089 is underway but could take some time to be processed owing to the workload facing the local highways committee (LHFIG). She also confirmed that Highways Officer Paul Shaddock is working on designs for extra parking for residents of Barn Hill, Chilmark; however, a tree on the grassed area where more parking is needed might need to be cut down. PC Chair Richard Packer noted that Barn Hill residents were still very concerned by the lack of parking spaces; a letter from them had been received by the parish council.

Flooding & FROGs

Cllr Carl Jacobs, Chilmark's Flood Warden, gave a comprehensive presentation about the flooding issues that had occurred in Frog Lane at the end of January, causing Chilmark School to be closed for a day. Following torrential rain, the water levels in Frog Lane had risen from three inches to two feet in the space of two hours, causing sewage to bubble up in front of the school. Cllr Jacobs noted that unlike in recent years, the problems had been caused by excess surface water rather than high groundwater levels. However, flooding was not a new problem for Chilmark, it had always existed and was not going to go away. The Environment Agency had produced maps to illustrate the problem, revealing a huge catchment area for the excess rainwater, including from the far side of the A303. Water had followed these paths each winter for thousands of years.

The main source of the Frog Lane flooding was storm water run-off from the Ridge 'footpath' field entering the village via the Claybush Playing Field; Cllr Jacobs had since liaised with Velcourt, farm managers of the field, and it was hoped mitigation measures could be introduced in due course. Work to create natural barriers in wooded parts of the field to slow the flow had already begun, and the PC would be working in tandem with the Environment Agency and Wiltshire Wildlife.



Meanwhile, residents in affected parts of the village are urged to take precautions such as getting their own sandbags and flood barriers. Most importantly, Cllr Jacobs is setting up a Flood Resilience Operation Group – FROG – so that a team of volunteers – to be known as FROGs

- will be on hand to help both before, during and after any future flooding incidents. Councillors unanimously agreed that the village had to step up and support the Flood Warden in what is an enormous task and responsibility. A FROG WhatsApp group will be set up with tasks, both physical and non-physical allocated to volunteers. Residents interested in supporting this important village initiative should contact Morag Philpott on: morag.philpott@btinternet.com

It was noted that all the fields under cultivation with maize crops at Ridge had been harvested very late in

2024 and this had caused excess water run-off, causing severe damage to Mill Lane, in Ridge, as well as contributing to the flooding at Common Gate cottage. Fonthill Estate would not be planting maize in that area again. Meanwhile the planning permission for ponds and ecology improvements in the Ridge Valley were now unlikely to progress owing to the cost of the scheme.

Claybush Playing Field

The Chair reported that the Salisbury Diocesan Board of Education (SDBE) had now agreed to repair and/or replace the fence around the playing field in a manner specified by the Parish Council. Meanwhile, the text of a deed transferring ownership of the Playing Field from SDBE to the PC has been agreed but this is awaiting approval by the Charity Commission. The Chair hoped to have an update by July 2025.

Claybush unadopted road erosion

Councillors had been in touch with the Area Highways Engineer David Button regarding responsibility for the upkeep of the road surface by the entrance to Claybush Playing Field, following the ongoing erosion due to flooding. He had replied that Kents Hill is a public Right of Way (CHIL8A) and as such does not form part of the adopted highway network, and so it wasn't their responsibility. The Wiltshire Rights of Way team has since been consulted for advice on possible repairs.

Upcoming Elections

The four yearly Parish Council elections will take place on Thursday 1 May. The Chairman thanked the councillors for their hard work in the past four years. It was announced that three current members – Morag Philpott, Bev Small and Peter Young - would be standing down at the election.

Next PC Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting and the Parish Council AGM will take place in the Reading Room on Thursday 7 May, 7pm.

Latest Planning Applications / Decisions

Ref: PL/2025/02663 – Proposed works to trees in conservation area

Meadow House, The Street, Chilmark, SP3 5AR

T1 - Cherry: reduce upper canopy regrowth shoots (from previous pruning) by 2m all over. Pruning cuts not exceeding 75mm in diameter. Lateral branches may be reduced in length by up to 1.5m.

T2 - Crataegus: reduce upper canopy regrowth shoots (from previous pruning) by 2m all over. Pruning cuts not exceeding 75mm in diameter. Lateral branches may be reduced in length by up to 1.5m.

G1- Himalayan Birch: thin upper canopy of group and prune in height by 1m. Pruning cuts not exceeding 50mm in diameter.

Applicant: Mr Peter Young

Case Officer: Julie Kelly

Parish Council position – no objection

Consultation deadline: 9 April 2025

Ref: PL/2025/02479 – Proposed works to trees in conservation area

Cross Farm, The Street, Chilmark, SP3 5AR

Holly Tree – Fell

Applicant: Mr John Rooke

Case Officer: Caroline Gamble

Parish Council position – no objection

Decision deadline: 21 April 2025

The Village Voice

Ref: PL/2025/01270 - Proposed works to trees in conservation area
Frog Cottage, Frog Lane, Chilmark, SP3 5BB
T1 Common Spruce - Fell
Applicant: Mr Dave Surtees
Decision: No objection, 7 March 2025

Ref: TPO/2024/00025 – Tree Preservation Order
Black Dog Inn, Salisbury Road, Chilmark SP3 5AH
All Trees of whatever species
Confirmation of Order: 27 February 2025

Ref: PL/2025/00519 - Householder planning permission
Damson Cottage, 88 Ridge, Chilmark, SP3 5BS
Single Storey Rear Extension
Applicant: Mr & Mrs Grant
Case Officer: Megan Donovan
Parish Council position: no objection
Wiltshire Council status: Under consultation

Ref: PL/2025/00466 – Listed Building Consent
Church of St Margaret of Antioch, Chilmark, SP3 5AP
Repair and restoration of the listed war memorial situated in the churchyard
Applicant: Chilmark Parish Council
Case Officer: Andrew Minting
Parish Council position: support
Wiltshire Council status: Under consultation

To view details of the above applications, visit:
development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/ and enter the planning application number in the search bar

Grass Cutter/Gardener

Chilmark Parish Council is seeking to appoint a gardener on a regular contract to cut back and keep clear a number of footpaths within the village and also cut the grass at Frickers Paddock playground. The appointment commences on 1 June 2025. The position is paid for by the Parish Council. Please direct all enquiries to the Clerk, Sofya Samokhina at chilmarkpcclerk@hotmail.com

Village Litter Pick

Some 16 villagers, including children, met up at The Black Dog for the first litter pick of the year on Saturday 22 March. Twenty sacks of rubbish were collected in all, including a large amount from Cow Drove. Litter Pick coordinator Hannah Trent said: *There was a lot more rubbish than expected so we are looking to set the next litter pick date in June and will get in touch closer to the time with details.*

Black Dog News

Residents will be delighted to hear that The Black Dog is opening for an extra day each week, on Wednesdays with immediate effect. The new Opening Hours are as follows:
Wed: 4:30pm – close
Thurs: 4.30pm - close
Fri: 4.30pm - close
Sat: 12noon – close
Sun: 12noon – close
Rocky's Pizza are set to be a regular pop-up fixture on Wednesdays, from 4.30pm, serving hand-stretched Neapolitan pizzas. It's hoped The General's Kitchen, serving street food favourites including burgers & tacos, will also become regular pop-up visitors.



The annual Reading Room Quiz & Supper on Saturday 15 March was a great success, supported wonderfully by 42 village members. Farm fresh sausages, mashed potato, onion gravy and peas were served, followed by some rather epic brownies. The triumphant winners of the fiercely contested quiz were *The Solitary Beaver* team although there were six of them, so that's a conundrum in itself! Huge thanks to everyone who came along and also to the RR Committee members for their hard work in making it such a fun evening. We raised a brilliant £640 for the Reading Room.

On Thursday 8 May, the village will be celebrating the 80th Anniversary of VE Day in Forbes Field, from 5pm. There will be a barbecue and a bar, run by Reading Room Committee members. More details will be provided by Forbes Field Management Committee, but an excerpt of Churchill's speech will be played and WW2 style fancy-dress costume is encouraged.

Alison Whipple-Long

Chilmark Coffee Kitchen

Thank you to everyone who attended our Lent Lunch; a terrific sum of £241 was raised for Salisbury Hospice Charity. Huge thanks to all those who helped by making soup, setting up and tidying away; it really was a great team effort. Dates for this month's sessions are Wednesdays 9 and 23 April from 10.30am-12noon, in the Reading Room. Coffee, tea and homemade cakes will be on offer, and everyone is welcome to pop in for a chat over refreshments. As always, everything is free but there will be the opportunity to donate to Salisbury Trust for the Homeless. Any queries, please contact Lynn Menzies 01722 717925 or angus.menzies1@btinternet.com

Lynn Menzies

Food Bank Collection news

Another month has passed so another thank you is necessary for last month's village food bank collection. This weighed in at 77.2 kilos which was slightly up on the previous month. Thank you all so much; it is a team effort from all the village that we manage to continue to support this necessary cause so well.

Moving on to our next collection which will be running as this issue of VV goes to press, from Saturday 29 March to Wednesday 2 April. The arrangement is just as in previous months; only in-date non-perishable foodstuffs and toiletries to be left in the church by the Font. The latest list from the Food Bank of what they are short of just now is:

Long Life Fruit Juice
Tinned Veg, Meat/Vegi Meals (tinned curry, chilli, ham)
Tinned Fruit
Packet and sponge puddings
Shampoo/Conditioner/2 in 1

I thought you may be interested to know the following information which has been sent to me:

To collect a food parcel from one of our foodbank centres, you require a voucher. We are connected with many different agencies who can issue a foodbank voucher; this could be your doctor's surgery, a child's school and many teams across Wiltshire Council eg: housing support, mental health teams etc, to name just a few. Having this connection with an agency ensures that when a person/family is in need of support, they are connected with an

agency in the community who can offer wider support and give them guidance with helping them out of crisis. It also allows us to capture the demographic of where support is needed and who is in need.

Wishing everyone some warm spring sunshine,
Angi Stoop



RHS

March in the Garden

Seed sowing takes centre stage this month. There is much satisfaction to be gained I think from growing a plant

from seed. It is very exciting when the first tiny seedlings appear.

Cucumbers, courgettes, lettuce and beetroot can be sown now. Cucumber and courgette seeds are quite large so can be sown individually in small pots. Be sure to push them in sideways, and then lightly cover with compost. Lettuce and beetroot can be sown into seed trays. Radishes, carrots and parsnips can be sown directly into your veg bed. Be ready to cover them, though, if freezing conditions return.

Did you pick up any of the free seeds at the recent talk on British Wildflowers? Annual flowers can also be sown now. Nigella and Cornflower for example can be sown directly into the ground where you want them to flower. Give the area a good weed and rake first. Other hardy annuals can be started off in seed trays. Prick them out into individual pots when large enough to handle, ready to plant out from mid May onwards.

If seed sowing sounds too much like hard work, you will be able to buy lots of lovely plants at the Chilmark Horticultural Society's Plant Sale on Saturday 10 May in the Reading Room.

Lawns will welcome some attention this month. Many gardening gurus recommend scarifying grass, either with a spring tined rake, or a powered scarifier. Collect up the thatch and add it to your compost heap. It's a good idea to spike the grass with your garden fork. Once this is done, apply a general lawn fertiliser. If some areas look patchy, they can be reseeded now, but you may have to protect the seeds from hungry pigeons! Or maybe try planting a wildflower seed mat, available online or from some garden centres. You simply clear an area, lay the mat, cover it with compost, and then water it in.

Josie Nunn



Chilmark & Fonthill Bishop School

It has been a busy month for Chilmark School. Children in all classes enjoyed a day off their usual curriculum to celebrate National Science Week. Following the theme *Adapt and Change*, the children enjoyed a range of activities, involving natural changes in the world around us and the adaptations animals and humans have made over several years. Each class focused on how the world has moved forward and went on to think about possibilities for the future by designing or making their own inventions. They finished the day with an assembly to share what they did, and the children were very positive about what they had learnt.

The school hosted a cricket *taster* day with all the children participating in various sessions. They learnt basic skills including catching, bowling and batting. Leo M reported he really enjoyed the bowling as it 'made it more fun'. The All Stars coach was also 'great'.



The netball team took part in a North Dorset schools' tournament. There were 12 teams in attendance, and Chilmark were victorious for the second year running. We have also been invited to take a team to the regional finals at Sherborne School. We are very proud of everyone who played their part in our success.



Sycamore Class visited Riverbarn at Fonthill Bishop, to help plant potatoes and bulbs in their kitchen garden. The produce will be used in the restaurant, and owners Liam and Dave were excellent hosts, rewarding the children with a hot chocolate for all their hard work. The children were interviewed for the local podcast 'Tistalk' which will be running regular features from Chilmark School. Follow this link to find the Riverbarn episode: tistalk.buzzsprout.com



TisTalk

As reported in this month's Chilmark School news, the pupils are featured in the latest episode from Tisbury's community podcast *station*, Tistalk, which has been podcasting since 2022. To sign up for TisTalk's weekly emails and episodes, contact: tistalkradio@gmail.com or visit the website (below). Meanwhile, TisTalk is keen to hear of forthcoming events and interesting people in Chilmark which they might feature in coming months. Please do get in touch if you have ideas! Visit: tistalk.buzzsprout.com



Chilmark Cricket Club latest

With the first game of the season just a few weeks away, it's a good time to look at which players are on the verge of reaching milestones this summer, and remind ourselves of some of the landmark moments that lead them there.

First there's James 'Rocket' Stevenson, who will notch his 50th game for the club when he first pulls on the whites this season. Rocket made his Chilmark debut back in 2003. He got out for a duck and didn't return for three years. But when he did, he did so in style, taking 5-48 against the Old Bedfordians. Remarkably, all five wickets (all bowled) came in a single, barely believable over that, thanks to a leg side wide, didn't contain a hat-trick. Despite that achievement, Rocket will say his proudest cricketing moments are the games he plays with his talented sons, George and Mac, but you can be sure he also rates pretty highly the 119 he scored against the Raquetteers last season. It made him just the fifth Chilmark player to get his name on both the bowling and the batting honours boards.

Another closing in on a 50th game is the inimitable Ned Pattenden. Ned has been here since the very start (just ask him), shouldering his way onto early committees and generally staking a claim to be part of the furniture. Ned spent the first 36 games of his Chilmark career bowling leg spin. It was sometimes difficult to watch, especially if, like me, you were unfortunate enough to get dismissed by it. But it was not a fate shared by many. In those 36 games, Ned bowled 93 overs and extracted 16 precious wickets. Then, last season, Ned had an epiphany. He wasn't a leg spinner after all. No, he was a bowler of gentle, if tetchy, medium pace. Some were sceptical of this change. It was surely too late in his career to take on a new discipline, especially as he had far from mastered the previous one. But blocking out the haters, Ned persisted, and triumphed, adding a whopping 12 wickets to his all-time tally. Now if only he can come to a similar realisation about his batting.

Someone with a few more wickets to his name is club treasurer Ricky Corbin. Ricky needs just one more to become the sixth member of the 100-wicket club but, while that will be a great achievement, Ricky's lasting legacy to the game is the entirely new cricket shot he invented in

2016. It's an unsightly thing and children and players new to the game would do their best not to set eyes on it. It can't be taught, but like nose picking, it can be learnt.

It emerged on the Isle of Wight tour, while the team were struggling to chase down a moderate total during a T20 game. With wickets tumbling all around him and time running out, Ricky became obsessed with hoicking every ball sent his way to the leg side. Nothing unusual there for the average village cricketer. Except, there was something in the combination of his stance, the type of bowling, and Ricky's nervous backswing that resulted in a shot that bore no resemblance to anything seen on a cricket field previously. At any level. It looked like a T-Rex trying to flip ice-cream into a bucket. We called it the Corbin Scoop and despite it being incredibly ineffective, it's a shot that its sole practitioner continues to utilise to this day. It wouldn't be a complete season without it, frankly.

Others pending milestones include:

Will Packer – 79 more runs for 500
Julian Edwards – 73 more runs for 500
Carl Jacobs – 93 more runs for 1500
Max Allen – 417 more runs for 4000
Brand King – 353 more runs for 5000
Paul Butler – 4 more wickets for 100

Season 2025 begins in late April. If anyone new to the area would like to get involved, please contact the club via email: chilmarkcc@gmail.com

Upcoming fixtures:

Wednesday 23 April, 6pm, T20 away at Fonthill
Friday 25 April, 6pm, T20 home to The Authors

Brand King

1945

V·E
DAY

2025

80th Anniversary

Thursday 8th May
from 5pm

Forbes Field

BBQ & Bar
dress for the era!

St Margaret's Chilmark this Easter

Sunday 13 April - this year's Palm Sunday Service will take place in Hindon, starting with a Donkey-led procession at 9.10am. The service will be taken by the Revd Jo Naish.

Friday 18 April – the devotional Good Friday service at Chilmark will take place at 5pm and will be led by the Revd Elaine Brightwell.

Sunday 20 April – the Easter Sunday service in St Margaret's will start at 11.15pm and will also be led by Revd Elaine.



Churchyard Tidy

A dozen residents turned out for the first Chilmark churchyard tidy of 2025 on Saturday 8 March. Much clearance work was undertaken and the wall to the left of the lychgate is now visible for the first time in some years.

Focus Point

The month of April attracts mixed reviews in English literature. Chaucer sets the beginning of his Canterbury Tales in April, conjuring a picture of sweet showers, gentle winds, birdsong and the growth of flowers and crops. Robert Browning, in his 'Home Thoughts from Abroad' sighs, *Oh to be in England, now that April's there*. But TS Eliot, in *The Wasteland* strikes a gloomier note: *April is the cruellest month*.

These differences perhaps reflect the very changeable weather we often experience in April: on the one hand balmy days of blue skies and almost summer sun; and on the other torrential rains and occasionally even snow. Almost anything is possible.

These contrasts are reflected in the Church's calendar also. This April we will pass from the sombre fasting of Lent, through the mixed emotions of Holy Week, beginning with Palm Sunday (13 April) and on through the desolation of Good Friday (18 April), until we finally reach the triumph of Easter Sunday itself (20 April). All the Tisbury Churches will mark these days in their own traditional ways, and there will also be an ecumenical procession from St John's, past Sacred Heart, and up to the Methodist Chapel on Palm Sunday at 10.30am. All are welcome.

This year Easter is relatively late (the latest it can possibly be is 25 April), and people sometimes wonder why it moves around quite so much. In fact, nearly a century ago the UK Parliament passed the Easter Act 1928, which purported to fix the date of Easter on the Sunday after the second Saturday in April (ie between 9 and 15 April). What self-confidence the Imperial British had in those far-off days! But the implementation of the Act was delayed

until all the churches had been consulted and agreed, and they never have. So, the Act remains a dead letter.

The dating of Easter, which follows a lunar rather than solar calendar, has often been controversial within and between churches. When St Augustine came to Britain from Rome in 597, one of the problems he found was that the existing British Bishops calculated the date of Easter in a different way from Rome. Eventually in 664 at the Synod of Whitby, they agreed to adopt the Roman way. Today the Catholic and Protestant churches typically calculate the date differently from the Orthodox and Eastern churches, but occasionally they coincide. This year is one of those happy coincidences: all the major churches will celebrate Easter on the same day.

May I wish you all a happy and holy Easter.

Fr Jonathan Creer

From the Register in Chilmark

Further to last month's list of marriages that took place in Chilmark in 1625, 1725 & 1825, this month we include the churchyard burials during those years.

1625

7 February – Margaret Ogborne, daughter of George Ogborne

28 July – Elice Hole

3 October – Christopher Travers

10 November – Elizabeth Walker, wife of Robert Walker

20 November – Henrie Walker, son of Robert Walker

28 November – Richard Macie

1725

14 February – Thomas Lucas, of Dinton

22 February – John Furnel

31 March – Richard Lane, son of Richard Lane

21 April – William Furnel

24 June – Elise Goff, of Dinton, wife of John Goff

5 December – Anne Macy, daughter of James Macy

1825

8 April – Elizabeth Carpenter, 63, of Ridge

20 April – Fanny Kellow, 78

24 April – Henry Macey, 10 weeks

22 May – James Mould, 72

8 June – Mary Ann Warne, 8

Church Cleaning Rota

If you feel that you can help, join the Rota, please contact me on 01722 716675. Many thanks.

Judith Barrett

April	Group
6th	three
13th	four
20th	five
27th	six
May	
4th	seven



TEAM CLERGY

Revd Elaine Brightwell, (Team Vicar)

Parish Priest responsible for Barford St Martin with Burcombe, Baverstock, Chilmark, Dinton, and Teffont Evias with Teffont Magna.
email: elainebri57@gmail.com

01722 717883

Revd Jo Naish (Associate Priest) The Rectory, Park Road, Tisbury, SP3 6LF

Parish Priest responsible for Hindon with Chicklade and Pertwood
email: revdjoannanaish@gmail.com

01747 871820

CHURCHWARDENS

Chilmark, St Margaret of Antioch

Vacancy - contact Revd Elaine Brightwell

Fonthill, All Saints with Berwick St Leonard

The Hon Mary Morrison 01747 820231
Ann Kirk 01747 820542

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sacred Heart, Tisbury and All Saints' Wardour Parish - Parish Office

Fr Jonathan Creer - tisburyparish@cliftondiocese.com

01747 870228

Sacred Heart, Tisbury: Holy Mass, Sunday 9am - Weekday, Thursday 6pm

All Saints', Wardour: Holy Mass, Sunday 10.30am - Weekday, Tuesday 9.30am

TISBURY METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Revd Denise Binks, 7 Ridge Way, Shaftesbury SP7 9HB, denise.binks@gmail.com

01747 854631

Sunday Service: 10.30am

CHILMARK CHURCH, ST MARGARET OF ANTIOCH

Choir Felicity Pattenden fgpattenden@hotmail.com

Organist David Davies davidracheld@gmail.com

Bells Angus Menzies angus.menzies1@btinternet.com

01722 716271

01722 714440

01722 717925



(Proposed) Lower Nadder Benefice Services APRIL 2025												
Date	6 th April		13 th April		14 th -17 th April		18 th April		20 th April		27 th April	
	Passiontide begins		Palm Sunday		Holy Week		Good Friday		Easter Day		Easter 1	
					Maundy Thursday 1100 Chrism Eucharist Salisbury Cathedral		Devotional Services					
BARFORD	1115 AAC	EB	0930 MP	LAY	1830 Compline Monday	EB	—	—	0930 AAC	MH	0930 AAC +APCM	BH
BAVERSTOCK	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0930 PC	+RC	1800 ANZAC	EB
COMPTON	0930 AAC	MH	—	—	—	—	—	—	0930 PC	BH	—	—
DINTON	0930 AAC	EB	—	—	—	—	—	—	0930 AAC	CF/TF	0930 MP	EB
FOVANT	0800 HC _{O2T}	EB	—	—	—	—	1400	EB	0930 PC	PC	1800 ES Patronal	MH
SUTTON M'VILLE	1800 ES	EB	—	—	—	—	—	—	0930 AAC	EB	To Fovant	—
T. EVIAS	—	—	1115 AAC	EB	—	—	—	—	1115 AAC	BD	—	—
T. MAGNA	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

(Proposed) Upper Nadder Benefice Services APRIL 2025												
Date	6 th April		13 th April		Holy Week		18 th April		20 th April		27 th April	
	Passiontide begins		Palm Sunday		Holy Week		Good Friday		Easter Day		Easter 1	
					Maundy Thursday 1100 Chrism Eucharist Salisbury Cathedral		Devotional Services					
ANSTY	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
CHICKLADE	—	—	—	—	1830 Compline Tuesday	JN	—	—	0800HC _{BCP}	JN	—	—
HINDON	0930 PC	JN	0910 Procession + PC	JN	1830 Compline Wednesday	JN	1400	JN	0930 AAC	JN	1800 E	LAY
CHILMARK	1115 AAC	MH	0910 To Hindon	—	—	—	1700	EB	1115 AAC	EB	1115 M/MPr	LAY
FONTHILL BISHOP	1700 E _{BCP}	MH	0800 HC _{BCP}	EB	—	—	—	—	0930 HC _{BCP}	BB	—	—
FONTHILL GIFFORD	0800 HC _{BCP}	JN	1115 M _{BCP} +APCM	JA	—	—	1115	JA	1115 HC _{BCP}	JN	1115 M _{BCP}	JD
SWALLOWCLIFFE	1115 PC _T	JP	1800 E _{BCP}	JA	—	—	0930	JN	1115 PC	MH	1115 M _{BCP}	LAY
TISBURY	0930 AAS +APCM	JA	0900 PC followed by 1000 Procession	MG	1930 Maundy Thursday PC & Vigil	JN/JA	1330	MH	0930 PC	MC	0800 HC _{BCP} 0930 PC	EB MH

AAC All Age Communion **AAS** All Age Service **BCP** Book of Common Prayer **CW** Common Worship **CbE** Communion by Extension
E Evensong or Evening Prayer **HC** Holy Communion (said) **PC** Order 1 Communion (with hymns) **PC_O** Order 1 Communion, traditional language (with hymns)
PC_{O2T} Order 2 Communion traditional language (with hymns) **M** Mattins or Morning Prayer **MPr** Morning Praise
+AR Bishop of Ramsbury **+SL** Bishop of Salisbury **+RC** Bishop Richard Chartres **AP** Andrew Poppe **AJ** Alan Jeans **BB** Barry Blackford **BH** Barney Hopkinson
CF Colin Fox **DB** Denise Binks **EB** Elaine Brightwell **FrJ** Father Jonathan **JA** Judy Anderson **JD** Julie Dunstan **JN** Jo Naish **KPM** Paul Mellor
KR Katharine Rumens **MC** Michael Camp **MG** Michael Goater **MaG** Maggie Guillebaud **MH** Mark Hayter **PC** Patricia Clegg **PG** Paul Gorford **NW** Nigel Worn
SE Simon Evans **TF** Tina Fox **TM** Rev Canon Tony Monds

The Village Voice

Ansty May Day

Join traditional May Day celebrations on Bank Holiday Monday 5 May, 1pm until 5pm, around the Maypole in Ansty High Street. The event will be raising funds for Julia's House Hospice. May Day originally marked the return of summer and the encouragement of fertile crops. Ansty's charming yearly celebration, with its origins dating back hundreds of years, continues the tradition. In the late 16th century, the Arundells of Wardour Castle bought the Manor of Ansty and they provided the Maypole, encouraging their tenants' children to dance round it on 1 May. The tradition has remained ever since, except during the Commonwealth period 1644-1660, when Oliver Cromwell forbade all forms of music and entertainment. Happily, it was revived at the Restoration in 1660. The Maypole is in the same position to this day and traditionally cut from Wardour woods. The current 50-foot pole replaced a 98-foot pole, thought to be the second tallest in England, which was blown down by a gale in 1993.

All are welcome to join the festivities around the Maypole to watch the talented young Maypole dancers and the procession and crowning of the May Queen and her attendant. Enjoy live music, Morris dancers, stalls, a raffle, a licensed bar and hot food.

FontFest – date for the diary

Make a note of Saturday 21 June, 6pm til late, for FontFest, a midsummer celebration opposite the Fonthill Bishop Reading Room. BYO picnic and drinks, local musicians and family fun. More details to follow.

Tisbury Flower Group

On Tuesday 29 April, 7pm, we will be welcoming Mary Ann Farmer to Hinton Hall, Tisbury. She will be presenting and helping us with a workshop under the title *Floral Tapestry*. Visitors are always welcome at our meetings so why not come along and meet some new friends, enjoy the hands-on experience and involvement of this workshop and have some fun.

Tisbury Flower Group are excited to be included in *The Spirit of Water* Flower Festival at Salisbury Cathedral this year, taking place from Monday 12 to Sunday 18 May. There will be stunning displays of floral arrangements inspired by water in many forms. Tisbury Flower Group, together with neighbouring flower groups, will be creating a floral display depicting the Five Rivers of Salisbury. We are a small team lead by Chrissie Eden representing and creating a floral arrangement of the River Nadder. We are really looking forward to this wonderful event but we do need a little help. We are required to take our own foliage and blossom. This needs to be small and delicate, silver or sage colour greenery. If anyone has anything growing that you are happy to donate, please contact us (see details below) by the end of April or sooner to discuss details; thank you.

We meet in the Hinton Hall, Tisbury, on the last Tuesday of each month (except December) and we have further demonstrations, workshops and social events planned for the rest of the year. Keep a look out for our monthly details posted in and around Tisbury. Please note, visitors pay a small fee of £6; refreshments are served at all meetings and included in the fee. For further information please contact: Bernadette Watson 01747 228271 / blwatson4@gmail.com or Sally Hughes 01747 820700 / hughessal@btinternet.com

Need Help with Technology?

Practical Help with Technology sessions are being run at Tisbury's Nadder Centre, Weaveland Road, on Tuesday 15 April, from 1-4pm. The initiative is being organised by South West Wilts Area Board and there will be no charge for the one-to-one sessions lasting between 45 and 60 minutes. Refreshments will also be provided. Anyone interested can bring their phone, laptop or tablet. For more information, or to book a slot, contact:

Karlene Jammeh on 01722 434437
karlene.jammeh@wiltshire.gov.uk or
Catherine Pearcey on 01225 718685
catherine.piercey@wiltshire.gov.uk

Footballers wanted

Players are needed for a new Men's Saturday Football team being started by Salisbury Rovers FC. Training starts on Thursday 24 April 7-8pm on the outside pitches at Five Rivers Leisure Centre, Salisbury. Anyone interested in joining should contact: salisburyroversfc@outlook.com or text 07543 654971.

Chair Yoga Classes, Free!

Weekly Chair Yoga classes are being run in Hinton Hall, Tisbury, on Tuesdays, by Tisbury Memory Group in conjunction with Vanilla Yoga. Thanks to funding from Sport England, the classes are free for everyone, up until 22 July. Everyone is welcome and no prior experience of yoga is needed. Anyone can do it, whatever their ability. Chair Yoga involves gentle yoga moves adapted for the chair that will help ease stiffness in your body, improve mobility and balance and help you build core strength. Postural alignment makes breathing techniques more efficient and helps to relieve aches and pains. The inclusion of simple mindfulness and relaxation techniques also help ease stress and fatigue and promote a greater sense of wellbeing. The classes take place on Tuesday mornings, 11.15am-12.15pm (no classes on 8 & 15 April or 27 May & 3 June); no need to book – just turn up on the day. For more info, contact: anna@vanillayoga.co.uk

Changes in Village Life

The following piece was written by the late Chilmark resident Maurice Flower for a commemorative booklet marking the 700th anniversary of Chilmark Church in 1980. Mr Flower was born in Chilmark in 1899 and lived in a number of different houses in the village including Cleeves Farm (where he farmed and brought up his family) and then Dial House in Becketts Lane, and subsequently Whitehill, Becketts Lane. Following his death in 1988, Maurice was buried alongside his late wife in Chilmark churchyard (gravestone pictured):

Life has changed in the villages; here in Chilmark in the last century practically all the houses were built of Chilmark stone, with a rougher type of thatching drooping down over the windows-like a very shaggy bob-tailed old English sheepdog with its eyes peeping out. In some cases the walls were built of chalk with chopped straw, or flints and lime between courses of bricks, and are still standing today. Most of the inhabitants then and later worked on the farms or at the local stone quarries, and there were only some seven or eight larger houses, including the farmhouses and Rectory in Chilmark Park (now known as the Old Rectory).

In previous times the main street and water course used to run largely side by side without much diversion, without a well-defined channel, so often flooding one another, to the amusement of the children.

The Village Voice

In the last century at harvest a gang of strappers, mainly Irish, used to come to cut the grain with their scythes, starting in the Downton area and working on to Salisbury, Chilmark and the Deverills, as the corn ripened, with the local women gathering it into sheaves, to be later stacked into ricks on top of staddle stones to keep it safe from rats, and mice, while making a good food store for little wild birds in winter. Later on, more machines were used, like the self-tying binder pulled by horses, so the local village labour were largely able to cope; many barrels of real cider were made in the autumn on the farm and this was issued out at hay harvest and other times, and had a very enlivening effect on those not used to it. All the young boys used to help leading and driving the horses at an early age, and very efficient they were, and also at loading the wagons.

At tea-time the women used to walk up from the village bringing food for the men, and often pushing tiny children in the prams, when some thirty persons would all gather and be seated around the rick, after the horses had been watered and given hay or their nosebags.

A large number of shire horses were kept and bred for farm work, being more than seventy and foals of varying ages, and including those for haulage of coal and the local Carrier Cart. The Carrier was the only means for folk to get goods to and from the town, so the Carrier went on Tuesdays and Saturdays and would bring anything, from a reel of cotton or bloomer elastic to a pig from market for the cottagers' sty. The Village Hall (Reading Room) was more of a working man's club for darts and billiards etc and provided a popular rendezvous for troops and RAF during the war when used as a canteen and run by the WI.

The children could play with hoops and go-karts down the village street with no cars about, while we had our own village policeman, and a road man to keep the area tidy. The blacksmith and carpenter were most important people in keeping the village life turning. There being no piped water supplies to the fields, Dew Ponds had to be constructed for the sheep to drink from, and these were dug and maintained by skilled men named Mitchell from Chitterne who were helped by local farm labour; these ponds had to be repaired every twenty-five or thirty years.

It was most important to have a good flock of sheep on the farms in order to maintain the fertility since artificial manures were not available at that time, and this was generally written into the farmers agreement when renting a farm, the Pembrokes owning all the land from Wilton to Fonthill. When the sheep were sold in the autumn they went by the old Ox Drove with the shepherd and dog to the local fairs at Westbury Hill, Wylve, Weyhill, Britford and Wilton. At the latter fair there could be up to one hundred and twenty thousand sheep in a day gathering in at dawn; the auctioneer walked along on a plank above the hurdles to sell them.

In those days one had to make a good deal of one's own amusement; I remember one night at a neighbour's farm where we had been rook shooting a rather strange thing occurred: after a good supper about eleven o'clock our host rang the bell for the groom to put Mr Chalker's horse in the trap so that he could drive home; after a little while the maid came in and said *Mr. Mills is very sorry that he can't do anything about it as the horse has had a fit and got up in the loft*. We all went out to the yard to look and there was the horse looking out of the door about fifteen feet above the ground. Mr. Chalker had to wait until the next day to find the way to get his horse down!!

On another occasion we whitewashed the pony of one of our party and when he saw it, he swore it was not his horse, and refused to take it, so he too had to wait until next day, when the horse was washed and he accepted it!!

Poaching was very popular by gangs at this time when millions of rabbits infested the countryside and also gave sport to the shooting fraternity, the local professional poaching gang made quite a living from them. Two or three men used to get one of their women to drive them along the old Roman Road in the morning - now the A303 - and drop them off in the bushes with their nets, ferrets and tools, arranging where to pick them up in the evening with their rabbits.

Now, one day the keeper heard them down in Low Pen Wood, and he being rather nervous shouted out loudly *Wot he got about in there?* After a short time he went down to investigate, and found some purse nets over the rabbit holes: he picks these up as well as a ferret which came out, and puts them in his pocket: and being thus encouraged has a good look round and finds twelve rabbits hidden and covered with leaves, so he puts them on a stick on his back, and walks off down to tell maister how well he has done: when he gets down to the Ox Drove a man walks up to him and asks him the time, so he gets out his old watch and the man grabs the rabbits and runs off with them: a man thatching a rick nearby said: *He runned just like a bicycle!* I knew both these men well.

On another occasion these poachers rode up through Hindon on their bicycles with their rabbit snares all displayed on their arms, so the keeper watched and saw them all being set up at Great Ridge: now he and his mate had a good chance to catch the poachers, so they waited and kept watch all night, for the men to come and collect their rabbits, but they knowing when the keeper were in wait, went off in the opposite direction to Tisbury woods and had a good night's sport shooting pheasants!



Tisbury Surgery

The Spring covid vaccination season will shortly commence. Our main clinic will be held at the Surgery on Saturday 26 April and we will offer other opportunities to receive the vaccination should eligible patients be unable to attend that day. Please look out for a text invitation which will be sent to all those who are eligible under national guidelines – and for whom we hold mobile phone numbers.

Some of you may have seen the First Contact Physiotherapist at the practice. The Integrated Care Board has appointed another provider as from 1 April 2025 and regrettably will not be providing this service, so it is currently suspended.

As our trainee Advanced Nurse Practitioner (Sam Turner) continues his training and nears final qualification, we are delighted to welcome Nurse Donna Sharp to the nursing team. Like Sam, she has a special interest in asthma, and will be specialising in this area as well as covering other nurse duties, such as child immunisations, cytology, travel vaccinations, wounds etc. This will allow Sam further to develop his advanced practitioner role.

Wishing you all a happy Easter – hopefully with the promise of sunshine!
Dr Adam Smith

Recycling & Waste Collections April 2025

Tuesday 1	Blue lid – mixed dry recycling Black box – glass & recycling Green lid – chargeable garden waste (no household compost)
Wednesday 9	Grey bin - household waste
Tuesday 15	Blue lid, Black Box, Green lid
Wednesday 23	Grey Bin
Tuesday 29	Blue lid, Black Box, Green lid

Putting the wrong things in the recycling bin may result in it not being emptied.
For more information about what and how to recycle, visit:
www.wiltshire.gov.uk/recycling

Wiltshire Household Recycling Centres – summer opening times as from 1 April 2025:

- **Amesbury:** every day except Tuesday & Wednesday, 9am-4pm Mills Way, Boscombe Down Business Park, Amesbury, SP4 7RX / 01980 623 160
- **Salisbury:** every day except Thursday, 9am-4pm Stephenson Road, Churchfields Industrial Estate, SP2 7NP / 01722 322309
- **Warminster:** every day except Wednesday & Thursday, 9am-4pm Furnax Lane, Warminster, BA12 8PE / 01985 211427

Before visiting your local Household Recycling Centre (HRC), check the following page to see if your items can be disposed of: www.wiltshire.gov.uk/household-recycling-centres-what-you-can-bring

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Fonthill House Open Gardens

Salisbury Hospice is delighted to have been chosen by Lord Margadale as the charity to benefit from the second opening of 2025 of Fonthill House Gardens on Sunday 27 April, 12noon-5pm. Please do come to support this charity so desperately in need of the generosity of donations, and at the same time have the opportunity to wander around the incredible gardens of Fonthill House. You'll find amongst many other things: formal areas, a no-dig kitchen garden, beautiful herbaceous beds with Tulips, Agapanthus, Delphiniums & Euphorbias to name but a few. Then there'll be the Cherry blossom to marvel over, the Cornus trees hopefully in full glorious flower, the magnificent Magnolias, Rhododendrons, Camellias, Azaleas & Acacias, not forgetting of course the bluebells that will be awash under the trees (fingers crossed) as you drive up to the house. There is also small a selection of old and new sculptures including a water feature by William Pye (almost identical to the one in Salisbury Cathedral which is also a working font).

Fonthill House has an extraordinary history. We'll have information boards up near the refreshments tent telling you all about it, and also booklets for sale with the information should you wish to go home with a memento. There will be stalls selling a range of items, a refreshments tent selling all sorts of delicious things throughout the day, a wine stall, ice cream van, and other delights.

Well behaved dogs are welcome on leads. Unfortunately, there is restricted wheelchair access. Lord Margadale will be here to meet & greet you so do please find him to say hello. His Head Gardener, Jack Greenwood, will also be here for any questions you might have about the garden, the plants, the trees, or the vegetable garden. He will be accompanied by his two Assistants who will be wearing orange high viz so easily identifiable.

Tickets £12 on the gate, or £10 booked in advance. Free entry for children under 12. Come along, enjoy a beautiful day out, and help make a difference! If you are planning to book your tickets in advance, then please have these ready for inspection when you arrive at the gate, either as a screenshot or a printed version. We very much look forward to seeing you. Booking at: shorturl.at/ORFJC

Walk for Wards 2025

Salisbury Hospital's fundraising charity Stars Appeal is urging residents to take part in this year's Walk for Wards on Sunday 6 July at Wilton House, marking the 20th anniversary of this flagship event. Participants can choose from four different distances, with something to offer for all levels of fitness: 3km, 5km, 10km and – new for 2025 – 15 kms. Register FREE to take part at: starsappeal.org



Wylve Valley Art Trail

The bi-annual Wylve Valley Art Trail returns on Saturday 3 to Sunday 11 May. Some 250 Artists will be exhibiting their work at 82 venues, including numerous venues within easy reach of Chilmark. Resident Furniture designer Martin Simpson will be displaying his pieces at Field Barn Buildings, Ridge Farm, whilst there will be exhibitions featuring Painting, Sculpture, Jewellery, Ceramics, Photography and Glass work in Teffont Magna, Fonthill Bishop, Fonthill Gifford, Berwick St Leonard and Hindon, plus dozens of other shows in Tisbury, Chicks Grove, Swallowcliffe and Ansty, as well as further afield.

Free Art Trail Guides can be picked up from visitor centres, libraries, arts centres and many other places in and around Wiltshire. You can get one from the first art trail event that you visit or send a stamped (£2.10), self-addressed standard C5 size envelope (to take A5 brochure) to: Wylve Valley Art Trail, Bull Mill Cottage, Crockerton, Warminster. BA12 8AY and we'll put one in the post. To find out more information online, visit: wvat.co.uk

NewVic Tisbury

Friday 11 April 7.30pm – Billy Elliot the Musical Live, presented by Big Screen Musicals, marking the 20th anniversary of this production. Based on the Academy Award nominated film, Billy Elliot the Musical has won the hearts of millions since it opened in London's West End in 2005. Set in a northern mining town, against the background of the 1984/85 miners' strike, Billy's journey takes him out of the boxing ring and into a ballet class where he discovers a passion for dance that inspires his family and whole community and changes his life forever. The original creative team behind the film, including writer Lee Hall (book & lyrics), director Stephen Daldry, and choreographer, Peter Darling, is joined by music legend Elton John (music) to produce a funny, uplifting and spectacular theatrical experience that will stay with you forever. Running time: 163 minutes including interval.

Sunday 13 April, 7pm - Magic Lantern Film Club presents the 2017 French documentary *Faces Places* (12) directed by renowned filmmaker Agnès Varda and artist JR. The film documents the duo as they journey through rural France, capturing the portraits of the people they meet along the way. Their collaborative process leads them to create large-scale portraits, which are then displayed on buildings and other public spaces, leaving a profound impact on both the subjects and the communities they visit.

Tickets and more details for all the above available online or from newvictisbury@gmail.com or call 0300 302 3090 - www.newvictisbury.com/events



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The Village Voice

Wiltshire Police News

Dogs under control, please!

On Friday 21 March the Fonthill Estate suffered a fatal dog attack on a sheep, in which a ewe and her lambs were killed by two chocolate labradors. The photos and video of the attack – filmed by a passing motorist – are considered too horrific to be posted. In the wake of the incident, Wiltshire Police issued a plea to dog owners to act responsibly by keeping their dogs on leads and under control. PC Howick of the Rural Crime Team said: *Over recent weeks, Wiltshire Police have seen an increase in the number of reports of sheep being attacked by dogs. We are asking the public, when out enjoying the countryside, that you are vigilant and respectful of sheep in fields. If you witness a dog chasing or attacking livestock, call 999. Even if livestock cannot be seen, it is best to keep your dog on a lead as it could run into neighbouring fields containing livestock and spook or injure them. Dogs chasing livestock without causing physical injury can still cause devastating impacts, as pregnant ewes may suffer a miscarriage and the animals may injure themselves in an attempt to run from the chase.*

Just four days after this Police plea, Fonthill Estate was appalled to receive reports and video of yet another dog chasing sheep, this time in a field by The Beckford Arms. They put out the following statement: *Dogs off leads around livestock is unacceptable. There are signs on the gates across the Estate reminding dog owners to keep their pets on leads. There are gates into fields which don't have signs on; these gates are NOT footpaths and should not be used by the public. No dog should be trusted around livestock. This post is a reminder to all our visitors that this is a working farm; there are sheep grazing in and around footpaths. Keep your dogs on leads. If you are seen off a footpath and if your dogs are not on a lead around livestock, there will be consequences.*

Meanwhile, during the same week in March, a Chilmark resident walking through the village was bitten by a dog on a lead, but not under control. Dog owners are reminded that under the Countryside Code, it is a legal requirement between 1 March & 31 July for dogs to be kept on a short lead of no more than 2 metres on Open Access land, even if there is no livestock on the land. A farmer can shoot a dog that is attacking or chasing livestock and may not be liable to compensate the dog's owner.

Subsequent to the second sheep worrying incident on the Fonthill Estate, the Wiltshire Rural Crime Team have undertaken high visibility evening patrols of the area. This coincides with an upturn in reports of all-terrain vehicle (ATV) thefts, including quad bikes, across the Warmminster, Tisbury and Mere areas. Since the beginning of the year, 12 quad bikes or ATVs have been reported stolen to Wiltshire Police, however it's believed the actual figure may be higher with some thefts not being reported.

PC Howick carried out farm patrols and engaged with people living in rural areas to offer crime prevention and safety advice, as well as advising dog owners to keep their dogs under control and on leads. Wiltshire Police advise ATV owners to remain vigilant and ensure their vehicles are stored securely, with keys removed out of sight. More information and crime prevention tips can be found on the Wiltshire Police website.

Registered to Vote?

Local elections are taking place on Thursday 1 May and you have until midnight on Friday 11 April to register to vote. Poll cards have been sent out in the post, so keep an

eye out for them. If you haven't yet registered, visit: www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

Meanwhile, you will need to take Photo ID with you to the polling station (Chilmark Reading Room) on the day of the election. The following forms of Photo ID are acceptable but they must be the original document rather than a photocopy of it:

- Passport
- Driving Licence
- Blue Badge
- Older Person's Bus Pass
- Disabled Person's Bus Pass

Other forms of acceptable ID can be found at site below: www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voting-and-elections/voter-id/accepted-forms-photo-id

Church Electoral Roll update

If you wish to remain on, or be added to, Chilmark's Electoral Church Roll, it's time to act. Being on the electoral roll gives a person a voice in local church matters and it is a requirement of the Church of England for the rolls to be revised every six years. This year's electoral roll application forms are available in St Margaret's, Chilmark; the completed form needs to be returned to the Revd Elaine Brightwell by 30 April, latest. For anyone wishing to remain on, or join Chilmark's Parochial Church Council (PCC), it is essential they are on the new electoral roll. If you know of anyone who might wish to apply for re-enrolment, but is unable to access the church, please can you ensure they have a copy of the form. Thank you. For further information, please contact Revd Elaine on 01722 717883 or elainebri57@gmail.com

Wiltshire Police

Tisbury Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT)

Inspector Louise Oakley

louise.oakley@wiltshire.police.uk

Sergeant Josef Sadowski

josef.sadowski@wiltshire.police.uk

Police Constable Georgina Russell

georgina.russell@wiltshire.police.uk

PCSO Stewart Hunt

stewart.hunt@wiltshire.police.uk

Emergency: call 999 - Non-urgent: call 101

Or report online at www.wiltshire.police.uk



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susan@chilmarkvillagevoice.co.uk

The Village Voice

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