



Published by Fyfield, West
Overton and East Kennett
Parish Church Council for
Upper Kennet Benefice

UPPER KENNET NEWS

December 2022



CHRISTMAS BAZAAR



Saturday 3rd December
10am to 4pm

Kennet Valley Hall

- ❖ Home-made cakes, jams etc. and produce
- ❖ White elephant stands
- ❖ Bottle stall
- ❖ Christmas cards, decorations, calendars
- ❖ 'Little Angels' children's stands, craft, gifts, face and nail painting and more!
- ❖ Exceptional raffle
- ❖ Woolley sheep felt emporium
- ❖ Homemade gifts
- ❖ Honey stall

INDOOR REFRESHMENTS
OUTDOOR HOT DOG STAND
plus

CHRISTMAS TREE SALE

Any queries call 01672 861786 or 861798

*In aid of our Churches at West Overton,
East Kennett & Fyfield*





Church Christmas Tree Sale
3rd December
Kennet Valley Hall
10 am – 4 pm



This year Christmas trees generally have increased in price from the wholesalers, but we have restricted our price increases as far as possible to remain very competitive. All our trees are locally grown and are premium Nordman Fir. All our profits are spent on maintaining our churches at West Overton, Fyfield and East Kennett.

<u>Height</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
4/5 ft	£30	<input type="text"/>
5/6 ft	£40	<input type="text"/>
6/7 ft	£50	<input type="text"/>
7/8 ft	£60	<input type="text"/>
8/9 ft	£80	<input type="text"/>

Tick for selected option:

- ☐ Free delivery
- ☐ Choose tree on the day and free delivery
- ☐ Choose and collect on the day

Payment Methods

- ☐ **BACS Payment.** Sort code: 30-92-63 Account 01498496
- ☐ **Cheques** payable to **Upper Kennet Churches Council** and post/deliver/email (with payment if applicable) to:
The Church Office, St Michael & All Angels' Church, Church Hill,
West Overton, SN8 4ER. (letter box near east end gates to the church).
01672 861798
Email: graham@grahamkitchen.com

Name.....Tel no.....

e-mail.....

Address.....

.....

Postcode.....

Help the driver find you! Additional delivery instructions or a what3words address (<https://what3words.com>)



UPPER KENNET NEWS

December 2022

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Overton and East Kennett
Diocesan Church Council for
Upper Kennet Benefice

Kennet Valley Lottery Club draw winners

£100 Number 66 Jacqui Taylor
£75 Number 16 Linda Davies
£50 Number 101 Jean Flood

(Some winners prefer that their names are not published, in which case we just state the winning number)

If you would like to join the lottery, please pick up an application form from any church, or ring Graham Kitchen on 01672 861798 or email grahamkitchen.com
Another way to support our churches at West Overton, Fyfield and East Kennett

100 Club Draw Results for April

1st	£48.00	9	Mark Saunders
2nd	£36.00	41	Martyn Meeks
3rd	£24.00	30	Wendy Bowring
4th	£12.00	81	Philip Shepherdson

(some winners prefer that their names are not published)

If you would like to join the lottery ring Richard Nutt on 01672539611 or email richard@184systems.com

Your way to help support the churches of Winterbourne Monkton and Berwick Bassett
Lottery is licensed by Wiltshire Council

Notice Board

Baptisms

Maisie Oakley West Overton 6 November
Max Norman Broad Hinton 6 November

Funerals

Huw Roberts West Overton 11 November
Francis Brannan Avebury 15 November

Burial of Ashes

Robert Robinson East Kennett 15 October
Sue Gallagher West Overton 23 October

"A brief respite from everyday pressures – a time of peace, calm and silent reflection."

MEDITATION (TAIZÉ) Service

Every fortnight on a Wednesday evening at East Kennett Church from 6.30 to 6.55pm:
a chance to just sit quietly and relax and enjoy the silence and the peace by candlelight, with a background of occasional singing and some words of wisdom.

Future dates for your diary:
Wednesday 7th December &
Wednesday 11th January.

A View from the Rectory

I have been thinking about Christmas in the midst of the economic crisis and international insecurity and whether all that troubles us might enable us to look beyond the fakery of commercialism to the heart of Christmas- Love Divine living in the grit and reality of Life right here, right now. An elderly lady I met recently told me about Christmas 1944 in bombed-out Birmingham. Patsy, then aged 10, was talking to me about how she felt about the current crisis - I found so much hope in her story- and I pray you do too.

In the midst of constant bombing and short rations Patsy was delighted at being allowed to stay up on Christmas Eve to go to midnight mass - it was a big adventure, out at night during the blackout. It was also a bit scary! Her younger brother decided he was going to look after her and every time he heard a noise yelled 'Who goes there, halt in the name of the King!'

They had no Christmas Tree, no lights, only home-made paper chains, and little else. Christmas pudding made from the carefully hoarded fruit, sugar and suet rations was so awful it made her sick, but eat it they did. Her father 'dug for Britain' and their 160ft council house garden was full of vegetables. Christmas Day in 1944 the family had as many potatoes, cabbages and brussels sprouts as you could eat AND a chicken – the first meat since Easter. Eggs or no eggs? Not much of a choice as they weren't laying anyway!

But what makes Christmas 1944 vivid in Patsy's memory was when two men in British uniforms and a German prisoner of war arrived at her home. The POW was 19 years old, and very blonde. Through the local church, her father had agreed to host a prisoner on Christmas Day. She vividly recalls him standing up, thanking them, crying, and then he sat down and wept again. She was puzzled by the reaction of friends at school when they were shocked. He was an enemy they said. Jesus said Love them- so they did their best to cheer him up, this was Patsy's take on things.

'We didn't feel the austerity at Christmas – we just saw love and safety and our parents taught us to share.

In 1949 the whole family moved to India as Dad got a job with the Board of Trade, and they left the austerity of England behind. The food on board was a revelation – plentiful and good compared to 5 years of war. The boat docked in Aden, and Maureen, Patsy's sister called her and said: 'Look, look!'. The ship was throwing out waste food, and in the water, there were some oranges bobbing around. It was unbelievable, she says in a quiet voice, 'like staring at gold being thrown away. I never waste a scrap, never.'

Her story got me thinking – This Christmas we are not restricted by numbers, isolation, masks or social distancing. For this reason, we may take delight in our freedom to share whatever it is we have by way of food, time, prayers, and presence with others. This Christmas we might invite an unexpected guest to come and share in the feast with us and find ourselves as Blessed as Patsy's family. We might even turn our footsteps to church to ponder again the story of a King, born not in wealth but poverty, not a powerful leader but a humble child, for whom sharing was second nature and living in love just who HE was.

Happy, Loving, Caring, Sharing, Welcoming, Blessing filled, Peaceful Christmas to you. May we all find this and more in the open stable door and open doors of our homes.

Editor's Note

Contributions for the January edition must be in by noon on Monday 12th December to ensure that we can meet the print and delivery by Christmas.

Many thanks for your support and contributions over 2022.
I hope you all have a joyful Christmas!

UPPER KENNET CHURCHES SERVICES

	St Nicholas FYFIELD	St Michael & All Angels WEST OVERTON	Christ Church EAST KENNETT	St James AVEBURY	St Mary Magdalene WINTERB'NE MONKTON	St Katherine & St Peter WINTERB'NE BASSETT	St Peter ad Vincula BROAD HINTON
4 December Advent 2	<u>8.30 am</u> Prayer Book Communion					<u>10.30 am</u> Morning Service	<u>10 am</u> Benefice Communion Service & Plant Family Baptisms
Wednesday 7 December			<u>6.30 pm</u> Meditation Service (Taizé)	<u>10.30 am</u> Celtic Communion			
11 December Advent 3		<u>11 am</u> Morning Service		<u>10 am</u> Benefice Communion Service	<u>BERWICK BASSETT</u> <u>3pm</u> Carol Service		<u>4.30 pm</u> Tea & Christingle Service
Wednesday 14 December				<u>10.30 am</u> Celtic Communion			
18 December Advent 4		<u>5 pm</u> Carol Service	<u>8 am</u> Prayer Book Communion	<u>4.30 pm</u> Carols by Candlelight	<u>10 am</u> Benefice Communion Service <u>3 pm</u> Crib Service		<u>6 pm</u> Carols by Candlelight
Monday 19 December	<u>6.30 pm</u> Carol Service						
Tuesday 20 December						<u>7 pm</u> Carols at the Pub	
Wednesday 21 December				<u>10.30 am</u> Celtic Communion			
Saturday 24 December Christmas Eve		<u>5 pm</u> Crib Service <u>11.30 pm</u> Midnight Mass		<u>4 pm</u> Crib Service <u>10 pm</u> First Mass of Christmas	<u>3 pm</u> Carols round the Crib	<u>3 pm</u> Crib Service	<u>11.30 pm</u> Midnight Mass
25 December Christmas Day	<u>8.30am</u> Holy Communion		<u>11 am</u> Christmas Service		<u>10 am</u> Holy Communion	<u>10.30 am</u> Christmas Service	
Sunday 1 January 2023							<u>10 am</u> Broad Hinton Benefice Communion Service

Thank you

David's unexpected passing has been the saddest of times me and my family. But the overwhelming Kindness and goodwill we have received from the local community, has made this most difficult phase in our lives a little easier and for that I cannot thank you enough.

With warm wishes from
Josephine Snape

Morning Prayer 8.30-9am daily

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

For more details, the service sheet and the zoom link, contact:

Rev'd Maria Shepherdson:
01672 539643 or revmariashpherdson@outlook.com



Readings

Sunday 4 December – Purple 2nd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11.1-10
Psalm 72.1-7,18-19 [or 72.1-7]
Romans 15.4-13
Matthew 3.1-12

Sunday 11 December – Purple

3rd Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 35.1-10
Psalm 146.4-10 or the Magnificat
James 5.7-10
Matthew 11.2-11

Sunday 18 December – Purple

4th Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 7.10-16
Psalm 80.1-8,18-20 [or 80.1-8]
Romans 1.1-7
Matthew 1.18-end

24 December Christmas Eve and 25 December Christmas Day - Gold or White

Isaiah 9.2-7 or Isaiah 52.7-10
Luke 2.1-1 John 1.1-14

1 January 2023 – White Naming & Circumcision of Jesus

Galatians 4.4-7
Luke 2.15-21

Upper Kennet Churches Christmas Services

CAROL SERVICES

Sunday 11 December

Berwick Bassett	3 pm	Carol Service
Broad Hinton	4.30 pm	Tea & Christingle Service

Tuesday 14 December

Winterbourne Monkton	5 pm	Crib Service
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Sunday 18 December

Winterbourne Monkton	3 pm	Crib Service
Avebury	4.30 pm	Carols by Candlelight
West Overton	5 pm	Outdoor Carol Service
Broad Hinton	6 pm	Carols by Candlelight

Monday 19 December

Fyfield	6.30 pm	Carols by Candlelight in Anstice Baring's field
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Tuesday 20 December

Winterbourne Bassett	7 pm	Carols by Candlelight
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CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve

Winterbourne Bassett	3 pm	Crib Service
Winterbourne Monkton	3 pm	Carols round the Crib
Avebury	4 pm	Crib Service
Avebury	10 pm	First Mass of Christmas
West Overton	5 pm	Outdoor Crib Service
West Overton	11.30 pm	Midnight Mass
Broad Hinton	11.30 pm	Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

Fyfield	8.30 am	Christmas Communion
Winterbourne Monkton	10 am	Christmas Communion
Winterbourne Bassett	10.30 am	Christmas Service
East Kennett	11 am	Christmas Morning Family Service



Warm Wednesdays at the Avebury Social Centre

**21st December,
18th January
1.30—4.30pm**

**Tea, coffee, biscuits
and chat**

**All welcome! Feel free to
bring**

**your knitting, books,
games, puzzles**

**Call 01672 539253 if you
would like transport**

HAROLD (JIM) DURNFORD RIP

**Jill would like to thank family and friends
for their kindness during "Jim's" illness and
demise and also everyone who sent sympathy
cards. Generous donations, in memory of
Jim, amounting to £510.60 will be donated to
PALS at the GWH.**

St James Avebury

CHRISTMAS SERVICES



**Carols by Candlelight
Sunday 18th December 4.30pm
Refreshments afterwards**

Crib Service

Christmas Eve 24th December 4pm

A SHORT service for children of all ages

First Mass of Christmas with **LIVE music**

Christmas Eve 10pm

**We look forward to welcoming you and sharing in the joy of being
together as a community**

NEWS FROM THE TOWER

The bells have been muffled more often recently than usual, owing to the Queen's death and funeral. Then on 13th November the following rang six half muffled bells for the annual Remembrance Day Service. Nicola Greenwood, Michele Lomas, Andy and Kathryn Miller, James, Samuel and Sean Tye and Brian Vickers. Michele Lomas played the Last Post and Reveille, on the trombone, as she always does. Half muffling means that if ringing the bells in sequence, 1 to 6, the bells sound normal but are quieter on the following 6 strokes. To quote a well known ringer, Steve Colman "Half muffled ringing can sound very beautiful. There is a haunting peaceful quality to it that ordinary open ringing cannot match". I always thought it sounded like an echo. Brian Vickers has tried, in vain, to find out when muffling bells to mark a death was started. The Calne and Devizes ringers' Carol Service and tea will be in the Devizes Branch this year with Calne providing the sweets and Devizes the savouries. Readers for the service will be from both branches. It is always a lovely occasion. Ringing for the Christmas services is always special as is ringing the New year in.

The Branch AGM will be at Avebury on 14th January, 2023.

Mary Davidge



St James' Church, Avebury Traditional Plough Sunday Service

with Holy Communion

**10.30am, Sunday
8th January**

**Come to the Wassail on Saturday 1-4pm
Then join us the next day for a traditional Plough Sunday
service**

*Bring your tools and seeds for blessing as we sing
'We Plough the Fields and Scatter'.*

*Celebrate our farming tradition at the start of the new
agricultural year.*

Bless the earth and promise to cherish it.

Fact file: Acupuncture

Acupuncture means to puncture with a needle from Latin Acus ("needle") and puncture.. It is widely accepted that acupuncture originated in China and spread through the east. However, the story goes back even further to Neolithic times in Europe. Academic research on Europe's oldest preserved human, a 5,300-year-old Tyrolean (Austrian) nicknamed "Otzi", was found to have tattoos indicating acupuncture points along with puncture marks from needles likely made from stone or bone. Acupuncture could be said to be as old as humanity.

Over time numerous variations have developed but Traditional Chinese (TC) acupuncture persists in popularity, likely due to its holistic approach meaning outcomes can be transformative for patients whole (mind-body-soul). The theory behind TC acupuncture is that the healthy functioning of the body is governed by the flow of "Qi" (pronounced Chee and often translated as "energy" or "life force" in English) through a system of channels beneath the skin. The flow of Qi can be disrupted in many ways: emotional upset, physical trauma, poor diet and overwork are all common examples. When the flow is compromised, pain and disease can occur. The practice of inserting ultra-fine, single use, sterile needles at various points along the channels allows the body's balance and health to be restored. Research into acupuncture as a medical treatment has grown exponentially in the past 20 years, increasing at twice the rate of research into conventional biomedicine. A wide-variety of clinical areas have been studied, including pain, cancer, pregnancy, stroke, mood disorders, sleep disorders and inflammation, to name a few. The World Health Organisation has reviewed published data and summarised a list of 100 disorders and diseases that have been shown, through controlled clinical trials, to be treated effectively. Many healthcare insurance companies will now accept treatments under registered and insured practitioners allowing people to access this safe form of medicine. Although we may not have grown up with this medicine in the UK its becoming more widely known, used and accepted. One of the huge benefits being its lack of any significant negative side effects, but don't be surprised if you get acupuncture for joint pain that your sleep and digestion are also improved.

Despite acupuncture being an ancient modality it remains suited to modern life and it does not need to operate in isolation it can work well alongside and offer complimentary treatment of patients receiving more conventional allopathic medicine for example cancer care support or assisted fertility. If you are interested in finding out more about acupuncture please don't hesitate to get in contact with Lucy Humphries at Appleyard Acu.

Wassail



(To or be Blessed)

*We invite you to join us for a
traditional folk blessing for our apple
trees and land.*

*Noisy children with pots and pans to
bang very, very welcome*

*We shall Wassail, Wassail all over the town
(well village actually)*

*We will bless apple trees throughout the village,
including the Community Shop, Henge Shop,
Avebury Community Orchard and the Avebury
Manor Orchard where there will be traditional
children's treats with the Lord of the Manor.*

*We will perform seasonal songs, music, a Plough
Play and the Rector will bless the plough in the
National Trust farm yard. After which we will all
process the plough and present it to Katie and
Jonathan Guest and our local farmers for the
success of our local farms and the coming harvest.
From there the plough will be processed to the
Church ready for Sunday's traditional Plough
Sunday service.*

*When: Wassail Saturday 7th January at 1300
2023, top of Avebury High Street in the Coach
House courtyard
Plough Sunday Church Service 1030 Sunday 8th
January 2023 in St James, Avebury*

AVEBURY SOCIAL CENTRE

The Avebury Social Centre Committee held their quarterly meeting on October 27th 2022 where it was confirmed amongst other items that the dimmer lights to the rear of the hall had been installed, contacts had been sought re the repairs required to the Mullion window adjacent to Teacher's cottage, the energy audit would be further investigated and that the November soup lunch would extend the hours if there was a need for it to do so.

The Treasurer confirmed that the electricity contract was in place until the end of March but prices would rise considerably after that. Concern was expressed over inflation and that money spent to conserve energy might be a valuable investment. A painting had been returned to the artist at her request.

New lights to aid the presentation of the Panto would be donated to the Social Centre and stored in the secure cupboard. Investigations re a possible replacement for the folding door were on going but it was decided not to replace the open notice board but to resecure it.

The next meeting will be Thursday January 27th 2023

Judith Farthing Secretary

KENNET VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

www.kvparishcouncil.org.uk

clerk@kvparishcouncil.org.uk

Tel: 07897 797208

BE SEEN – BE SAFE

When out walking or cycling in the dark including early mornings and late afternoons please remember to wear Hi Viz. **Be seen – be safe.**

WARM SPACES

Wiltshire Council has developed an interactive web guide to the 'warm spaces' across the county: <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/6801/Interactive-Community-Directory>

EMERGENCY PLANNING

Wiltshire Council encourages residents to prepare early for the forthcoming winter and has issued helpful guidance:

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/civil-emergencies-planning-for-an-emergency>

Emergency numbers

- Wiltshire Council's emergency number is 0300 456 01000
- Thames Water – 0800 009 3652 (0800 316 6899 (minicom / textphone))

- Please check your utility company for emergency contact details

Flooding

Wiltshire Council encourages residents to clear leaves from surface drains in times of heavy rainfall where safe to do so to prevent flooding and to report blocked drains to the Council with the following online reporting link;

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywiltshire-online-reporting>

The weblink for the Environment Agency and DEFRA 'check for flooding' service is: <https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk>

FIRE PRECAUTIONS

The Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service offer a free home visit and advice service for local to help keep our communities safe in their homes. The Safe & Well discussion covers topics such as:

- Using electricity safely
 - Cooking safely
 - Making an escape plan
 - What to do if there is a fire
 - Keeping children safe
 - Good practice – night-time routine and other points relevant to you
- Identifying and discussing any further support you may need if necessary
To request a free Safe & Well telephone

appointment, please call 0800 038 2323 (please note that this is an answerphone service, monitored during office hours) or request a referral through their website. A selection of free leaflets containing useful information on safety in and around the home are also available. Please see the website: <https://www.dwfire.org.uk/safe-and-well-visits/what-is-safe-and-well/>

THE KING'S CORONATION

In May next year there is an exciting opportunity for the community to get together in celebration for this momentous occasion. Ideas have been flowing with suggestions of a family picnic in the day to include a tug of war and games followed by a Hog Roast and live music in the early evening. The Council would love to hear from anyone who can help with the organisation of any part of the event, however small and any further ideas as well.

NEXT MEETING

The date of the next full Parish Council meeting is **Monday 9th January at 6.30pm** in the **Kenet Valley Hall**. As always members of the public are most welcome to attend – we look forward to seeing you there.

Festive Menu

Twice baked cheese souffle, parmesan and chive sauce

Pork and apricot terrine, redcurrant jelly

Roast breast of turkey, sage and onion stuffing, pigs in blankets, seasonal vegetables and jus

Roast beef, Yorkshire pudding, seasonal vegetables and jus

Fig and walnut stuffing slice, seasonal vegetables

Pumpkin Tart, Cinnamon Cream

Homemade Christmas pudding served with brandy sauce

4th & 18th December

Tables must be booked.

2 courses - £22.95
3 courses - £28.95

The New Inn, Winterbourne Monkton
01672 539793

The New Inn

Winterbourne Monkton
01672 539793
thenewinn@elderbrookhouse.com

Dates for the Diary

Friday 2nd - Live Music - 7pm
DAN GRAHAM
We recommend booking a table and pre-ordering food if you would like to join us.

Saturday 10th - 5.30pm
Wreath Making Workshop

Sunday 11th - 12-5pm
Visit Santa at The New Inn

Friday 16th - Quiz Night - 7pm
£2 per person - proceeds go to St Mary Magdalene Church.

Sunday 4th & 18th - 12-3pm
Festive Roast
Enjoy a delicious festive roast, we recommend booking and we encourage pre-ordering. Alternative meat and vegan options available.

Wreath Making Workshop
Enjoy mulled wine on arrival followed by an informative workshop and then, of course, take your crafted wreath home to display!
£50 per person.
All proceeds to be split between St Mary Magdalene Church and Brighter Futures GWH.
Saturday 10th - 5.30pm

Santa is coming to town!
Sunday 11th - 12-5pm
£12 - including a craft with Santa's elves, meeting Santa and a gift.
All proceeds and raffle going to St Mary Magdalene Church and Brighter Futures GWH.
Call or email for more information.

Festive Roasts - 4th & 18th December
Celebrate Christmas in style with your friends and family. Bookings recommended and pre-orders are encouraged.
£22.95 - 2 Courses £28.95 - 3 Courses

OPENING HOURS
Thursday & Friday 5-9pm
Saturday Breakfast 8-11am
Saturday Evening 5-9pm
Sunday 12-9pm



'Windfalls and Wildings'

The Apple's journey from the Heavenly Mountains to the Pewsey Vale.

Told through music, spoken word, pictures and original songs by Paul Darby & friends.

Friday 20th

January/7.30pm/

Social Centre,

Avebury

Tickets: £7 from Avebury Community Shop (or 01672 539253)

WINTERBOURNE MONKTON COMMUNITY HALL

Registered Charity No 1199011

We are pleased to announce the opening of the Winterbourne Monkton Community Hall. The well-appointed hall which is brand new is located in a quiet development in Winterbourne Monkton near the Church.

There is a large car park and kitchen facilities. The spacious building is ideal for all kinds of events. Sixty people can easily be seated for formal functions and the clear space is suitable for Keep fit, Pilates, Yoga, Discussion Groups, Business Meetings and other similar group activities.

Bookings can be made by e mailing wmch-booking@hotmail.com



Hiring Rates November 2022

General Hirers	Per Hour	WM & BB Residents	Per Hour
Weekday/evening	£15	Weekday/evening	£10
Weekend day/ evening	£17	Weekend day/evening	£12
Repeat Groups		Repeat Groups	
Weekday	£13	Weekday	£ 9
Weekend	£15	Weekend	£10
		Church/ Village Club	£9

The trustees reserve the right to review the charges regularly.

The trustees reserve the right to apply a security deposit. The security deposit will be refunded only after a post booking inspection of the hall. If the hall is left in an unsatisfactory condition with additional cleaning required or if there is any damage to the fabric, fixtures, or fittings then part or all of the deposit may be retained. Any decision taken by the trustees with regard to this matter are final.



The magical story of The Nutcracker is brought to life at Avebury Manor

Once again Christmas is upon us, and this year we're really pleased to be able to present Avebury Manor decorated in the theme of The Nutcracker. Originally planned for 2020, it feels rather lovely to be able to at last present this to our visitors.

Our volunteer Christmas team, affectionately known as our 'Avebury Elves', have surpassed themselves with some really intricate and beautifully crafted decorations and we thank them for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. As usual, it's in the detail that their skills really shine, and with every room telling a different part of The Nutcracker story, there is something magical at every turn.



This year, we are also really pleased that children can 'Meet the Sugar Plum Fairy' in our beautifully decorated Dovecote, where they can listen to her tell The Nutcracker story and receive a small gift.

If you want to find out a little more, why not pick up a copy of Wiltshire Life where the manor is featured in the Christmas issue.

Here are a few pictures to give you a taster, or even better, do pop in and have a look for yourself; as always, members of the local community enjoy free access.

As usual, please feel free to get in touch with us on avebury@nationaltrust.org.uk



Avebury Parish Council

Headlines from Avebury Parish Council's meeting on 4 October 2022

A4361: It was reported that the SID is now at the entrance of the Community Sports and Social Club. Whilst at its Rawlins Park location, 98,017 vehicles were recorded travelling southbound during August. Assuming the same number northbound, some 6,322 vehicles used the A4361 each day. The highest recorded speed was 70mph at 05h00. We agreed to discuss whether to buy a second SID at our next transport group meeting (25 October).

Community Exhibition Space (the Chapel):

We noted that the Avebury Society would hold its AGM in the chapel on 14 October and that immediately afterwards David Dawson (Director, Wiltshire Museum) would give talk at a meeting facilitated jointly by the parish council and the Society.

Defibrillator: We received a donation of £510 for a defibrillator at Rawlins Park and agreed formally thank the postmen, Andy and Mick, and Andy's godchildren for a half-share in the proceeds from their cake sale and the owners of The Henge shop, Philippe and Dominique Ullens, who kindly provided the space for their stand. We were also delighted to thank the community shop, which has pledged £250 towards a defibrillator at Beckhampton.

National Trust: We heard a presentation from the Trust's consultancy about a proposed resurfacing of the main car park, the farmyard, and the staff car park. The Trust reported that NT had received central funding to study the suitability of its car parks for electric vehicle charging points. Residents were invited to participate in forthcoming qualitative surveys designed to find out what post-Covid visitors

expect from Avebury. Anyone wishing to take part should contact Abby George. The Trust registered its concern with the number of pedestrians accessing the village along the A4361 and we decided to consider the issue at the transport group meeting.

Planning: The National Trust had submitted an application to Wiltshire Council to fell 19 trees (of which 12 are ash trees with dieback) and reduce, coppice, or similar 20 others. Peter Oliver (Countryside Manager for the Trust) answered questions from 11 members of the public. It was agreed to hold a planning committee meeting at 16h30 on 18 October to decide the parish council's position.

Date and place of next meeting: 1 November at 19h30 in the Social Centre. As always, residents wishing to participate in these meetings are most welcome to do so.

Headlines from Avebury Parish Council's meeting on 1 November 2022

A4361: Following a meeting of members of APC's Transport Group, we confirmed their strong recommendation to purchase a second speed indicator device (SID). The National Trust has very generously offered £2,000 towards the over £3,700 cost. Other donations will not be rejected.

Community Exhibition Space (the Chapel):

We were told that about 40 residents and members of the Avebury Society attended the Society's AGM, which was followed by a talk on stone circles in Japan given by David Dawson (Director, Wiltshire Museum). The chapel exhibition was opened by volunteers during weekend afternoons in October and attracted about 30 visitors overall.

National Trust: We learned that the Trust is inviting members of the community to a preview on 18 November of its Christmas theme for the manor ('The Nutcracker') and a

launch lecture on 7 December, also in the manor, of a project to digitalise Alexander Keiller's archive (emma.taylor@nationaltrust.org.uk for further details and booking).

Planning: We supported an application to reduce trees at Green Bank and from the Sports and Social Club but, given very strong feelings in the community, especially on the response to ash dieback, were not able to do so for one from the National Trust to fell 19 trees (of which 12 being ash) and for work on 20 others.

Parish steward: We learned that the steward's hours, due to increase from 4 to 8 per month from the autumn, would not now be adjusted until 2023. A list of outstanding work has been sent to Wiltshire Council.

Resignations: We were very sorry to hear that Mike Daniel is stepping down due to increasing work commitments and we said how grateful we were for his strong contribution to the community, especially on road safety. Our clerk, Liz Moore, has also decided to leave us at the end of January and we thanked her warmly for all her hard work for over a decade. Formal notices will be posted but please send expressions of interest about either position to the chair at stephenstacey.apc@btinternet.com

Transport Group: At its meeting on 25 October, the group agreed five priorities for action: lobbying for a 20mph limit in Trusloe and a 50mph limit on the A4 at West Kennett, purchasing a second SID, urging Wiltshire to accelerate action on the agreed reduction and surfacing of the informal layby on the B4003, and obtaining up-to-date statistics on crashes on local roads. Interested in road safety? Let us know!

Date and place of next meeting: 6 December at 19h30 in the Social Centre. As always, residents wishing to participate in these meetings are most welcome to do so.

Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Wilkinson's Column

Policing has been under the microscope in the last year and I don't see this scrutiny letting up any time soon – and neither should it.

The public want their police force to keep them safe, protect vulnerable people, put victims first, catch the criminals responsible, produce quality investigations and lock the bad ones up.

Wiltshire Police has had its fair share of criticism. It has received a poor PEEL inspection report and is currently in 'special measures'. I can reassure you progress is being made and my scrutiny of that performance is ongoing.

We have had some solid successes too. You told me road safety and speeding was a key concern. I have committed investment into the roads policing unit, increasing the number of officers and cars by 20%.

We also tripled the capacity of the speed enforcement team, with extra police staff and state-of-the-art cameras. With this joined up approach, there are more traffic officers on our streets and there has been an increase of 42% of the number of people caught speeding and given tickets.

There is still more to do but our roads will become safer as the deterrent of speeding tickets and prosecution starts to bite.

The rural crime team has also doubled since I committed investment in the team and in extra equipment. I was also pleased with the force's commitment to visit all victims of home burglary – let me know if this doesn't happen and I will act on your behalf to scrutinise that commitment.

We are also in the process of recruiting the next Chief

Constable of Wiltshire Police and I hope to have them confirmed in post by mid January. We look forward to welcoming them to the county.

In the meantime, our current Chief will carry on implementing the improvements needed to satisfy HM Inspectors and provide stability so the force can continue making Wiltshire safer for all.

Please also make sure you take part in my survey, taking place in December and January, which will ask you about your confidence levels in Wiltshire Police and about the policing precept for 2023/24.

It is important we capture as many people's thoughts as possible and you will find this on my website from mid December.

As ever, I wish you a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.





Avebury Community Shop

Shop Phone Number: 01672 539200
Opening Hours 10am – 4pm every day

Christmas Opening Hours

Saturday 24th December 9am-1pm
Sunday 25th December Closed
Monday 26th December Closed
Tuesday 27th December Closed (Bank Holiday)
Wednesday 28th December 10am-3pm
Thursday 29th December 10am-3pm
Friday 30th December 10am-3pm
Saturday 31st December 9am-1pm

Happy Christmas and New Year

We would like to wish all our customers a very Happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

Christmas Orders

We will be doing Christmas food orders again this year. Please pick up your order form pack from the shop and make the Avebury Community Shop your one stop Christmas Shop, taking the stress out of Christmas. Order forms will need to be returned by 10th December.

The gift of food

With the cost of living rising you could help friends and family with either a gift voucher or hamper of goods from the shop. We can provide the basket or bring your own. Fill it with luxury items or food basics. . We have lots of local produce such as honey, fudge, homemade preserves, Christmas puddings.

Volunteers Needed

Welcome to our new volunteers, Mary, Emily, Sue and Peter. However, we still need more to join the team. If you would like to consider volunteering, please contact one of our shop managers, Lyn or Martin, on 01672 539200.

Michele Lomas (Chair of Avebury Community Shop)



Angharad Hughes

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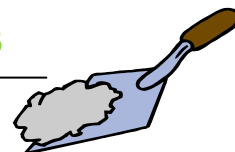
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