



UPPER KENNET NEWS

May 2026

Published by the Upper Kennet Parochial Church Council

Kennet Valley Lottery Club draw winners

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

£100	Number	24	Graham Kitchen
£75	Number	49	F.A.Radford
£50	Number	82	Sarah Brown

If you would like to join the lottery, please pick up an application form from any church, or ring Jo Snape on 01672 861267 or email josiesnape@aol.com

Notice Board

Funeral

Mark Hugh Wightman
Broad Hinton 31st March 2026

100 Club

Draw Results March

(some winners prefer that their names are not published)

1st	£54.00	60	Penny Gold
2nd	£40.00	24	Sonia Buxton
3rd	£27.00	34	Leon Parker
4th	£14.00	57	David Taylor

If you would like to join the lottery email: marksanders888@gmail.com

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

Can you give yourself 25 minutes a fortnight?

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

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

No complicated service to follow, just peace and relaxation.

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

Wednesday 13th May, Wednesday 27th May & Wednesday 10th June.

We look forward to seeing you.

Graham Kitchen, Jo Snape and Lindie White

Rector's Letter

*My beloved speaks and says to me:
'Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away;*

for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth;

the time of singing has come ...

... let me see your face, let me hear your voice; for your voice is sweet, and your face is lovely.

(Song of Songs Chapter 2)



The month of May heralds its arrival with May Day Bank Holiday and village fetes and Maypole Dancing. In nature it is a time of courtship and wooing. The roots of May celebrations lie in fertility rites for both the land and for humans, though the May Day Bank Holiday later on became labour day and a day for campaigning for workers' rights. A worthy thing to campaign for but guaranteed to suck the joy out of its original intention. Some people know how to spoil a party. Let us allow ourselves a little time for frivolity, a delight in the celebration of love, and the joy of people establishing relationships, both the new seed of lifelong partnerships, and for some the beginning of family life.

The dance of courtship these days is likely to involve fervent text messaging but there is no substitute for human presence. Ditch the phones people! And spend proper time with each other. Otherwise a relationship is likely to end up as a virtual one. A pale and hollow imitation of a real relationship. Thin gruel. Most noticeable in the parody fairytale picture above is the big space between the two lovers.

In the church we are now in Easter tide. An example of God's big love. The disciples all have encounters with the risen Christ in various 'resurrection appearances'. Forty days after Easter, on the day we call Ascension Day, Jesus ascends up to heaven - like Artemis II on take off. I guess he doesn't do it quite like that but that's how our imaginations see it on reading the Gospel text. 10 days later the Holy Spirit comes to the disciples and this year we celebrate that on 24th May with the Day of Pentecost. We're still in the realm of Love here as each of the disciples is filled with the Spirit and is gifted with fully understanding what their human purpose is.

There is something about Love which completes us. That's why we search so desperately for it. Martin Shaw the storyteller points out that there are tales like 'The Lindworm' and 'Tatterhood' which express how we seek 'The Wild Twin', that part of us that seems to be missing. The mystics like St John of the Cross speak of their relationship with God as being as intense as any human love encounter.

Whether we seek a sense of completion of ourselves through a dedicated partnership with another or a deep relationship with God (or both) this is not a sign of a weak neediness but an intrinsic part of who we are as human beings. The modern idea that we should show strength by being independent and self-sufficient leads to isolation and lack of connection. Our lives can't flourish like that, and it won't work for us, individually or in community. It's good to have a special someone. And also good to live in a community with others, creating the story of who we are together.

Don't forget to wash your face in the morning dew on May morning ...

Every blessing,
Jonathan - the Rector.

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
3 May Easter 5	<u>8.30 am</u> Holy Communion					<u>10.30 am</u> Morning Service	<u>10 am</u> Parish Communion
Wednesday 6 May				<u>10.30 am</u> Celtic Communion Service			
10 May Easter 6		<u>10 am</u> Morning Service		<u>10 am</u> Parish Communion			
Wednesday 13 May			<u>6 pm</u> Meditation Service (Taizé)	<u>10.30 am</u> Celtic Communion Service			
Thursday 14 May Ascension Day	<u>7.30 PM</u> - ASCENSION DAY DEANERY SERVICE AT-ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, PRESHUTE						
17 May Easter 7			<u>8 am</u> Holy Communion		<u>10 am</u> Parish Communion		<u>10 am</u> Morning Prayer
Wednesday 20 May				<u>10.30 am</u> Celtic Communion Service			
24 May Pentecost		<u>10 am</u> Parish Communion					
Wednesday 27 May			<u>6 pm</u> Meditation Service (Taizé)	<u>10.30 am</u> Celtic Communion Service			
31 May Trinity Sunday						<u>10 am</u> Parish Communion	

Readings

Sunday 3 May – White

5th Sunday of Easter

[Genesis 8.1-19]

Acts 7.55-end*

Psalms 31.1-5, 15-16 [or 31.1-5]

1 Peter 2.2-10

John 14.1-14

Sunday 10 May – White

6th Sunday of Easter

[Genesis 8.20-9.17]

Acts 17.22-31*

Psalms 66.7-end

1 Peter 3.13-end

John 14.15-21

Sunday 17 May – White

7th Sunday of Easter

[Ezekiel 36.24-28]

Acts 1.6-14*

Psalms 68.1-10, 32-end [or 68.1-10]

1 Peter 4.12-14; 5.6-11

John 17.1-11

Sunday 24 May – Red

Pentecost

Acts 2.1-21* *or* Numbers 11.24-30

Psalms 104.26-36, 37b [or 104.26-end]

1 Corinthians 12.3b-13 *or* Acts 2.1-21*

John 20.19-23 *or* John 7.37-39

Sunday 31 May – Gold or White

Trinity Sunday

Isaiah 40.12-17, 27-end

Psalms 8

2 Corinthians 13.11-end

Matthew 28.16-end

**Acts must be used as either the first or second reading*

Upper Kennet Churches

Home Visits & Home Communion

Please contact the Church Office if you would like one of our Pastoral Team to come and visit you or if you cannot get to church and would like Home Communion.

Telephone: 01672 861786

e-mail: upperkennetchurches@gmail.com

Morning Prayer 8.30-9am daily



Join us by zoom for half an hour to start the day in an atmosphere of quiet prayer and reflection with others, from the comfort of your own armchair. We are a small group who value this wonderful opportunity to gather ourselves for the day, to focus on what lies ahead and to enjoy silence together. For more details, the service sheet and the zoom link, contact: Sibella Laing: 01672 861600 or sibella.laing@outlook.com

Another QUIZ NIGHT at the WHO'd A!

Our March quiz saw more faithful teams battling it out in the hope of winning a coveted Fyfield Church Quiz Medal. The winners (yet again) were the unstoppable Les Quizerables. Congratulations to them. For the auction, our lots were delicious deserts kindly made by each of the teams. Thank you so much to everyone who baked and bid!

Once again, huge thanks must go to Vard & Alex and the team at The Who'd A. The shepherd's pies and veg were delicious.

We raised a fantastic £1,300 for our beautiful church which will go towards Phase 2 of the Restoration project, starting in May.



Annual Parochial Church Meeting

All villagers are warmly invited to attend our Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting at Kennet Valley School, Lockeridge on 13th May starting at 7pm.

The APCM is the opportunity for members of the community to see and understand how the large Parochial Church Council now works. All of the accounts will be visible to any who wish to see them, as well as who is representing each church.

If you do wish to attend we would be grateful if you could inform the Church Office on 01672 861786 or by email

upperkennetchurches@gmail.com so we have some idea of numbers.

West Overton Tower News Coffee Morning in aid of the Bell Restoration fund

A huge thank you to everyone who attended our coffee morning on the 18th April.

Thank you too to all those who made the fabulous array of cakes, brought plants, produce and bric-a-brac and donated the fabulous raffle prizes.

We raised a terrific £883 towards our fund.

Liz Roberts

West Overton Churchyard

Many people come to the churchyard to visit the graves of their loved ones. They often say how much they appreciate the way we look after the grass, and paths around the graves.

All the mowing and care is carried out by volunteers (and we are looking for a new person (women as well as men of course) to join the team. Think of it as good exercise in the open air for an hour once a fortnight!

If you are interested please give me a ring on 861550 or 07747 810139.

Keith Lamdin

Broad Hinton Village Hall

Saturday 13th June

7pm - 11pm

BARN DANCE

RAISING FUNDS FOR
BROAD HINTON CHURCH
PROSPECT HOSPICE &
THE HARBOUR PROJECT

PLOUGHMAN'S
PLATTER &
WELCOME DRINK
INCLUDED

CALLER,
JOHN
CARVER - NO
EXPERIENCE
NECESSARY



TICKETS
ADULTS £20
CHILDREN UNDER 15 £7.50

Joy Reynolds joyereynolds49@gmail.com

Gill Crabtree gillcrabtree1@gmail.com

GARDENER

I am a gardener looking for gardening work in the Avebury, Winterbourne Bassett, Broad Hinton and East Kennett area. I am experienced and qualified but as I don't drive you would need to provide tools.

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

If you are interested please contact me:

Martin Andre martinjandre@gmail.com

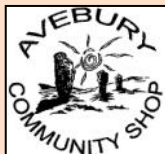
01672 539641

07887 717626

Avebury Community Shop

Shop Phone Number: 01672 539200

Opening Hours
10am – 4pm every day



Summer is here! At least it is if you are celebrating Beltane, the Gaelic May Day (April 30/May 1), which falls around midway between the spring equinox and the summer solstice.

In ancient times it marked the day when cattle would start being driven out to pasture. The lighting of a special bonfire and other rituals would help to keep spirits and fairies away and protect the animals and crops.

Celebrations will go on through the first weekend of May, so it's one of the key dates for Avebury. Expect to see ceremonies in the stone circle and more visitors to the shop.

Challenging

Another date for our diaries is at the other end of the month, May 30, when it's the Ridgeway Challenge. That's the 86-mile race (yes) from Ivinghoe Beacon to Avebury along "Britain's oldest road". There'll be scores of runners looking for sustenance after what amounts to a triple-marathon. We know where they can come during shop hours!

Open-air delights

We're coming into the season for picnics and barbecues, so you'd expect the shop to stock up accordingly. Back on the shelves are the delicious range of Delphi salad pots, which often have a Greek flavour, and a wide range of sandwiches.

As for cooking in the open air, you'll find burgers, sausages, halloumi, veg such as aubergines, peppers and courgettes, plus brioche buns and cheese-topped baps alongside pitta bread and wraps.

If you're looking for other BBQ meats – kebabs on skewers, say, in all kind of flavours – remember you can always order from Sumblers, the local butcher, if you give the Avebury Community Shop two or three days' notice.

And afterwards

What about dessert? Look no further than the new ice cream from the Brinkworth Dairy, a family business in the Dauntsey Vale since 1910. The picture shows four of their unmissable flavours.



Invaluable help

A reminder (if one is really needed) that the shop depends entirely on volunteers to run it. The whole community is hugely grateful to them all for their tireless and cheerful work throughout the year.

There are also new volunteers helping behind the scenes with moving heavy stuff up to the store on the first floor, an essential part of our routine. Many thanks to them too.

Home deliveries

Finally, remember we offer home deliveries if you're unwell or disabled. Our delivery area includes Avebury, Avebury Trusloe, Beckhampton, East and West Kennett, Winterbourne Monkton and Berwick Bassett.

Tim Rice

EVENTS MAY

UPCOMING

3RD **TRADITIONAL ROAST**
JOIN US ON THE 1ST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH FOR A DELICIOUS SUNDAY ROAST FROM LOCAL INGREDIENTS WITH NONE OF THE HASSLE!

8TH **QUIZ NIGHT**
GET A TEAM TOGETHER, BOOK YOUR TABLE & ENJOY A LITTLE BIT OF FRIENDLY COMPETITIVENESS!

13TH - 17TH **TWISTER WEEKEND**
GET READY TO TWIST! CELEBRATE THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLASSIC GAME TWISTER! JOIN US ALL WEEKEND FOR COLOUR THEMED ATTIRE, GAMES TO PLAY AND PRIZES TO BE WON!

29TH **SUPPER CLUB**
SHE IS BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND! LOU WILL BE COOKING UP A STORM WITH A SUPPER CLUB WITH A SUPRISE THEME!

WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND PREBOOKING FOR ALL EVENTS AND SUPPER CLUB RESERVATIONS ARE A MUST SO PLEASE DO GET IN TOUCH IF YOU'D LIKE TO JOIN US.

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL HAVE AMENDED OPENING HOURS ON THE 23RD & 24TH MAY.



01672 539793

THE NEW INN@ELDERBROOKHOUSE.COM

THE NEW INN, WINTERBOURNE MONKTON, SN4 9NW

FARMERS' MARKET

Sunday 24th May
Broad Hinton Village Hall
11am - 1pm

Free Entry

Local Produce & Traders

Pete's MicroBakery
real bread, artisan sourdough
Pre-ordering option from Adam
07969 290124 adam.gilmore@outlook.com

Pipp & Co. doughnuts

Grove Farm Butchery
organic meats, wild venison

Refill Station plastic-free household

D & P Salter
preserves, pickles, plants, cakes

Sugar Garden Boutique sweets

Harts Hill Honey local bee products

Amy Levin Chocolatier

Bolts Deli pet treats

Garden & Crafts
English Village Flowers
Cards by Crazy Cat
Nathalie Purdue Garden
Sewing Allsorts
Eco-friendly sewn items
Treebitz
Recycled Forestry Homewares

Free Café



Towards a new community-owned café & shop in Broad Hinton

bhwbparishcouncil.org.uk/shop

Kennet Valley School

We took part in many different activities at the end of the Easter term.

There were Sports festivals for the Year 3/4 and year 5/6. The Year 3/4 pupils showed brilliant effort and growing confidence in cricket, while the Year 5/6 teams impressed everyone with their energy and determination in tag rugby.

It was wonderful to see such great team spirit, enthusiasm, and support for one another throughout the day. From developing sporting skills to working together as a team, every child played their part.

On the last day of term we had a wonderful Easter service at West Overton Church when the whole school came together to celebrate Easter.

Each class shared something unique, including thoughtful poems, beautiful artwork, and lovely Easter/Spring songs. Our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils shared readings that told the story of Easter, and they also wrote their own prayers to bring the service to a meaningful close.

It was lovely to celebrate with parents and members of our community. The children enjoyed walking back to school together afterwards to finish Term 4.

Just as a reminder to all the fun doesn't stop at 3.15pm at Kennet Valley School!

Dragons Breakfast & After School Club, at Kennet Valley School make every day bright and exciting!

From 8–8:30am, children can enjoy breakfast to start their day right before heading into class happy and energised. There's usually time for some fun activities with friends too. We also provide an 'early bird' option, for parents who just need an early drop off time.

After school, from 3:15–5:30pm, the fun continues with games and exciting challenges, which last term included the very popular Curling challenge. We also take part in outdoor games, active play and creative activities. Tasty snacks are available and of course the children enjoy their quality time with friends.

We provide safe, supportive and engaging wrap-around care that fits around your family's schedule — giving you peace of mind, while your child has a fantastic time with friends.

A toddler group takes place in school every Friday morning in term-time: 8.45-10.00.

If you are interested in the next dates for Stay and Play or Community tea please contact the school on 01672 861643



THE SOCIAL CENTRE PRESENTS

Thursday 14th May
7.30 p.m. (doors & bar open 7 p.m.)

THE STORY OF RENA STEWART

From Bletchley Park to the BBC



with **VICTORIA WALSH**, author

Soldier, journalist, centenarian – the remarkable story of Rena Stewart who translated Hitler's will and blazed a trail for women at the BBC

Tickets £7
from Community Shop (cash only) or on the door

RELATIONSHIP COUNSELLING with Tim Rice

I am now starting face-to-face meetings in Avebury.



I can help with:

- Problems in marriages or relationships generally
- Decisions on breaking up, managing divorce and post-divorce issues
- Dealing with stress, anxiety, loneliness, low self-esteem, feeling overwhelmed or adverse childhood experiences

Do get in touch by phone, through email, or via my website if you would like to chat to see if I can help.

Tel: 07808 581457

Email: timricecounselling@gmail.com

Website: www.timricecounselling.com

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Join us for our Avebury
Spring Fundraising Event
Raising funds for MacMillan

- ★ Browse a range of craft products, all hand made locally by the Avebury Crafters
- ★ Feeling lucky? Enter the raffle and see if you can win one of the lovely prizes on offer
- ★ Treat yourself to a delicious piece of cake to enjoy with a cuppa, all available from the Unhanged Cafe

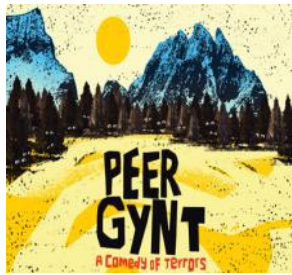
Monday 4th May 2026

Unhanged Cafe
at the Clubhouse, Avebury

10:30am - 3:30pm

MIRACLE THEATRE PRESENT

Loosely based on Ibsen's classic comedy, Miracle Theatre's trademark imagination and love of laughter means you can expect a live show that is physical, funny, surreal and deeply human



In the garden at Maizey Lodge,
Ogbourne Maizey, Marlborough
SN8 1RY

Wednesday 24 June 2026

**Performance starts 7.30pm
(whatever the weather!)**

One interval of 15 mins.

Gates open from 6.00pm for picnics. Bring your own chairs.

Bar/coffee/ice creams/W.C./parking

**Tickets: Adults £17.00 Children (under 16) £9.00
Family £45.00 (2A 2C)**

**Tickets in advance only 01672 – 512125 /
maizey50@gmail.com**

Performance in aid of "Read for Good"

www.readforgood.org

Public consultation continues into proposed fire station closures

The ongoing public consultation into the potential closure of eight fire stations by Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service will run until Friday 15 May.

The eight locations under consultation are all on-call fire stations: **Bradford on Avon, Charmouth, Cranborne, Hamworthy, Maiden Newton, Mere, Ramsbury and Wilton.**

Chief Fire Officer Andy Cole said: "Nobody wants to close fire stations but, despite saving over £15 million in the last ten years, our financial position remains very challenging due to a 19.5% cut in funding provided directly from Government. We still need to make sure our operational staff have the equipment and training they need to stay safe, and we've pared back our Corporate staff numbers as much as possible. This isn't Plan A, we've worked through many difficult options before this point."

He added: "The elected Members of Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority are responsible for keeping the Service sustainable, and they recognise that tough decisions need to be considered."

"This consultation is therefore essential. We understand that people care about what this means for their community. That is why we want them to tell us what they think, and if there's anything important that we might have missed. No decisions have been made. The final decision will be made by the Fire & Rescue Authority at their meeting on 30 June. We would urge our residents to have their say via our survey or the upcoming online meetings."

In-person meetings have been held already in six of the eight locations, with further dates booked for Charmouth and Maiden Newton in April. There will also be an online meeting for each location during April.

Full details of these, FAQs, station-specific data, the consultation leaflet and the survey can be found at www.dwfire.org.uk/proposed-station-closures

A paper copy of the survey can be requested by calling 01722 691000 during office hours, or by emailing consultation@dwfire.org.uk

SPECIAL UK VISIT!

GENTLE HATHA YOGA
QI GONG
MANTRA
VEDIC WISDOM
AYURVEDA



WINTERBOURNE MONKTON, WILTSHIRE

FRI 15, SAT 16, SUN 17 MAY 2026

Love yoga?

Join internationally renowned teacher Sky for an unmissable weekend of nourishing yoga. Choose individual classes or immerse yourself in a mini retreat

**BOOK NOW! ALL DETAILS AT:
STEFANIE-YOUNG.COM
STEE: 07516 313 502**



Prospect Hospice

launches 18th annual Starlight Walk

Prospect Hospice is delighted to announce the launch of its annual Starlight Walk.

On Saturday 27 June, the community is invited to come together for a special evening of reflection, connection and

celebration, all while raising vital funds for hospice care. With the choice of a 10km or 15km route, participants will be guided by twinkling lights and glowing lanterns.

"We're so excited to be launching our 18th Annual Starlight Walk! It's always such an incredible event, as people from our community come together to celebrate life, remember loved ones and support local families. We really hope that even more people will join us this year, as we light up the night for hospice care." – Sarah, Community and Events Fundraiser at Prospect Hospice





National Trust Avebury

Avebury Manor reopens with new visitor experience after flood repairs

After what feels like a very long journey, we're pleased to say that Avebury Manor is now open once again.

We wanted to take this moment not just to announce the reopening, but to share more about what has happened behind the scenes, what you can expect from your next visit, and most importantly, to say thank you for the support and kindness we've felt from the local community.

As many of you will be aware, the severe flooding in January 2024 caused significant damage to the ground floor of the 16th century house. Floors, walls, joinery, and furniture were badly affected.

For the team who care for the house day in, day out, it was heartbreaking. Avebury Manor isn't just a place of work; it's a place many of us feel connected to and care deeply about.

What followed was two years of drying out, conservation work, specialist restoration, and careful repairs. Skilled contractors worked room by room and we're delighted to say there has been no long-term damage to the manor's original features.

As well as uncovering issues to fix, the teams also discovered more traces of past lives in the manor. Marks left by former owners and physical reminders that this house has always evolved in response to the world around it.

The closure gave us time to dig deeper into the history of Avebury Manor. To investigate how the house has adapted, endured and been cared for, which feels especially meaningful after the events of the last two years.

We were grateful to be able to open briefly in November and December with a standalone Christmas display. The response was overwhelming, with record visitor numbers reminding us just how loved this place is.

Now, as we reopen fully, we're doing so with a brand-new visitor experience called *Avebury as Home*. Rather than presenting the manor purely as a historic building, this experience explores it as a lived-in place. A place shaped by centuries of people who called it home or worked within its walls, from Tudor courtiers and farming families to archaeologists, servants and children.

There are new interpretive elements throughout the house, including stories, objects, audio, interactive moments and dedicated spaces for younger visitors to explore.

Crucially, the story doesn't stop at the end of the manor's Lavender Walk. The new experience looks outward too, placing the house in its village setting and within the wider UNESCO World

Heritage Site. We've been delighted to include contributions from people living in Avebury today, helping to reflect the history, challenges, and ongoing relationship between the manor and the people living around it.

The support we have received from the local community has been wonderful. Throughout the closure and restoration, many of you have stopped to ask how things were going, shared your memories of the house, or offered words of encouragement. That support has meant more than you might realise.

The house will now be open every day from 11am to 5pm, with last entry at 4pm. Residents of Avebury Parish can enter for free by showing proof of address at our reception desk in the barn.

We're looking forward to this next chapter, and to warmly welcoming you back through the doors.

If you need to contact the team for any reason, please visit the Estate Office (Monday to Friday) or email us at avebury@nationaltrust.org.uk.

Amelia Bryan
House Manager, National Trust Avebury



NEWS FROM THE WINTERBOURNE MONKTON COMMUNITY HALL

Registered Charity No 1199011

Please visit our Website wmch.club or follow us on Facebook.



Hall Bookings can be made by e mail to

wmch-booking@hotmail.com

Events List

Thursday May 21 st	Pizzalola From 4.30pm	Saturday July 25 th	Coffee Morning 10.30am-1.00pm
Saturday May 23 rd	Coffee Morning 10.30am – 1.00pm	Friday August 14 th	Food Night From 4.30pm
Friday May 29 th	Film Night The Choral Film starts 7.30	Saturday August 29 th	Coffee Morning 10.30am-1.00pm
Saturday June 20 th	Coffee Morning 10.30am – 1.00pm	Thursday Sept 17 th	Pizzalola From 4.30
Friday June 26 th	Food Night From 4.30pm	Saturday Sept 26 th	Coffee Morning 10.30am-1.00pm
Thursday July 16 th	Pizzalola From 4.30pm		



We are always looking for new ideas for events. Any suggestions please let us know. Speak to a Committee Member or put a suggestion in our post box.

Avebury Parish Council

www.aveburyparishcouncil.gov.uk



Avebury Parish Council - May 2026
www.aveburyparishcouncil.gov.uk/

Clerk: *Emma Watson*,
clerk@aveburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Councillor Update

Avebury Parish Council still has a vacant seat and we would warmly welcome new volunteers. It would be particularly helpful to have someone from Beckhampton, as we do not currently have a councillor from that part of the parish. Having representatives from across the parish helps ensure all areas are heard and properly represented. If you are interested, please get in touch with our Clerk, who can guide you through the next steps.

A4 Speed Limit Assessment

Following a review of the speed limit assessment for the A4 carried out by Atkins Réalis, the Council resolved to accept the report's recommendation to reduce the speed limit in Section Three to 50mph. The report describes this part of the route as the "West Kennett gateway" and notes that it is currently subject to the national speed limit. However, it concludes that the stretch meets the criteria for a 50mph restriction as set out in the Department for Transport's Circular 01/13 *Setting Local Speed Limits* - specifically for "lower quality A and B roads

that may have a relatively high number of bends, junctions or accesses". During the discussion, councillors also heard a statement prepared by Cllr Jane Davies (read in her absence) in support of introducing a 50mph limit. It was further noted that meetings already arranged with councillors and other parties, relating to a potential reduction to 40mph, will go ahead as planned.

Wild Flowers

The Council also resolved to approve the purchase of wildflower seeds. It was agreed that these will be planted along the grass verge on Green Street to support biodiversity and help with erosion control.

Summer Solstice – Parking Permits

Parking restrictions will once again be in place this year in the run up to and throughout the solstice period. Permits from last year are still valid. Please make sure they are located in the **TOP LEFT** corner of your windscreen. If you are unsure if you need a new one then please contact Lynz via email:

Lynzey.paradise@aveburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

We will be holding some drop in sessions for people to come and collect visitor permits and new permits – we will communicate these dates as soon as we have them. Please remember – the parish council permits are only valid for the solstice period and allow you to move freely within Avebury and to park outside your property,

if it is within the restricted parking zone. They are NOT permits to allow you to park in the High Street car park – if you need one for this purpose then please contact the National Trust directly.

Playground

Acting on feedback from the many children who now regularly use the park, we've now installed some football goals up in the playground. Huge thanks to the Mcairs and the Secombes for their brilliant puzzling skills in getting them put together and securely in place! We can't wait to see our budding footballers up there enjoying them.

2026 Meetings

7.30pm at Avebury Social Centre

Tuesday 7th April

Tuesday 5th May

Tuesday 2nd June

Tuesday 7th July

Tuesday 1st September

7pm at The Clubhouse (Unhinged)

Tuesday 19th May Annual Parish Meeting

Contact your Parish Council

Details for individuals can be found on our website. Alternatively contact our Clerk: *Emma Watson*,
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Kennet Valley Parish Council

Clerk's details: Alison Ingham clerk@kvparishcouncil.org.uk
Tel: 07897 797208 Or 07734 761912
Website: www.kvparishcouncil.org.uk

INVITATION TO A CUPPA, A CHAT, AND YOUR VIEWS ON VILLAGE LIFE, MONDAY, 11TH MAY 2026 AT 5PM AT KENNET VALLEY HALL

Ahead of the Annual Parish Meeting (see below) on Monday, 11th May, parishioners are invited to pop in for a cup of tea and a chat with your local parish councillors. Jane Davies (Wiltshire Councillor for Marlborough West) will also be present. We would really like to hear from people, who live in Fyfield, Lockeridge and West Overton, what they like about living in Kennet Valley and what matters for the future of our villages. Your views help us understand what matters locally and how we plan for the future. There will be refreshments and you can stay for as long or short a time as convenient. We hope you can join us and look forward to seeing you.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – GUEST SPEAKER PS DEBORAH LAYCOCK, WILTSHIRE POLICE

The Annual Parish Meeting takes place on **Monday, 11th May 2026 at 6pm at Kennet Valley Hall**. The purpose of the Annual Parish Meeting is for Parish Councillors to report on the Parish Council's activities over the past twelve months. It is also an opportunity for parishioners to ask questions about any issues relating to the parish.

We are very pleased that, following recent thefts in the Parish, PS Deborah Laycock, Wiltshire Police has accepted our invitation to be our Guest Speaker and will give a presentation on crime prevention.

ANNUAL (MAY) PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting will be followed by the Annual Meeting (the name given to the first Parish Council meeting of the new financial year.) As always, members of the public are very welcome to attend.

ANNUAL DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING SESSION SAT, 16TH MAY – LAST CHANCE TO SIGN-UP

Knowing how to use a defibrillator and the basics of CPR could save a life. The annual Parish defibrillator and CPR training session will be held on Saturday, 16th May 2026 from 10.00 to 12 noon at Kennet Valley Hall. All welcome to attend including anyone who has attended previously. Please contact jill.turner@kvparishcouncil.org.uk to reserve a place.

THE WILTSHIRE BOBBY VAN TRUST AND ITS SERVICES

The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust provides free home safety and online security help to vulnerable residents across Wiltshire via the following services:

Home Security: the team of Home Security Operators works tirelessly to help people feel safe and secure in their own homes. They carry out home security and fire-risk assessments, install essential safety devices, and provide practical support to those affected by domestic abuse. In the most extreme cases, and in partnership with local authorities through the Sanctuary Project, a safe room can be installed within a property. This provides a secure space where a family can remain protected during an incident until the Police arrive.

Last year alone the Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust secured more than 1,500 homes and delivered over 200 awareness talks within the community. They also install doorbell cameras, working closely with Local Neighbourhood Policing Teams to identify and support those most at risk. For further information about this service, please visit The Wiltshire Bobby Van website.

Stay Safe Online: Since 2017, the Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust Stay Safe Online Service has supported residents across Wiltshire and

Swindon particularly those aged over 60 and adults over 18 with registered disabilities to protect themselves from online fraud and scams. It provides personalised guidance and deliver group talks to help residents stay safe and confident online, enabling them to:

- protect themselves from online fraud
- access essential services securely
- stay connected with friends and family
- shop and engage online with confidence

In 2025, the Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust received 154 referrals and helped 680 people gain confidence online. With fraud now accounting for over 50% of crime in the UK, prevention and education are essential.

Referrals & Contact: the Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust receive referrals from Wiltshire Police, partner agencies such as Victim Support and Age UK, and directly from community members.

Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust services are free, confidential, and tailored to individual needs. For more information, please visit www.wiltshirebobbyvan.org.uk

CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO PARKING CHARGES

Wiltshire Council has launched a statutory consultation on proposed changes to parking charges across the county. The consultation opened on Thursday 9 April and will run until Wednesday 5 May, as part of the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) process. You can comment

via email trafficorderconsultations@wiltshire.gov.uk, by writing to the Traffic Order Team or by [using the online form](#).

DIARY DATE NEXT PARISH MEETING

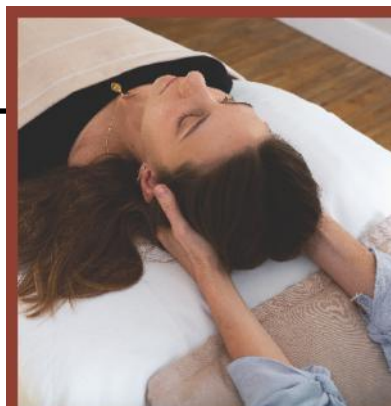
The next **Parish Meeting** takes place on Monday, 15th June 2026, 6.30pm at Kennet Valley Hall. As always, members of the public are most welcome to attend – we look forward to seeing you there.

Alison, Clerk to Kennet Valley Parish Council

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If you require a priest in an emergency please telephone one of the churchwardens.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs Elizabeth Daley 07710 082308
Mr Roderick Palfrey 07799 221816

LICENSED LAY MINISTER (PTO) Mrs Sibella Laing 01672 861600 sibella.laing@outlook.com

LAY PASTORAL ASSISTANT

Mr Graham Kitchen 01672 861798 graham@grahamkitchen.com

LAY WORSHIP LEADERS

Mrs Claire Stiles 01793 731620 c.j.stiles@hotmail.co.uk who is also a **Lay Pastoral Assistant**
Mrs Alison Andre 01672 539641 who is also a **Lay Pastoral Assistant**
Mrs Angharad Hughes 07771 615534
Mr Magnus Thompson 07885 465916

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

Anne Robinson & Sophie Roberts
(Mon-Wed, 10am-1pm & Fri 11.30am – 2.30pm)
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Parish Website: www.kennet8.org.uk

CHURCHWARDENS

AVEBURY Mrs Sandra Hues 01672 539444 shues01@hotmail.com
Mrs Helen Vickers 01672 539482 brian.helen.vickers@googlemail.com
Mrs Maureen Dixon 01672 539690

BROAD HINTON Mrs Gill Crabtree 07774 424125 gill.crabtree1@gmail.com

Mr Robert Fitzpatrick 01793 739156 fitzpatrickrobert16@gmail.com

EAST KENNETT Mr Graham Kitchen 01672 861798 graham@grahamkitchen.com

Mrs Jo Snape 01672 861267 Josiesnape@aol.com

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Mr Stuart Laing 01672 861600 stuart-laing@outlook.com

FYFIELD Co-opted PCC member Vicky Evans 01672 861622 bixevans@gmail.com

WINTERBOURNE MONKTON Mr Philip Scott 01672 539104 philipscott2@me.com

WINTERBOURNE BASSETT Mrs Claire Stiles 01793 731620 c.j.stiles@hotmail.co.uk

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL: Co-Lay Chairs: **Simon Jones** 07768 008160
Angharad Hughes 07771 615534

PCC SECRETARY Mr Peter Barry 01793 731589 peter17.barry@gmail.com

LOCAL CHURCH COMMITTEES - SECRETARIES

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

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Final copy date 20th of each month by 1pm latest.

LOCAL NEWS in Uffcott, Broad Hinton & Winterbourne Bassett:

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