

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

May Issue No. 538

Hi everyone and welcome to the latest edition of the newsletter.

Ed has submitted this month's photo of wild garlic growing in one of our parish woods. If you happen to be travelling to Chippenham along the A4 in the coming days, drive slowly down the hill between Derry Hill and Pewsham with your car window open and you will experience an almost overpowering waft of garlic 'scent' from the ancient woodland on either side of the road.

If you have any items, including local adverts, which you would like included in future newsletters, send these to cpb.newsletter@gmail.com, but could you please submit them by 26th of the month latest so that we have enough time to organise the Newsletter and send it out by the end of the month. If you no longer wish to receive the Newsletter, then please let us know and we will remove you from the mailing list.

Dates for the Diary

Every Monday	Zumba dancing 9.30am, Village Hall
Every Wednesday	Realign Exercise Classes 9.30am-11.30am, Village Hall
Every Friday	Pilates 9.30am, Village Hall
Sat. 2nd May.	Shanties & Sea Songs Concert, 6.30pm St.Laurence's Church, Hilmarton
Sun. 3rd May.	Said Communion 9.00am, St. Peter's Church
Wed. 6th May.	Annual Parish Meeting, Buffet 6.00pm, Meeting begins 6.30pm, V. Hall
Thurs. 9th May.	Calligraphy Group 10.00am-12 noon, Village Hall
Mon. 11th May	Table Tennis 6.00pm onwards, Village Hall
Tues. 12th May.	Dancing Duo 10.00am-1.00pm, Village Hall
Tues. 12th May	Games Afternoon 2.30pm-4.30pm, Village Hall
Sun. 17th May.	Said Communion 9.00am, St. Peter's Church
Sun. 17th May.	Craft Fair 10.00am - 3.00pm., Village Hall
Tues. 19th May.	Bushton Bookworms
Wed. 20th May	Annual Parish Council Meeting. 7.00pm, Village Hall
Thurs. 21st May	Women's Institute 7.15pm, Village Hall
Thurs. 21st May	Calligraphy Group 10.00am-12noon, Village Hall
Sat. 23rd May.	Pop-up Coffee Shop, 10.00am-12 noon, Village Hall
Tues. 26th May	Dancing Duo 10.00am-1.00pm, Village Hall
Tues. 26th May	Games Afternoon 2.30pm-4.30pm, Village Hall
Sat. 30th May	Summer Garden Party 2.00pm – 4.00pm, Bushton Manor
Future Dates	
Sat. 6th June	Farm Fest, Upper Bupton Farm
Sun. 7th June	National Farm Sunday. Local participants T.B.C.


Clyffe Pypard & Bushton
Parish Community
Annual Parish Meeting
All Welcome
Wednesday 6th May
Village Hall
Buffet & Refreshments from 18.00
Annual Parish Meeting from 18.30
Parish Council Meeting from 19.30
Join us!
• Hear updates on local issues from Cllr David Gagen, Chairman
• Raise matters of interest or concern
• Share ideas for the Parish
• Meet one another and take part in open discussion
Help shape the future of our Parish!
Whether you have a specific topic you'd like to raise, or simply want to listen and stay informed - you will be very welcome.
Please come along and have your say!

SHANTIES AND SEA SONGS CONCERT



St Laurence's Church, Hilmarton
Saturday 2nd May
6.30pm

Tickets £10 - to include refreshments.
Children of primary school age or below - free

Please book in advance (by 27th April) by ringing:
Elaine on 07570 799477
or email Elaine at
beneficeofwoodhill@yahoo.co.uk
or ask **Sally Fox** 07568 311823
sally_fox@btinternet.com

Proceeds towards the upkeep of the church.

Village Hall News

Firstly, thank you so much for the 7 teams who came to the Big Quiz on 18th April - and congratulations to Rosemary's team which won. The Quiz is becoming an annual event for Springtime at the hall.

There is a lot going on in May - Exercise classes: **Monday** it's Zumba, **Tuesday** it's Tai Chi, **Wednesday** it's Realign Exercise Class (Weights and Release) and **Friday** it's Pilates. (Details of these are below). And then on Sunday 17th May, there is to be a Craft Fair from 10am to 4pm. A **POP-UP COFFEE SHOP** on 23rd May 10 to 12noon, and on Saturday 30th May 2 - 4 pm there is the **Garden Party** at The Manor House, Bushton, when the hall will be used for both parking and toilets . If the weather is bad on the 30th the Garden Party will move into the village hall.

The Voluntary organisations are partnering the NHS to provide **FREE BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS** at various venues where people are likely to congregate. We have volunteered to host one at the hall (in the privacy of the Meeting Room) at the POP-UP COFFEE SHOP on 23rd May. No need to book - just turn up. The idea behind this is that blood pressure issues can be detected before they can cause strokes or heart attacks. And you do not have to wait for an appointment at your GP surgery.

We are looking at holding another live Music evening in November or maybe a Murder Mystery evening - ideas with contacts for these would be welcome.

101 Club - no draw since the last Newsletter - the winners for May and June will be in the June Newsletter.

Regular Bookings

Day	Time	Activity	Phone/email
Monday	Morning 9:30 to 10:30	Zumba	Flory 07770490907 florentina_cata@yahoo.com
	2nd evening of month 19:00 to 21:00	Table Tennis	Rosemary Greenway 0737 6927325 Rosygreenway@gmail.com
Tuesday	Every 2 weeks 10:00 to 11:00	Private dance practice	Mark Jones 07905632539 mark@greenchi.co.uk
	11:30 to 12:30 (from May 5th 2026 for 8 weeks)	Tai Chi	
	Afternoon 14:30 2nd and 4th (not Summer term)	Board Games – own choice	Barbara Davis 0796 223 6678 rjbjdavis@btinternet.com

Village Hall News cont'd…..

Wednesday	Morning 9:30 10:15 10:30 to 11:30 (From 15th April 2026)	Weights Release	Stephanie Percival 07500557527 creating.balance@yahoo.com
Thursday	2nd and 4th Morning 3rd in month Evening	Calligraphy 10-12 WI	Janet Hargrave 01249890726 Jan_Hargrave@yahoo.co.uk Sally Fox 0756 8311823 sally_fox@btinternet.com
Friday	Morning 9:30 to 10:30	Pilates	Jess Kaur hello@mypilatesclub.co.uk 07932741952

Table Tennis

Table Tennis will start an hour earlier on the second Monday of the month - 6 o'clock onwards to encourage younger members of the community (under 16) to come and try it out.

The next session will be May 11th. There is no charge for first time and bats are provided.

For more details get in touch with rosygreenway@gmail.com

CRAFT FAIR

SUNDAY 17TH MAY - 10AM - 3PM

Admission FREE

HANDMADE ARTS AND CRAFTS

PRICES TO SUIT ALL BUDGETS

LARGE CAR PARK



CLYFFE PYPARD & BUSHTON VILLAGE HALL SN4 7PX

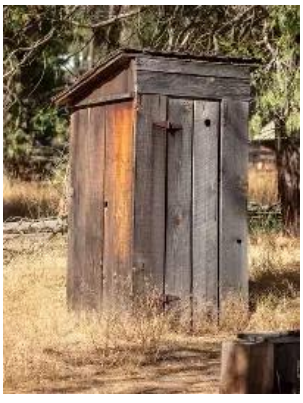
What 3 Words: ///rocked.flamenco.dusts

Bushton Bookworms

Yet again, we bookworms could not agree about our latest book! This was "Spies" by prolific novelist, playwright and translator, Michael Frayn. An elderly man goes back to his childhood street and remembers in astonishing detail the time spent with a friend on tracking the friend's mother, suspecting her of being a spy (during the second world war). This leads to all kinds of trouble with parents, other children and plays havoc with the narrator's memory, which had originally been triggered by the smell of privet!



As light relief, there follows a bit of a running joke about the word.....



PRIVATE

But very serious things are going on in the adult world.

There is some very good descriptive writing, and the reader is given a detailed sense of time and place.

Next, we will read "Orbital", a Booker Prize winner by Samantha Harvey, and discuss it on Tuesday 19th May. If you would like to join our small group, even just for this one book, then do get in touch: Sally Fox, 07568 311823 or sally_fox@btinternet.com

We meet roughly monthly and can be directed towards books we would not otherwise have chosen, so a mind-broadening exercise!

We are a small, friendly group and would be happy to welcome you!

Clyffe Pypard and Bushton Village Hall
SN4 7PX

POP-UP COFFEE SHOP

Saturday 23rd May

10.00am – 12.00noon

Choice of drinks
Home Made Cakes
and the company
of others who live locally

Contact

PennyShaddick@gmail.com

Realign Exercise Classes

with Stephanie Percival

Strength & Mobility Classes for Every Body

Realign Exercise Classes combines the principles of Pilates, Yoga, mobility and functional strength – with small equipment to add variety and support your progress.

- Seated: Chair-based class for safe, supported movement, improving posture, strength and mobility without needing the floor.
- Floor: Mat-based exercises focusing on core strength, flexibility and joint stability.
- Weights: A strength class using weights and body weight, with both standing and floor exercises.
- Release: A gentle class using mobility, stretching, and myofascial release with small equipment to ease tension and stiffness.
- Standing: A standing class designed to improve balance, strength and functional movement.

Find the Realign exercise class that fits your body – and feel good moving.

Weekly Timetable

Monday - BHVH
9.30am Floor (60min)
11.00am Seated (60min)

Wednesday - BCPVH
9.30am Weights (45min)
10.30am Release (60 mins)

Thursday - BHVH
9.30am Standing (60min)
11.00am Seated (60min)

Friday - BHVH
9.30am Floor (60min)

Membership £60pcm
or £50pcm reoccurring
PAYG
£10 60min / £8 45min
Please bring your own mat (unless Seated class)

Join our WhatsApp group 07500557527

BHVH- Broad Hinton Village Hall, SN4 9RH

BCPVH- Bushton (&CP) Village Hall, SN4 7PX



Come along to our

GARDEN PARTY

Saturday May 30th

2.00pm – 4.00pm

Entrance £5

(includes refreshments)

at Bushton Manor, SN4 7PX

TEAS, HOMEMADE CAKES, STALLS AND GAMES

Money raised for St Peter's Church Roof Fund

Free Parking at Own Risk

Dogs on leads welcome

Women's Institute

With warmer spring weather and maybe thinking ahead to beach visits, the WI were introduced to the RNLI, its history, its responsibilities, its volunteers and its funding. We were shown several short videos, emphasising the horrendous conditions they are sometimes asked to tackle, self-righting boats, and just how difficult it is to spot a person in the water, even in a relatively calm sea. Souvenirs were on sale, their funding comes from us, the great British Public, so donations are always appreciated.



The May meeting is the AGM, perhaps not the most thrilling event but it has to be done, we will include a short fun activity as well.

The WI is open to all ladies over the age of eighteen, we enjoy a large variety of speakers, activities, outings and events. The first meeting is free, we meet the third Thursday of the month, 7.15pm in the Village Hall and we would love to welcome you. For more information contact: madelaine_flight@outlook.com.

Country Notes – A new monthly article brought to us by the Clyffe Pypard & Bushton Wildlife Group.

LIGHT POLLUTION

Water pollution is, rightly, a major concern but have you thought about how the night sky is polluted?



If you have been lucky enough to look at the night sky in a remote area you cannot have failed to notice the difference between the amount of stars and galaxies visible and what is visible here in our parish. Look towards Lyneham or Swindon and you will see a permanent glow obscuring all but the brightest stars. Look south and over North Wessex Downs AONB and on a cloudless night, you can still see the major constellations and visible planets but not, unfortunately, the vast array of minor stars.

Here are 5 reasons why reducing light pollution benefits everyone.

1. Energy saving

Many lights – even LEDs are way too bright for their needs and that means extra energy consumption and that has a cost – especially with electricity bills being as high as they are now.

2. Seeing the night sky

Looking at the stars has informed and enraptured humanity since we looked up at the night sky. The patterns that our ancestors saw have not only created a sense of wonder and curiosity but also a search for meaning has created powerful myths and legends. Bright night lighting is blotting out this birthright.

Country Notes – A new monthly article brought to us by the Clyffe Pypard & Bushton Wildlife Group. Cont'd……

3. Affects human health

Exposure to bright light late into the evening and night, especially with a blue element to it, can disrupt our sleep patterns leading not just to tiredness, but also depression and general lack of well-being. There is evidence that prolonged exposure can lead to more serious health issues.

4. We don't need bright light to see and be seen

Once your eyes have adjusted, we only need very low levels of light to see in the night. In Victorian times, many people objected to gas lighting being installed because of the brightness! Strong light creates shadows that make night-time scarier. It is actually easier to see without the glare at lower levels of light.

5. Affects nature

There is considerable research proving how artificial lighting at night (especially high levels) is disrupting the lives and functioning of wildlife and plants. Streetlights are artificially extending the growing season in cities. Many birds sing nearly an hour longer at dawn or dusk. Bat foraging patterns are disrupted, and frog mating rituals are hampered. Moths struggle to find mates. Many insects die of exhaustion, and nocturnal pollinators drop by up to 62% in lit areas, reducing pollination.

How you can help:

- Install lights only IF needed
- Shine lights only WHERE needed
- Use only AS MUCH light as needed
- Use lights only at times WHEN needed
- Use WARMER (yellowish) lights instead of bright harsh (blue) light

For more information see:

https://www.northwessexdowns.org.uk/our-work/our-projects/dark-skies/

FARM FEST

All monies raised to help

Prospect Hospice
together making every day count



SAT | 6 | JUN

7PM - midnight

Voluntary contribution on entry

Mudflap

MUDFLAP

LICENSED BAR

FOOD TRUCK



Free Camping
CHARITY AUCTION

Bacon Rolls and Coffee in the farmhouse on Sunday Morning

Six oClock Circus

MORE INFO: Upper Bupton Farm, Broad Hinton, Swindon SN4 9NP
email: paulgprictor@gmail.com
phone: 07825 326446

FARM FEST

Charity Clay Shoot

All monies raised to help

Prospect Hospice
together making every day count







SAT | 6 | JUN

12:00 - 15:00

£50 for 50 shots

£15 deposit (PayPal or cash) secures your spot

We supply you with all the Cartridges, 12 bore and smaller 20 bore shotguns and Clays so just book in advance as it will sell out, use of own shotguns allowed.

Tea and cake stall for refreshments.

MORE INFO: Upper Bupton Farm, Broad Hinton, Swindon SN4 9NP
email: paulgprictor@gmail.com
phone: 07825 326446

Farm Fest 2026 Clay Shoot is in aid of the **Prospect Hospice.**

The **Prospect Hospice** is in urgent need of funds as they can currently only offer 6 beds for end-of-life patients. How sad and wrong is that? They get a miserable 18.6% of their income from the government and need our help for the rest.

Each entry into the clay shoot costs £50 all of which goes to the **Prospect Hospice.** We have a maximum of 40 spaces and once taken there are no more. The Clay Shoot runs from 12.00 to 3.00pm. Refreshments are available from **Dorothy Prictor's Tea and Cake Stall**.

The evening party starts off with a fantastic band called **Mudflap** - very apt for a farm.

This is followed by a Charity Auction with loads of fantastic lots:

- Drive the combine
- Hot air balloon ride
- Flight in a light aircraft between the Severn Bridge and a lap of your Home
- One week holiday in a fantastic house in Cornwall that sleeps 8 .
- Tickets to motorcycle trail riding
- Long weekend break for two (Friday – Monday) at The Old Dairy, Wood Street Farm SN4

Plus other lots

We finish the night with a local Calne band called **Six O Clock Circus**.

A voluntary donation on entry would be well received.

Last year we raised over £4,000 for this very deserving charity
Please attend and help us do even better this year.

St.Peter’s Church Clean-up Day.

The weather was good, the company was great, coffee and cakes - and gardening in the Churchyard! What more could anyone want for an April Saturday morning? This year’s annual St. Peter’s Church Clean-up Day was very successful with everyone having a good time, the Churchyard left looking much tidier and the inside of the Church positively gleaming. Thanks to everyone who turned up and for all their hard work. You never know, it all went so well that we might have another one in the Autumn!

With the grass cut, the Churchyard looks beautiful, so if you get a chance, take a walk through it and pause for a moment to enjoy the peace and tranquility.

Thank you to fellow ‘cleaner-upper’ Howard Pullen for taking the following shot.

T



Clyffe Pypard and Bushton Parish Council

https://clyffepypardbushton.org.uk

Please see the flyer (on page 2) relating to the **Annual Parish Meeting** at Clyffe Pypard and Bushton Village Hall at **6.30pm on Wednesday 6th May**. Our Wiltshire Council (Lyneham) representative, Councillor Allison Bucknell, will be attending this meeting as will a local officer from Wiltshire Police. This is your opportunity to meet each of them - they will welcome answering any questions relating to the roles they have in our community. Your parish councillors and clerk will also be present at this meeting.

Annual Parish Meeting Timings:

6.00pm Refreshments for all attending the meeting (free of charge)

6.30pm Annual Parish Meeting

7.30pm Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting dealing with just 2 items:

i. Planning Appeal Reference: APP/Y3940/W/25/3364716

ii. Sign-off accounts for Financial Year 2025/2026

Later in the month, at **7.00pm on Wednesday 20th May**, the next full meeting of the Parish Council is will take place. This will be the **Annual Parish Council meeting**.

Since our last full parish council meeting on 18th March, it was deemed necessary to hold an additional meeting to deal with 2 matters. This 'extraordinary' meeting took place on Wednesday 31st March in the Village Hall. The agenda was posted on village notice boards as statute requires and one member of the public attended. The two matters which needed to be dealt with were:

Award of a contract for the maintenance of the St Peter's Churchyard. Following a commercial process the qualifying bids for the Churchyard contract were reviewed. The Most Economically Advantageous Tender (MEAT) was accepted. The Parish Clerk has since issued a formal contract, and the winning company has already made its first visit to St Peter's (which looked very good especially as there had also been a churchyard clean-up day by the community the previous week).

Approval of hours completed and associated payments for the Parish Council Clerk. As no subsidiary authority has yet been granted to approve the Clerk's timesheets, this was dealt with by the full Parish Council. Post the Annual Parish Council meeting it is expected that this matter will be dealt with under separate authority.

Many thanks to Ian Fraser for cleaning-up the old parish noticeboard which had been removed from its former position on the verge outside the village hall. Ian has mounted the revived noticeboard on the wall next to the Royal Mail post box in Clyffe Pypard village.

As always, details of Parish Council meeting agendas and minutes can be found on the Parish Council website: https://clyffepypardbushton.org.uk

Annual Parish Meeting: Wednesday 6th May 2026

Annual Parish Council Meeting: Wednesday 20th May 2026

Bushton Ponds

There is an increased number of natural field ponds in our parish, many of which have been the subject of grant funding from either Natural England or the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust (WWT). These grants have been issued specifically to renovate old field ponds or establish new ponds with the principal purpose of encouraging colonisation by our endangered native Great Crested Newts.

Because Great Crested Newts rely on high-quality terrestrial habitat and fish-free ponds for survival, their presence often indicates a healthy, biodiverse environment that supports many other species (e.g., dragonflies, beetles, and rare water plants).

Wildlife needs a peaceful environment to flourish, so please could footpath users respect the wishes of those who are hoping to improve conditions for wildlife in our parish, by not creating any unnecessary disturbance around our woodland, fields and ponds. This includes throwing sticks in ponds or simply allowing a pet to enter a pond.

Similarly, introducing alien vegetation, perhaps from an ornamental garden pond, will affect the natural balance of a field pond and limit the variety of native species of plants and creatures that inhabit them, including Great Crested Newts. Non-native fish species (or their eggs) will likely be present in vegetation transported from garden ponds.

The introduction of <u>any</u> fish to a pond will result in the destruction of frogspawn, tadpoles, newt eggs, larvae, and a severe reduction in overall amphibian biodiversity.

Natural England and the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust conduct annual inspections of their grant-funded ponds. In the case of WWT this will be completed over the coming weeks. It would be a shame if these investments and endeavours have been thwarted by the actions of a small minority.



Village WhatsApp Group
Clyffe Pypard & Bushton network

A village WhatsApp group has been created to enable residents to share village information quickly and easily, for example: local road accidents affecting access, fallen trees, flooding, lost pets, anything of relevance to the community etc. etc.

Everyone is welcome to join the group - just right click on the link below:

https://chat.whatsapp.com/E1WopNfzp49KeHMHXpaTis

Are you interested in local organic beef, responsibly raised and properly produced?

10kg Organic Aberdeen Angus Beef Box. £250
Example contents:
3 x Roasting Joints (3.2kg)
3 packs of Steaks (1.8kg)
Mince, diced beef, braising steak, shin… (5kg)
21 day aged. Slaughtered and jointed by quality butchers near Bromham. Local delivery.

These beef animals have enjoyed hay made from the wildflower meadows and organic cereals grown in the parish. Raised at Woodhill Park Farm in Bushton, they've then spent the summers grazing the herbal leys and old pastures surrounding us. If you're looking for top quality and sustainable beef, say HELLO.

HELLO . GOOD . BEEF hello.good.beef@gmail.com
@hello.good.beef

www.10green.co.uk

Ten Green Bottles is an initiative by Berkeley Farm in Wroughton to deliver fresh milk, dairy, veg & bread to local villages. They now deliver to Clyffe Pypard and Bushton!

If you would like to sign up, go to their website or download the App. It's easy to do and great way to reduce plastic usage.

Royal Wootton Bassett Monday Friendship Club

A social club for older people

Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church Hall,
High Street, Royal Wootton Bassett

Mondays 2-4 pm







Tea, Coffee & Biscuits | Fun, Games & Entertainment | Companionship
Please come along to chat, meet new people and take part in activities.
Small weekly charge.

For more information, contact:
Tracey: 07563 028703
Ginny: 07500 137135

Age UK Wiltshire Registered charity number 800912. Company number 2121174. ® Age UK Wiltshire 2023. All rights reserved.
Registered address: The Wool Shed, New Park Street, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 1DY



Fresh Springs Care

Contact Us
Contact
T: 0179 320 0084
E:
info@freshspringscare.co.uk
E:
recruitment@freshspringscare.co.uk

Location
Office 83, Bowman Court,
Whitehill Industrial Estate,
Royal Wootton Bassett, SN4
7DB

BushLife Essentials UK

Tree Surgeon - Garden Services - Machinery Servicing & Repair
Property Security
07917 161 427
01793 739172
www.bleuk.org
bushlifee@gmail.com

"The New Born From The Old in The Cycle of Life"

Phil Hawkins

City & Guilds NPTC Qualified
BS3998 Compliant
Full Public Liability



Start My Clean

"Bin Cleaning... that's Top Binning!"

At Top Binning, we keep your bins **fresh**, **hygienic**, and **odour-free** while protecting the environment. Our professional cleaning system uses **minimal water**, **biodegradable products**, and a **self-contained wash bay** that captures and safely **disposes of waste water**. This means sparkling clean bins with **zero mess** left behind and **peace of mind** that your service is as green as it is effective.

Top Binning proudly services homes across Wiltshire. See if we're in your area below. 👇

Bowerhill, Bromham, Calne,
Clyffe Pypard, Cherhill, ...

See where we're wheelie busy

https://www.topbinning.co.uk

GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME

LINK 6 & RWB

Covering the villages of Bradenstoke, Broad Town, Bushton, Clyffe Pypard, Lyneham and Tockenham, and the town of Royal Wootton Bassett.

Do you ...

... own your own car ? ✓

... have a few spare hours a week ? ✓

Would you like ..

... to help out in the community ? ✓

... a flexible volunteering opportunity? ✓

If the answer to all these is ✓✓✓✓ then **LINK 6 & RWB** would love to hear from you.

We are looking for additional **COMPANION DRIVERS** to help expand our volunteering offer.

Do please get in touch.

LINK 6 & RWB is a Good Neighbour scheme which offers a service for any member of our community who is in need of our help. They may be living with a disability, older people or those who have a temporary need through illness.

There is no charge for our help but the Link scheme depends on donations from anyone who uses our service.

Website: link6andrwb.org.uk

Call: 07879 394666

E-mail: info@link6andrwb.org.uk