

# VILLAGE BUZZ



A MONTHLY ONLINE MAGAZINE FOR VILLAGES NESTLING IN AND AROUND THE NADDER VALLEY

FEBRUARY 2023

BARFORD ST MARTIN, BAVERSTOCK, BURCOMBE, CHICKSGROVE, COMPTON CHAMBERLAYNE, DINTON,  
FOVANT, SUTTON MANDEVILLE, SUTTON ROW, TEFFONT EVIAS, TEFFONT MAGNA, UGFORD

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Species of the month

# FROGS AND FROGSPAWN

Peter Thompson, Barford St. Martin

**Depending on the weather and how warm the temperatures are, February normally sees the first frogspawn appear in our ponds and ditches showing us that spring is, hopefully, just around the corner.**

So, where have these frogs spent the winter? Well, the answer is that frogs hibernate in all sorts of places, some choosing the mud in the bottom of the pond, others preferring to find places such as log piles, under garden sheds or in cavities within stone walls. Frogs are only reliant on water to breed, spending most of their adult life stomping (or should I say jumping) around the countryside!

This was very much brought home to me when I came across a frog in a wood, miles from any water - or so I thought! I later discovered frogspawn in some ruts that the forestry workers' machinery had left behind. Some years these ruts hold water long enough

to raise froglets, but in others they dry out, killing all the tadpoles long before they are old enough to survive out of water. As long as there is a successful breeding season every now and again to replenish the local population, it appears that these woodland frogs are doing alright.

Frogs are an extremely ancient species. Recent evidence suggests that the species is over 265 million years old and originates from the Permian period. There are fossils of complete frogs which show that physically they haven't changed much in this time!

When people put in a garden pond, they are often eager to fill it immediately with plants, bring in frogspawn and put the obligatory goldfish or two into it. That's one way of course, but it is also

fascinating to observe how quickly wildlife will colonise the new pond without a helping hand. I would probably simply buy a couple of oxygenating plants from a reputable garden centre (put the wrong, invasive plant in and you will forever be trying to get rid of it) and sit back to watch



IMAGE: PETER THOMPSON

the way it evolves. You are quite likely to have frogspawn in the first spring, maybe newts and almost certainly dragonflies.

If you want a 'wildlife' pond, create lots of 'edge' by having an irregular shape to the pond and also make sure that there is plenty of shallow water, as this is what many creatures – including frogs look for to lay their spawn. Somewhere around the pond, make the edge level with the water so that it is easy to get in and, importantly, out of the pond. If you put fish into the pond, don't expect too many frogs, newts, dragonflies, or indeed other wildlife, as most fish will Hoover up all the eggs and young well before they reach maturity.

Are you sure that you have frogs and not toads? This is quite easy to determine as frogs lay a cluster of jelly-like eggs near to the surface, which is readily visible, whereas toad spawn comes in long ribbons that are harder to spot. You might have both species in the same pond.

A frog may lay between three and four thousand eggs which, once the jelly that

surrounds them has swollen with the pond water, can look rather a lot for a small pond! But remember that only between 1 – 5% of these eggs will go on to produce adult frogs, the others dying or being predated by a wide range of hungry mouths.

In some parts of the country there is a virus that frogs get, therefore it is perhaps not advisable to move spawn between ponds, as you may inadvertently be 'infecting' a pond by spreading the virus.

Once the eggs hatch, the tadpoles spend about three months metamorphosing into tiny little frogs. Then they will leave the pond, often on a warm, wet, rainy night so that in the morning the garden suddenly seems to be full of miniature froglets, which maybe where the origin of the saying '*it's raining frogs*' comes from! — PT

Peter Thompson lives in Barford St. Martin and has worked in conservation and farming all his life. You might also be interested in reading his blog: 'FRESH AIR SCRIBBLINGS'

<https://freshairscribblings.blogspot.com>



IMAGE: PETER THOMPSON



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# Coaching and Carrying Miscellany – Part 2, Carrying

Paul Cordle – Chicks Grove



The original Royal Mail coach 'Quicksilver' operated between London and Devonport. The name of the owner, Chas S Ward, contracted to carry the mail by the GPO, is above the door. In 1816 on Salisbury Plain this coach was attacked by a lion which had escaped from a travelling menagerie, no harm was done and the lion was recaptured.

Note all the standard features of a Royal Mail coach livery: the black and maroon of the coachwork, the wheels painted in what is now known as Post Office red. Two stars of the four principal orders of chivalry (the Garter, the Bath, the Thistle and St Patrick) feature on the upper panels.

COACHING AND THE CARRIAGE OF GOODS by horse-drawn vehicles in the 17th, 18th and the early 19th centuries were activities linked by their dependence on the geographical spread and surface quality of the country's roads. The use of packhorses, common-place in medieval times, continued alongside and often in tandem with waggon, canal and river boat services as they also developed during the same period.

The building and feeding of a growing London and, to a lesser extent, England's other great cities, demanded a constant supply of goods and materials. This governed agricultural, forestry and quarrying operations within their regions and thus, as cities grew so did the demand for transportation.<sup>(1)</sup> Additionally, longer journeys were needed to bring in crops which could not be grown locally and when local harvests failed. A Tudor topographer, when describing various types of husbandry, noted "*There are also those that live by carriage for other men and, to that end, they keep carts and carriages, carry milk, meal and other things whereby they live gainfully*".

The condition of the country's roads was a national disgrace and little difference was to be found between the carriers of the 18th century and those of the 15th century except for the replacement of carts by waggons and the number of packhorses on the road. This remained so until turnpiking gradually spread from 1663 but it took time for improved roads to make a noticeable difference, not so much in speed of travel but in the increased size of waggons and their loads. Although by 1840, with successive →



A long wagon. Note the wide wheels to help the wagon ride the muddy and broken road surface.

Acts of Parliament<sup>(2)</sup>, there were 22,000 miles of good turnpike roads (with about 8,000 tollgates), road transport could never hope to compete with the load-carrying capacity of the canals and the railways.

### Small loads and packhorses

It is not clear when packhorse companies ended but they gradually dwindled from the time that turnpiking became widespread, and even then some continued into the 19th century in hilly areas where wheeled transport could not go. In their time they were effective in the carriage of a wide range of small quantities of less bulky goods as typically, each horse carried up to about 240 lbs (110 kg).

Wagon companies also ran packhorses with which they were able to reach remote areas, thus goods stored in city warehouses would eventually reach some destinations

via provincial warehouses and packhorse. Several of the big London inns and associated warehouses had many hundreds of packhorses which were sent out in strings of ten to forty animals. These long processions reached across the country and congested the roads and the hope of passengers using stagecoaches was for their journey not to be slowed down by them.

### Heavy loads, waggons and waterways

Since the 16th century wagon companies, using urban warehouses as depots for the temporary storage and onward distribution of merchandise, had become the primary means of carrying large volume loads across the country. They used a system of documentation (waybills) to account for the receipt and dispatch of consignments.

From earlier times, wagon companies near ports had worked with coastal shipping



Hogarth's engraving of a stage coach in an inn's yard. 1747. Note the passengers precariously seated in a basket at the back and on the roof.

in a limited way but from the 1600s they began to cooperate more efficiently. Similarly, cooperation with river boats grew as river traffic increased following the straightening, widening and dredging of difficult stretches of water. The process of improving river navigation had started in the mid-1600s, a full century before the canal age began. An example of this cooperation is seen in coal being brought by ship from Newcastle, cross-loaded onto waggons for local distribution or onto Thames river boats to be towed upriver by horse to Oxford and beyond, their downstream cargoes having first been offloaded. Another example of cooperation is found in the records for 1673 when 18½ tons of iron were sent from London by river to

Guildford and then by wagon to Portsmouth. As the use of canals for bulk transportation spread, so wagon traffic reduced and had all but disappeared by the late 1700s.

The combination of increased transport by inland waterways and the larger loads carried by waggons on turnpiked roads did more than just stimulate trade within the British Isles, it accelerated the growth of overseas trade. Using our far-reaching merchant fleet, the manufacturers and merchants of our islands were perfectly placed to export to our growing empire. Much now depended on the reliability and speed of the postal service by which orders for manufactured goods were received. →

This image of an everyday event brings alive the early 19th century significance of the Royal Mail coaches and their timetable. As the post had to go through the local Post Office, we can assume, in this case, that it was a passenger who was late. He and his luggage are being carried in a small waggon. Note the flat countryside, possibly the Fens, and the windmill which could have been used for either grinding corn or drainage of water from low lying ground into dykes.



Late for the Mail



### The Post

The word 'post' is derived from the Latin *postis* and the later meaning of placing an upright timber or post at a place where it would attract local attention and on which public notices would be fixed. Medieval couriers were 'riders of the posts' and they mounted fresh horses at each post along their route. Thus 'post' was soon applied to the riders, then to the mail they carried and eventually to the whole system. The words 'posting, postal, postage, follow from this.

From the earliest times monarchs and their officials had sent messages across the country to barons and sheriffs<sup>(3)</sup> yet it was not until the 16th century that regular posts were set up to carry government messages

A painted wood Postboy placed outside the premises of the Andover Postmaster in the 1700s. This sole surviving trade sign can be seen in the Bath Postal Museum.



and letters from London to the provinces. This service was manned by postboys and in 1635 was extended to carry private mail by which time most towns were served by the official posts. The General Post Office (GPO) was established by King Charles II in 1660.

The work of postboys, which required them to be out on the roads in all weathers, was tough and dangerous and many were robbed, so to keep to their schedule and reduce the chance of being held-up they hurried along giving rise to the expression 'post-haste'.

Although the system worked it was limited, and it did not serve the needs of growing

communities nor was it entirely reliable. Not all postboys were diligent in keeping to timetables, finding it hard to keep to the required speed of six miles per hour, whilst others were not as honest as postmasters hoped.<sup>(4)</sup> To provide a more reliable system, wheeled vehicles with guards were first introduced in the 1590s, yet this was no faster than commercial stage-coaches or the far slower waggons both of which continued to carry money and mail. This was not officially permitted, so senders, to avoid the heavier cost of the official post, disguised letters and money as parcels. This was done and known about universally but little could be done until the official post became more reliable and faster. →



The first mail coach 1784.

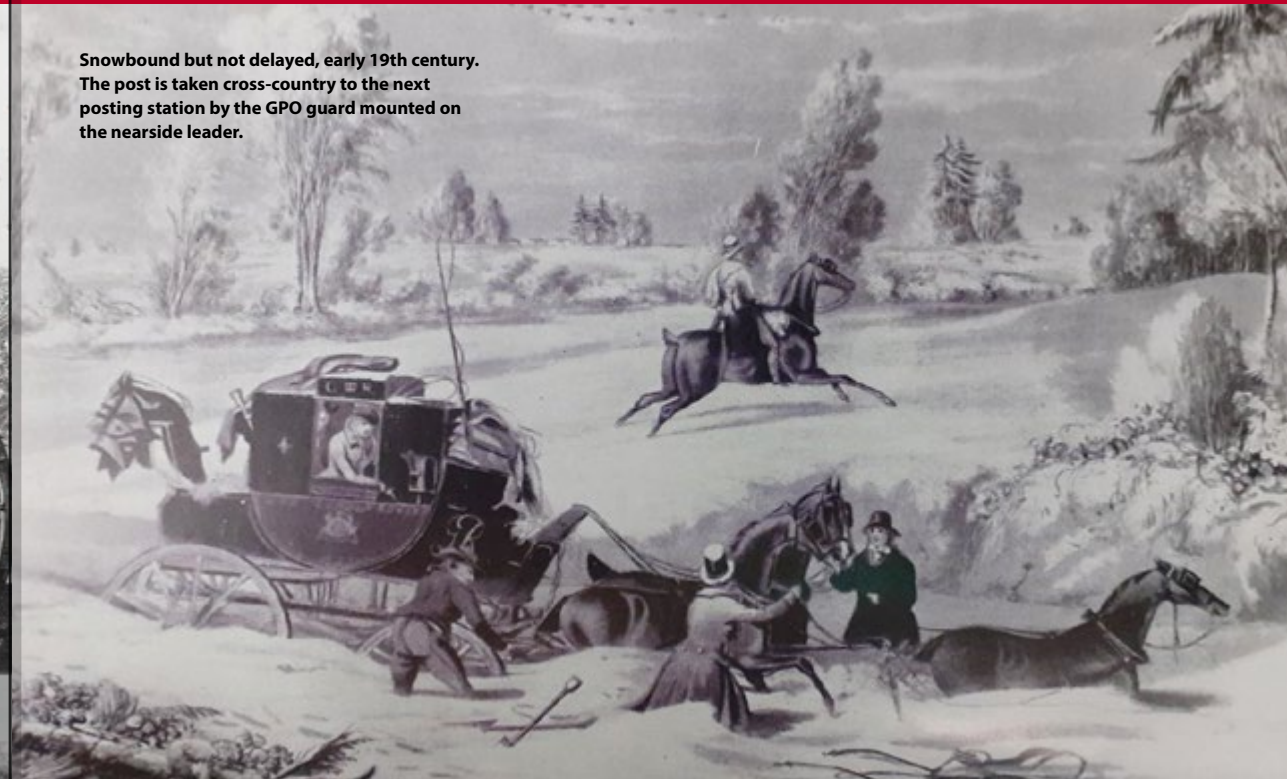


Historically, the carriage and delivery of post had been a government monopoly yet things began to change with the introduction of cross-posts from 1720. Ralph Allen, the postmaster in Bath, realised that the need for all post to go into London before being routed out to its destination created unnecessary costs and delay. At great risk and cost to himself, he contracted with the Government to set up a cross-country postal service between towns. His first seven-year contract made little if any money but he persisted and eventually, through the success of his service, he became an exceedingly wealthy man and philanthropist, building a magnificent mansion for himself to the south of Bath, Prior Park, which is now a school. His innovative system was soon replicated around the country using the official GPO structure of local postmasters.

These local officials were the only people legally entitled to provide horses for travellers and they enjoyed this privilege until 1780 when the hiring out of horses commercially was opened up to the public. From that time, an innkeeper could hire out horses to private travellers and owners of post-chaises and call his establishment a posting-house. This did not, however, apply to the carrying of mail which remained jealously guarded from private enterprise by the GPO.

It was also in 1780 that John Palmer, a theatre owner in Bath, with the support of John Jeffreys, MP for Bath, persuaded the Government that a properly scheduled postal service based on fast coaches with an armed guard should be set up. This measure, adopted in 1784, transformed the reliability of the Royal Mail service. From this time, the General

Snowbound but not delayed, early 19th century. The post is taken cross-country to the next posting station by the GPO guard mounted on the nearside leader.



Post Office's improved Royal Mail coaching service rapidly became the preferred method for posting letters. Its coaches were safer, more reliable, more tightly scheduled and faster, nor were they stopped at tollgates. They paid no toll as the gates were opened before their arrival and gate keepers, expecting the coaches' punctual appearance, would listen carefully for the post-horn call being blown by the guard when the coach was still far off.

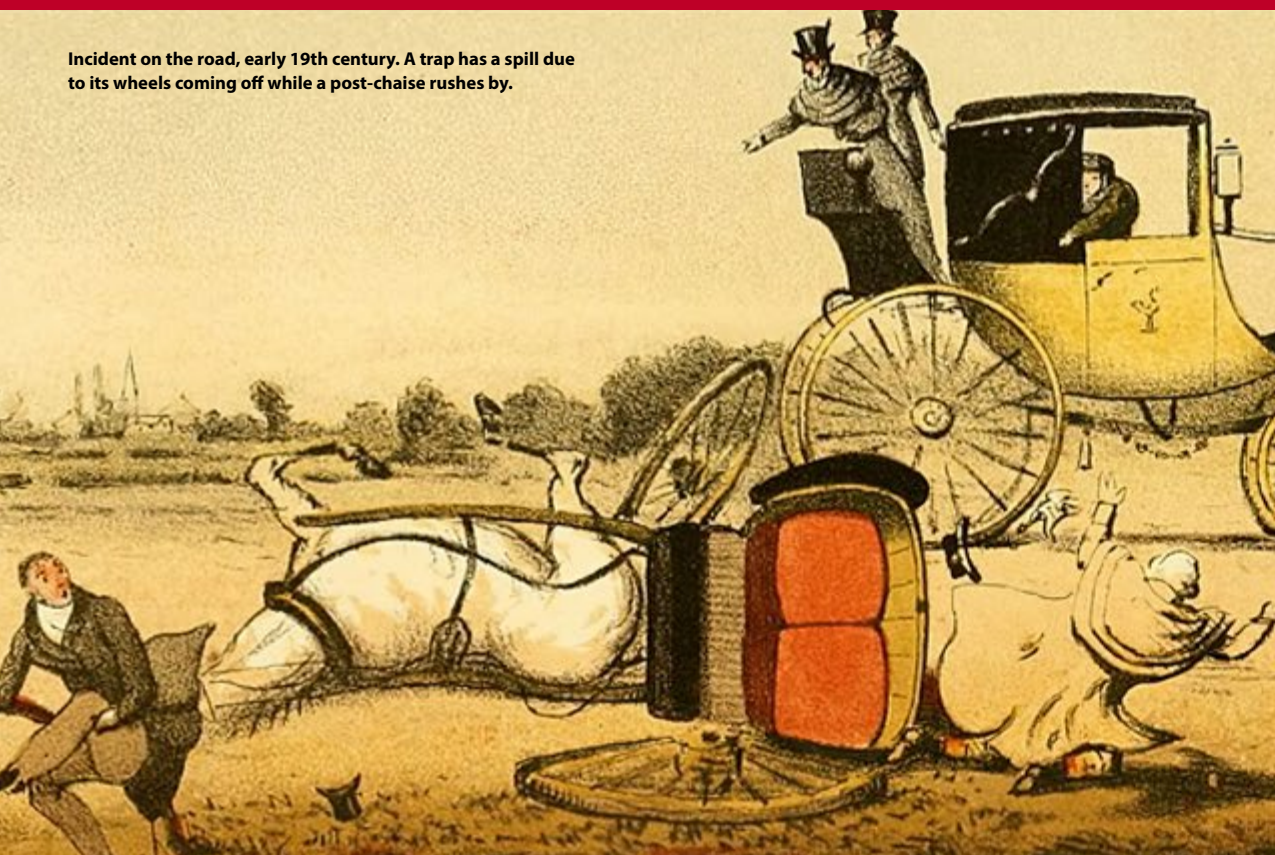
The golden age of coaching had now begun and it flourished in its well-ordered way until the coming of the railways. Royal Mail coaches took precedence on the road where all other users and wheeled traffic had to give way to them. They thrilled country people who would stop their work and cheer coaches on as they clipped along the open road at about 12-15 miles an hour and residents of towns

and villages would gather at coaching inns for their arrival and departure. It was not long, however, before travellers would be lured away by the faster and exhilaratingly novel form of travel offered by the railway. Inevitably the post followed and in 1839 the Royal Mail transferred the carriage of mail from its mail coaches to trains as required by The Railways (Conveyance of Mails) Act of 1838. Some mail coaches services continued until railway branch lines covered the majority of the country.

### Poste-chaise – a fast alternative

In 1743 an artillery officer, John Trull, set up a postal business in England along the lines of a private 'posting' service found in France. He soon improved the design of his carriages to carry passengers, hence the name 'poste-chaise' →

Incident on the road, early 19th century. A trap has a spill due to its wheels coming off while a post-chaise rushes by.



(post-chair). His success became the business model for other operators and provided an alternative means of transport for those who preferred not to use their own coach for long journeys, or who had none, and could afford the cost.

Post-chaises and their services are best described as fast, light coaches built for the carriage of people, post and parcels. They could be privately owned or hired at the operator's going rate for journeys which could be as long as needed. Inn keepers, when authorised to hire out horses, also provided them for those using their own post-chaise or carriage. These attractively designed four-wheelers provided a closed weatherproof body for two inside passengers and, if necessary, two outside at

the back, either standing on a platform or being carried in a basket. They were drawn by either two or four horses and controlled by postillions on the nearside horse of a pair, leaving a clear view of the road ahead for the passengers. Hired post-chaises were normally painted yellow. On arrival at a post, postillions would return with their horses to their starting post which gives us a sense of the organisation and capital needed to run such a business successfully.

Post-chaises were organised to operate over medium to long distances and not so much in cities. In 1632 by Act of Parliament, hackney carriages were licenced in London to operate what, today, we call a taxi service.— PC



### Notes

1. London was the largest and fastest growing city in the country; its population quadrupled from 50,000 in 1500 to 200,000 in 1600. Bristol was the second largest city with a population of about 11,000 in 1600. Salisbury's population had reduced and was approximately 7,000 at that time.
2. Turnpiking was authorised by Act of Parliament and gradually gained momentum. Between 1700 and 1750 four hundred Road Acts were passed; between 1751 and 1790 sixteen hundred were passed.
3. The King's Messenger Service still operates today carrying highly classified documents and materials to our Embassies across the world. Manned historically by former male officers of the Armed Forces, it now also includes female messengers. Although the service is reduced in size, King's Messengers travel hundreds of thousands of miles during their service using a distinctive 'King's Messenger' passport.
4. The term 'boy' could be used to describe any man employed in a lowly role. Postboys were punished for loitering; printed on each waybill as a reminder for them was this warning 'if any postboy or rider conveying this mail is found loitering on the road, he will be committed to the House of Correction and confined to hard labour for one month.'

### Further Reading

Carriers and Coachmasters, Trade and Travel before the Turnpikes. By Dorian Gerhold. Publ Phillimore & Co Ltd, 2005.

**RIGHT:** 1744 advertisement for post-chaise and for horses to draw gentlemen's own post-chaises between London and Portsmouth. Until 1780 only postmasters only had the authority to hire out horses for travellers; this changed in 1780 after which innkeepers could offer horses for hire.

### General Post-Office, London Sept 22 1744 POST-CHAISES

#### Between London and Portsmouth, by the Way of HARTFORD-BRIDGE.

*This to acquaint the Publick. That the several Post-Masters on the road between LONDON and PORTSMOUTH are ready to furnish Gentlemen, and others, with Post-Chaises, safe, easy, well secured from the Weather, upon as short a Warning as for Post-Horses, at any Hour, either of the day or Night.*

*Gentleman who have Occasion to go Post on the above Roads, are desired to apply to Mr William Miller, Post-Master, at the White Bear in Piccadilly.*

*A Post-Chaise may be hired at any of the Stages on the Portsmouth Road, to go part or all of the Way, for one or more Stages, for those who do not chuse to travel in the Night.*

*N.B. All Gentlemen that travel in Post-Chaises of their own, upon the Road where Post-Chaises are already set up by the Authority of this Office, may be supplied with Horses at the several Stages on those Roads at the Rate of Nine-pence per Mile.*

*By Command of the Post-Master General  
GEORGE SHELVOCKE, Secretary*

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### HOW TO PLAY SUDOKU

The objective of the puzzle is to complete the grid so each of the rows, columns and 3 x 3 sub-grids contains the numbers 1 to 9. The challenging part of the puzzle is that each number can only appear once per row, column, or sub-grid.



## February's Brain Gym

### Across

- William \_\_\_\_, editor of The Times newspaper from 1967 to 1981 (4-4)
- \_\_\_\_ Central, a vast mountainous area in southern France containing several extinct volcanic cones (6)
- Small family car first manufactured by Austin in 1973 and succeeded by the Metro and Maestro (7)
- A Jewish title or form of address meaning "my great master" (7)
- Of clothing, especially skirts, narrow at the top and widening evenly to a full hemline (1-4)
- Inflammation of the lining of the stomach (9)
- A language chosen as a medium of communication among speakers of different languages (6,6)
- A "new town" on the river Tawd in west Lancashire (12)
- Occurring in two forms within the same biological species (9)
- Danish discount supermarket chain which opened in the UK in 1990 (5)
- Roberto \_\_\_\_, manager of Manchester City FC following the dismissal of Mark Hughes (7)
- Grunge rock band whose first album was Bleach in 1989 (7)
- A member of a people of mixed Frankish and Scandinavian origin who settled in northern France from about AD 912 (6)
- An ancient city state founded by the Phoenicians on the north African coast near modern Tunis (8)

### Down

- Nancy \_\_\_\_, American actress born Anne Frances Robbins in 1921 (6)
- French term meaning "being discussed or expected" (2,4)
- A bright silver-white metallic element, atomic number 12 (9)
- Composer who had his first hit with Swanee, recorded by Al Jolson in 1920 (6,8)
- \_\_\_\_ nectar, a humorous nickname for beer or lager, especially in Australia (5)
- \_\_\_\_ for Boys, a book originally published in 1908, when it was written and illustrated by Robert Baden-Powell (8)
- A heavy black-and-white breed of dairy cattle, having a high milk yield (8)
- The most remote inhabited archipelago in the world, whose capital is Edinburgh of the Seven Seas (7,2,5)
- British TV puppet character, occupation Superstar, who first appeared on the show TV-am in 1983 (6,3)
- Masonry of uniform blocks in courses of equal height, the vertical joints placed over the middle of the blocks below (8)
- A spring constellation of the northern sky, thought to resemble a small lion (3,5)
- A tributary of the Saint Lawrence river that forms part of the boundary between the provinces of Quebec and Ontario (6)
- A perennial south European herb, *Levisticum officinale*, with an odour and flavour similar to celery (6)
- An Indian side dish of chopped vegetables, especially cucumber, in yoghurt (5)



## Waterside Youth Club – Weekly Activities



**PLEASE NOTE: WATERSIDE PARENTS & TODDLERS, JUNIORS & YOUTH CLUB WILL NOT BE MEETING DURING HALF TERM OF 13-17 FEBRUARY INCLUSIVE.**

**WEDNESDAYS  
Parents & Toddlers  
9.30-11.30pm**

*Want to make new friends?  
Calling all babies and toddlers\**  
Come and join us (with a parent!) every Wednesday term time at the Fovant Youth Club, High Street. Lots of toddler toys to play with, tea and coffee for mum or dad and the chance for them to have a chat!

*\*No charge but donations for tea always welcome.*

**WEDNESDAYS  
Club for Juniors, ages 5-10 yrs  
3.30-5.00pm**

**Crafting activities and Games – 50p**  
*Open to children from all local villages.*

**FRIDAY  
Youth Club for 11-16 yrs  
6.00-8.00pm**

**Games, Music and Tuck Shop**  
Come along and chill out with friends after a hard week at school.  
**£1.00 per young person.**  
A chance to socialise, play games and meet friends in a safe space.

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**Dr Kinlin's Drop in:**

**THURSDAY  
9 February 4.00-5.00pm**

### Understanding Food & Nutrition

with Dr Lindsay Kinlin

Dr Kinlin leads the third of her Focus Sessions for the community, giving information and time for questions on this important topic. *All local villages welcome.*

**The media is awash with advice about what to eat, what to avoid, how to lose weight, how to respond to allergies and much more. Come along and discuss food and nutrition with Lindsay.**



- ❖ Which food supplements are worth buying?
- ❖ How would I know if I have a wheat allergy?
- ❖ How much water should I drink each day to stay healthy?
- ❖ Which foods interact with which medications?
- ❖ Plus a general discussion to share tips for maintaining a healthy weight, optimising nutrition, cooking on a budget.

**FUTURE TOPICS WILL INCLUDE  
FOR EXAMPLE –  
LONG COVID,  
VACCINES,  
SELF CARE**



Fovant

## Fovant Village Hall Weekly Activities

### SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB

9.00-11.00pm every week

**Breakfast to eat in or takeaway.**

Delicious as always.

### MONDAYS TAP CLASS

7.45pm-8.45pm

Come along and join in with our very friendly and inclusive class which meets weekly.

### TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS OPEN DOOR

10.00-2.00pm

**Providing a warm space.**

Socialise, work, read or play games.

**Tuesdays**

Simple lunches available to purchase.

**Thursdays**

Lunches provided – donations welcome.



### THURSDAY COFFEE MORNING

10.00-11.00pm

**All welcome**

Tea, coffee and biscuits provided.

Donations welcome.

### FRIDAYS SEATED EXERCISE CLASS

10.00am-11.00am

This sociable class is excellent for stretching muscles and keeping mobile for those who have some challenges with their mobility. It's a super way of keeping fit.



Fovant



## FILGroup Report on January Meeting

January saw us back in Fovant Village hall in good cheer, despite a very wet and miserable day. To celebrate a new meeting time for the New Year (now 2.30 - 4.30 instead of the evenings for at least the next three months),



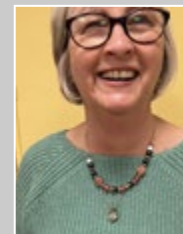
we offered a convivial afternoon of tea, cakes and a glass of prosecco with the option of learning how to make a beaded necklace. Everyone took up the Jewellery Making workshop led by Linda Bailey our Chair, with some very impressive results.



The next meeting will be on February 9th in the village hall at 2.30pm. The speaker will be *Professor Nigel North* who will be explaining about PTSD – 'The Hidden Menace' (see right).



We hope to see as many of you as can spare the time, men included, to listen to this very perplexing subject.



For further information please contact:  
**filgroup15@gmail.com**

THURSDAY  
**9 February**  
2.30pm

## PTSD The Hidden Menace

**With Professor Nigel North.**  
ALL WELCOME. Non-members £4.50.



**filgroup15@gmail.com**  
01722 714654

Next month – 9 March  
**REFLEXOLOGY**  
with Pip Zingg



Fovant

## Fovant Village Hall Continued



# Cheese & Wine Tasting

**Friday 10 March**  
6.00pm – 8pm  
**Fovant Village Hall**

TICKETS  
£15

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variety of carefully  
chosen wines  
accompanied by  
favourite local  
and international  
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Telephone: 07749 629 904

## Weekly Chapel Event Fovant Satellite Food Bank



PHOTO — DEREK HARPER

### Fovant Free Church

The Chapel, High Street,  
Fovant SP3 5JL

**EVERY THURSDAY**  
**1.30-3.30pm**

Open for tea/coffee, a listening ear  
and a warm discreet space as well as  
accepting food bank vouchers.

If you would like to donate warm  
clothing such as fleeces, scarves, hats,  
gloves and coats please contact  
Julie on:

**07816 511340**



### Mobile Library

**TUESDAY 7th FEBRUARY**  
1.50pm – 2.05pm  
**Clay's Orchard**

**Change your books, collect or request  
new ones and use this valuable service.**

Remember 'Warm Tote Bag' packs are  
available via the Mobile Library service –  
just ask. It contains a hot water bottle and  
cover, a thermal mug and blanket.



### Poetry Group

**1ST FEBRUARY 2pm – 3.30pm**

Reading & discussing poems  
on the theme '**Travel**'  
**1 Sling Orchard, Fovant.**  
*New members always welcome.*

**Contact Beryl 01722 714343**

*Bag a Bargain.*

**NEARLY NEW  
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*Wellington Barn on Manor Farm,  
Calstone, Calne, SN11 8PY*

*28th February 2023, 4pm - 9pm, £6 entry  
1st March 2023, 9am - 12pm, free entry*

*Bar will be open for tea, coffee & drinks  
[www.wiltshirebobbyvan.org.uk/events](http://www.wiltshirebobbyvan.org.uk/events)*

*For further details or to donate clothes  
please email [jennie@wbvt.org](mailto:jennie@wbvt.org)*

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This may help restart a conversation or two.

Helping older people to recall, and for younger people to be shown, how life today could be lived differently, and help reduce their household bills!

Regrettably, whilst I have had these words for many years, I am unable to give their writer credit but, in my humble opinion, they deserve huge thanks for their awareness.

Best wishes  
Rowena

## Old people are bad for the environment

In the queue at the shop, the cashier told an older woman that she should bring her own grocery bags because the plastic bags she was carrying weren't very good for the environment.

The woman apologised to her and explained, "We didn't have the **green** thing back in my day."

The cashier responded, "That's our problem today. Your generation didn't think about the harm you were doing to our environment."

**She was right – our generation didn't have the green 'thing' in its day.**



Back then, we returned milk bottles, pop and beer bottles to the shop which sent them back to the plant to be washed, sterilised and refilled, so it could use the same bottles over and over — so they really were recycled.

**But we didn't have the green 'thing' back in our day.**

We walked up stairs, because we didn't have an escalator in every store and office building. We walked to the grocery shop and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time we had to go two streets away.



**But she was right.**

**We didn't have the green 'thing' in our day.**

Back then, we washed the baby's nappies because we didn't have the disposal variety. We dried clothes on a washing line, not in an energy guzzling machine burning up 220 volts – wind and solar power really did dry the clothes. Children got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters and not always brand-new clothing.



**But that old lady is right  
We didn't have the green 'thing' back in our day.**

Back then, we had one television or radio in the house – not in every room; and the TV had a small screen the size of a handkerchief (remember them?), not a screen the size of Wiltshire.



In the kitchen, we blended and stirred by hand because we didn't have electric machines to do everything for us.



When we packaged a fragile item to send in the post, we used a wadded up old newspaper to cushion it, not Styrofoam or plastic bubble wrap.

Back then, we didn't start an engine and burn petrol just to cut the lawn. We used a manual mower that ran on human power.

We exercised by working so we didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity.

**But she's right, we didn't have the green 'thing' back then.**

We drank from a fountain when we were thirsty instead of using a cup or a plastic bottle every time we had a drink of water.

We refilled writing pens instead of buying a new ones when the ink ran out, and we replaced the blades in a razor instead of throwing away the whole thing just because the blade became blunt.



**But back then we didn't have the green 'thing'!**

Back then, people took the bus and children rode their bikes to

school or walked instead of using their mothers as a 24-hour taxi service.



We had one electrical socket in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances and we didn't need a computerised gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 2,000 miles out in

space in order to find the nearest pizza restaurant.



**But isn't it sad how the current young generation laments how wasteful we older people were just because we didn't have the green 'thing' back then?**

**Dear Reader:** Do you have a funny tale or memorable experience hidden away? A special poem, fascinating family history or passionate interest you'd like to talk about? Let us have them and we'll create some lovely pages on your topic for you and everybody else to read and enjoy.

jan@village-buzz.co.uk



# Rockbourne Fair raises 'incredible' £51,000 for the Stars Appeal

Organisers of the Rockbourne Fair are celebrating after raising an 'incredible' £51,482 for the Stars Appeal, Salisbury District Hospital's Charity.

Members of the Rockbourne Fair Committee handed over their donation, which surpassed the amount raised in 2021, to the President of the Stars Appeal,

Lord Pembroke, the charity's Hospital Ambassadors, and the Hospital's chief executive Stacey Hunter, during a special presentation event on Tuesday (January 10) at the Stars Appeal funded Beatrice Birth Centre.

Bev Moulding, the chair of the Rockbourne Fair Committee, said: "We are delighted that Rockbourne Fair 2022 has raised such an incredible amount for the Stars Appeal, totalling £51,482, compared with £50,301 in 2021. It was wonderful to see so many people come through the door and enjoy this unique shopping experience with over 100 stalls - the atmosphere was fantastic! This achievement is even more remarkable given the current economic climate.

"We are extremely grateful to everyone who made the event such a success - for the support of our stallholders, our volunteers and the generosity of everyone who attended. This money will go on to make a big impact on the lives of so many people in Salisbury District Hospital and it's a great reminder of how we can come together to make a real difference to our local community."



Members of the Rockbourne Fair Committee presenting their donation to Stars Appeal President, Lord Pembroke, and Salisbury District Hospital's chief executive Stacey Hunter, along with the Stars Appeal's Hospital Ambassadors. Picture by Spencer Mulholland.

The boutique shopping event, which is held annually, took place across three days from October 19th to 21st, 2022 at Salisbury Racecourse. This year's Rockbourne Fair is being

held from October 18th to 20th at Salisbury Racecourse.

Donations from the Rockbourne Fair help the charity towards its goal of raising more than £1million each year to fund projects supporting local people being treated at Salisbury District Hospital and the staff that care for them.

Lord Pembroke said: "As someone who has some experience in organising events I really understand the time and also the effort that goes into pulling these things together. They can be quite stressful at times but when organisers and the community come together something special happens and we get amazing results, which is clear from the incredible amount raised from the Rockbourne Fair".

"All I can say is thank you," he added.

Dave Cates, of the Stars Appeal, said: "This wonderful gift takes us a huge step forward as we seek to fund over £1million of enhancements at Salisbury District Hospital this year. Thousands of people every week benefit from Stars Appeal projects from

state-of-the-art scanners to accommodation for the parents of sick children, none of our work would be possible without the brilliant support of people like the Rockbourne Fair Committee to whom we extend our most grateful and sincere thanks."

The projects the Stars Appeal are looking to fund for 2023 include a £142,000 echocardiogram machine for the Cardiac Investigation Unit to reduce waiting times for patients awaiting diagnosis, £55,000 to fund new scalp cooling machines to help prevent hair loss for cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy on the Pembroke Unit, a £20,000 brain function monitor for the Neonatal Unit, and a £15,000 mechanical CPR machine.

These are in addition to the ongoing projects supported by the Stars Appeal which range from providing free Wi-Fi for patients, visitors and staff, a 24/7 Hospital Chaplaincy service, support for cancer patients, as well as the Stars Appeal toiletry packs, free TV cards and clothing for patients arriving at hospital in an emergency or facing hardship.

To find out more about the Stars Appeal visit [starsappeal.org](http://starsappeal.org) or for the latest on the 2023 Rockbourne Fair go to [rockbournefair.org.uk](http://rockbournefair.org.uk).

**The Stars Appeal is the charity for Salisbury District Hospital. Every day, work funded by the charity helps hundreds of patients at Salisbury District Hospital and supports the NHS staff who care for them. The Stars Appeal aims to raise over £1 million each year to fund projects which offer direct, practical support to patients, their families, and the Hospital's staff.**

#### Further information:

Katy Griffin – Communications and Engagement Officer  
Salisbury District Hospital Stars Appeal  
01722 429005  
[info@starsappeal.org](mailto:info@starsappeal.org)  
[www.starsappeal.org](http://www.starsappeal.org)  
Reg charity number 1052284



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DATE	5 February			12 February			19 February		
SUNDAY	3rd before Lent			2nd before Lent			Next before Lent		
SOUTHERN AREA									
Ansty	-	-	-	11.15	PC	GS	-	-	-
Compton Chamberlayne	09.30	PC <sub>T</sub>	GS	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fovant	08.00	HC <sub>O2T</sub>	GS	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sutton Mandeville	18.00	EBCP	GS	09.30	PC <sub>O2T</sub>	GS	16.00	AAS	JN
Swallowcliffe	11.15	PC <sub>T</sub>	+SL/ GS	18.00	EBCP	GS	08.00	HC <sub>B</sub> CP	EB
NORTHERN AREA									
Barford St Martin	11.15	AAC	EB	09.30	MCW	LAY	09.30	HC <sub>B</sub> CP	MH
Baverstock	09.30	HC	EB	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chilmark	11.15	AAC	JN	09.30	AAS	EB	11.15	AAC	EB
Dinton	09.30	AAC	CF	-	-	-	09.30	AAC	EB
Teffont Evias	-	-	-	11.15	AAC	EB	-	-	-
Teffont Magna	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN AREA									
Chicklade	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hindon	09.30	PC	JN	09.30	AAC	JN	18.00	EBCP	JN
Fonthill Bishop	17.00	EBCP	JMH	08.00	HC <sub>B</sub> CP	JMH	09.30	M <sub>B</sub> CP	JA
Fonthill Gifford	08.00	HC <sub>B</sub> CP	JMH	11.15	M <sub>B</sub> CP	JA	08.00	HC <sub>B</sub> CP	JMH
Tisbury									
	09.30	AAS	JMH/ JA	09.30	PC	JMH	09.30	PC	JMH
							18.00	EBCP Choral	JMH

22 February			26 February			5 March	
Ash Wednesday			Lent 1			Lent 2	
-	-	-	11.15	AAC	GS	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	09.30	PC <sub>T</sub>
-	-	-	09.30	PC	GS	08.00	HC <sub>O2T</sub>
-	-	-	-	-	-	18.00	EBCP
11.00	HC <sub>T</sub> + Ashing	TF	11.15	M <sub>B</sub> CP	LAY	11.15	PC <sub>T</sub>
09.30	HC + Ashing	EB	09.30	AAC	TF	11.15	AAC
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	11.15	MPr/M	LAY	11.15	AAC
-	-	-	09.30	MCW	EB	09.30	AAC
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	11.15	AAC	EB	-	-
-	-	-	11.15	AAC	EB	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11.00	HC + Ashing	JN	09.30	PC	SE	09.30	PC
-	-	-	-	-	-	17.00	EBCP
-	-	-	11.15	M <sub>B</sub> CP	JMH	08.00	HC <sub>B</sub> CP
-	-	-	08.00	HC <sub>B</sub> CP	SE	-	-
10.00	HC	JMH	09.30	PC	JMH	09.30	AAS
19.30	PC + Ashing	JMH	-	-	-	-	-



Come and join us for a little quiet time and space to find

## Healing and Wholeness



We invite you to join us for a time of prayer and contemplation – For yourself and for those whom you care about remembering all those who are in difficulties at this time of year.

**\*3.00pm\***  
**Wednesday**  
**February 8th**

St Andrew's Chapel,  
St John the Baptist, Tisbury

Including a reading, a song, meditation, and prayers for all the needs of your world.

\* Please note the earlier winter timing! \*

### SERVICES

- AAC All Age Communion
- AAS All Age Service
- BCP Book of Common Prayer
- CbE Communion by Extension
- CW Common Worship
- E Evensong or Evening Prayer
- FC All Age Family Communion
- HC Holy Communion (said)
- HC<sub>O2T/C</sub> Order 2 Communion, traditional/contemporary
- M Mattins or Morning Prayer
- MPr Morning Praise

- PC Order 1 Communion (with hymns)
- PC<sub>T</sub> Order 1 Communion, traditional language (with hymns)
- PC<sub>O2T</sub> Order 2 Communion, traditional language (with hymns)
- PC<sub>O2T/C</sub> Order 2 Communion, traditional/contemporary
- RS Reflective Service
- SoP Songs of Praise
- SoW All Age Service of the Word

### CLERGY

- AJ Ven Alan Jeans
- CF Colin Fox
- EB Elaine Brightwell
- GS Graham Southgate
- JA Judy Anderson
- JMH Juliette Hulme
- JN Jo Naish
- KH Karen Hutchinson
- MH Mark Hayter
- PG Paul Graves
- SE Simon Evans
- TF Tina Fox

## Children's Holiday Workshop Wednesday 15th February 2023

2.00pm – 4.00pm  
"FLIGHT"

AT ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, HINDON

Join us to explore our theme with fantastic activities and test your design skills with the Nadder Valley Team.

**BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL!!**

Contact Revd Jo Naish on 01747871820

or email – [revdjoannaish@gmail.com](mailto:revdjoannaish@gmail.com) to book your spot.

All children will need to be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times.

Come and join us exploring our faith together in new and unexpected ways.



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CLICK or TAP to go back to the FRONT PAGE



## At the famous battle of Little Big Horn in America, General Custer was defeated by Sitting Bull and his braves.

A Mexican priest told me this story about one of those braves, who was called Silver Arrow ( don't you wish we all had more interesting names like those native Americans? I would gladly swop dull "Michael Hughes" for something with more zing to it, like "Bright Sunrise" ! If you could choose a name what would it be?).

Anyway, Silver Arrow had a habit which the other braves found weird. Every evening he would leave the camp and walk out into the desert. One evening the braves followed him to find out what he did there. With his bow, he was firing arrow after arrow into the West. They asked him why he was doing so, when there was no target at which to shoot. He answered "I am trying to shoot the sun before it sets". They mocked him for this unachievable target. But he went right on going out each and every evening, trying to shoot the sun, even though he was told he had no chance of succeeding as the sun was far beyond his bow's reach.

When the war with the white men seemed inevitable, Sitting Bull held an archery competition to see which of his braves was most accurate with the bow at long distance.

Silver Arrow won easily, for he had been trying to hit a very distant target for many years.

Lent is coming. Ash Wednesday is on February 22nd – a day of fasting and abstinence for many Christians.

During Lent we try to be the way God made us to be – loving, forgiving, selfless, joyful. It is likely, very likely, that we will fail, fail to be holy people. But if we spend the time between now and Easter trying to be the way Jesus wants us to be, the trying will not make us perfect – but it will make us a tiny bit better – in the same way as Silver Arrow, though he never hit his target, the sun, did become better at archery through trying to hit something beyond his abilities.

Lent is normally a time when Christians make some cut back in their lives, a time when we gladly choose some ounce of self-sacrifice. But these last years have been hard for many of us. The long lockdowns, virtual house arrest, the coming of war to Europe and the terrible pictures of people like us without heating or water in the deep midwinter as a result of the callous cruelty of other people like us. The cost of heating our homes; the rise of inflation and then most of the services we rely on going on strike.

So this year, perhaps we do not have to give anything else up. Instead discover whatever could fill your heart with more joy, more love to give others, and then do whatever will add to your joy – every day of Lent without fail.

For God desires you to have the deep joy that comes as deeds of love increase.

**Michael Hughes**  
Catholic Deacon at Wardour and Tisbury





Barford St Martin



Burcombe



## TEA and CHATS for February

Our next 'tea and chats' in a warm space will be on  
**Wednesday 15th February**

**from 2.00-4.00pm**  
**in St Martins church**  
**Barford St Martin**

There will be tea, coffee and cake!

Plenty of time to chat and meet new friends from our villages.

There will be a short presentation about the history of Barford by Roy Wilde.

**All welcome, no charge.**

Hope to see as many of you as can come.

Many thanks Jenny Barrett.

**Jennybarford@gmail.com**

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### Sudoku solution

February 23

from page 20

8	9	5	6	4	2	3	7	1
7	3	6	5	8	1	9	4	2
2	1	4	7	3	9	8	5	6
1	5	8	4	6	3	2	9	7
6	4	7	2	9	5	1	8	3
9	2	3	8	1	7	4	6	5
5	7	9	1	2	4	6	3	8
4	6	1	3	5	8	7	2	9
3	8	2	9	7	6	5	1	4

### Crossword solution

February 23

from page 21

R	E	S	M	O	G	G	M	A	S	S	I	R
E	N	A	E	T	M	C	R					
A	L	L	E	G	R	O	R	A	B	B	O	N
G	A	N	R	T	E	U	R					
A	L	I	N	E	G	A	S	T	R	I	T	I
N	I	S	E	T	I							
L	I	N	G	U	A	F	R	A	N	G	A	
I	L	U	E	N	O	G	N					
S	K	E	L	M	E	R	S	D	A	L	E	
O	O	M	P	H	S	A	A	O	L			
D	I	M	O	R	P	H	I	C	N	E	T	T
O	T	A	W	U	D	E	T	V				
M	A	N	C	I	N	I	N	I	R	V	A	N
O	O	T	N	H	A	W	O					
N	O	R	M	A	N							



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### Contact details:

**Editor:** Gill Fisk | gill@village-buzz.co.uk

### Design & Advertising:

Jan Kalinowski | jan@village-buzz.co.uk

telephone: 01722 716874 | mobile: 07881 288027



## Advertising & article submission deadline

### Monday 20 February

File formats we prefer to work with –

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**Any text in Microsoft Word**

To maintain the highest print quality we only accept high resolution images.

In other words: Images must have a minimum resolution of 300ppi (pixels to the inch).

Any problems please give Jan a call on **07881 288027**

## Dear doggie owners and doggie walkers!

A tiny selfish minority is continuing to spoil our wonderful countryside, paths and lanes! Please ensure that you pick up after your pet every time you take your dog or dogs for a walk so that we can all enjoy our walks without stepping into anything nasty!

**https://www.keepbritaintidy.org/faqs/advice/dog-fouling-and-law**

*Awe...  
Come on!*



# VILLAGE BUZZ

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## USEFUL INFORMATION

### **SALISBURY HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING CENTRE**

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9.00am - 4.00pm  
**CLOSED ON THURSDAYS**

**WINTER (1 November to 31 March)**  
10.00am - 4.00pm  
**CLOSED ON THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS**  
Stephenson Road,  
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### **MEDICAL**

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Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP3 5JL

#### **OLD ORCHARD SURGERY**

Telephone: 01722 744775  
Old Orchard Surgery, South Street, Wilton,  
Salisbury, SP2 0JU

#### **SALISBURY DISTRICT HOSPITAL**

Odstock Rd, Salisbury SP2 8BJ  
Tel: 01722 336262

#### **NICHOLSON AND BOUGH CHARITY FOR BARFORD ST MARTIN RESIDENTS**

**Telephone: 01722 744546**  
or write in strict confidence to:  
Clerk to the Trustees, 2 The Poplars,  
Barford St Martin, SP3 4AR

### **THEATRES/ART**

#### **Salisbury Playhouse**

Malthouse Lane, Salisbury SP2 7RA  
Tel: 01722 320333

#### **Salisbury City Hall**

Malthouse Lane, Salisbury SP2 7TU  
Tel: 01722 434434

#### **Salisbury Arts Centre**

Bedwin St, Salisbury SP1 3UT  
Tel: 01722 321744

#### **Odeon Cinema Salisbury**

New Canal, Salisbury SP1 2AA  
Tel: 0333 014 4501

### **WILTSHIRE COUNCIL**

#### **HEAD OFFICE**

Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, Wiltshire BA14  
8JN

#### **BOURNE HILL**

Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 3UZ  
Council offices are open Monday to Friday  
from 8.30am until 5.30pm

#### **WILTSHIRE COUNCIL SERVICES**

##### **Worried about a child?**

If you believe a child or young person is at risk of significant harm, neglect or injury, report your concerns to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 0300 4560108.

##### **Adult Care**

Tel: 0300 456 0111  
adviceandcontact@wiltshire.gov.uk

##### **Benefits**

Tel: 0300 456 0110  
benefits@wiltshire.gov.uk

##### **Blue Badges**

Tel: 01225 713002  
bluebadge@wiltshire.gov.uk

##### **Building Control**

Tel: 0300 456 0113  
buildingcontrol@wiltshire.gov.uk

##### **CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

###### **Early Help**

Tel: 01225 718230

###### **Children's Services**

Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)  
Tel: 01225 757985

###### **Children's Services Social Care**

Tel: 01722 438165

##### **COMMUNICATIONS**

(press and media related enquiries)  
Tel: 01225 713115 or 01225 713370  
communications@wiltshire.gov.uk

##### **Corporate Investigation Team**

01249 706456  
investigations@wiltshire.gov.uk

##### **Council Tax**

Tel: 0300 456 0109  
counciltax@wiltshire.gov.uk

##### **Elections**

Tel: 0300 456 0112  
elections@wiltshire.gov.uk

##### **Early Years and Childcare**

Tel: 0300 003 4561  
earlyyears@wiltshire.gov.uk

##### **Fraud Hotline (24 hours)**

Tel: 01249 706456

##### **Highways**

Tel: 0300 456 0105 or to report non-urgent highway defects.

##### **Homes4Wiltshire (housing register)**

Tel: 0300 456 0104  
homes4wiltshire@wiltshire.gov.uk  
Housing Options/Homelessness homeless@wiltshire.gov.uk  
Tel: 01722 434233

##### **Parking**

Tel: 01249 706131  
parking@wiltshire.gov.uk

##### **Pest Control, Noise and Pollution, Environmental Health**

Tel: 0300 456 0107  
customerservices@wiltshire.gov.uk

##### **Planning**

Tel: 0300 456 0114  
developmentmanagement@wiltshire.gov.uk

##### **Rubbish and Recycling**

Tel: 0300 456 0102  
customerservices@wiltshire.gov.uk

##### **Schools Admissions**

Tel: 01225 713010  
admissions@wiltshire.gov.uk

##### **School Transport**

Tel: 01225 712852  
educationtransport@wiltshire.gov.uk

##### **Can't find the service you require?**

##### **Contact Customer Services**

Tel: 0300 456 0100