

JAN/FEB 2025

NEWSLETTER

LAVERSTOCK & FORD PARISH COUNCIL

BISHOPDOWN FARM FORD HAMPTON PARK LAVERSTOCK
LONGHEDGE MILFORD OLD SARUM RIVERDOWN PARK

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View from the Chair

Last month I spent a couple of Saturday mornings with Cllr Estelle Williams and Juliet Brain, the Parish Council's Communication and Community Engagement Officer planting a tree in the new King's Coronation Orchard in the Laverstock watermeadows. It was great to spend some time with the volunteers of the Devenish Bradshaw Trust and the Laverstock cubs and scouts who

had come to help and to be a part of creating something which will hopefully be an asset for our community for generations to come.

Working under the expert eye of Jon Alnutt we learned how to dig a hole the proper way, and how to prepare the ground for the new tree. This was not just a ceremonial tree planting where you come along and move a pile of earth someone else has dug for a photo opportunity! It struck me that what we were doing has something in common with what as a parish council we hope to do for the community.

We are only one small part of a complex network of statutory organisations, voluntary organisations and good neighbours who make up a community. On our own we can't solve all of the many challenges we face or make new communities from new built houses. However we can help put some of the basics in place which give people a voice and which support community groups to flourish.

Two examples of that which are very much on our mind at the moment are the consultation we will be undertaking on the impact of the new traffic regulations on Church Road and our work to support our community buildings.

I'd encourage all local residents and those who regularly use Church Road and its surrounding streets to fill in the survey typing bit.ly/laverstock-lines into your web browser or scanning the QR code opposite. We will share all of the feedback we receive with Wiltshire Council and work with them to improve the scheme and deal with some of the challenges we know that residents in some places such as Woodland Way are experiencing.

The other example which came to my mind as I was preparing the ground for our tree was our community centres at Bishopdown Farm Pavillion, Laverstock Village Hall and Old Sarum and Longhedge Community Centre. These are fertile ground where all sorts of community groups flourish. It is a daily challenge keeping them operating and we are in regular discussion with the management committees about how we can best help. One key need is volunteers who are happy to show prospective hirers around these buildings or to help with maintenance tasks. If you could help with either of these please contact the parish clerk and she would be very happy to put you in contact with the right person.

Nick Baker, Chair



CHURCH ROAD
SURVEY QR LINK



Parish Council Meetings

Monday 20 January 7 pm
at Old Sarum & Longhedge Community Centre

Monday 17 February, 7 pm
at Hampton Park Pavilion, Bishopdown Farm

SAVE THE DATE
Annual Parish Meeting Tuesday March 04
Hangar 1, Boscombe Down Aviation Collection at 6 pm

www.laverstockford-pc.gov.uk

For dates of meetings, minutes, agenda's, contacts,
parish information, news and more.

LAVERSTOCK & MILFORD WARD	
Nick Baker: (Chair) 2 Linden Close, Laverstock SP1 1PH Tel. 077391 77667 nickbaker@laverstockford-pc.gov.uk	
VACANCY FOR TWO PARISH COUNCILLORS	
Laura Jones: 33 Riverbourne Road, Laverstock SP1 1NU Tel. 07734 888181 laurajones@laverstockford-pc.gov.uk	
Ian McDonald: 52 Potters Way, Laverstock SP1 1PX Tel. 07591 963261 ianmcdonald@laverstockford-pc.gov.uk	
FORD, OLD SARUM & LONGHEDGE WARD	
Lainey Barker: 66 Sherbourne Drive, Old Sarum SP4 6GA Tel. 01722 321650 laineybarker@laverstockford-pc.gov.uk	
Kevin Lynn: 9 Warneford Crescent, Longhedge SP4 6SB Tel. 01722 446636 kevinlynn@laverstockford-pc.gov.uk	
Laura Rigiani: 34 Crosier Close, Old Sarum SP4 6GX laurarigiani@laverstockford-pc.gov.uk	
Patrick Schneider: patrickschneider@laverstockford-pc.gov.uk Tel. 07398 094339	
Eric Taylor: 4 Norman Drive, Old Sarum, SP4 6PF Tel. 07564 679075 erictaylor@laverstockford-pc.gov.uk	
Cindy Vanstone: cindyvanstone@laverstockford-pc.gov.uk	
BISHOPDOWN FARM WARD	
James Harris: 119 Burden Drive, Bishopdown farm, SP1 3QG Tel. 01722 332109 jamesharris@laverstockford-pc.gov.uk	
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Lesley Waller: 30, The Oakbournes, Bishopdown Farm SP1 3FZ Tel. 07900 392257 lesleywaller@laverstockford-pc.gov.uk	
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Communications & Community Engagement Officer: Juliet Brain communications@laverstockford-pc.gov.uk	
Finance Officer: Andrew Prince andrewprince@laverstockford-pc.gov.uk CORRESPONDENCE to: 3 Pilgrims Way, Laverstock, Salisbury SP1 1RZ	
<i>Details of Councillors' interests and membership of parish council sub-groups, can be found on our website www.laverstockford-pc.gov.uk</i>	

The Parish Newsletter is published six times a year for the benefit of parish residents. However; articles included do not necessarily reflect the views of the Parish Council. Advertisements for any business or service does not imply a recommendation by the Parish Council

Editorial Deadline:

Copy deadline is MONDAY 27 January for next issue #210

email Juliet: communications@laverstockford-pc.gov.uk

Online copy via www.laverstockford-pc.gov.uk via quick links at bottom of home page

Report from the Parish Council

Detailed minutes of all the meetings can be found on our website at:

<https://laverstockford-pc.gov.uk/meetings>

Bishopdown Farm contractors have successfully completed pollarding the trees around the Green.

Laverstock and Milford the Whitebridge Spinney boardwalk pond spur has been reconstructed.

Longhedge Bedding at Community Gardens. Several of the bedding areas at Longhedge were tidied up in November & December.

Old Sarum Needles were found at the Skate Park in November it was monitored and reported to Police.

FORD Parish Stewards have cleared edges of footpaths at St Thomas's bridge

Community Speedwatch Cllr Jones held two Speedwatch events in November and December. If you'd like to help combat speeding in your residential area and can volunteer your time, do please get in touch. (see page 10).

Play Parks

The annual detailed inspection of the Parish Play Parks took place in October 2024, there were one or two areas highlighted for ongoing improvement but overall the parks were found to be satisfactory.

2025 Annual Budget The council have been working hard to set a budget that provides value for residents and the Parish. Full details will be available on our website following the January council meeting.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on March 04 see page 2.

ASDA - London Road at time of going to print, this application was nearing approval subject to some final discussions with planning officers. There will be Biodiversity net gain going to Castle Hill Country Park and including in the agreement there will be some access improvement to Pearce Way but it doesn't look like they included either a London Road crossing or Green Lane improvement through to Ford which is frustrating.

Brain Teasers

Here's a few fun but topical teasers, after all the festivities to sharpen the mind inspired by MySociety's Christmas Quiz <https://www.mysociety.org/christmas-emoji-quiz/>



Guess the name

The images spell out parish wards and names
Can you solve them?



guess the connection

Group the words in to four categories. Choose four words that have a common theme



answers on page 35

Laverstock & Ford Village Hall, Weekly/Monthly Timetable

Park Road, Off Duck Lane, Laverstock, Salisbury SP1 1RQ

Any booking enquiries to Ruth Harris, Booking Secretary,

07870 648841 or ruthjharris61@gmail.com

Private Hire also available (no bouncy castles). Laverstock & Ford Village Hall is a thriving and large community space with excellent kitchen facilities. It is well used by all generations of the community.

	WEEKLY. AM	WEEKLY/MONTHLY. PM	CONTACT DETAILS & INFO
MONDAY	7.30 - 9 am Cleaning	1 - 4 pm Line Dancing	07946 733605 or www.linedancingsouth-mulepackers.co.uk
	9.30 - 12 noon Silver Salisbury Coffee and chat morning	1 st Monday, 6.30 - 10.30 Salisbury Bonsai Society	Paul Baron Secretary. 07786 141636 p.baron28@btinternet.com
		2 nd Monday, 7 - 8 pm Ladies Open Group	01722 328544 moyahill@hotmail.com
		3 rd Monday, 7 - 8 pm WI*	01722 326549 laverstocksec@wiltshirewi.org.uk
		4 th Monday, 6.30 - 9.30 pm Laverstock Gardening Club**	sue_lee_7@hotmail.co.uk
TUESDAY	10 - 12 noon Taoist Tai Chi		07403 293974 jpcdomin@gmail.com
		2 - 4.30 pm Laverstock Art Club	07790 902754 fionajforbes55@gmail.com
		6 - 8 pm Your Day Your Dance. Dance fitness	07763 251153 jackie@yourdayyourdance.co.uk
WEDNESDAY	9.30 - 11.30 am Chair Yoga		07458 999121 Anne Ewers aewersyogafitness@gmail.com
		1 st Wednesday, 1 - 4 pm Evergreen	01722 329150 nancy.joyce1@btinternet.com
		6.15 - 7.30 pm Cubs	kate.chil@sswscouts.org.uk
THURSDAY	9 - 12 noon St Andrews Toddler Group + babies (terms)		07586 292111 Abby Jennings standrews.toddlergroup@yahoo.com
		1.30 - 3.30 pm Skylarks Choir relaxed practice for anyone affected by cancer. Popular songs.	suedmonds234@gmail.com
		4.15 - 6.45 pm, 11+ Teaching	01722 327525 salisbury11plusmockexams@gmail.com
		7.15 - 10 pm Line Dancing and Western Partner Dancing	07946 733605 or www.linedancingsouth-mulepackers.co.uk
FRIDAY	Cleaning 7.30 - 9 am		
		11 - 12.30 pm Flexercise***	07961 071288 or pmsemails@aol.com
		5 - 7 pm Ballroom Dancing	Closed class, no spaces.
		7.30 - 9.30 pm Scouts	07864 073311 andychisholm2018@gmail.com
SATURDAY	9.30 - 11.30 am Beavers		01722 421287 jane.waspe@btinternet.com
SUNDAY		2 - 5 pm Band Rehearsal. 1-2 times per month	Closed Practice

*WI is the Women's Institute ** Laverstock Gardening Club, Speaker and refreshments ***Flexercise is a fitness class for the over 60s, a fusion of exercise movement & dance to improve posture, mobility, strength and balance.

Guess the fungi!



5

6

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following Planning Applications have been submitted to the Parish. *Italics after the application show the Parish Council response. Bold print shows a decision by Wiltshire Council.*

DECISIONS

PL/2024/09091 Consent to works under TPO 5 St Albans Close, Bishopdown SP1 3FN **APPROVED**

PL/2024/08309 Works to a Protected Tree WESTOVER KIA, OLD SARUM PARK, OLD SARUM, SALISBURY, SP4 6EB Proposal: 5 x Lime trees and 1 x Beech tree - reduce to previous points **REFUSED**

PL/2024/08075 Works to a Protected Tree: 14 GREEN LANE, FORD, SALISBURY, SP4 6DE **APPROVED**

PL/2024/07869 Retention of Storage Containers for a Period of 12 Months. DISTLOC HOUSE, 60 OLD SARUM AIRFIELD, OLD SARUM, SALISBURY, SP4 6DZ **WITHDRAWN**

PL/2024/07470 Retention of Storage Containers for a Period of 12 Months. DISTLOC HOUSE, 60 OLD SARUM AIRFIELD, OLD SARUM, SALISBURY, SP4 6DZ **APPROVED**

OUTSTANDING AND NEW APPLICATIONS

PL/2024/09679 Raised timber deck at 46 Pilgrims Way, Laverstock SP1 1RZ **NO COMMENT**

PL/2024/10111 Discharge of Section 106 agreements Land at Westside Close, Old Sarum **OBJECT**

PL/2024/10838 Works to TPO trees 10 Green Lane, Ford

PL/2024/07470 Retention of Storage Containers for a Period of 12 Months. DISTLOC HOUSE, 60 OLD SARUM AIRFIELD, OLD SARUM, SALISBURY, SP4 6DZ

PL/2023/10145 Change of Use of land to provide 3No. Additional Gypsy and Traveller family pitches for an extended family, x3 No. Static Mobile Homes, parking for 6 vehicles 2 per pitch, turning area, passing places, together with other hardstandings. Land between Open View and Little Acre, Main Road, Winterbourne Earls, Salisbury, Wilts, SP4 6DS **NO COMMENT**

2022/04875 Proposed commercial development, SALISBURY RETAIL PARK, LONDON ROAD Salisbury SP1 3YX **SUPPORT SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS**

2021/04084 Residential development of 53 new dwellings on land to the west of Roger Way (Areas A&F) alongside with the change of use of the vacant ground floor unit at Block C of the OLD SARUM LOCAL CENTRE (Area G) to provide 7 affordable apartments. OLD SARUM. **OBJECT WITH REASONS**

20/11145/OUT Outline application (all matters reserved except for access) for the subdivision of the residential plot and the erection of up 2 residential dwellings (Use Class C3). Land SE Of BOURNE HOUSE, FORD LANE, FORD, SP4

6DJ **OBJECT** to revised application

NEW YEAR - NEW YOU

Yoga is a Sanskrit word meaning 'yoke' or 'union'. It's about bringing together the body, mind, soul, and universal consciousness. This connection allows us to find deep states of freedom, peace, and self-awareness. Modern yoga is mainly known for its physical practices like postures, breathing techniques, and relaxation. The postures improve flexibility, balance, strength, and coordination, while breathing exercises help you discover a powerful tool to manage stress, release tension, and find calm whenever you need it. When you join, you'll step into a safe, welcoming space. Just bring your mat, wear comfy clothes, and maybe a blanket to stay cozy during relaxation. Let yourself be guided—there's no competition, Yoga is gentle and all about giving yourself the time to care for your body and mind.

What is Chair Yoga?

Chair yoga is a gentle style of yoga that can be done entirely while seated, or with standing poses using the chair for support. It's ideal for anyone with reduced mobility, medical needs, or physical limitations.

What to Expect in a Pilates Class?

Pilates was developed by a man, Joseph Pilates, and early on, it was used as a form of physical therapy for soldiers injured in battle. Pilates and yoga are both low-impact exercises that can improve strength and flexibility, but they differ in their focus, movements, and goals: Pilates focuses on physical conditioning, core strength, and muscle toning. Yoga focuses on integrating the mind, body, and breath to promote overall well-being. Pilates moves at a quicker pace than yoga, and involves breath work to add power to movements whereas Yoga incorporates breathwork to help manage stress and anxiety.

Want to try it?

There are two classes at Laverstock Village Hall every Wednesday with Anne Ewers: Chair Yoga: 10:00 - 11:00 AM Gentle Yoga Flow: 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM Old Sarum & Longhedge Community Centre has Yoga classes on Tuesday and Fridays with Radiant Yoga. Hampton Park Pavilion offers three sessions of Pilates with Angie Sutton. See opposite and page 38 for more info.





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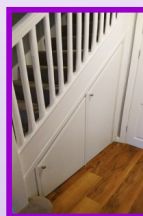
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We are a friendly nursery providing quality full-day care for children aged two to five years.

We run two sessions a day: 8.30am to 11.30am and 11.30am to 2.30pm, as well as a breakfast club from 8am to 8.30am at Old Sarum Primary School.

We are open Monday to Friday during Wiltshire schools term time (38 weeks per year).

All our staff are qualified to Level 3 or working towards this, and have many years childcare experience

01722 415598
oldsarumnursery@gmail.com

Fed-up with Drivers Speeding past your home?

Our Community speedwatch group is now up and running and looking for volunteers. No previous experience necessary but evidence shows that helping drivers who speed dangerously to re-think their bad habits when driving through built up areas, and on our rural roads where there are no pavements, does help to reduce speeding.

If you have an hour to spare once or twice a month. Please consider volunteering.

To join please contact

CLlr Laura Jones

email: laurajones@laverstockford-pc.gov.uk

SLOW DOWN



BISHOPDOWN YOUTH CLUB

Yrs 6 to 11
Thursdays 5pm - 6.30pm
(Term Time)
Hampton Park Pavilion

**GAMES, CRAFTS
SPORTS, SNACKS**

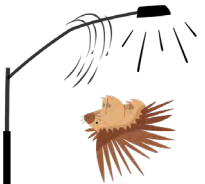
A relaxed space to just hang out, with access to activities. A safe supportive space, welcoming everyone, led by Salisbury City Council Communities Team.

CONTACT US
community
@salisburycitycouncil.gov.uk



THE RISKS LESS LIKELY...

After several articles in the Newsletter about risks to the Parish, I decided to start the year with a more light-hearted look at some risks we may be less likely to face.



In 2014, a woman in Brazil was hospitalised after a porcupine fell from a lamp post and landed on her head, embedding over 200 quills in her scalp. I have inspected the local lamp posts, and the council seems to have been very remiss in not fitting anti-porcupine defences on their posts.

Almost a hundred years prior to this in Boston, north eastern America, large storage tanks containing molasses, ruptured, creating a fifteen foot-high tidal wave of sticky liquid that swept over hundreds of unsuspecting pedestrians. You might want to have your say if someone applies for planning permission for a molasses factory locally.

Then there was a woman in China who was lucky to escape injury when the public toilet she was using, exploded. The incident occurred when sparks from shoddy electrical wiring ignited the methane gas stored in the septic tank below.



And only last year, a woman in Texas was mowing her lawn on a ride-on mower when a four foot-long snake suddenly landed on her arm and started striking her face. The attack was fortunately deflected by her spectacles. She was saved when a hawk flew down and eventually managed to pry the snake loose and fly away with it. It might be worth checking

to see if hawks are circling nearby, before you start mowing the lawn.

And here's one for the science nerds: 1.4bn years ago there was an endosymbiotic fusing of two prokaryotic cells. Normally, one single-celled organism consuming another would just be a case of the big one eating the smaller one, but this occasion led to the smaller cell generating energy for the larger host cell – mitochondria. It enabled multicellular life to evolve on Earth, resulting in 'us'. It was so unfathomably unlikely that it is a good case for there being no complex life anywhere else in the universe (*thanks to The Guardian for that one*).

Wishing you all a safe and happy New Year
and please look out for your neighbours

Jon Gunns, CEV Co-Ordinator

Wiltshire Police News

Cllr Barker joined the regular meeting the Parish Council has with our Community Neighbourhood Police to discuss some concerns about local crime. These concerns included vandalism to listed buildings at Old Sarum, anti-social behaviour on Longhedge, continued fire brigade attendance, and on-going thefts from vans on Longhedge and Old Sarum..

One of the key points that came out of this meeting is how vital it is that residents understand the importance of reporting matters to the police as and when they happen. Police officers are unable to action things that they are unaware of. It is also important to think before you use social media to discuss incidents, as this can heighten concerns to the more vulnerable in the community, sometimes resulting in people isolating themselves and not leaving their homes.

Since the end of the summer our neighbourhood police team have received very few reports of anti-social behaviour. Things appear to be being written on social media but not shared with Police and therefore they are unable to action or deal with the individuals involved. Police were working hard behind the scenes to tackle the surge in thefts from vans last year, and patrols of both Old Sarum and Longhedge were regularly conducted, knocking on as many doors as possible with a van parked outside and providing crime prevention advice to those residents, whilst the investigation continued, resulting in successful arrests in November 2024.

Councillors Waller, Schneider and Jones also joined the Mobile Police Unit which the Neighbourhood Police Team toured across the parish in November. Some residents took the opportunity to discuss incidents and get some advice from PCSO Tablet and PC Evans despite the pre-snow drop in temperatures!

FREE BIKE MARKING - January 11, 2.30 pm

On Saturday January 11th the Community Police team will be setting up at McCudden Drive Play Park and offering free security bike marking, which will be very handy for anyone who was given a new bike for Christmas. Do come along and take this chance to speak to the officers for any advice about keeping homes secure, or to discuss concerns about crime in your area.

We would encourage residents to follow Salisbury Police on Facebook for local consultations and updates about crime in your area.

There is also the Community Messaging service, which you can sign up to, via Home Page - Wiltshire and Swindon Community Messaging. The team are dedicated to helping reduce crime and anti-social behaviour across the area.

If residents have reported crime and wish to speak to the local team about it further, they can also contact them on :
salisburyareanpt@wiltshire.police.uk

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Asian Hornet Update



Once the weather improves Asian Hornet queens will begin emerging from hibernation to forage and create new nests. If you haven't already, please visit the Salisbury and District Beekeeper Associations (SDBKA) website to learn how to identify, report and avoid both Asian Hornets and their nests (also referred to as the yellow-legged hornet).

If you see a large nest please don't go near it, take a photo if you can and report the location. Asian Hornets are usually only aggressive when their nest is threatened.

You can also download the Asian Hornet Watch App to help with identification and reporting.

Members of the SDBKA's Asian Hornet team are sometimes available to come and talk to youth groups and schools about Honey Bees and the Asian Hornet. See www.sdbka.org for more information.

LAVERSTOCK & FORD HISTORY GROUP

INVITE YOU TO THEIR MEETING
Thurs 23 January at 2pm
in the Curtis Room, St Andrew's Church

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT HISTORY
IN SALISBURY, MILFORD AND
LAVERSTOCK

Speaker, Tony Male has lived in the area for many years and has a remarkable knowledge of the early days of Potter's Way, Laverstock Park and elsewhere

● ● ● DROP-IN FEE £2.50
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP £12.00

@[HTTPS://LAVERSTOCKLOCALHISTORYGROUP.WORDPRESS.COM](https://laverstocklocalhistorygroup.wordpress.com)

Trees, Skylarks & Hibernaculums

As the New Year awakens, I thought I would share with you some of the things we achieved last year.

At the start of this year, I introduced our volunteers to tree-popping which is a method used to remove unwanted scrub on our grassland. For us, this was to help attract and increase the population of skylarks. We have just received our annual skylark survey reports, and I am happy to say that we have seen a significant increase in the population using our country park which is fantastic news! We will be continuing this work throughout the next few months.

With the help of different external groups including the local Greentrees Junior school children, adult wellbeing groups and volunteers we have planted over 400 trees including hedgerow species such as, hawthorn, blackthorn, rowan, dog rose and hazel. We have also planted willow, silver birch, English oak and native elder around the park. Thank you to the Woodland Trust for supplying us with trees.

Eight more people have signed up to our volunteer opportunities.

We completed two more hibernaculums for reptiles and amphibians. Hibernaculums are underground chambers that amphibians and reptiles use throughout the winter to protect themselves from the cold.

Creating a hibernaculum in your own garden will provide a safe space for amphibians and reptiles to hibernate over winter, as well as a spot for solitary bees to soak up the sun and for birds to relax. If you would like to find out more about hibernaculums visit Wiltshire Wildlife website.

A HUGE thank you to everyone who has joined us in helping to improve and enhance Castle Hill Country Park, without your support none of this would have been possible!

If anyone would like to join us out on the park you can sign up to monthly emails detailing the opportunities we have. Just scan the QR code and search 'castle hill'. People who signed up for FREE Green Angels outdoor course (see photos below), enjoyed learning new skills at the Castle Hill Country Park in November 2024. One of the perks of signing up to the monthly updates is hearing about the 2025 courses first!

Russell Brooks

Castle Hill Country Park
Community Engagement Officer
Youth Education and Wellbeing
(YEW) Support Worker

russellb@wiltshirewildlife.org



Use this QR Code to sign up
for the monthly updates for
Castle Hill Country Park

BACKGROUND PHOTO: Walkers against a November
Sunset at Castle Hill by Amy Newman



DO YOU WANT TO MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE TO WHERE YOU LIVE?

This coming May is your chance to do your bit for your local community, either by voting for, or standing to become a Parish Councillor. Laverstock & Ford Parish is a vibrant and diverse parish which is nearing eleven thousand residents and hosts a variety of local businesses. The Parish consists of the ancient villages of Ford, Laverstock and Milford and the newer communities of Bishopdown Farm, Longhedge and Old Sarum, and it proudly hosts the Boscombe Down Aviation Collection and boasts several areas of open space such as the Laverstock Downs, the Watermeadows and the Castle Hill Country Park.

What's it like to be a Parish Councillor?

Last year, one of our longstanding Parish Councillors, Derek Hayes retired. He was presented with a Freedom of the Parish Scroll at a meeting of the full council on June 17th alongside his wife Jenny to whom, as he said, "some credit must naturally fall". Presenting the scroll, Chair of the Parish Council Nick Baker stated "During your eighteen years service as a Parish Councillor for the Laverstock & Milford Ward you have served in many positions and benefitted the community through your work on the Parish Plan, your articulate contributions to the Parish Newsletter, your role in staunchly defending the Parish from dissolution in 2016 and your support of the River Bourne Community Farm. We loudly applaud your valuable and sterling service whilst thanking you most sincerely".

Derek acknowledged that being a councillor is one of the ways someone who is committed to making a positive difference in their neighbourhood can do that. He also noted that he had not only witnessed the huge growth of the parish both in population and geographic spread but also the growth in how Parish Councillors engaged and worked more collaboratively with residents and partner agencies.



Being a councillor during the pandemic had been a special challenge and as part of the Communications and Community Engagement Committee Derek helped



introduce the 'Love Your Parish', a campaign designed to recognise that the sum of all our parts as a Parish forms a diverse 'whole', and to celebrate the assets of the various communities (Laverstock & Milford, Ford, Longhedge, Old Sarum, and Bishopdown Farm), in particular our open spaces and areas of natural beauty such as Cockey Down, which proved so vital to resident's health and well-being during the pandemic and should not be under-valued.

Derek's professional career in Mental Health was particularly valuable in addressing the challenges presented to parish councils at this time, seeing the council invest in technology enabling residents to remotely access and actively engage with council meetings, and also the continuance of the printed Parish Newsletter delivered bi-monthly to 4,600 homes across the parish, recognising that not everyone has access to, or can engage with online media.

From Play Parks, Bus Shelters, Community Centres and planning matters, there is plenty to get your teeth into, and Derek would encourage anyone who is wondering how they can be more involved in their neighbourhood or local community to consider becoming a Councillor.

If you are wondering about what's involved and whether you have the time. Laverstock & Ford are offering two chances to find out more in March. You can join an online presentation with our current councillors to hear from them what's involved, or you can pop in to our drop-in session to chat face-to face with Councillors over tea and cake. Details will be announced via our website and facebook page in the new year.



A Year in View



ABOVE: New Sarum WI enjoy their Christmas Party in December at Old Sarum Community Centre
LEFT: The Trees on the Green at Bishopdown Farm being Pollarded in November



LEFT: members of Laverstock District Evening WI enjoy a craft session in November

BELOW LEFT: Laverstock Larks and Scouts on Remembrance Sunday

BELOW RIGHT: Residents, BDAC members and Councillors gather at the Airmens Memorial at Old Sarum Airfield.

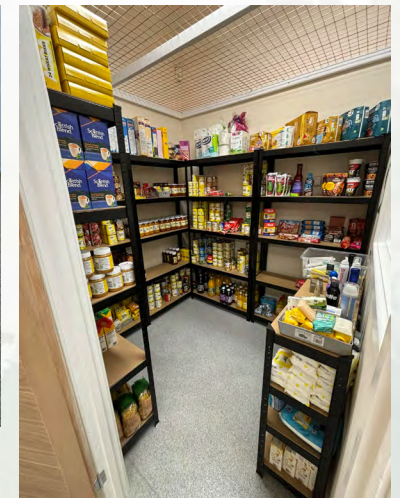


LEFT: Whitebridge Play Park officially opens in October

BELOW RIGHT: Old Sarum & Longhedge Community Pantry get a new storage facility.



ABOVE: Peter Hope chats to Celebrant, David Linaker at the D-Day Service in June



BELOW: Boscombe Down Aviation Collection host a flying visit from Grant Schapps in February

RIGHT: The bridge over the Bourne at the bottom of the Roman Road is damaged during flooding and icy weather in January



Laverstock Gardening Club

The Laverstock Gardening Club meets on the fourth Monday of most months in the Laverstock and Ford Village Hall at 7:30 pm. We usually have a talk by an outside speaker and then it's tea/coffee and a chat. All are welcome.

In September we welcomed Steve Cleverden from Cheddar who talked about successfully growing a variety of plants before putting some up for sale. He stressed the importance of buying good quality bulbs, many daffodils are freeze-dried before packing which makes them more appealing to rodents. With daffs and amaryllis it is important to remove dead scales from the surface so they do not rot. Many acers are raised in unnatural conditions and so do not grow well outside. Often best raised from seeds. He said that cheaper orchids are raised in cell cultures and treated with nasty chemicals and they produce fewer flowers than ones grown naturally from nodes. Just remove spent flowers and new ones will grow from stems.

Our November talk was by Michael Bowyer, the acclaimed floral artist. He prepared five arrangements for us using seasonal greenery, mostly from his own garden, and flowers which were available all the year. Four of the arrangements were based on Oasis but he also showed use fine wire mesh to support the stems in a container. This type of arrangement usually lasted longer because it could contain more water and it was cheaper than Oasis-type products. The arrangements were raffled off at the end of the meeting. He told us of a flower show he is arranging at the Cathedral next May.

January is our New Year party but February brings Paul King from Larmer Tree Gardens.

David Hutchinson, Programme Secretary

01722 334036

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN CONSULTATION

Watch the first LTP4 webinar here: <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/2676/Wiltshire-Local-Transport-Plan>

There is a second online webinar being held

Monday 13 January 2025, 6pm to 7pm

To attend this event you need to sign up beforehand here: <https://surveys.wiltshire.gov.uk/Interview/e79f6201-5ff1-4f1f-9869-2e5252ee076e>

Laverstock & Ford Village Hall FUNDRAISING 2025

The village hall is a thriving community resource as you can see from the new timetable on page 6. The committee aim to keep it practical and affordable ensuring regular use by many groups of different ages and interests. There are also private hirings; parties, fayres, training sessions, religious festivals, to name but a few.

The hall is old and in need of various repairs, the hall committee would also like to plan some improvements. We have just fixed the leaking roof (which cost over £1000) and we were hugely grateful to receive a generous donation of £500 from the Milford Area Preservation Group towards these costs. We also funded the replacement of the hall chairs.

Work still needed includes:

1. The path at the side of the hall which is hazardous (est. £1,000)
2. The front elevation above the porch– the wood is rotting and it needs repair and repaint (est. £1,000)
3. Blocked drains. Earlier in the year the Committee paid for camera investigations; circa £750. The Parish Council (Custodian Trustee) funded temporary porta-loos and the first half of the repairs amounting to £7000. The drains were cleared of invasive roots, but the drains need to be lined to prevent a re-occurrence. The Church, who own the land have been approached for donations but we still need to raise funds. Outstanding work (est. £7000).

The improvements (which are currently on hold) include:

Redecoration of the inside of the building
Updating the curtains and furnishings.

In order to keep our lovely hall in use, we are appealing to the community to consider making donations or undertaking fundraising. Recent contributions include Mulepackers Line Dancers, who chose the hall as their annual charity for 2024 and Phoenix Artists (Mel Cane and Mary Gilson) who donated from their art and craft exhibitions. The committee and regular hirers are starting to undertake fundraising activities.

Every little helps ... If you are able to make a donation or have fundraising ideas, please contact: Ruth Harris 07870 648841 ruthjharris61@gmail.com



Powerful boost from SSEN

In 2023 Wiltshire Council tasked local parishes and towns with setting up Community Emergency Volunteer (CEV) groups as part of Wiltshire's emerging Community Resilience Plan, this included having a Community Emergency Plan and identifying Emergency Contact Hubs to provide a place where the community can go to help each other in the event of an emergency. Primarily they are designed to enable communities to help themselves, but also to provide a link to emergency services in the local area. Wiltshire Council and emergency services will know where all hubs are located and how to contact them.

The Laverstock and Ford Community Emergency Volunteers formed in Spring 2024, with the aim to increase the readiness and resilience of the local community when faced with an emergency. These people are ordinary residents able to offer their time, or resources, and who have a commitment to helping others in a crisis. The CEV volunteers are still exploring their role but have already developed a series of emergency action cards available via the Parish Council's website, and have invited representatives of the local community police team and fire service to speak to volunteers in 2025. The Local Resilience Forum (LRF), known publicly as 'Wiltshire and Swindon Prepared' are also offering online training to volunteers.

Laverstock & Ford Parish Council's Operations Officer, Joe Elder who is the liaison officer for the Community Emergency Volunteer group said, "I was presented with a shopping list of equipment considered necessary to achieve a basic level of operational readiness, by the group's co-ordinator, Jon Gunns, and we applied to Scottish and Southern Electricity Network's Powering Communities to Net Zero – Community-led Resilience Fund to supply some of this kit. We were delighted to hear in November that we had been successful and are grateful to The Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks for enabling us to be more prepared. It is a testament to the work that the Community Emergency Volunteers have already undertaken through research and consideration of past events in and around the parish where a group such as the CEV's could have lessened the stress of an incident on residents and effectively provided low-level support to the emergency services".



Scottish & Southern
Electricity Networks

Powering our
community

Jon Gunns, co-ordinator for the group, added "This grant to the Volunteers by The Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks will make a significant impact on the group. This contribution will enable us to procure radios and other equipment which will greatly enhance our capability and assist us in operating effectively during an emergency. It is anticipated that with this equipment, we will be able to expand our volunteer base and boost the development of the Community Emergency Volunteers. Many thanks to The Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks for this generous grant."



COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The Laverstock and Ford Parish Community Emergency Volunteers have recently formed as a group to assist the community in becoming more resilient. We are looking for more volunteers to join the group; if you are interested, please contact the CEV Coordinator, Jon Gunns: cev@laverstockford-pc.gov.uk

The English Oak (*Quercus Robur*)

Interesting fact: acorns are not produced until the tree is at least 40 years old. Peak acorn fecundity usually occurs at around 80 – 120 years. It sounds incredible but oak trees can support more than 2,300 species including birds, bats and insects such as purple hair streak butterflies, stag horn beetles

Uses: Oak has been used for thousands of years in ship building, architectural beams and flooring, however it takes up to 150 years before oak is ready to use in construction. Other uses include the bark for tanning leather and the acorns for bread making.

Threats: Oak trees are under threat from a host of pests and diseases including Oak Mildew, Knopper gall, Tortrix roller moth and oak processionary moth. Oak trees are robust but if an oak tree suffers damage over successive years it can contribute to oak decline and eventually cause its death.

Reproduced with kind permission of the Woodland Trust.

For further detailed information on trees please visit www.woodlandtrust.org.uk

Love Your Parish
Trees



LAVERSTOCK DISTRICT EVENING WI

Well, here we are at the the start of another New Year and we hope your Christmas festivities have been enjoyable, healthy and happy. Now we are in the depths of winter but there is much to enjoy, especially if you are a member of Laverstock

Women's Institute!

Before looking to the future we must look back at our earlier activities. After an enthusiastic talk about the Castle Hill Country Park we had planned an exploratory walk but misjudged how rapidly darkness fell. However a small group did a short walk and a longer one is on the cards for this year.

Our October speaker from the Bobby Van Trust gave a sobering talk on cyber security and how to keep ourselves safe from scams and hackers. The Trust also provides a free home security service giving advice on good practice regarding personal safety, property security and fire prevention. The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust is indeed a vital organisation in this day and age especially when some of us struggle with modern life.

At the November craft meeting we again tested our hand-to-eye co-ordination when we made small bowls using balloons, fabric pieces and lots of sticky glue. It was great fun and eventually we went home carrying our bowls-to-be stuck upside down on paper plates to await the moment when the balloon was popped exposing the pretty patchwork inside.

Our festival Christmas tree at St Thomas church reflected the 'make do and mend' spirit of the WI and throughout the year we have learnt from some excellent speakers, our various clubs have provided companionship and we have had fun at our monthly meetings. Our 2025 programme is full of good things and we are grateful to our President Amy and her Committee for all their hard work.

We welcome newcomers and if you would like to know more about your local Women's Institute contact Louise Hall by email - Laverstocksec@wiltshirewi.org.uk. Or by phone on 01722 326 549

see page 19 for photos

NEW SARUM WI

In September, 16 members of our History and Culture group caught the bus to Romsey much to the bus conductor's surprise! We visited Romsey Abbey and then the King's House. Both were very interesting. In October many ladies enjoyed a very informative guided tour of the new River Park Project led by its project manager. We were all very impressed with the effort that has gone into this project in respect of the protection of wildlife and the environment, not to mention the long term water management.

Our speaker for October gave us a talk on "Tackling Inequality in the Workplace" from a woman's point of view. As a HR manager for the MacLaren racing team that employs several thousand people worldwide, she had a lot to tell us including the push to get feminine shaped overalls for female employees in what is deemed to be a traditionally male environment.

November's meeting saw us participating in dancing with the Panthera Dance Company. During the month some of our members travelled to London to join the River Action protest march in support of the WI's Clean Rivers campaign (a subject very close to our hearts here in Salisbury). The marchers numbered over 15000 and the event was featured on the national news.

Other outings included a visit to an art & ceramicist exhibition at the Salisbury Library, a visit to the Phoenix Artists fundraising sale, a lunch at the new Charlie's Kitchen and lunch at the Codford Tea Rooms. Over the course of the year we have been collecting and making items for a charity shoebox appeal. Along with members of St Francis Church we were able to fill 104 boxes for the House of Opportunity Charity. Fantastic work by our ladies.

We are looking forward to the New Year with new speakers and new places to visit. We always have a varied programme so if you would like to find out more about this diverse, friendly and sociable group please either phone Sue on 07931 582357, email at newsarumwi@gmail.com, find us on www.facebook.com/NewSarumWI, or just turn up at the Old Sarum Community Centre, the first Wednesday of the month for a 7.15pm start.

See page 19 for photos

WHAT'S IN A NAME 8.

BARKER CLOSE in Longhedge, is named after Lieutenant-Colonel William George Barker VC. He is the most decorated serviceman in the history of Canada.

Barker was born on 3 November 1894 in Dauphin, Manitoba. In December 1914 he enlisted in the 1st Canadian Mounted Rifles and arrived in France in September 1915. In March 1916 he transferred to the Royal Flying Corps and joined 9 Squadron as an Observer in a B.E.2 aircraft. He was commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant in April and spent time with 4 and 15 Squadron. He was awarded the Military Cross for action during the Battle of the Somme.

In January 1917 Barker trained as a pilot at Netheravon and returned to France with 15 Squadron flying B.E.2s and R.E.8s. In August 1917 after a short spell as a flying instructor Barker became a flight commander in 28 Squadron flying the Sopwith Camel on the Italian front. He spent time with 66 Squadron and commanded 139 Squadron before returning to England in September 1918 to command a new fighter pilot training school. In order to stay in touch with the latest combat techniques Major Barker was permitted to take a Sopwith Snipe across to France, joining 201 Squadron. On 27 October, his last day in France, he shot down a Rumpler reconnaissance aircraft but was then attacked by up to 15 Fokker D.VIIs. In the ensuing dogfight he was severely wounded. His injuries were life-threatening but he survived and was awarded the Victoria Cross on 20 November 1918.

After the war Barker spent two years in the newly formed Royal Canadian Air Force and was its Acting Director for a short time in 1924. In 1930 he became president of Fairchild Aircraft Ltd of Canada. Barker was killed on 12th March 1930 at Rockcliffe, Ottawa in a flying accident while piloting a Fairchild KR-21 biplane.

Barker was given a state funeral in Toronto attended by an honour guard of 2,000 soldiers and 50,000 spectators. It was the largest national state event in Toronto's history. He was laid to rest in a mausoleum at Mount Pleasant Cemetery. A Poseidon MRA1 maritime patrol aircraft of the Royal Air Force has been named 'William Barker VC'.

by AP



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Useful Contacts

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

Gen enquiries and switchboard  0300 456 0100
www.wiltshire.gov.uk

Planning & Building Control
<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/planning-building-control>

Planning Explorer map bit.ly/42zQx5Z

You can download the MyWilts online reporting app via homepage of website

Strategic Engagement & Partnerships Manager, Karen Linaker

 karen-linaker@wiltshire.gov.uk  01722 434697

FLOOD LINE

0345 988 1188

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY Emergency Helpline

0800 807 060

NATIONAL HIGHWAYS trafficengland.com

WILTSHIRE POLICE - OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE TEAM

Local Enquiries  salisburyareanpt@wiltshire.police.uk

Bishopdown Farm, Hampton Park and Riverdown Park

PC Rachel Gunn and PCSO Geanina Tablet

Laverstock, Ford, Old Sarum and Longhedge

PCSO Jenny Moss and PC Rachel Gunn

Milford

PC Hannah Cranham and PCSO Alex Heath

 rachel.gunn@wiltshire.police.uk
geanina-mariana.tablet@wiltshire.police.uk
jenny.moss@wiltshire.police.uk / alexander.heath@wiltshire.police.uk
Rural Crime Team
PC Pete Simmonds pete.simmonds@wiltshire.police.uk

Dial 999 in an Emergency - crime in progress or someone is being threatened or at risk of getting injured.

Dial 101 in a NON Emergency - To report a crime (not mentioned above) or to contact an officer

Salisbury CPT



<http://bit.ly/3pCEuHI>
#YourForceYourArea

Useful Contacts continued

Wiltshire Councillors

Ian McLennan

For Laverstock, Milford & Bishopdown Farm

47 Church Road, Laverstock, Salisbury SP1 1QY

ian.mclennan@wiltshire.gov.uk

01722 332233

[@CllrIanMcLennan](https://twitter.com/CllrIanMcLennan)

Andrew Oliver

For Old Sarum, Longhedge and Ford

Clarendon House, 4 Buller Park, Porton SP4 0LU

andrew.oliver@wiltshire.gov.uk

07769 324365

Member of Parliament

Constituency Office 12 Brown Street, Salisbury SP1 1HE

John Glen

01722 323050

john.glen.mp@parliament.uk

Castle Hill Country Park

Jake Taylor, Countryside and Greenspace Officer, The Land Trust

jaketaylor@thelandtrust.org.uk

Russell Brooks, Castle Hill Country Park Community Engagement Officer Wiltshire Wildlife Trust
russellb@wiltshirewildlife.org

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We try to help whenever we can, but we're not always the best people to call in every situation



Abandoned cars and anti-social parking are dealt with by local councils



Untaxed cars need to be reported to the DVLA



Any instance of fraud should be reported to Action Fraud



Lost or found dogs should be reported to the local dog warden



Noisy neighbours need to be reported to the council environmental health team

www.wiltshire.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information

LAVERSTOCK LADIES OPEN GROUP

Our group activities continue and in November we welcomed Sarah Delves who gave a lively and interesting talk on the history of make-up. Sarah spoke about make-up being used in the days of Cleopatra and took us through to the present day. In December we are looking forward to our Christmas meal at the New Inn. We have Alan Frener joining us in January and he will be showing the Secret Spitfire film which tells the story (untold until recently) of the secret Spitfire factories in Salisbury and the surrounding area.

This meeting is open to anyone who would like to join us. The film and presentation will last approximately 90 minutes and the date is Monday 13th January 2025 cost £3 and starts at 7pm in the Village Hall. We will be pleased to welcome visitors to this event. Please let us know if you are coming by contacting Moya Hill at moyahill@hotmail.com.

Laverstock Ladies Group wish everyone a very happy New Year.

We welcome new members and meet on the second Monday of the month at 7.45pm in the village hall. For more information email Moya Hill at moyahill@hotmail.com or phone Carol Taylor on 01722 322702

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EVERGREEN CLUB, Laverstock

Autumn has been quite lively for the Club. Our October meeting proved very artistic when members enjoyed embellishing the initial letter of their name to create Christmassy decorations for the Evergreen Club Tree to be entered in the St Thomas's Christmas Tree Festival.

Our timely November meeting entered the Gunpowder, Treason and Plot spirit when John Reid took us back in history and revealed the politics and skulduggery that led to the failed Gunpowder Plot and the involvement of Guy Fawkes. There were many interesting facts and some surprises!

On Saturday 9th November we held an 'all welcome' Autumn Lunch in the Village Hall when guests enjoyed a very tasty Vegetable Soup followed by a delicious Apple Crumble (all courtesy of Jill Kay – well done and thank you Jill) then tea or coffee. This was a fundraising event which swelled Club funds by £225.

In December we ended the year with a Christmas Party when Salisbury Community Choir lifted our spirits with traditional music and a sing along followed by a festive Tea plus all the trimmings to start off the Christmas season.

The Club usually meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 2pm in the Village Hall but as the first Wednesday in January is New Year's Day we will meet on Wednesday 8th January. We look forward to seeing all our members in the New Year.

If you would like to join our friendly club please come along as you will be most welcome. For more information contact Nancy Joyce on 01722 329150. In the meantime, we wish all the best for 2024.

BRAIN TEASER ANSWERS:

Guess the name: (H)Andy Olive-ER / Old Sarum (Serum) / Long Hedge / Saint (H) and Drew. Mill-Ford / Ian (Drury) Mc (Mac) Lennan (John Lennon) / Laver (seaweed) Stock John (american slang) Glen Ford (Ford Car) / Nick (saint Nicholas) Baker / Bishop (Mitre) Down Farm / Castle Hill Country Park

Guess the Fungi: Chicken of the Woods / King Alfred's Red Cake / Golden Waxcap / Beefsteak / Violet Webcap / Stinkhorn

Guess The Connection: MP Parents & Children: Benn, Brandreth, Hoyle, Kinnock
MP Siblings: Eagle, Miliband, Reeves, Vaz

CONTACTS AROUND THE PARISH

Air Cadets (Old Sarum)		http://bit.ly/40vdRC6
Army Cadets (Old Sarum)		http://bit.ly/3RtDQ8y
Cafe on the Green Toddler Grp, BF		owbemerton@gmail.com
Cafe Craft Club, BF	Angela	cafeonthe.green@gmail.com
Cricket Club, Laverstock	Gary Shears (capt)	07960 830908
Evergreen Club, Laverstock	Nancy Joyce	01722 329150
Flora Mundi	Mrs D Stevens	01722 335770
GreenTrees Primary - Head	Alan Geary	01722 340596
Hampton Park Pavilion Bookings	Veronica Ford	hamptonparkpavilion@gmail.com
Laverstock & Ford Sports Club	info@laverstockandfordsportsclub.co.uk	
Laverstock Arts Group	Fiona Forbes	01980 862368
Laverstock Beaver Scouts	Jane Waspe	01722 421287
Laverstock Cubs	Kate Knight	01980 622495
Laverstock Explorer Scouts	David Waspe	01722 421287
Laverstock Gardening Club	Jill Kay	01722 323407
Laverstock History / Archaeology	Bryan Evans	01722 320129
Laverstock Ladies Open Group	Carol Taylor	01722 322702
Laverstock Scouts	Russell Sachs	07718 826138
Laverstock & District Evening WI	Louise Hall	01722 326549
Milford Preservation Group	David Lovibond	01722 238852
Mother's Union Afternoon Grp, L	Pip Carter Joan Prior	07854 827233 01722 411846
New Sarum WI	Sue Luther	07931 582357
Old Sarum Aviation Museum	@BDACATOldSarum	01722 323636
Old Sarum Beaver, Cub & Scouts		oldsarumscouts@outlook.com
Old Sarum Community Centre	Nina Cope	01722 335349
Old Sarum Primary School - Head		01722 410677
Old Sarum Nursery	Rhiannon	01722 415598 oldsarumnursery@gmail.com
Neighbourhood Watch	Ross Walker	ross.walker@wiltshirenhw.org
OS&L Community Pantry	Gemma Phillips	oslpantary@gmail.com
River Bourne Community Farm		01722 330667
River Bourne Farm Shop & Cafe		01722 332749

BF = Bishopdown Farm

L = Laverstock

PARISH CONTACTS CONTINUED

Salisbury FC	info@salisburyfc.co.uk	01722 776655
Salisbury FC Womens		sfcwomen@salisburyfc.co.uk
Salisbury FC Youth	Paul Corfield	scoffercorfield@hotmail.com
Salisbury Medical Practice	Tanya McKay	01722 333034
Sarum Bridge Club	sarumbridge@gmail.com	
Salisbury Rotary	salisburyrotary@gmail.com	
Sarum U3a membership	Andrew Smith	sarumu3amembers@gmail.com
St. Andrews -Friends - Chair	Emily Wells	
St Andrews Primary School - Head	Jo Fernie	01722 503590
St. Andrews Toddlers - Chair	Char Parfett / Zoe Roe	standrewtoddlergroup@yahoo.com
St. Josephs - Head	Mr Matthew Higgins	01722 335380
TA Centre Old Sarum	Capt. David Oliver	01722 438300
The Devenish Bradshaw Charitable Trust		info@dbct.org
Wyvern St Edmunds Academy - Head	Louise Henderson	01722 328565
Community Emergency Volunteers		
Jon Gunns (CEV Coordinator)	cev@laverstockford-pc.gov.uk	

St Andrews & St. Marks & Church on the Green

Parish Office, Jane Holme, 07933 952171, office@stmarkstandrew.org (Tue, Thur & Fri mornings) Rev Andy Bousfield, 07866 434117, vicar@stmarkstandrew.org
www.stmarkstandrew.org

Hope Church

Pheasant Drive, Old Sarum, Salisbury, SP4 6PX
oldsarum@st-francischurch.org.uk
 01722 237318

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Westside Close, Old Sarum Salisbury SP4 6BX

The Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham at Holy Redeemer, Bishopdown

Fr Jonathan Creer, 07724 896579, jonathan.creer@hotmail.co.uk

Most Holy Redeemer, Fotherby Crescent, Bishopdown SP1 3EG 01722 327354

Fr Anthony Paris, 07544 053785, anthony.paris@cliftondiocese.com

Parish Office email office@salisburycatholics.org www.salisburycatholics.org

St Michaels and All Angels, Winterbourne Earls

Rev'd Peter Ostli-East

The Vicarage Winterbourne Earls Salisbury Wiltshire SP4 6HA

01980 611350 www.bournevalleychurches.org.uk

St Martin's Church

Parish Office St Martin's Church Street, Salisbury SP1 2HY

Rector Fr David Fisher 01722 500896

Parish Administrator: 01722 503123 Email: saint.martins.salisbury@gmail.com

www.sarumstmartin.org.uk

Deaf Chaplaincy Service

Rev. Neil Robinson

SMS number 07717 055219

email deafpriest@icloud.com



Community facebook groups and pages: search for

Ask a Salisbury Vet, Bishopdown Farm and Riverdown Park Community, HOPEChurchSalisbury, MissingDogsSalisbury page, SalisburyCampSiteQuest, LandFPC, Laverstock & Ford Community, @RiverBourneCommunityFarm, @Cafeatthefarm, Laverstock & Ford Residents, Longhedge Greenfingers, MilfordAreaPreservationGroup, The Duck Inn, New Sarum WI, Laverstock, Bishopdown, Ford & Old Sarum Litter Wombles, Laverstock and Ford Parish Council, Longhedge Residents, Longhedge Residents Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, Laverstock & District Evening W.I, St Joseph's Catholic School, Laverstock, Wyvern St Edmunds, Friends of Wyvern St Edmund's Learning Campus (link to group for uniform exchange), Old Sarum & Longhedge Community, SOS - Save Old Sarum, Old Sarum Community Centre, Old Sarum Garden Centre, Old Sarum and Longhedge Pantry, Laverstock & Ford Ladies FC, StMarksAndStAndrewsSalisbury, SarumRotary, WildaboutLaverstock

VENUES AROUND THE PARISH

Laverstock & Ford Village Hall Casual Hire Available.

Spacious, light, with kitchen facilities. Not insured for bouncy castles

contact Ruth Harris mobile 07870 648 841 email ruthjharris61@gmail.com

Old Sarum & Longhedge Community Centre Casual Hire Available

Large spacious hall, seating 80+ people. Small hall which can be divided into two opened. Commercial kitchen and facilities suitable for parties, wedding receptions and training. WI Fi throughout the building

Nina Cope: phone 01722 335349 email oldsarumcommunitycentre@gmail.com

Bookings: via website oslcommunitycentre.co.uk

The Pavilion, Hampton Park Casual Hire Available

The Pavilion is located on Ash Crescent at Hampton Park. It offers excellent facilities for both indoor and outdoor sport, as well as a meeting place for various groups and organisations or for parties/special occasions

Veronica Ford mobile 07483 894519 email hamptonparkpavilion@gmail.com

website: www.hamptonparkpavilion.org

Boscombe Down Aviation Museum - Conference Room available

contact Graham Horner Visits Manager 07785 261978

The Ray MacEnhill Stadium Meeting Rooms

email info@salisburyfc.co.uk or call 01722 776655.

Domestic Abuse Support

Male and Female: 9am - 5pm weekdays

Splitz Support Service 01225 775276

5pm - 9am weekdays, all night, all weekend and every bank holiday -

Male specifically: 10am - 4pm Weekdays - Mankind 01823 334244

If in any doubt, ring Swindon Domestic Abuse Support Service 01793 610610

In an emergency always dial 999

u3a JOIN US!

Sarum u3a, is an organisation which welcomes people no longer in full time employment to join together to learn, laugh and live! We hold Monthly Meetings on the third Wednesday morning of the month with interesting and varied speakers. These meetings are held at St Francis Church on Castle Road and begin with coffee/tea at 10am.

We also offer a vast variety of Interest Groups led by members with knowledge, experience or simply an interest in the subject, generally meeting in their own homes.

January 15th	Richard Rickett, Gardening for Bees
February 19th	Simon Bendry - The work and role of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission
March 19th	Alex Leger – Life on the License Fee, Challenges and change at the BBC

Lesley Waller, Speaker Secretary
<https://u3asites.org.uk/sarum/welcome>

Salisbury Football Club Dates for the Diary

**First Team Home Fixtures at the Ray Mac Stadium
Old Sarum Salisbury. In The National League South.**

January

Wednesday 1st v Weymouth K/O 15.00

Saturday 11th v Farnborough K/O 15.00

Saturday 25th v St Albans City K/O 15

February

Saturday 8th v Dorking Wanderers K/O 15.00

Saturday 15th v Chelmsford City K/O 15.00

Tuesday 25th v Bath City K/O 19.45

Fixtures are subject to change.

Online tickets for all 1st team games are available at
www.salisburyfc.co.uk/tickets/



Mothers Union

It's been a busy time... 5 of us joined in the annual Activism Service Against Gender Based Violence at the cathedral on 19th November. This was part of the international 16 days of activism that involved some 6000 organisations in over 187 countries.

We had an entry in the Christmas Tree Festival at

St Thomas this year – hopefully you spotted it!

3 of us will be volunteering at the Salisbury Pantry this year.

A group of members & friends from St Andrew's church continue to support St Andrew's Toddlers group – and 4 of us also help at Magpies, at St Mark's.

If you receive your copy of the newsletter before 9th January, please do come and join us at our AGM that afternoon.

We are still working on our programme for 2025, but we plan to spend time at our February meeting (on 13th) considering our response to the Rise Up campaign. RISE UP Against Domestic Abuse is our campaign to raise awareness about domestic abuse across the Britain and Ireland movement.

The letters of RISE UP stand for Respond, Inform, Support, Empower, Unite and Pray. Domestic abuse can happen to anyone from any walk of life. It's our goal that Mothers' Union members and churches will work together to be a part of the change and will get involved with our RISE UP! challenge.

And then in March (on 13th which is during Lent) we will meet earlier than usual for a soup lunch and a time of sharing.

There are now 19 of us in this branch, plus another person interested in joining.. We would welcome new members, so please get in touch if you'd like to find out more.

please contact Pip Carter 07854827233 or Joan Prior 07833781075.



BOSCOMBE DOWN AVIATION COLLECTION

PRESENTATION PROGRAMME 2025

All presentations start at 1900 hrs.

Hangar 1 South, Old Sarum Airfield, Salisbury. Wiltshire SP4 6DZ.

Tel: 01722 323636 www.boscombedownaviationcollection.co.uk

Three of these presentations will be given online as indicated in the presentation titles.

The remaining presentations will be delivered in the Conference Room. All will be recorded with recordings available about a week later. Details of how to access the presentations online are shown at the end of this programme.

Further information is available on the website.



14th January (online) The Hawk Aircraft

Chris Hodson

Chris's talk is about a British success story, the BAe Hawk and in particular the story of XX154 - the first Hawk to fly, from inception to retirement. Hawker Siddeley (Kingston)'s design team's work was rewarded when an MoD competition was won in the early 70's. First flight was achieved with XX154 on 21 August 1974. The original concept included the importance of a base line for the aircraft's development and export sales. Subsequent perseverance by engineers, marketers, demonstrations by company test pilots, as well as Royal Air Force and Royal Navy pilots, has resulted in excess of 1000 BAE SYSTEMS Hawks operating today.



11th February (online) Griffons, Merlins and Spitfires

Kevin Patience author, researcher, presenter.

The author served in the RAF and was at RAF Stradishall (Suffolk) in the 60s when it housed No1 Air Navigation School which flew Varsitys, Meteor NF14s and latterly Dominies. The author's tells of his connections with the iconic WWII fighter, the Supermarine Spitfire and its power plant the Rolls Royce Merlin engine and his discovery and identification of three Spitfires off Malta including one on display in the Malta War Museum and one that now flies and some rare 1942 colour film of Spitfires in Malta.



11th March Thunder through the Valleys

Philip Stevens, author and aviation photographer

Low level flying in military aircraft at speeds of up to 500 mph and as low as 100 feet above the ground is as challenging for the pilot as it is for the photographer wishing to capture the action. Philip talks about the challenges faced, revealing how and where the images were taken from mountainsides and desert canyons to cockpits for air to air. In addition he will talk about the skills pilots need to be effective in very dangerous flying environments and discuss the challenging conditions they face when flying fast and low over snow, the sea or through mountain ranges at night.



8th April Youngest Bomber Pilot of WW2

Graham Waterton, author

Having left his grammar school just before his 16th birthday, Brian Slade falsified his age to pursue his dream of becoming a pilot. Within a few days of his 17th birthday, he was awarded his 'wings'. It was the start of this teenager's remarkable wartime career. Soon after being awarded his pilot's brevet, Brian was posted to his first squadron. Flying the venerable Vickers Wellington, he found himself experimenting with early target marking techniques. It was also there that Brian gained the nickname 'The Boy Slade'. After 34 operations he volunteered for a second tour and joined a Lancaster Pathfinder squadron.



13th May Flight! Camera! Action! - Behind the Scenes of 2012

Brig (rtd) Richard Folkes OBE FRAeS, ex Director of the Army Aviation

As Head of Regulatory and Corporate Affairs at Leonardo Helicopters Richard Folkes describes his involvement in two unique events in 2012 when he unexpectedly found himself with the responsibility for setting up the aviation scenes in both the James Bond film 'Skyfall' and the "top secret" arrival of 'HM The Queen' and James Bond by parachute into the Opening Ceremony of the London Olympic Games. He will take you behind the scenes and describe the fascinating story of how these two events were connected and performed.



Outstanding Success for Community Pantry!

Wednesday December 18th saw the busiest day of the year for the Old Sarum & Longhedge Community Pantry, with over fifty people through the door within the first hour of opening. Gemma Philips, the founder of the Pantry also helped Ozweld International along with Salisbury Radio with their campaign to raise enough toys and money to give over five hundred children at Old Sarum and Longhedge Pantry and Salisbury Pantry a present this year!

In looking back, Gemma said 'two years ago I'd been giving food away from my house which started from a need that I saw during Covid. It was getting a little too big to do it from home and Nina had just taken over the community centre as manager and was working with Abri Housing and the Parish Council to support the local community. She contacted me about using the Centre. A few months later Old Sarum and Longhedge Community Pantry was born. Nina, myself and an incredible group of volunteers have now been open over eighteen months and we have six hundred people subscribed as members. Over two hundred and fifty of these are children. We have come so far in such a short space of time and are seeing an increase in family membership. It seems people are working so hard to just cover the essential bills, some people are having to choose whether to heat or eat. The pressure of Christmas on top of all that is just so frustrating!'

It's not just the food that the Pantry offers, several organisations come as guests to offer free advice on things such as, debt relief and housing advice, and volunteers are able to sign-post members to other places for further support. The Pantry also offers space for coffee and a chat, and fun activities for children in the holidays. If you are not yet a member do consider becoming one and helping to support this wonderful local project that has already had a big impact on our parish communities.

The logo for Ockenden Tree Services, featuring a stylized green leaf above the text "OCKENDEN" in a large, bold, serif font, and "TREE SERVICES" in a smaller, bold, sans-serif font below it.

OCKENDEN TREE SERVICES



Arboricultural Contractors & Consultants
based in Salisbury.

Services Provided

- All aspects of Tree surgery
 - Tree Felling
 - Hedge Cutting
 - Stump Removal
- Tree Surveys & Consultancy
- Free written quotations & advice



info@ockendentrees.com



07947 380819



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