Welcome to the Spring 2017 Parish Newsletter.

Unless you've been hibernating all winter it will not have escaped you that the world around us has been experiencing a huge amount of change. Change is also a dominant theme in our parish, such as:

**New Parish Clerk - Kathy Cininas**
Welcome to Kathy who joined us in January this year. Kathy has made an impressive start and is already providing great support to the IPC and our parishioners. Kathy and Jim worked closely to ensure a seamless handover. We look forward to taking advantage of Kathy's varied experience as she gets more involved in the workings of the parish, including taking on the cemetery manager responsibilities. Meet Kathy on page 4.

**Changes in the Idmiston Parish Council**
I'm pleased to say that since the Autumn newsletter, the IPC has maintained its strength of 14 councillors, with just a couple of new faces (meet them on page 5). This mix of stability and new thinking means we can re-establish roles and become more involved in a greater number of activities, such as:

- **New Planning Committee** (more on page 5)
  Managing planning applications with this committee rather than in the IPC meeting will help strike a better balance, ensuring applications are fully considered and enabling us to spend the appropriate time on other items.

- **Memorial Hall Committee**
  Increasing the number of Idmiston Parish Councillors from one to four on the Memorial Hall Committee will provide greater support for this important community resource.

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Play your part - influence the future of the Parish.
The purpose of the IPC is to act on behalf of the parishioners. We know that many of our parishioners are clear in their minds about what they think the village needs, so here are some important dates when you can influence the future of the parish:

- **20 April 2017 - Neighbourhood Plan Referendum**
  Wiltshire Council "...is satisfied that the Neighbourhood Plan as modified complies with legal requirements and can proceed to referendum."
  Read more about this plan, how it protects our villages and how you can vote to support this on page 3.

- **2 May 2017 - Annual Parish Meeting**
The IPC will share the main achievements of the last year - what we have done with (your) precept contribution. We have changed the meeting date and format to give you better informal access to the IPC and to get your ideas for community projects.
  More details about this on page 4 - I hope to see many of you there.

- **4 May 2017 - IPC Elections**
  All Parish Councillors have to stand down and undergo nomination for re-election this year (see p4). Closing date for nominations is 4th April.

- **8 May 2017 - The Annual Parish Council Meeting**
The first meeting of the newly elected Idmiston Parish Council, where the Chairman and Vice Chair are elected.

Spring is the season of growth and renewal. I look forward to seeing the IPC and our community take on more, to make this parish an even better place to live and work.

James Humphries
Meetings of Idmiston PC take place, usually on the second Monday of every month, except April and August, at 7.30pm in Idmiston Parish Memorial Hall. Members of the public are most welcome and at each meeting a period of time is set aside for comments from the public. If you have any issues that you wish to bring to the attention of the Parish Council please contact the Clerk.

Clerk: Kathy Cininas
4 Hale Barn Court
Idmiston SP4 0BE
Tel: 07763 411595
parishclerk@idmistonpc.org

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**t:** 01980 610632

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**e:** presslee@ntlworld.com
Neighbourhood Plan Ready for Referendum

- **Referendum Date**
  - Thursday 20 April 2017
- **Memorial Hall**
  - 7am – 10pm
- The Idmiston Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan is nearing completion. It was formally adopted by Wiltshire Council on the 10th February 2017.
- To make it a legal document we are now required to have a Parish Referendum.
- Voting papers will be sent by post by Wiltshire Council over the next few weeks. Votes can be cast at the Polling Station (the Memorial Hall) between 7.00 am and 10.00pm on Thursday 20 April 2017 or can be registered by Postal or Proxy vote.

This is the chance for the whole Parish to make sure that their views, which have been gathered at various consultations and expressed in the Plan, become accepted policy for Idmiston Parish.

A majority vote (50% or more of the votes cast) ensures that the Neighbourhood Plan becomes a legal document, that must be considered by both Wiltshire Council and Idmiston Parish Council when making future decisions that affect the Parish, including planning applications. Without this Neighbourhood Plan, you, the parishioners of Idmiston Parish would have very little influence in the future on what happens in the Parish.

Originally, in 2013, Idmiston Parish Council decided to write a Neighbourhood Plan in order to consider and promote the principles that matter most within our community. Parishioners views were obtained through numerous consultations and questionnaires from early in the process. The information gathered revealed that parishioners saw the main objectives as protecting the Parish’s rural feel and maintaining separation of the three villages, whilst modernising its infrastructure and meeting genuine future housing needs. This does not mean that development should be prevented, but that local input should be an important part of the decision-making process. Working closely with the community, key local employers and Wiltshire Council, the Neighbourhood Plan confirms which areas of the Parish should remain as open space and which areas are suitable for development.

By allowing sustainable and sensible development we can maintain our villages’ unique characteristics whilst retaining some sense of balance.

In the past months, we have had a presentation by representatives of a large construction company wishing to build a development of up to 50 houses (way above our given target of approximately 32 new dwellings in the Parish by 2026) on the green-field site to the rear of the Memorial Hall. Such a development would impose great pressures on both our infrastructure and environment. Having this Neighbourhood Plan means that large development planning applications are much less likely to be passed. If the Neighbourhood Plan is not voted through we shall have very little power to counter this and future proposals.

The final draft of the Idmiston Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan is now posted on the IPC website for your inspection.

www.idmistonpc.org/parish-council/parish-planning/neighbourhood-plan

Idmiston Parish Council believes that voting YES will ensure that the Plan can positively impact on all future decisions that affect the Parish, not only with regard to housing, but also on traffic, facilities and the environment.

Your vote counts – Please support the Idmiston Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan with a YES vote at the Referendum on Thursday 20th April 2017.
New Parish Clerk

Idmiston Parish Council welcomed Kathy Cininas as its new Parish Clerk from the start of the year.

Kathy wrote:

I moved to Idmiston with my husband Alan in February 2016 and we can’t believe how quickly our first year has gone. Previously we were in Reading for 30 years, where our daughter still lives. I left my job as a college lecturer with young adults with learning difficulties in December 2015. Over the last year, I have done waitressing, invigilating and shop work, while looking for my perfect job in the area.

Before working as a lecturer, I had jobs in business and finance, in the private, public and charity sectors. I am really pleased to be able to use my expertise in these areas to take on the role of Parish Clerk. We love living here and I enjoy doing a job that helps my local community. I work 20 hours a week for the Parish Council, and can be contacted by phone or email.

Kathy can be contacted at parishclerk@idmistonpc.org and Tel: 07763 411595

Annual Parish Meeting Tuesday 2nd May

All parishioners are invited and encouraged to come along to the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING on Tuesday 2nd May 2017

- IPC Chairman Cllr James Humphries will present a Review of the Year, describing the activities and achievements of Idmiston Parish Council.
- Members of the Council will address the meeting on the topics with which they have been most closely concerned and about the day to day work of the Council.
- Councillor Creswell will speak about the considerable progress that has been made on the Neighbourhood Plan during the year and the public referendum.
- The Chairman will talk about the Planned IPC Activities for 2017/2018, asking parishioners about their ideas and priorities for spending.
- There will be a presentation and discussion about Defibrillators.
- Questions and comments from Parishioners are welcomed. Councillors will be available after the meeting for informal discussions on issues & ideas from parishioners. We would like to use this opportunity to help validate our spending plans and get ideas for what people really need or want. Do come along and play your part in local democracy on 2nd May - perhaps particularly important as the Election of Parish Councillors to Idmiston Parish Council for the next four years takes place a few days later on Thursday 4th May if sufficient numbers of people apply.

Parish Council Elections 2017

Thursday 4th May 2017 is Election Day for Idmiston Parish Council.

Existing parish councillors all retire together on the fourth day after the day of election, so all existing parish councillors will cease office on Monday 8 May 2017, and their successors take office on 8 May. The term of office is four years.

- Councillors do not simply continue in office. Existing councillors must submit a nomination paper if they want to be re-elected

- The Chairman continues in office until his/her successor is appointed

- A chairman therefore presides over the first business of the new council. If he/she was not re-elected, then he/she does not have a vote, but does have a casting vote on the election of the new chairman which must be exercised in the event of an equality of votes.

Once nominations close at 4pm on 4 April, there are then three possibilities:

1. There are more candidates than the 15 vacant seats - a poll will be taken on 4 May
2. There are fewer candidates than seats or the exact number - those validly nominated are declared elected unopposed and will form the new council from 8 May, and can co-opt to fill any remaining seats, unless:
3. There are fewer candidates than seats, and not enough to form a quorum (5 for Idmiston Parish Council). In this case a new election will be required within 35 days, and those candidates validly nominated are declared elected unopposed, but will be unable to act until the council is quorate. Co-option is not allowed. Once a quorum is reached, the parish council can act, and co-opt to fill the remaining seats.

The May Meeting of IPC - The Annual Parish Council Meeting - is on May 8th 2017.
Jayne Gillick
Originally from Somerset, I first came to live in the Salisbury area some 23 years ago when my husband was relocated here by his employers. We moved to Idmiston two years ago and here we have taken on a renovation project which along with our respective jobs, keeps us busy but which is by the same token proving an enjoyable challenge. We have two grown daughters, one currently at university, the other travelling in Australia.

I felt it important to become a Parish Councillor in order to more fully integrate myself in the community and to bring a newcomer’s perspective to the thinking and objectives of the IPC. I hope that any views I can express on behalf of my neighbours as a Parish Councillor will enhance what the local community can continue to expect from the IPC.

‘Westwood’, 4 Markan Road, Idmiston SP4 0AY
Tel: 01980 611545.
E: jaynevendome@icloud.com

Steve Cocking
I grew up south of the border in rural Dorset.
After studying Engineering at university, I went to work in the Oil Exploration business; something I did for the next 38 years. The lifestyle certainly was nomadic; my family & I lived and worked in 12 countries in that period. I retired in 2015 and was longing to return to the rural life I had enjoyed so much in my youth and so moved to Porton. Apart from being a lovely village, it is also close to friends & family in the Salisbury area, Dorset & London.

Having been retired now for over 18 months, I realised that I have enough time to be able to do something positive for the local community and so I stood for the Parish Council .... and so began a whole new phase of learning.

‘Amberley’, Idmiston Road, Porton SP4 0LB
E: Steve_c56@yahoo.com

IPC Planning Committee
At the IPC meeting on 13 February 2017 it was resolved to re-establish a Planning Committee.
The Terms of Reference for the Committee were agreed and can be read on the Planning Applications page of the IPC website: http://www.idmistonpc.org/parish-council/planning-applications/

- Eight councillors have formed the Committee and will meet when there are planning applications to be considered.
- The Agenda will be published in advance on the website and parish notice boards.
- The Committee will consider the impact of proposed developments on nearby properties and the parish as whole. While the IPC has no decision-making powers, it is a statutory consultee in the planning process. The views of the IPC are passed on to Wiltshire Council, who make all planning decisions.
- The Councillors forming the Planning Committee are:
  Cllrs Appleyard, Creswell, Duffin, Jones, Maher, Najjar, Oliver and Pope.
Village groups continue to use the hall on a regular basis, they are always looking for new members, and so if you are interested, contact details for the various organisations are shown below.

- An exciting new facility at the Memorial Hall is Short Mat Bowls. We have two mats which were given to us by Dur-ington Sports Centre, and spare sets of bowls. We were also fortunate enough to obtain a grant from Amesbury Area Board to purchase various other items of equipment which were needed, including a movable rack to enable the mats to be stored and wheeled into place when needed.
The first of what will become regular evening meetings proved a great success. We meet Thursday evenings 7.30 p.m., newcomers are welcome, feel free to come along and have a go.

- Application for listing. Unbeknown to the Memorial Hall Committee, some parishioners made an application to Historic England for the hall to be added to the list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest. We were advised by Historic England that the application was declined due to ‘lack of design interest’.

- Private bookings are doing well at present, enabling us to keep a competitive pricing structure compared to other halls in the area. However with increases in gas/electricity costs we may need to review the situation.

- The fund raising committee held a village quiz back in November, numbers were slightly down, however a good time was had by all who attended and a healthy sum raised for hall funds. Unfortunately the 50/50 Club is being closed down due to lack of support.

Thanks again to the fund raising committee for all their hard work.
There are still a few vacant slots - anybody wishing to book the hall please contact Sally Cuthbert 01980 610613

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<th>Day and Group</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Phyl Grant</td>
<td>01980 610263</td>
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<td>Leisure painters - afternoon</td>
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<td>Over Sixties Club - afternoon</td>
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<td>Last Monday of the month</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mule Packers CWDC</td>
<td>Mike Sainsbury</td>
<td>01722 717800</td>
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<td>evening</td>
<td>Mel Cane</td>
<td>01722 340054</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parish Council</td>
<td>Kathy Cininas</td>
<td>07763 411595</td>
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<td>evening</td>
<td><a href="mailto:parishclerk@idmistonpc.org">parishclerk@idmistonpc.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Cleaning</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Ken Bradley</td>
<td>01980 610849</td>
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<tr>
<td>Badminton Club</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:netsjets@btinternet.com">netsjets@btinternet.com</a></td>
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<td>morning</td>
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<td>Flower Club – evening</td>
<td>Penny Fleet</td>
<td>01980 611815</td>
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<td>2nd Wednesday</td>
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<td>WI Idmiston – afternoon</td>
<td>Valerie Botting</td>
<td>01980 610528</td>
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<td>3rd Wednesday</td>
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<td>Evening (18:00 - 23:59)</td>
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<td>All Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Mike Orman</td>
<td>01722 320845</td>
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<td>Salisbury Model Engineering Society</td>
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<td>evenings 3rd Wednesday</td>
<td>Janet Slater</td>
<td>01980 610544</td>
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<td>Ladies Club – afternoon</td>
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<td>4th Wednesday</td>
<td>Shirley Moores</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>Short Mat Bowls - evening</td>
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<td>Allington Art - morning</td>
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<td>Cleaning - afternoon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scouts - evening</td>
<td>Duncan Stanford</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cyderdog1@ntlworld.com">cyderdog1@ntlworld.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stacey Blake</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fruitloop2008@live.co.uk">fruitloop2008@live.co.uk</a></td>
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TO HIRE THE HALL RING SALLY CUTHBERT 01980 610613
Memorial Hall Fundraising

VILLAGE QUIZ &
PLoughMAN’S SUPPER
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6th MAY 2017

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For more information call either Sue 01980 590621 or Carole 01980 555028

Porton Leisure Painters

Studies in concentration....
Every Monday from 2-4pm (except Bank Holidays) a small friendly group of ‘Artists’ meet in the small hall of Idmiston Memorial Hall. Sometimes we have a tutor to guide us in our efforts (Tutor Sue Finness is shown standing in the lower photo). We all try different media, pastels, oils, acrylics, pen and ink and watercolours; and encourage each other with helpful tips. Our weekly subscription of £2 covers the cost of hiring the hall. We welcome everyone, new members and old, to join us - come up to the hall on Mondays at 2pm.

SALISBURY AND DISTRICT MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY
Indoor Meetings, April – December 2017. Anyone interested will be very very welcome.

March 15 Mike Lee: “HMS Inflexible, a Turning Point in 19th century Naval Architecture and Functionality”.
April 19: Peter Scrivens: “The Salisbury Scout Motor Industry”. Refurbishing the last Scout Motorcar
May 17 Colin Jones: “Engineering Fasteners”. Some of the intricacies of these important components.
September 20 Richard Ellam: “Brunel’s Bloomers”
October 18 Members Contributions Meeting: Various disparate (desperate?) “volunteers” (will/may) have offered to talk to us about their enthusiasms.
November 15 Mike Orman: “An Update on Salisbury’s own marvellous pair of Steam cars”
December 20 Christmas Social Orgy
The Society meets every 3rd Wednesday in the month at Porton Memorial Hall at 7.30pm when we have speaker talks on some aspect of model engineering (or related subjects) - or just meet to discuss members current projects
For more information call Mike Orman 01722 320845 or www.salisburymes.co.uk or peter.scrivens@btinternet.com
You must do something...!
After receiving numerous letters, emails and personal pleas from parishioners at Parish Council Meetings saying ‘You must do something...’, IPC felt that it had no option but to spend money on buying and erecting signs and bollards to deter a persistent local parker who, in spite of being written to and appealed to personally, refused to stop parking his blue van in the Idmiston Parish Council owned amenity area. Reports of people missing the bus because the van obscured the vision of the bus-driver, and others of the dangers being caused to people getting on and off the bus, meant that IPC had to do everything possible to try to end this nuisance. IPC took legal advice, contacted the Police, The Bus Company and Wiltshire Council, none of whom could provide a practical solution. The signs and bollards aren’t exactly pretty, and certainly don’t enhance the area, but will hopefully improve the situation for Idmiston bus users. If only all parishioners would be reasonable the whole community would benefit.

Idmiston Memorial Hall Annual General Meeting and Committee Meeting
Tuesday 25th April, Memorial Hall 7.30pm
Everyone welcome - come and hear about progress and future plans
Mulepackers Country & Western Dancing (Line Dancing and Partner Dancing) meet at Idmiston Memorial Hall on Monday evenings

● Our clubs are great fun and our members are very friendly and welcoming, so if you’d like to learn, don’t hesitate to give us a ring on either 01722 340054 or 01722 717800.

● We now have quite a few couples doing the partner dancing. This too opens up a whole new social life with the chance to go to dances and parties in the area with live music and a great atmosphere.

● Mulepackers recently had their Christmas party which was really well attended. At the party (top picture) we chose the charity we are supporting in 2017 (The Stars Appeal, Amesbury Ward Fun).

● In 2016 we supported Salisbury Hospice and were able to give them a cheque for £516 raised at charity dances, raffles and donations from doing demonstrations & talks.

● Have a look at our website to find out what we do, or give us a ring and have a chat with us if you’d like to give it a go.

Phone us if you would like to learn to dance … Mike 01722 717800 or Mel 01722 340054
www.linedancingsouth-mulepackers.co.uk

East Gomeldon Road Access

For vehicles unable to gain access to East Gomeldon from Gomeldon due to the railway arch, access can be arranged via the Ladysmith cut.

Please contact the guardroom at Winterbourne Camp, allowing as much notice as possible.

Telephone 01722 436264
Calls will be answered 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.
Busy times - and a very Special Celebration
There have been many exciting events in recent months, including our St Nicholas Day celebrations at the end of last year. This time we were not only celebrating the life and work of St Nicholas but also the opening of our new library and the completion of the renovation work carried out throughout the school.

We were pleased to welcome many guests including members of Salisbury Diocese, representatives from the Parish Council and Idmiston Memorial Hall, members of St Nicholas Church, School Governors and former staff. Many guests had not visited the school in recent times and were impressed and surprised by the changes and modernisation that had taken place. Later in the afternoon we were joined by the Venerable Alan Jeans, Archdeacon of Sarum (picture below) who has close connections to our school and he was delighted to officially open the Library. Since the opening we have been able to purchase many new books and appoint several Year 5 Librarians.

Open Mornings
The final open morning for Reception 2017 children and their families took place in January and we were pleased to again see so many new faces along with some more familiar ones. Once the official confirmation of school places has been confirmed we will look forward to arranging the transition of our new children later in the year.

Football - plenty of team spirit
During the New Year our school football team were in action, along with a handful of other local schools, in a Mini Football League. We were pleased to host the second of these meetings and all the children displayed excellent sportsmanship and behaviour. The team aim to develop their game over the next few weeks in preparation for the final fixture in late March.

Assemblies - quite a range
During February we had a number of interesting assemblies; the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides organised a special worship on World Thinking Day (picture above) to explain why Girl Guides around the world celebrate this special day and what activities the girls participate in during their weekly meetings. Mrs Hedges led worship on St David’s Day with daffodils, national costume and a history of St David all covered. Our musicians held an extended Friday worship with excellent performances from the children learning piano, keyboard and acoustic/electric guitar. Hare Class performed two pieces on the recorders demonstrating an impressive ability to play and dance at the same time! Lastly the School Choir performed some beautiful harmonised songs that really showcased how much they have developed over the last few months.
The Bourne Cemetery

The Bourne Cemetery is available to Parishioners of Idmiston, Porton and Gomeldon.

The beautiful green ‘lawn cemetery’ has facilities for burials and for the burial of cremated remains, which should meet the needs of the Parish for many years ahead.

There is a Garden of Remembrance on part of the site with lots of rose bushes, providing a quiet rest area for peaceful contemplation.

The Bourne Cemetery incorporates the ancient Porton Baptist Burial Ground, whose remains will be left undisturbed.

For information about the cemetery and interments, contact the Parish Clerk
parishclerk@idmistonpc.org
Tel: 07763 411595

Telling Wiltshire Council
People contact the Parish Council about a range of issues from litter to dog-mess and from potholes to fly-tipping. In fact it is more effective and efficient to contact Wiltshire Council directly using the ‘My Wiltshire’ on-line form available from
www.wiltshire.gov.uk/parkingtransportandstreets/roadshighwaysstreetcare/mywiltshireregister.htm

To make life even easier, you can report ‘on the go’ using your smartphone. The ‘MyWiltshire’ app is available to download at both the App Store (for iPhones and iPads), from Google Play™ (for Android phones) and Windows Store. You can attach information such as photos or videos and pinpoint the location of your report using the mapping software on your phone. If you really can’t use any of these methods, Tel: 0300 456 0105

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SP6 1AX
TEL: 01425 656286

INDEPENDENT FAMILY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BUSINESS
Work is well underway to create a state-of-the-art science park at Porton Down which will help place Wiltshire firmly at the forefront of science and defence technology industries.

The first phase of the multi-million pound Porton Science Park near Salisbury has now begun and will deliver a new science incubator and grow-on space for science and technology businesses. It will promote collaboration and house new businesses, providing a facility for the creation of innovative products and spin out companies, in line with the Government’s industrial strategy. Investment for the £9.5m first phase has come from the government’s local growth fund secured by the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership (SWLEP), the European Regional Development Fund and Wiltshire Council.

The park will be situated alongside the established research institutions of the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl) and Public Health England (PHE) Porton, providing opportunities for sharing expertise and research. It will play a critical role in achieving the vision of Wiltshire Council and the SWLEP for the life science and defence technology sectors in the region, supporting the strategy to become a world class cluster of expertise and activity. This strategy is aligned with the growing Army presence and investment in defence technologies in south Wiltshire particularly the return of Army personnel from Germany as part of the Army Basing Programme and the new investment at Dstl and Qinetiq Boscombe Down.

The first phase will open later this year supporting jobs and numerous start-ups to create successful businesses in science and technology. The development is aimed at attracting investment from both the UK and international science technology promoters connected with the science, defence and security matters that exist at Porton.

The science park will provide a platform for science and technology innovation and new business start-ups. Creating modern space for science and defence technologies places Wiltshire firmly on the map and strengthens its status as a great place to do business. This means more high skilled local jobs and is more good news for Wiltshire’s economy.

Salisbury MP John Glen said: “The Science Park will be the opening chapter of a new set of opportunities for Porton Down. It will help to fully realise the enormous commercial potential that exists within the Dstl, PHE and wider scientific communities in this area and provide a world-class facility for life-sciences.”

The Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership (SWLEP) is a private sector led partnership between Swindon Borough Council, Wiltshire Council and local businesses. The SWLEP’s vision is for Swindon and Wiltshire to be renowned for innovation, entrepreneurialism and a great quality of life. John Mortimer, Chairman of the SWLEP said “Our area has a strong legacy in scientific research and development and the SWLEP aims to strengthen its growth and competitive edge. Life Sciences is a priority sector for the SWLEP and by investing in the Porton Science Park, we are supporting specialised development to generate new jobs and mark the area’s growth into a competitive cluster of science and research companies.”

The Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl) is one of the principal government organisations dedicated to Science & Technology in the defence and security field, with one of its main sites at Porton Down. Dstl maximises the impact of science and technology for the defence and security of the UK, supplying sensitive and specialist S&T services for the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and wider government. Dstl is an Executive Agency of the MOD, run along commercial lines. Jonathan Lyle, Chief Executive of Dstl said: “Dstl is pleased to be working with Wiltshire Council on this key project. At Dstl we have a strong track record of working with entrepreneurs to help protect our Armed Forces and the British public, and the new science park can only strengthen these relationships and help create a world-leading science and technology hub in South Wiltshire.”

For more information please contact the communications team on 01225 713115/6 or 01225 713664.
Residents of Idmiston Parish can sign up for free messages about local police and crime matters in their area.

Wiltshire Police’s Community Messaging system already has over 400 Amesbury residents signed up and receiving alerts.

Local police officers are sending out regular alerts as emails, texts and voicemails to keep residents informed about what is happening in their community.

Amesbury Community Coordinator PC Wileman said: “Community Messaging is a quick and easy way to keep communities updated. If we’ve had a crime trend in the area, we can let local residents be aware and issue crime prevention advice to help prevent others from becoming victims of crime.”

“IT is a great tool to build positive relationships with the public, keeping them informed about local policing priorities in the area.”

- Community Messaging aims to improve the flow of information between communities and the police. Residents can reply to messages from local officers to help them better police your area.

- You can also join a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in your area or request to start a new one.

- Signing up to Community Messaging is free, quick and easy. You can sign up online by visiting www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk or by speaking to your local policing team. All you need to supply is one form of contact for you (email address, mobile number or landline) and your address.

Pauline and Phil took over the Earl of Normanton last November, and have already made their mark with the local community. They have refurbished the pub, making everything seem much lighter and airier, have installed a modern commercial kitchen and employed a talented chef. They came from The Lamb at Normansland, a family pub that they ran for twenty years, with a great reputation for its food, and which their daughter and her husband now run.

Pauline has plans to improve the garden at The Earl, making it a pleasant place to sit and enjoy the fine views across the valley. **They want The Earl to be a true community pub and have plans for many new events, including a St George’s night special** (on 22nd April) where diners will be entertained by ‘Beaky’ from the legendary Salisbury group ‘Dave Dee, Dozy, Beaky, Mick and Titch’. Phone 01980 610251 for details.

*Find a warm welcome, good food and the best of real ales at*

**The Earl of Normanton**

A real community pub!

Tidworth Road, Idmiston, Salisbury SP4 0AG, 01980 610251

e-mail: theearlofnormanton@gmail.com

Lovely friendly atmosphere - Wood Fire - Theme Nights - Quiz Nights

Food served daily: Mon-Sun 12 noon - 2pm and 6pm - 9pm

New owners Pauline and Phil welcome everyone, regulars, visitors and passers by to come in for a drink or a meal, cooked by their talented chef.

Recent Tripadvisor reviews said:

“Well worth a visit”, “Had an excellent meal served by friendly attentive staff”, “Nice to visit a pub with a traditional atmosphere and friendly locals.”, “Leave room for the pud!”, “New owners have taken over and we much enjoyed the homemade food, especially the scrumptious puddings!” “Can recommend The Earl for a reasonably priced and enjoyable evening out.”
Christmas 2016
Christmas seems long past now the nights are drawing out and the weather getting warmer. However I can’t let it go by without thanking everyone who supported the Scout Christmas Postal Service, whether you sold stamps for us, bought stamps or delivered the post all over the Bourne Valley, we THANK YOU from the bottom of our hearts. The Scout Postal Service is one of our main Fund Raising activities and allows us to offer exciting programmes and activities to all our members and still have one of the cheapest subscription rates of local groups.

Group Events
● Remembrance Day Church Parade was the first, and Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and Leaders were on parade at both St Nicholas, Porton and St Michael's in Winterbourne.
● The next was our Group Christmas Party, this event isn’t restricted just to our young people, all the family are invited to join in the Festive Fun and refreshments and at the same time pick up the Christmas Post cards for their local area - Killing 2 birds with one stone comes to mind!
● In January over 50 of us celebrated Burns Night in the Glebe Hall. The food and entertainment was excellent and the dancing that finished off the evening made all those delicious puddings which had followed the soup, Haggis, neeps and tatties totally guilt free!
● I have just returned from our latest group activity the Pinewood Derby Race Day which is open to the whole family. All the “racing drivers” have been busy over the last few weeks making and decorating their racing cars from the special kits ready for Race Day when they are raced down a special track. The final aim is to find the fastest car of the day! Certificates, trophies and medals are awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd winners in each class. Lots of homemade cakes and biscuits, tea, coffee and soft drinks fuelled the car drivers, the cars just needed gravity and the best aerodynamic shape.

Beaver Colony
● New Recruits - Since Christmas the Beavers have “moved on” 5 of their eldest members to the Cub Pack and have welcomed 7 new recruits from the waiting list who have been busy during the last 2 months finding out all about Beaver Scouting ready for making the promise at their Investiture.
● January is the time for the annual District Party, the theme this year was Australia and all things Australian. Eight of our Beavers attended the party where they made boomerangs and hats with corks, tried their hand at Aboriginal art, raced with the kangaroos, played a traditional Australian game, listened to stories and sang songs. The afternoon finished by trying some Australian food, not bad for 3hrs!
● More Celebrations At the end of January there was a joint meeting of Beavers and Cubs, during the meeting the beavers and cubs celebrated some more, this time Chinese New Year, the year of the Rooster. At the end of the meeting 4 beavers, said goodbye to the colony and ‘swum up the river’ to Cubs.

Colony Meetings
● Other activities have included a Log Chew which could be about anything but in this instance the young people told the Leaders what they would like to do in 2017; this helps us with our planning. We got into the party mood by making Kangaroo masks and then playing Kangaroo racing.
● Air Activities At the same time as welcoming the new recruits the beavers have started working towards the Air Activities Badge, so far they have made and flown paper aeroplanes, found out a bit about flying in an aircraft and designed their own aircraft, which had to have special features that didn’t include weapons of destruction of any kind! A challenge for many of them. Akela on Behalf of Redwood/Pete

Cub Scouts
Achievement – A new year and time for movement between the sections. Three of our oldest Cubs moved up to Idmiston Scouts at the end of January. During that ceremony I was able to award one of the cub/scouts with his Chief Scout Silver Award, the highest award a Cub Scout can be presented with, it’s a significant achievement and shows real commitment to scouting activities, challenges and values. At the beginning of January we welcomed 7 new cubs, 4 from the beaver colony and 3 from our waiting list, as well as taking part in pack activities they have been learning all about Cub Scouting ready for their investiture.

District Competitions
● Spring term is busy for the Cub Pack with 4 district events between January and March. Victorious! The Scrapheap Challenge
gets teams of 6 cubs from each pack to make models from recyclable materials only. The theme this year was the film 'A Night in the Museum'. Our team of Six constructed a museum complete with a dinosaur and were judged the winners. This meant that we were invited to represent the District at the County Competition at the beginning of February. The theme this time was a scene from the sequel to the current Lego Batman movie. The team of 6 decided on 'The Attack of the Droids' and their model was again judged to be the best. As well as being the best modellers they were also on their best behaviour and I was proud to be their Leader.

 Football – In the 5-A-Side Football tournament the team played really well and scored 8 points in their league which meant they were the runners up so qualified to play in the semi-finals. Once again they played well but narrowly lost the match 2-1. A fun afternoon enjoyed by all, not least the Leaders – the Cubs were so well behaved it was a pleasure to spend the afternoon with them.

 Chess – The Chess players in the pack started to practise for the third District Competition, the Chess Tournament, organised by Round Table in collaboration with the Salisbury Chess Club. By the time you read this the competition, will have been held.

 Pack Meetings - The list of activities we have covered so far is impressive, including preparing for the various competitions we have entered, playing outdoors, learning about tracking signs, making pictures using natural things and exploring their senses, Chinese New Year and working for the Home Safety badge.

 Swimming - As well as being lots of fun, an evening at Durrington was preparation for the fourth and last District Activity, the Swimming Gala at the end of March.  

 Idmiston Troop

 Awards - The Troop’s focus for the past few weeks has been very much on completing elements of our training programme and progressing our senior scouts on their way to achieving the Chief Scout’s Gold Award. In February we were very pleased to be able to award this to two of our number, just in time for them to move on to the Explorer Scout unit. The target is to achieve another six before the end of the summer.

 Pancakes - We fit in a bit of fun as well and Shrove Tuesday was a great excuse to spend an evening throwing pancakes around the Memorial Hall. The usual selection of revolting toppings also made an appearance (there can be only one real topping – sugar and lemon), although no reports of upset stomachs.

 County Shooting - Nine Scouts were selected as part of the Salisbury District shooting squad and represented the District at the Wiltshire Scout shooting competition. Zac, Ben and Jake, were in the team that took the honours shooting from the sitting position and went on to come second overall. We have high hopes for next year.

 Skills Challenge – The troop has been concentrating on the Skills Challenge badge. This included a healthy lifestyle. We started off with improving the scout’s fitness. At the beginning of each troop meeting for 6 weeks the scouts did circuit training for 10 mins. The aim was to improve on their scores and I am pleased to say that they all achieved the aim at the end of the 6 weeks. At the same time the scouts looked at healthy eating and sleep, all parts of a healthy lifestyle.

 Lego – As part of the Creative activity badge, the scouts made time lapse videos out of Lego – very interesting they were too.

 District Competitions – Being an active troop we have also taken part in a number of District competitions. The Grose Trophy is an incident hike, where scouts hike between bases and at each base are challenged to do something from erecting a tent blindfold, to tying knots, map skills and lighting fires. Then there was The Cube, where instead of a hike the bases are based on the theme of the TV show by the same name.

 Scalextric - We had a day making model Scalextric cars and racing them round a conventional track. Great fun.

 Go Karts – At troop meetings the scouts have been constructing Go Karts which they will be racing at Old Sarum.

 If you think all this sounds like a lot of FUN and you would like to JOIN US please telephone me

 Shirley Tizard/ Scout Leader
 Tel:07749895537

 Group Contact - Shirley Moores,
 Group Scout Leader, 01980 611614
e: shirleyamoore1953@gmail.com
Questionnaires were delivered to every house in the parish. All responses have been collated and some 127 responses were received, of those 95% feel the development will have a negative impact on the village. Interestingly only about ten houses are directly affected by this proposed development so it shows the strength of feeling about large scale developments elsewhere in the Parish. Of some concern was the lack of knowledge about the Referendum that will determine the acceptance, or otherwise, of the Neighbourhood Plan being only 67.74% whereas 93.55% were aware of the draft Neighbourhood Plan. Subsequently articles have been published on the website and all houses within the parish will have received a flyer citing the main points of the Plan and notifying them of the importance of voting in the upcoming referendum.

TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY 20TH APRIL IN THE MEMORIAL HALL, PORTON

For full details of the results of the questionnaire, please see the website: http://www.portonnotportown.info

• Letters have been written and published in the Salisbury Journal.
• Letters have been written to Wiltshire Council asking for a delay in any consideration of a planning application by Bovis until the Idmiston Neighbourhood Plan (INP) has been formally adopted, as such a sizeable development is contrary to both Wilt’s Core Strategy and the INP. The response from WC is that they cannot comment until an application is submitted.
• Letters have been written to John Glen MP seeking his support – he wrote the foreword to the Neighbourhood Plan.
• Letters have also been sent to both Gomeldon and St Nicholas’ Schools to ascertain their feelings/capabilities of dealing with a potential influx of new children. Understandably they are both keen to have new families in the parish to sustain their viability as village schools, the majority of pupils come from outside the catchment area. I think as a whole we would all welcome some young families moving into the village.

• Our much needed new pavilion project is still ongoing. Any letters of support to help with grant applications or anyone willing to make a donation to help raise the £100,000 needed to keep the only sporting facility left in the village open, would be much appreciated.

We have some fundraising events planned throughout the summer to raise money, including a Quiz Night in the Glebe Hall on June 23rd, details of which will be posted on our website.

Many thanks as ever to all local businesses who sponsor the Club and those who volunteer their time to keep it going. Please do get in touch if you would like to play or help out in any way.

Jamie Harvey, Chairman
www.winterbournecc.com
jamie@winterbournecc.com

UPDATE from Porton NOT Portown - The action group against the Bovis development

Freedom of Information requests have been submitted to Wiltshire Council on various subjects including:

• The results of the Archaeological surveys conducted recently – due to financial constraints the surveys did not cut into the footpath/Roman Road so results are not conclusive. Wessex Archaeology were digging in the wrong area (as Bovis had not requested the right to dig over the bridleway).
• Meetings between Councillors and Bovis/Savills/landowners – initially none were admitted to, but it appears Councillor Hewitt (Unitary Councillor) did meet with Bovis in Nov., no minutes were taken.

FINALLY

The Neighbourhood Plan will be a vital blueprint for the future of our parish and it is so important that all residents currently on the electoral roll have their say and use their vote. This Plan is our chance to deter the big developers, like Bovis Homes, from over developing land within our parish, as suitable parcels of land have been clearly set out within the Plan.

PLEASE make your vote count and VOTE TO SUPPORT THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
QinetiQ has signed a deal for four Airbus H125 helicopters as part of its modernisation of the Empire Test Pilots’ School (ETPS), which it manages alongside the UK’s Ministry of Defence (MOD).

Worth approximately £15 million, the deal will see Airbus Helicopters’ UK design team upgrade the Garmin G500-equipped aircraft with, among other capabilities, a 3-axis autopilot, dedicated communications equipment and Traffic Awareness Systems. This is in addition to a Flight Test Instrumentation suite, which is used to test and evaluate aircraft design and performance – a critical part of a test pilot or flight test engineer’s training.

The contract includes aircraft modification and 10 years’ full HCare support package – industry’s most comprehensive service coverage – helping to deliver full availability. The aircraft are expected to enter service in early 2019.
Bourne Valley Link volunteers provide neighbourly services to those in need in the Bourne Valley parishes of Cholderton, Newton Toney, Allington, Boscombe, Idmiston, Porton, Gomeldon, the Winterbournes and Hurdcott.

We can help with social needs such as visits to friends and relatives or a pleasant drive to a place of interest. Transport to hospitals, GPs, dental surgeries, hairdressers and shopping etc are also some of the tasks with which we may be able to assist in exchange for a donation to BVLS.

Please help by becoming one of our Link volunteers
If you would like to help provide this valuable service in our community, then please call the Link number for information. You can choose how much time you are able to give and what tasks you are happy to undertake. The scheme is a registered charity; volunteers receive expenses only and users are asked to make a donation in a sealed envelope (according to their means).

The Bourne Valley Link Scheme provides a support service to enable those without access to transport, to use local services and facilities. The range of services includes:

● Providing transport for medical appointments and shopping
● Visiting relatives or friends in hospital
● Social visits, or collecting shopping and prescriptions

Volunteers also offer practical help for small tasks in the home and caring support. e.g. befriending or reading to a visually impaired client. The Link Scheme aims to complement the provision of other services, whether statutory or voluntary. The service is provided by volunteers using their own cars.

We always need new volunteers - can you help?
Please contact 01980 611117 for more information.

Ring the Co-ordinator on 01980 611117 to use the scheme.
www.bournevalleylink.org.uk
Idmiston Parish has eight notice boards, five owned by the Parish Council and three at the Memorial Hall. There have been a number of recent queries from parishioners asking how they can publicise their own events or post ‘for sale’, ‘wanted’ or ‘missing cat’ notices. IPC encourages the use of the official notice boards - ‘fly-posting’ on fences and telegraph poles, which can be illegal under the Highways Act 1980 and the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, makes the villages look so untidy and unkempt.

The green notice board at the Idmiston Memorial Hall is open for the public to place their own advertisements. The keys are attached to the notice board and we just ask that notices are of reasonable size and that the board is kept tidy.

The large notice board attached to the wall of the NISA shop in Winterslow Road has three distinct sections.

The central section is reserved for Idmiston Parish Council notices, and it is here that parishioners can read meeting agendas, minutes and special notices. The Parish Clerk looks after this area.

The left-hand section is reserved for Community Information and Events. Carole Southern has the key to this board and kindly keeps it tidy and makes sure the notices are relevant and up to date. If you have a community event that you wish to publicise contact Carole on 01980 555028 or fundraisers@rosebudd.com

The right-hand section is free for any parishioner to use for any reasonable advertising purpose. The key for this is kept behind the counter of the NISA stores, and staff will be pleased to let you have it so that you can pin up your notice. Please use the facility responsibly - keep notices of reasonable size, make sure the content isn’t offensive, and that the board is kept tidy. Any queries - contact the Parish Clerk.

Good progress with Idmiston River Banks

For a long time the roadside banks along Church Road Idmiston have been overgrown and untidy, leading to complaints. Councillor Roy Gould took on board the concerns of local residents and organised a number of Sunday ‘Working Parties’ at which parishioners donned their wellies and old clothes and set about the hard work of clearing foliage from the banks.

- It is important these days to take care not to transgress any ‘environmental’ rules - you aren’t allowed to just jump into the river and clear things, and the rules about what can be cut and where the resulting ‘waste’ can be dumped are strict, so Cllr Gould took advice on what we are allowed to do, and local farmer Neil Bradbury was kind enough to agree that any weeds that were cleared could be placed on his land on the far side of the river bank.

- Led by Parish Councillors Roy Gould and Mark Jones, the clearance work over several weekends proved very successful, and as well as removing the weeds, several roadside drain holes that had been covered over were cleared, so that water can again flow freely from the road into the river.

- The clearance revealed the need for some dredging to take place beneath the parapet. After some considerable negotiations with ‘the authorities’ Cllr Gould has now received permission for some limited dredging to take place, and it is expected that this will take place later in the year, when the water level is expected to be lower and the river bed more exposed. Volunteers will again be needed - please look out for the posters and on the website.

Roy Gould Tel: 01980 610955
Making the best of our Parish Steward

The Parish Steward is doing great work in the Parish, but there is a limit as to what he can get done in the time he is allocated to us. Alan usually visits our Parish on the first Tuesday of the month.

He will not visit in May as parish stewards will be engaged in safety related activities such as clearing grass around sight-lines at junctions. The Parish Council is asked to provide a monthly list of detailed tasks to be carried out and to prioritise the top five items that it considers most urgent. I have to send in the task list two weeks before each planned visit.

Parish stewards have a very specific list of work they can do for the Parish, including:

- Hand clearing and cutting of growth from drainage grips and drain gully covers
- Hand clearing of blocked drainage gullies, grips, culverts, pipes and pits (unable to jet system)
- Clearing storm debris from the roads and footways
- Pedestrian barriers preparation and painting
- Cleaning and straightening of small road signs, street nameplates and bollards
- Securing of existing small road signs, verge marker posts and supplied street name plates
- Removal of limited graffiti from road signs, bollards and street nameplates
- Hand cutting of grass and vegetation in visibility areas
- Hand treatment of weeds
- Hand clearance of encroaching growth and soils from footways

Whilst I am pleased to hear from parishioners about work that needs doing, please bear in mind this list. For all other items, parishioners should use the Wiltshire app or online reporting. I am happy to do this on your behalf, but I am also seen as an individual. The system does not recognise me as Parish Clerk, and my reporting holds no more weight than yours! The advantage of you doing it is that you can be really specific about the location.

- If you have a suitable phone (I don’t!) you can find the app here: [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywiltshire-download](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywiltshire-download) and you can attach photos and GPS locations to your reports.
- Alternatively, you can report online: [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywiltshire-online-reporting](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywiltshire-online-reporting)

See also ‘Contacting Wiltshire Council’ on page 11.

Kathy Cininas, Parish Clerk

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Touch of Sparkle

07794197361
Amanda.Jane.Jones@btinternet.com

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Idmiston Parish Newsletter Page 20
Footpaths
Dog Owners - Please be reasonable!

We are fortunate to have a reasonable selection of public footpaths and bridleways in our parish, although the proximity of the Porton Down and Boscombe Down establishments has meant that there are fewer ‘circular walks’ than we might like. The landowners over whose land these ‘rights of way’ exist have a number of legal obligations, but, as several of our local farmers have pointed out, it is equally important that walkers and horse-riders don’t misuse their rights, which can lead to problems for other users and for the landowners. Abiding by a few simple rules can make it easier for walkers to live in harmony with landowners.

Rules for users:
The Countryside Code includes some of the main responsibilities for users of public rights of way:
- If walking a dog, you must make sure that it does not stray off the legal lines of a public footpath as this may constitute an act of trespass.
- Ensure that you clean up your dog mess, if your dog fouls a footpath.
- You are not allowed to disturb or harm any wildlife found on a public right of way.
- You should not drop or leave litter on a public right of way.
- You should not trespass on neighbouring lands to public rights of way. At all times keep to the legal limits.

Idmiston Parish Council is in regular touch with both landowners and users of rights of way, and a recent plea from a local farmer (alongside) highlights some of the problems that can occur and that could be avoided by a little more thought from some users. See the link to the Countryside Code below.

It is nice to have an unfenced footpath - this one between Downholme and St Nicholas School - but PLEASE keep to the path and keep your dog on a lead.

Idmiston Parish Newsletter carried an excellent article last summer highlighting the responsibilities of both landowners and footpath users. I am getting very frustrated with dog walkers on our land. They are not staying on the footpaths, they are letting their dogs off the lead and letting them foul in the field. I am particularly concerned about the water meadow next to the school. We have lost calves before, when the cows have eaten the dog muck, and it is coming up to calving season. I have confronted a few walkers and had the response that there is no sign up and it isn’t in the Parish Newsletter!

Dog walkers - Please behave responsibly

Keep dogs on a lead, but “if cattle or horses chase you and your dog, it is safer to let your dog off the lead – don’t risk getting hurt by trying to protect it. Your dog will be much safer if you let it run away from a farm animal in these circumstances and so will you.”

Holiday Flat in Sunny French Provence

Nestled in the hills to the north of Nice, in the town of Grasse, famous for its numerous perfumeries, the Holiday flat is 80m² and forms the ground floor of a detached villa with air conditioning. It is located in a quiet area near the ‘vallée verte’ only 4km from the beautiful town of Grasse, 20 min from the sea and 1½ hours from skiing resorts (Greolière).

The accommodation comprises:
- Open plan living/dining room with
- Sofa-bed sleeping 2 people (linen provided)
- One double bedroom with linen provided
- One shower room
- Patio with far reaching views over the hills
- Swimming pool
- Fitted Kitchen with oven, microwave, kettle, dishwasher, washing machine and tea towels
- 2 adult bicycles.

Minimum of 2 nights per reservation.
Stay from 01/04/2017 to 31/10/2017 for €70 per night

Contact Agnès at patchouli.agnes@aol.fr or by phone on 00/33/623379132 from the UK
Greetings from Porton Baptist Church.

Christmas seems a long time past, but, among other memories, we remember particularly the contribution of the Porton Ladies Choir to our Carol Service. It was excellent, and we’re looking forward to next Christmas, when we hope they will join us again.

We have been fortunate is having the help of two retired Baptist Ministers, the Revd Russell Harrison of Salisbury, and the Revd. Paul Corson of Andover. They will each be preaching once a month, which will reduce the load on our own members. Revd. Harrison will be taking the Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday Services, to which all will be very welcome. We will also be welcoming the ‘Good Friday Walkers’.

For the first of our ‘outside events’ we had a very successful Line Dance at the Glebe Hall on March 11th.
The artist’s impression above gives a flavour of the ambitious plans for ‘The Salisbury Plain Heritage Centre: Home of the Royal Artillery Collection’ - a centre which will tell two interwoven stories: the 300-year history of the Royal Artillery, and the archeology, ecology, military and social history of Salisbury Plain – the home of the ‘Gunners’.

The board of Royal Artillery Museums Ltd believes that this project offers a unique opportunity to link the strong heritage, economic and ecological elements in the area and establish an inspiring centre which will connect the local population. It will weave together the story of the development of artillery across the world with the internationally recognised Royal Artillery Collection and the story of the regiment and its overseas counterparts, and place it in context alongside the rich heritage of the Salisbury Plain.

The broad appeal and a wide-ranging programme of events will provide an engaging and informative visit for people of all ages and backgrounds, whether civilian or military, and it will deliver tailored packages for schools and larger group activities. The project will boost the local economy both through increasing the number of visitors to Wiltshire and the provision of employment, learning, volunteering and participation which will in turn foster the already strong relationships between the military and civilian communities in the Salisbury Plain area.

As with all such projects, fund-raising will be vital, and the board submitted an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) last November. A delegation from the HLF visited Larkhill in March. Following further discussions, a decision is expected at the end of April.

Several Idmiston parishioners are involved in various aspects of the project - for further information www.salisburyplainheritagecentre.com or contact sd@artillerymuseum.com
The warmer weather is heralding in the spring and all around us the earth is awakening, unfortunately so are the slugs and snails.

The WI is also waking up to spring and our Gardening Group is all set to visit gardens close to home. Our first trip out will be to Sir Harold Hillier’s Garden at Romsey at the beginning of April (photo above). We do have a reputation for planning garden visits only for them to be cancelled due to snow, but we hope April will be too late for that to happen this year.

April is also the month when we start our new programme of speakers and events, this year including:

- A talk by Roger Elliott, long time photographer for the Salisbury Journal.
- Continuing the theme of Salisbury based speakers; we have Ben Parker from the Riverbourne Community Farm and Christopher Barnard from Salisbury Cathedral.

Our summer outing this year is to Wilton House and Garden. It seems to be a trend that locals do not visit local attractions, so we are going to rectify that in August.

In February some members enjoyed an afternoon of comedy, songs and poetry with afternoon tea in Westbury, arranged by the Wiltshire Federation of WIs. This is an example of the kind of event the Federation arranges for the members throughout the year.

Two of our members will be visiting the Poppy Factory at Richmond; this trip has been so popular that they are already taking bookings for next years visit.

Salisbury also looms large in their events calendar, there is a Walking Tour of the city led by a Blue Badge representative, and you can learn to ring Bells at St. Martin’s Church in May.

The WI has not forgotten its reputation for cooking, and is holding a one-day cookery event at Denman.

Denman is the WI’s college in the Oxfordshire countryside where lots of different courses are held. In October the Federation will hold, at the college, a weekend event of 7 different courses, which includes cookery, keep fit, arts & crafts, photography and jewellery making. This is all on top of the many arranged coach trips and events they organize each year.

Our local groups continue to flourish; the Parish Choir is still very popular and is busy preparing for their next event. This choir is open to anyone in the district to join, if you would like to please ring me and I will pass on your request.

We continue to collect litter around the parish each month, and are delighted to have noticed a marked decrease in the amount we have collected over the last year.

Members continue to teach knitting at St. Nicholas School to a small number of pupils, this year they hope to make some bunting for their summer fete.

We also have a thriving Book Club, which meets once a month, and members visit the theatre regularly.

Idmiston & Porton WI are reactive to their member’s suggestions and the committee is always keen to hear of any workshops they would like arranged locally. This year we hope to be involved in the food waste action weekend in May. This is a National Federation of Women Institute’s campaign, which hopes to raise awareness of the amount of food wasted generally and encourage supermarkets to take further action.

If you think you might like to join us, why not come along for a visit. We meet at Idmiston Memorial Hall on the third Wednesday of each month at 2pm. On Wednesday 17th May we will be discussing the National Federation of WI’s Resolutions before they are finally voted on at the National Annual Meeting in June.

You can either turn up on the day or ring me Valerie on 01980 610528.
We meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month in Porton Memorial Hall from 2 - 4pm. Annual Membership is £14.

Attendance over recent months has fallen as some members no longer wish to turn out on cold, dark winter evenings. A few members work and would not be able to attend daytime meetings. So, after taking a vote, it was decided to hold the meetings in the afternoon.

We are planning an interesting programme for the next twelve months, to include speakers, meals, games, quizzes and outings, as well as the usual raffle, refreshments, and bring and buy.

In November Mr Robert Mizon brought along slides and taught us about the Planets.
In December we held a successful Christmas meal at High Post Golf Club, this year at lunch time rather than in the evening.
In January we had our Faith Supper and AGM, with some lovely food brought along to share.

The club started in 1951 on Porton Camp, and several current members joined in 1959 (yes, 58 years ago!). It would be sad if the club were to close after all these years, so come and join us and bring a friend.

Janet Slater 01980 610544

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Fun - Food - Friendship

Club Friday usually meets every Friday, less one at Easter and one at Christmas, in the Methodist Church Hall, Winterbourne Dauntsey between 10 am and 3 pm.

- On arrival we have tea/coffee with biscuits/cake and have time to chat, play games, and get to know people.
- At lunch we serve a two course hot meal with water/soft drinks followed by a cup of tea.
- The afternoon is time for entertainment, activities, crafts and possibly a cream tea.
- Periodically, we arrange an outing perhaps to the seaside or to a local museum, garden centre or other place(s) of interest. At times we all go to a local restaurant for lunch. For a small weekly charge we provide all of this plus transport to and from Club Friday.

We started off the “Festive Season” in November, 2016 with a Shopping Trip to an excellent garden centre in Christchurch, and the following Friday enjoyed our Christmas lunch in the Black Horse, Hurdcott. A week later we held our Christmas Party, before a short break for the Christmas holidays.

On returning in January 2017, members enjoyed a trip to see ‘Aladdin’ in Salisbury Playhouse. Later in January Neil Grace came to the Day Centre to display and talk about his railway Lego Motion Project.

February started with our monthly sale, and then in the middle of the month we had a slide presentation from Brian and Maureen Homer; showing us the work in Uganda of the charity “Family of Hope” which their daughter initiated. Maureen and Brian had recently been to Uganda and took many gifts for the children, some of which had been donated from Club Friday and the Methodist Church in Winterbourne Dauntsey. On the 24th February, 2017 we had our “Spring Lunch” again at the Black Horse.

Club Friday Needs Your Help

Club Friday must find:

- More volunteer helpers to assist in looking after our guests during each Friday session.
- A few more volunteer drivers to collect guests from their homes and drive them to Club Friday for 10am, then take the guests home at 3pm. Mileage allowance of 40 pence a mile is paid.
- Club Friday is a most satisfying place to be on a Friday, there is much laughter and chatter - if this appeals to you please contact the organiser, Mary Lane, on 01722 712468, or drop into the Methodist Church Hall on a Friday.

Opening times for Wiltshire Recycling Centres

Wiltshire household waste recycling centres are open from 10am until 4pm, and will close two days per week. Days that centres are closed are staggered so that residents have access to a recycling centre within their area seven days a week.

Amesbury Boscombe Down Business Park, SP4 7RX Tel: 01980 676285 Closed Tuesday and Wednesday
Salisbury Churchfields Industrial Estate, SP2 7NP Tel: 01722 415040 Closed Thursday and Friday

if you use a van or a large trailer (between 1.8 and 3 metres) to visit Wiltshire’s household recycling centres, you will need a free permit http://wiltshire.gov.uk/household-recycling-centres-permits

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A note from Rev. Philip Osler
As mentioned opposite, one of the activities we are offering in Holy week this year is a meditation using the ‘Jesus’ Prayer’. This simple one line of text ‘Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner’ has come down to us over the centuries and is often used as a repetitive chant. The composer John Taverner wrote a striking piece of music using this phrase and this will form the centrepiece. It will take place on Tuesday 11th April at 7.30pm in St Nicholas Church, Porton.

St Ann Street Medical Practice
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Dispensary 8-2 Nurse 7.30 - 12.10
Tuesday
Dr Stanger 9.30 - 12.00
Dispensary 8-2 Nurse 7.30 - 12.20
Wednesday
Dr Jenner 8.30 - 11.00
Dispensary 8-5 Nurse not available.

Thursday
Dr Naylor / Dr Jenner 8.50 - 11.50
Dispensary 8-2 Nurse 8.30 - 11.20
Friday
Dr Chet 8.30 - 11.30
Dispensary 8-2 Nurse not available.

Surgery is normally provided five times a week but may be reduced at certain times, such as holidays. Appointments for Porton Surgery may also be booked via St. Ann Street Surgery.

St. Ann Street - 01722 342 000
Porton Surgery 01980 611060
Church News
from
Rev. Peter Ostli-East

Palm Sunday 9th April:
Come and join this celebration at the start of Holy Week. Palm crosses are given out as we remember the time when Jesus was welcomed into Jerusalem, riding on a donkey, with the crowds waving palm branches in joy!

7.30pm on Tuesday 11th April:
A Reflection on the ‘Jesus Prayer’ with music, will be held in St Nicholas’ Church Porton led by Rev’d Phil Osler – all welcome.

Maundy Thursday 13th April:
The day before Good Friday is an opportunity to remember the Last Supper that Jesus shared with his first friends and followers, before his betrayal and crucifixion. Come to St Michael & All Angels Church, Winterbourne Earls at 7.00pm for a time to reflect and pray, to participate in foot washing (if desired) and to share a meal together on this special evening.

To help those preparing the food, please contact Rev’d Peter Ostli-East to confirm your attendance, by Monday 10th April, thank you.

Good Friday:
Everyone is invited to take part in this year’s Walk through the Valley, starting at St Nicholas Church, Cholderton at 11.00am on 14th April. We visit all the churches in the Valley, pausing in each to reflect and pray. You are welcome to join in for as many stages as you wish, and the Walk ends at St Michael & All Angels, Winterbourne Earls at approx. 5.00pm with tea, coffee and hot cross buns. Look out for posters with more details.

There will also be quiet, meditative services on Good Friday, to pray and reflect on Christ’s crucifixion: ‘An Hour at the Cross’ at 12.00noon in St Mary’s Winterbourne Gunner and at 2.00pm in St Nicholas Porton

Easter Eve – Holy Saturday 15th April:
From 7.00pm, an Easter Vigil. A quiet, contemplative vigil in St Andrew’s Church Boscombe, preparing for the Resurrection morning. Join us for the evening, or stay all night. We will then travel together to the Easter Dawn service at Salisbury Cathedral. Prior booking will be essential, so please contact Simon Dawson, by email at mail@simondawson.com or call 07825 408804 for more details.

Easter Day 16th April
Come and celebrate Jesus Christ’s Resurrection at the Church’s great festival of the assurance of eternal life for all who believe in Jesus as God’s Son, and who live as his followers. None of us do this perfectly, but we can all know God’s love and forgiveness as we welcome his Holy Spirit, and seek to work together for the growth of his kingdom of love and peace.

Easter Services at 9.30am in St Andrew’s Newton Tony, St Nicholas Porton and St Mary’s Winterbourne Gunner and at 11.00am in St Nicholas Cholderton, St Andrew’s Boscombe and St Michael & All Angels Winterbourne Earls. Bring the family, and together let’s worship the Risen Lord!

Parochial Church Meetings
This is the time of year when each Church of England Parish holds its Annual Parochial Church Meeting, to which all Parishioners (ie: everyone who lives in the Parish) and all on the Church’s Electoral Roll of that Parish, are invited. At these meetings we elect Churchwardens, and PCC members, review the past year’s activities and look ahead to what the future may hold... do come along!

● St Nicholas Cholderton’s APCM is at 7.30pm on Wednesday 6th April in the Village Hall, Cholderton, with wine and cheese

● St Andrew’s Boscombe’s APCM is at 7.30pm on Thursday 6th April in the Church vestry

● St Nicholas Porton’s APCM will be immediately after the 9.30am service on Sunday 23rd April in the Church

● St Andrew’s Newton Tony’s APCM is at 7.00pm on Wednesday 26th April in the Church

Contact: ostleast@gmail.com

Welcome to the Anglican Churches in the Bourne Valley, Salisbury Diocese
www.bournevalleychurches.org.uk

From the Vicar’s Wife...
Humour is a powerful force. I once saw a sign that said “If it makes you laugh, buy it or marry it.” It didn’t seem like bad advice. Laughter is very good medicine but our sense of humour, like so many of our characteristics, is unique to us. I know that ‘Fawlty Towers’ and ‘Dad’s Army’ are thought to be the funniest and most remembered TV programmes, but they never did much for me. I am an immigrant, after all, so maybe my funny bone is tickled in different ways and, believe me, I do try to control mine...!

I saw a greeting card recently of two older people in bed. The wife was saying to the husband, “I know you’re very excited, dear, but remember the sooner you go to sleep, the sooner the bin men will come”. That really made me laugh, perhaps because I identify with the ridiculous position of being so happy that the green bin will be emptied and I can fill it again. I know, “get a life” but it is my life...

There are two approaches to life: anxiety and optimism. One will make you dread tomorrow, and the other will help you to welcome it – whatever your circumstances. When you find yourself in a dark place there is nothing wrong with seeing God as a comfort blanket. Remember that He loves you, and understands the situation you find yourself in, even if it is one of your own making. God never leaves us. Too often we ignore Him and fail to remember that “all things are well, and all things shall be well”. We only find a light at the end of the tunnel if we are looking for light. God never promised us a rose garden and, if my attempts to make a rose garden are anything to go by, I didn’t understand something vital about the process anyway.

We all have only a limited understanding, both of God and ourselves. We are often caught up with our own problems, and our own solutions, which can involve assuming people behaving in ways that are never going to happen. I am more than happy to talk with you about the grimmest of circumstances, and find a way for you to know that God is with you, to comfort and protect you, and to find a way forward knowing that He, understanding all our circumstances, wishes us nothing but good. If only we were as generous to ourselves.

Bless you, Mari

Idmiston Parish Newsletter Page 29
Boeing to bring 1,500 new jobs to Boscombe Down

Leading military and civilian aircraft manufacturer Boeing has decided to open a new UK servicing and maintenance base at MoD Boscombe Down, where it will work alongside the major defence contractor QinetiQ.

Boeing have announced that they intend to set up a ‘Centre of Excellence’, with its UK operations centred on Boscombe Down. It is expected that up to 1,500 high-quality engineering jobs will be created at the site.

Little information has been revealed about the proposed timescale, but Boeing have said that they will now start the detailed planning phase to determine how and when the new service and maintenance centre will operate.

Boeing Defence UK Ltd. (BDUK) has more than 1,200 employees at 23 locations throughout the United Kingdom, supporting Ministry of Defence (MoD) and US Department of Defense programmes. BDUK also works with selected UK industry partners to deliver improved operational capability and meet evolving customer needs.
As the days are lengthening and the weather warming thoughts turn to our gardens and preparing for a new growing season. The society’s year started with our January Social Evening. The event attracted over 50 people and the feedback confirmed that members and friends had had a happy evening, enjoying the food and entertainment. Alycia and Friends performed songs from several West End musicals which proved very popular.

Evening Meetings
These are held at the Glebe Hall, Winterbourne Earls, on the first Thursday of the month at 7.30pm. All visitors are very welcome to attend. The entrance fee for non-members is £1.

The first talk of 2017 was given by Alan Edmunsen on the subject of shady garden plants.

April 6th Speaker: Andrew Tolman on the subject of Topiary

May 4th AGM followed by plant and cake sale

June 8th (unusually the second Thursday of the month) Speaker: Matthew Simpson of Simpson’s seeds on the subject of bringing the old kitchen gardens at Longleat back to life

Forthcoming events
May 14th Open Gardens Afternoon when several gardens in the Winterbournes and, hopefully Porton, will be open to visitors. There will also be a Nature Hunt for the children and Teas for sale at the Glebe Hall.

July 15th Annual Bourne Valley Horticultural Society Show at the Glebe Hall

August Because of the success of a trip to Wisley in 2016, we hope to arrange another club outing, to a destination yet to be decided.

For more information about the BVHS phone Pam Taylor (Chair) on 01980 619204 or Bob Dunster (Show Secretary) on 01980 619121.

BONFIRES
Please consider your neighbours

IPC gets many complaints from parishioners about smoke from garden bonfires ruining their washing or disturbing their sunbathing.

Please don’t light fires on bright sunny days when people may be sitting enjoying their gardens and will have their windows open and their washing hanging out to dry. Please think about the likely effects on your neighbours before lighting a garden fire.
SLEEPING BEAUTY performed in Winterslow was the perfect pantomime to round off 2016 and a day of Advent crafts got us in the festive mood: from Bauble wreaths for front door decorating to stamping our own wrapping paper in time for Christmas.

THE BELLS and tower of Durrington Church continued last term’s theme. On this occasion it was a good job our unit is small in number because the ringing platform was very small. However only 4 at a time could climb higher to see the actual bells and that was a real squeeze. The whole trip was fascinating from the old door, twisty stone staircase with rope hand rail to the history and ringing techniques explained by the bell captain and her team.

CUSTARD PIE FACE was a great game brought in by a couple of Brownies as part of our games evenings. These sessions are one of our favourites and always involve much fun and laughter. What could be more enjoyable than covering a leader’s face in spray cream?

A JIGSAW RACE proved popular too. One six pieced together the UK showing many famous people, places and events, the other put together the USA depicting each State, its capital and many large cities.

DISABILITY AWARENESS is one of the badges we are working on at the moment. We researched disability in sport including the Paralympics and created a poster. Then we tried out our own obstacle course whilst wearing blind folds and listening hard to instructions on how to complete it safely.

We have spaces for girls aged 7-10 years old who want to have fun and make new friends. If you would like to know more then get in touch with Snowy Owl on 01980 862 662.
Jerry can help in all aspects of your decorating and home repair needs.

For a fast quote call 07710945954
email: jpawlak44@gmail.com

References supplied with no obligation
Dr. Rosalind Johnson - “Travel in Stuart Wessex, 1603-1714”

Extracts from a recent BVHS lecture

John Taylor, the “Water Poet” (1578-1653) was mainly employed as a Thames Waterman, the black cab driver of today and essential to the commerce and social life of London. He also travelled in England and abroad and was commissioned to write about his journeys.

One trip, in 1623, was in a battered wherry, with 4 companions, setting off from the Kent coast, into the English Channel and then up the River Avon from Christchurch towards Salisbury. However he found the river barely navigable, partly due to the number of weirs and only got as far as Longford Castle, where the owner purchased the boat and the party continued to Salisbury on foot.

In 1649 John Taylor, at the age of 70, travelled from London to the West Country. The journey of 546 miles, mainly on foot and partly on horseback, took 6 weeks. Horses could be hired for 2½ pennies per mile and the same amount for a guide, with horses changed every 10 miles. It was impossible to carry too much and John tore his only pair of breeches on a stile. These he removed, in the interests of decency and walked into Bridgewater to find a tailor.

Travel with a wagoner, who also carried goods, cost 1 penny per mile and wagons covered 20 to 25 miles per day. In 1637 a guide was published, listing the wagon routes out of London. More affluent customers travelled by stagecoach, covering about 40 miles per day and changing horses at various stops en route. Roads were not well maintained and towards the end of the 17th century London to Bristol took 2 days. With the introduction of steel springs to coaches and increased maintenance of the turnpike roads, by the 1830s the same journey was completed in 12 hours. One disadvantage of coach travel was the long hours spent in close company of strangers. However they amused each other with songs and story telling.

Without a guide, maps could be of use. In 1611 John Speed published The Theatre of the Empire of Great Britain, which contained the first set of county maps of England and Wales. Most of the county maps also had town plans on them. In 1675 John Ogilby published Britannia with 100 strip maps of all major roads in England and Wales. On the reverse of the maps he printed a description of the roads, markets and towns, plus a guide to wrong turnings and how they could be avoided. The book was too large to carry when travelling on foot or horseback, so in 1719 Britannia was published in a form that was easier to take on a journey.

Accommodation en route was usually with friends or family, who couldn’t always be notified in advance. Sometimes travellers stayed at an Inn, where food could often be plain, say mutton or rabbit, or even non-existent. Celia Fiennes of Newton Toney, who travelled England on horseback side-saddle and with only friends or a servant for company from the 1680s to the early 18th century, wrote in her journal of the Rose & Crown in Salisbury, “The roses are withered and the crowns obscured.” She was attacked by an army of fleas at night, the landlady was absent and the landlord drunk! In 1668 Samuel Pepys stayed at the George Inn in Salisbury where he slept in a silk bed but complained about the extortionate bill of £2 5s 6d, including hire of horses, for an excursion to Stonehenge.

Society Meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month (except August & December) at 7.30pm in the Glebe Hall, Winterbourne Earls.

Future Meetings and Visits in 2017:

- **April 20th:** Dr Francis Burroughes, “A Victorian Head Gardener”
- **April 29th:** Guided visit to Ancient Technology Centre, Cranborne
- **May 18th:** Mary South, “Lady M. Sex, Smallpox and the Salisbury Connection”
- **June 7th:** Outing by coach, together with Amesbury Society to SS Great Britain, Bristol
- **Speakers to be confirmed for June**
- **July 20th:** Jane Bright, “Women in the 18th Century”
- **September 21st:** Tony Lyons, “The War Dead of the Bourne Valley”
- **October 19th:** Ian Castle, "SS Great Britain, from Launch to Re-launch"
- **November 16th:** Tony Lyons, “The Troubled Days of the Bourne Valley”

Membership of the Society is currently £13 per annum and includes attendance at 10 lectures, a monthly Newsletter that includes a summary of the lecture given at the previous meeting. Members also have access to a large archive collection of photographs and documents, including full reports on topics of local historical and archaeological interest. Visitors may attend up to two meetings for a donation, before they are asked to join. Please contact Maureen Atkinson on 01980 611311 or at mea@dial.pipex.com for further information.

Website: [www.bournevalleyhistory.co.uk](http://www.bournevalleyhistory.co.uk)

**COACH OUTING WITH Amesbury & Bourne Valley HISTORY SOCIETIES TO SS GREAT BRITAIN, BRISTOL, WEDNESDAY 7TH JUNE. NON-MEMBERS WELCOME CONTACT MAUREEN ON 01980 611311**
Our Club is for men and women of the parish and the surrounding villages.

If you are newly retired, new to the area, or just feel that it would be nice to go out once a month, make friends and meet people, just come along to one of our meetings - we are very welcoming.

- At each meeting we have a speaker, followed by a cup of tea and a chat.
- Our annual subscription is only £5 and we pay £1 at each meeting to go towards the hire of the Memorial Hall.
- We have had a good start to the year with ‘Comic Verses’ in February and ‘Little Known Facts about the History of Salisbury’ in March.
- Coming up in April we are being taken behind the scenes at Chelsea - the Flower Show, not the football ground!
- In May there will be a passionate talk about the importance of bees and honey, and honey will be on sale.
- We are hoping for good weather again this year for our June meeting, when we are planning to have a Garden Party - but this will be in the Memorial Hall if it should turn out to be wet.
- In July we are going on a barge trip from Devizes, and we have an interesting line up of speakers booked for the rest of the year.

We meet in the Porton Memorial Hall at 2pm on the last Monday of each month. We would be delighted to see you, so if you are not already a member and think that you might like to join us, just come along.

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This newsletter is produced in April, July and November and is delivered free of charge to over 900 homes in the parish. Also available on line. This is an inexpensive (from £20 an issue) and effective way of reaching potential customers throughout much of the Bourne Valley. To enquire about advertising, tel: 07763 411595  e: parishclerk@idmistonpc.org
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- Amersbury Carnival See Page 37

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### Leisure / Days Out
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- Amersbury Carnival See Page 37

### Pet Services
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- Rural Taxi Service                01722 505050

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- Nisa Village Store & PO 01980 610258

### Wiltshire Police (emergency)
- 999

### Wiltshire Police (non emergency)
- 101

### Crimestoppers
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This newsletter is produced in April, July & November and is delivered free of charge to over 900 homes in the Parish. Also available on line. This is an inexpensive and effective way of reaching potential customers throughout much of the Bourne Valley.

To enquire about advertising, Tel: 07763 411595
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Thank You!

Many thanks to all who have contributed items to this newsletter, to those who help to deliver it, and to our advertisers.

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