

The LYDEN



Issue 609 September 2025



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LIDDINGTON and WANBOROUGH

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A letter from the Vicar – September 2025

Dear Friends

Since June 1st the four Parish Churches of Liddington, Wanborough, Bishopstone and Hinton Parva now sit within the single Parish of the Wellspring Villages. Each Village formed around a well spring of fresh clean water, flowing out from under the chalk downlands, which beautifully speaks of, and illustrates, the presence and function of God's Holy Spirit, welling up within each believer to eternal life. As Jesus told the woman at the well in John 4 **'The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.'**

So, we are now structurally a single Parish with four church centres, with the aim of developing times of worship, learning, fellowship, prayer and service, each week, for all the residents of our villages, which are accessible, friendly, welcoming, thought provoking and deeply rooted in the love of the God of creation, who has revealed himself to us uniquely in His Son Jesus Christ. To mark this change, we are holding a weekend of celebration on the **4th and 5th of October**, which coincides with our Harvest Thanksgiving. The events and activities are on the poster on page 5, please do take a look.

We extend a very warm welcome to everyone who would like to join us. Come to some, or all, of these celebration events. We would love to see as many of you as possible, whether you come to Sunday worship regularly, or have never attended a service at all. You are all very welcome. There will be The Wellspring Pilgrim Walk around the four churches on the Saturday. This walk, starting at **9.30am at St. Andrew's Wanborough**, on the Saturday, will finish there at around 4pm. The distance in total is around 11 miles (4.5 hours of walking) and is a beautiful, varied walk, through stunning countryside, while visiting each of the four Grade 1 listed historic churches on the way. In each church we will pause for prayer, reflection and a symbolic action with each villages spring water. I hope the published timings will enable you to join us on route for one, or two of the legs, if you cannot spare the whole day. Join us at the churches for the time of prayer only, if you wish. We aim to make this into a published Wellspring Pilgrim Walk, as well as an annual event for the Parish.

On the Sunday we will gather at **10.30am at All Saints, Liddington** for the Wellspring Villages Harvest Celebration Service. Do bring items to donate if you wish.

After the service at **12.30pm at Wanborough Village Hall**, there will be a 'Bring and Share' Harvest Lunch. Here we will round off the weekend with cake and bubbly in the traditional way and a ceremony to mark this new chapter in our life together. All Welcome.



Kind regards

Revd, Steve Paynter

Stevedpaynter@gmail.com

01793 296870



Prayer:

God our Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life:
may we thirst for you,
the spring of life and source of goodness,
through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Amen.

Church Services September 2025

For the villages of Liddington and Wanborough in The Parish of Wellspring Villages

Date	Time	Church	Service
Sunday 7 th September	8.30am	St Andrew's Church, Wanborough	Book of Common Prayer Service from 1962 and Holy Communion
Sunday 7 th September	10.30am	All Saints', Liddington	Morning Worship
Sunday 14 th September	10.30am	St Mary's Church, Bishopstone	Holy Communion
Sunday 21 st September	10.30am	St Andrew's Church, Wanborough	Holy Communion
Sunday 28 th September	10.30am	St Swithun's Church, Hinton Parva	Holy Communion
Sunday 4 th October		Wellspring Villages Celebration Launch Event	See poster on page 5 for more details
Sunday 5 th October	10.30am	All Saints', Liddington	Harvest Celebration

There are Books of Remembrance in All Saints', Liddington and St. Andrew's, Wanborough. If anyone wishes to have a name recorded there, please contact a Churchwarden.

Dates for your Diary - September 2025

Date	Event	Time	Location
Mon 1 st September	Liddington Coffee Morning	10am	Liddington Village Hall
Wed 3 rd September	Liddington Parish Council Meeting	7pm	Liddington Village Hall
Thurs 11 th September	WI Picnic – See page 10		Hooper's Field, Wanborough
Wed 17 th September	Gardening Club – Page 11	7pm	Bishopstone Village Hall
Sat 20 th September	Farmer's Market & Community Café	9am	Wanborough Village Hall
Sat 20 th & 21 st September	Swindon Open Studios – See pages 15-17		Various locations
Mon 22 nd September	Wanborough Parish Council meeting	7pm	Wanborough Village Hall
Tuesday 23 rd September	Wanborough Primary School – Rags2riches	9am	Wanborough Primary School
Friday 26 th September	Old Boilers – Wine tasting evening	7.30pm	Wanborough Village Hall
Sat 27 th September	Ward Councillor Surgery	9am	Wanborough Village Hall
Sun 28 th September	Swindon Half Marathon	9am	Running through the village

In addition to the above dates

Wanborough Coffee morning every Thursday at 10.30am at The Brewer's Arms

Wanborough Toddler Group every Tuesday at 9.30am at Wanborough Village Hall

Liddington Art Club every Friday 2-4pm at Liddington Village Hall

Freedom Church 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month at 10.30am at Wanborough Village Hall

Save the Date - Future events in the Benefice

Date	Event	Time	Location
Sat 4 th October	Pilgrim Walk & Village Activities	9.30am	See page 5 for poster
Thurs 9 th October	WI	7.30pm	Hinton Parva Village Hall
Friday 17 October	Gardening Club – Annual Quiz		Bishopstone Village Hall
Sat 29 th Nov 2025	Old Boilers – Cardiff Xmas Markets Trip		Wanborough Village Hall

If you have a village event that you would like to advertise so that we can all save the date e-mail details to lydenmagazine@gmail.com.



Wanborough Primary School PTA's first Rags2Riches4Schools collection for the academic year is on the Tuesday 23rd September.

Having a clear out over the summer? Please put any clean, good condition pre loved clothes,

shoes, bags or costume jewellery in any clean

plastic bag and drop off at the school **before 9am** on the 23rd of September.

If the weather is looking dry the collection point will be under the school sign at the front of the building. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for any changes to this.



Help keep clothes out of landfill and raise funds to support Wanborough Primary School at the same time.



Front Cover

This month's front cover was taken by Isabel Day in Wanborough

Please send photos that you would like to see on the front cover to - Lydenmagazine@gmail.com



Join us for a weekend of
walking, exploring, music,
food, and community.

Celebrating everything that
connects our four villages and
the springs that run through
them.

Wellspring Villages Celebration Weekend

Saturday 4 & Sunday 5 October 2025

Saturday 4 October 2025

Pilgrim Walk & Village Activities

A gentle walk between our four village churches, with stops for fun activities, local history, music, and a chance to reflect on what makes our communities special. We'll carry water from each spring and use it in a shared moment at each stop.

Start: 9.30am – St Andrew's, Wanborough

• Flower & harvest displays • Local history & quiz • Display by S. Troughton

10.30am – All Saints, Lyddington

• Flower displays • Bellringing • History & quiz

12.45pm – Lunch at Bishopstone Village Hall

• Soup & bread • Plus: Duck Racing!

1.30pm – St Mary's, Bishopstone

• Flowers & harvest • Music from local children • History & quiz

2.30pm – St Swithun's, Hinton Parva

• Flowers • Music • History & quiz

4.00pm – Finish at St Andrew's

• Final gathering and harvest display

Sunday 5 October 2025

Celebration & Lunch

10.30am – All Saints, Lyddington

Harvest Celebration

A relaxed and creative gathering to celebrate the season and our villages. We'll bring together the water from all four springs in a shared moment – a symbol of unity, life, and connection. Expect music, contributions from lots of people, and a warm welcome.

12.30pm – Wanborough Village Hall

Harvest Lunch – Bring & Share!

Enjoy a friendly shared lunch – bring something along if you can. There'll be cake, bubbly, and a few light-hearted games.

All Welcome

Come for one part or join us for the whole weekend!

Let's celebrate together the spirit, stories, and springs of
our villages.

For more information, please contact Rev Steve Paynter at stevedpaynter@gmail.com or on 01793 296870
LYDDINGTON, WANBOROUGH, BISHOPSTONE WITH HINTON PARVA



Wanborough Parish Council

Over the past month, Wanborough Parish Council has held a full council meeting, an extraordinary meeting, and several committee meetings focused on staffing, facilities, planning, and village maintenance. Below is a summary of the key updates for residents.

Solar Farm Application at Mount Pleasant – Council Objects

The Council has submitted a formal objection to the planning application for a new solar farm on greenfield land near Horpit Lane. Key reasons include:

- Loss of open countryside
- Visual impact and potential noise
- Concerns around access, traffic, and decommissioning
- Lack of community benefits

The application has been requested for referral to Swindon Borough Council's Planning Committee.

Village Maintenance and Play Areas

At the Footpaths, Village Maintenance and Allotments Committee meeting on 7 July, councillors discussed a range of ongoing issues:

- Wildflower preservation: A resident request was received asking SBC to delay verge cutting to allow flowers to seed. The Council agreed to contact SBC's Highways Team and copy in Ward Cllr. Sumner.
- Encroaching hedges and fences: Residents are reminded to ensure that vegetation does not block pavements or public paths.
- Play surface at Lower Rec: One quote has been obtained so far for resurfacing. Two further quotes will be sought, and a final decision made at Full Council.
- Church Meadow: The broken gate at the bottom of the park will be removed, and minor repairs made to the trampoline and basketball hoop.

Allotments and Partnership Review

At the same meeting, representatives from Wanborough and Covingham Allotment Society (WCAS) and Covingham Parish Council (CPC) discussed partnership arrangements. It was agreed that:

- An interim agreement will continue between WCAS and WPC
- A joint agreement with CPC will be drafted for future consideration
- Warning letters, risk assessments, and expenditure for ground maintenance (e.g., tarpaulin for unused plots) were approved

Tree Management and Commemorative Planting

A tree survey was reviewed, and the Council resolved to seek quotes for recommended works. A new Tree Management Policy was also adopted. The Council accepted the offer of an 80th Anniversary WWII commemorative oak tree, subject to identifying a suitable planting location.

Wanborough Trails and Active Travel Promotion

The Council is looking to support walking and cycling initiatives in the parish, including:

- Featuring monthly "photographed walks" in Lyden Magazine
- Supporting a bike event at Hooper's Field on Sunday 10 August with a "bike doctor", free security marking, maps and giveaways, and a led community ride.

Staffing Update – Clerk Resignation and Recruitment Plans

The Parish Council is moving quickly to recruit a new Clerk following a recent vacancy. A focused recruitment campaign is underway until 27 August, with interviews planned promptly to ensure the right person is in post as soon as possible.

In the meantime, experienced interim Sally Thurston will provide mentoring, support, and financial duties, and new software will be introduced to streamline administration. These measures will keep council business running smoothly while we complete the recruitment process.

Hooper's Field Sports Pavilion – Club Reports and Improvements

- The Hooper's Field Committee met on 14 July to hear updates from local sports clubs:
- Tennis Club: Busy summer programme; grant application in progress; repainting and floodlight projects delayed due to costs
- Cricket Club: 1st and 2nd teams doing well; under-13s active; field needs improvement – grant applications for pitch upgrades being explored

- Football Club: New season expected to field 18 teams; exploring pitch preservation through rotation
- Bowls Club: Planters praised; requested defibrillator training; mobile/wifi signal remains an issue

It was agreed to:

- Undertake health & safety upgrades, including actions from a CHUBB fire inspection (£942.01)
- Seek quotes for deep cleaning, descaling of showers, and general improvements
- Review options for coded access and key management

Policy & Finance Committee – Budget Oversight and Resourcing

The Policy & Finance Committee met on 23 July to review Q1 finances and staffing matters:

- Quarterly accounts were noted
- Cllr. John Warr appointed to carry out internal finance checks
- Hooper's Field cleaning was discussed; current provision was found to be insufficient. A deep clean will be commissioned, and costs reviewed for ongoing increased provision
- Footpath maintenance will be outsourced temporarily, with AllBuild approached for a quote
- Tackling vehicle speeding remains a priority. Options including new or repositioned Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) will be explored
- A recommendation to allocate £10,000 toward the cricket nets project was made, subject to final approval

Borough Consultation on Dog Fouling

The Council submitted a response in support of Swindon Borough Council's current dog fouling and exclusion from children's play areas policy, which is up for renewal.

Staying in Touch

Residents can stay informed about meetings and council decisions via:

Website: www.wanborough.info

Facebook: Wanborough Parish Council

Noticeboards: Village Hall and Church Road

Next Full Council meeting: Monday 22nd September 2025

Items will include: play area surface, cricket nets, staffing updates, and budget planning.

Wanborough Cricket Club Nets Project – Update August 2025

Cricket Nets – Parish Council Considering Funding Support

The Parish Council recognises the important role local sport plays in community wellbeing and youth engagement so they are actively considering a proposal to help Wanborough Cricket Club install new cricket nets at Hooper's Field.

Thanks to successful fundraising efforts, the Council has already secured £20,045 in external grant funding. The club has also raised £250 locally and gained an additional £2,500 grant, bringing the total secured so far to £22,795.

With the total project cost at around £32,700, there remains a funding gap of approximately £10,000. The Council is being asked to provide this contribution so the project can go ahead in full.

An earlier decision made in July could not be confirmed due to a publication timing issue. The proposal was therefore discussed again at an extraordinary meeting on 13 August, where councillors agreed to hold a dedicated meeting to give the project full consideration. Updated quotes will also be reviewed to ensure the best value for the community.

Liddington 100 Club

The winner for June - Margaret Cook



The winner for July - Helen Kilminster
- Congratulations, Caroline Tams

Local village resident seeking available land in or around Wanborough area.

Open to renting, purchasing, or a potential work-exchange arrangement - all options considered.

If you have land available or know someone who might, please get in touch to discuss:

Megan – 07729625928.

Thank you!

Liddington Parish Council

There was no Parish Council meeting in August but there are a few things to update residents on.



BioGas Planning Approval

On 10 July 2025, Liddington Parish Council (LPC) served notice to Swindon Borough Council (SBC) of a Judicial Review into the BioGas Planning Approval by sending them a pre-action letter that we had our legal counsel prepare. The cost of this was covered between LPC and residents through a Go Fund Me campaign. LPC would like to thank all those residents who donated.

On 24 July 2025, SBC responded to our letter, challenging our arguments for a Judicial Review and forcing us to take the next step which would be to apply for a judge to review our case. From this point we would become liable for SBC's costs as well as our own should we lose our case. LPC took legal advice and decided that on balance, we couldn't be sufficiently confident of winning to take this next step. Success would likely come down to the judge we were assigned and whether they believed SBC or LPC had the stronger case. Given the cost implications for a small Parish Council should we lose, we decided we couldn't take the risk.

Whilst this is very disappointing given the approval decision still stands, we hope that SBC will recognise that future planning processes need to be much more collaborative and engage local residents and the Parish Council as part of the assessment process.

Thanks again to everyone who supported us through what has been a very painful process.

Purley Road Bench

On a more positive note, hopefully you have all spotted the smart new bench on the Purley Road below Jubilee Gardens. It's definitely an improvement over the old one.

Councillor Vacancies

Due to some recent resignations, we have a number of vacancies for councillors. Please contact the Clerk if you would like to understand more about the role or are interested in joining us.

In Closing....

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 3 September 2025 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall. Residents are welcome to attend. Please note that the section where the public can speak is to be held at 7.30pm. Alternatively if you would like to raise an issue or ask a question, please contact the Clerk via parishclerk@liddingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Laura Evans, Clerk to Liddington Parish Council

Marion Warren

It was sad news to hear that Marion Warren, a stalwart of our village, Liddington, died on Thursday 10th July at the age of 92. Her husband, Ben Warren, ran the farm in Purley Rd.

She was greatly involved in moving Liddington forward through her many years on Liddington Parish Council, All Saints Parochial Church Council and as a leading governor of Wanborough Primary School. She was also a Justice of the Peace.

Marion became a Liddington Parish Councillor in May 1984 and went on to become Chairman for 9 years from 2000 to 2009 which were key years in making Liddington a lovely place to live. To celebrate the 2000 Millenium year there were a number of village events, in particular a flower festival in All Saints Church, the twinning with Lyddington Rutland when a large group of us went over to Rutland for a special event in April 2000 with a return visit to our village in 2001, a Millenium Party for village children and a special historical exhibition about Liddington held in the Village Hall, December 2000, with a collection of items from the Trowbridge records office.

Work also started on the large embroidered Millenium village map on display in the Village Hall and the planning of the Millenium Viewing Table and Platform located at the Liddington Castle trig point, both opened in June 2006 by Lord and Lady Joffe. During her term as Chairman the old milestone on Purley Road was restored and the new children's play park was planned and constructed.

Marion was also devoted to the fundraising for the new Village Hall opened in March 1994 by The Duke of Marlborough and also for the new set of Bells for All Saints Church Tower dedicated by the Bishop of Bristol in October 2016. These now ring out on a regular basis.

Marion certainly worked hard for Liddington. She organised monthly trips for villagers to various destinations and with Kaye Archer and a band of helpers also planted a large range of daffodil bulbs around the village which continue to provide a lovely spring floral display.



Her funeral was held at All Saints Church, Liddington on 13th August. Our thoughts are with Ben, Alison, Nigel and Marion's grandsons, granddaughter and three great grandchildren.

Gordon Wilson



Your Ridgeway Borough Councillor update from Gary Sumner
Our next Ridgeway Ward Surgery is 9-10am 27th September
at Wanborough Village Hall.

New Eastern Villages Schools: I had an update from the Chief Executive of Swindon Borough Council that she has received a reply from the Department of Education about the paused 'Free Schools Programme' which was approved to deliver a 3,000 pupil secondary school at Great Stall East (to serve the whole of the NEV) and primary schools at Redlands Grove and Lotmead. This was paused in the spending review and the DofE have said that at this time it remains paused, pending prioritisation based on demand/need.

Clearly without any schools the whole 9,300 home project has a big question mark over where it goes next and I know that Redlands Grove residents are really upset about the lack of a primary school. I'll keep chasing for updates and have asked our MP Danny Kruger.

Local Plan: A new 'Regulation 18' consultation on the Draft Local Plan is to be published on the 1st September for a 6-week public consultation.

In our area there are no new sites of concern, although as mentioned above, the overall NEV number is now 9,300 and although not part of the consultation, there are several sites where they propose to encroach on the Area of Non-Coalescence.

What can you do? The Local Plan Consultation isn't live as writing this before I head off to sunny Devon, so I'll publish online and in the October issue as it will still be live then.

Why comment? Well, we should be asking that 'greater protection' is given to the Area of Non-Coalescence to make it really effective. We should also be concerned about the council's plans for 5000+ homes in the Town Centre. Whilst a laudable ambition, there is no viability which means that developers come back to pick off additional housing in 'viable land' i.e. Around the NEV.

Southern Connector Road: Works will start into the end of summer/autumn to reinstate the compound on Pack Hill (no road closures) to implement the remedial works that Buckingham Group did badly before they went into administration. The plan is to get it open to construction traffic spring 2026 and public by August 2026. They still have funds left from the original project.

Roads/verges: Ironically after raising at Full Council at SB about safety on our rural junctions I was amazed to see that the Foxhill crossroads was re-lined and that Callas Hill had some preparatory markings.

Please call me on 07855957133 or email: gary@ridgewayvillages.co.uk

Ridgeway Villages website: www.ridgewayvillages.co.uk



Wanborough Farmer's Market & Community Café
Saturday 20th September - 9am to 12 noon

The next Farmer's Market will be held on Saturday 20th September at Wanborough Village Hall. We will have many different stalls, Hinton Marsh Farm selling lovely fresh meat, Helen Browning's selling their local produce, a cake stall, bread, plus craft stalls, please come along and view everything available to you.

The Community Cafe will be back in September with the return of the Farmers' Market on Saturday September 20th. As usual there'll be lots of homemade cakes to go with your morning cuppa – all for a donation to this month's charity which is Wiltshire Wildlife Trust.



With a growing awareness of the need to look after and appreciate the amazing environment all around us, the Trust's vision is to work towards a future where wildlife and people flourish in harmony, by being committed to connecting all generations with nature and empowering them to take meaningful action for nature and the climate. Sounds worthwhile?

Come and join us on 20th, we'll be there from 9-12.

And if you'd like to lend a hand and become part of the team to ensure its future – speak to Jo or Lorna



St Andrew's Church

Let there be light!

If you've been through the doors of St Andrew's church in the last few weeks, you should have noticed a difference. The church is now beautifully lit and it looks amazing.

Previously, lighting was provided by very old sodium lamps, a number of which were no longer working. Not only were these very expensive to run, they provided a very yellow light which was not great for the ambience and made it difficult for some to read the written word!

The church received a grant from the Diocese which covered the cost of replacing the old lights with brand new LED versions which are very cheap to run. We're delighted with the results and hope everyone else will be too. Please do come along and see for yourself.

The church is open several days a week and for a monthly service on the third Sunday of the month at 10.30am.



QR Code if you
fancy donating to
the upkeep of the
church



BISHOPSTONE WITH HINTON PARVA WI

June was a busy month for our local WI when we held a very successful Flower and Handicraft Show.

The July meeting was held in Bishopstone Hall on one of the hottest evenings of the year with none of the normal concerns about keeping warm! The subject for the evening was an interesting talk on E-safety and Protecting Yourself from Scams given by Paul Dykstra from AbilityNet.

This is a charity that helps people to better understand the digital world. Paul gives these talks voluntarily in and around North Wiltshire and he uses his knowledge to make people aware of some of the pitfalls that can be avoided.

The evening ended with delicious refreshments and the chance to chat with fellow members over a cup of tea or coffee.

Ashdown House and the Craven Family was the topic for the August meeting. The talk was given by John Farrow who is a volunteer guide at the house. John gave a fascinating and very knowledgeable talk which members found very interesting. The house which is near Ashbury was built in 1662 by William, Earl of Craven for Elizabeth, Queen of Bohemia. It was originally built as a hunting lodge and was based on the Chateau de Balleroy in France. The house is open to the public on Wednesdays and Saturdays between 2 and 5 for guided tours. Pre booking is advised.

Preparations are underway for the September meeting when we will be celebrating our WI's 71st birthday as well as the 110th birthday of the National Federation of Women's Institute. This meeting is going to be a picnic (weather permitting) at Hooper's Field in Wanborough.

Jeremy Holt will be our speaker at our October 9th meeting in Hinton Parva Hall. His talk is about Life as a Lancaster Pilot in WW2. The WI have heard Jeremy talk on other subjects and he is always interesting and entertaining.

New members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining our WI please e mail **Jan Chapple. janatwan@icloud.com**

We meet on the second Thursday of the month usually at either Bishopstone or Hinton Parva halls at 7:30 p.m. until about 9:30 p.m. In January and February we meet in the afternoons at Wanborough hall.



Wanborough Beer Run

As a result of the continued help and support from all the Wanborough village pubs (The Harrow, Brewers Arms, The Cross Keys, New Calley Arms and The Plough), together with The Old Boilers and Nigel at the old Black Horse, the Wanborough Beer Run built up a surplus of funds over recent years. The run is organised on a not-for-profit basis each year (now via a Community Interest Company, Wanborough Beer Run C.I.C.) and it was therefore decided that any profit would be donated to a suitable local cause.

Wanborough Village Hall has needed to replace their very old glassware for some time and the Wanborough Beer Run committee were able to use the available surplus funds to provide the much needed replacement glasses for the Hall, including pint glasses, half pint glasses, wine glasses and flutes, together with storage crates. The photo shows the glassware and containers being presented by the Beer Run committee to Simon James, treasurer of the Village Hall.



Hopefully this will make enjoying a beverage at a Village Hall event even more pleasurable in the future!

Bishopstone and District Gardening Club

Well here we are in August, past the summer solstice and more than half the year behind us. Where has it gone? As gardeners there are always challenges, this year a wet late winter followed by an exceptionally dry spring and summer as well as extreme heat, a struggle for plants and people alike. Each year brings its own challenges in our gardens, and this year has been no exception! Last year, with a mild winter and a very wet spring, was the 'Year of the Slug'. Causing untold damage to all vegetation, the Dahlias, the Hostas and Marigolds as well as the beans, cabbages and lettuces, all struggling to survive the onslaught

This year it has been primarily the lack of rain since early spring, and several heatwaves resulting in rock hard ground, brown lawns and large cracks appearing. Countless hours spent with watering cans and hoses to keep things alive, and now a hosepipe ban!

However I have also noticed it is the 'Year of the Ladybird', hundreds of them have along with their larvae, set to work to devour the aphids and keep the crops clean.

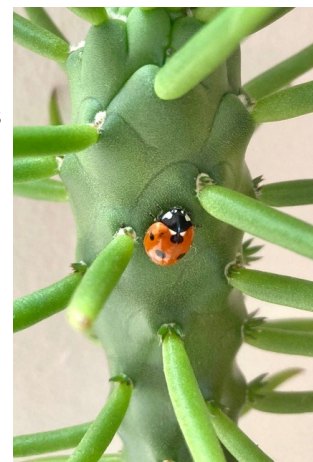
I have found them everywhere, even making friends with a slug, albeit a ceramic one! Well done little beetles and welcome to my garden.

Diary Dates

Wednesday 17th September: Clare Mitchel "The Garden Editor"
"Climate Change and Gardening : What Does It All Mean?"

Friday 17th October : ANNUAL QUIZ and CHILLI CON CARNE NIGHT

Everyone is welcome at the meetings, a one off charge for the night or £10 for a year's membership. Come along, enjoy a complimentary cup of tea or coffee, meet the members and enjoy some fascinating talks.



Liddington Scottish Country Dancing Club

Are you looking for a new interest or a fun way to exercise? Have you ever thought of Scottish Country dancing? It's one of the most social forms of exercise, good for the body and the brain, with lots of laughter thrown in. No partner is needed and you just need to wear comfortable casual clothes and flat soft soled shoes. Everyone is welcome.

Our club meets on a Thursday evening in Liddington Village Hall between 8 and 10pm and dancing starts again on 4th September. Please feel free to come along to watch on a Thursday evening if you're keen to see the club in action before you join.

If you're a newcomer to Scottish Country Dancing we'll be running a beginners course for 9 weeks from 16 October 2025 between 7.30 and 8.30pm. The cost is just £45 for all 9 classes.

To find out more visit <http://www.wessex-scd.org.uk/liddington/> or to book your place please email LSCD.sec@gmail.com



Wanborough Toddlers Stay and Play for 0-5s

We've had a great summer at Wanborough Toddlers!

We enjoyed having some older siblings join us for our sessions throughout the school holidays. Our Swap Shop proved very popular, with lots of families happy to have a clear out, while others took home some handy baby and children's clothes and toys.

We had fun making some crafts for the Wanborough Show, baking cheese straws, having a teddy bears picnic, and playing with our lovely 'role play village' - we have lots of budding vets, doctors, shopkeepers and cafe owners!

At the time of writing this, we are looking forward to a pop-up visit from Love Kids photography at the end of August, for a chance to get some nice individual, sibling or family photos.

We have been welcoming lots of new families recently, many of whom have seen about us in the Lyden and Facebook, moved to the area recently, or have recently had babies! It's lovely to see our friendly group expanding.

Socials

Our baby and toddler group provides a great little community for young families here. We had a lovely social evening, with 20 of us adults enjoying a meal at the Cross Keys. We have plans for more socials, and also some weekend meet-ups/trips with the children, which is especially good for those who can't join us on Tuesdays due to work/nursery. We have a number of pregnant Mums getting to know each other too.

Let us know if you'd like more details about joining our socials!

Autumn plans

Throughout the autumn, we will be meeting every Tuesday, 9.30-11.30am at the village hall. We will keep running during October half term too, with older siblings welcome again, and it will be lovely to hear how they've all got on in their first term in their new classes. All the best to those starting big school!

Coming up, on 23rd September we're planning a Macmillan coffee morning cake sale. Following that, we will have some autumn crafts, such as paint printing with different vegetables - we do have aprons but it's still a good idea to wear clothes you don't mind getting messy, just in case! We also hope to use the lovely garden area more often, so please bring warm layers.

It's £2.50 per week per child (contactless payments), which includes a little 'snack buffet' for the children at around 10.30am... often a selection of cucumber sticks, a different type of fruit each week, breadsticks/rice cakes/pitta slices, houmous or soft cheese, and little biscuits. (You're welcome to bring your own food to eat anytime, if you prefer). We also provide not only hot drinks, but now also nice biscuits or slices of cake for the grown ups too!

We all help tidy up, and often finish with something like songs and playing with our parachute, or dancing with scarves.

Everyone welcome: parents, grandparents or other carers, from nearby or further afield, with newborn babies to preschoolers.

No need to book, just pop in whichever weeks and whatever time suits you. The Harrow have kindly given permission to use the far end of their car park when more spaces are needed, and we have space in the hall for prams.

Book donations

As we don't have a library in Wanborough, (many of us love popping to local libraries such as Badbury Park, but it's not always easy for everyone to get there regularly, and the phone box library has limited space!), we are planning to start a little library of young children's books that families can borrow from Wanborough Toddlers each week, if they wish to. We would really appreciate donations of picture books and board books please, which we're sure the children will enjoy borrowing.

Looking forward to a fun autumn!

Wanborough Toddlers (Wanboroughtoddlers@gmail.com)



Wanborough Bowls Club

Wanborough Bowls Club were pleased to host the Falklands Islands Bowls Club in July. It was an enjoyable afternoon for all and was part of the FIBC training on grass before they were to travel to the Orkney Islands where they were competing in this year's international Island Games which is an annual event.

Their team were very pleased for the opportunity to enjoy an afternoon of playing bowls in both a competitive and social spirit and thought that our club and its woodland setting were beautiful.

This year is the 20th International Island Games and it is seen as a sort of mini Olympics for the smaller nations across the world, featuring 12 sports, including Archery, Athletics, Badminton, Bowls, Cycling, Football, Golf, Gymnastics, Sailing, Squash, Swimming, and Triathlon. There were over 2,000 competitors from 24 island groups, with teams competing from places such as Guernsey, Jersey and Greenland etc.

The Falkland Islands Bowls team gained a Bronze medal.

<https://www.orkney2025.com>



WANBOROUGH TENNIS CLUB



It's been a fun summer on the tennis courts and it's been great to see some new members. New members of all age and level are always welcome so do take a look at the website if you're interested in joining. All the information is here : <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/WanboroughTennisClub/Membership/Join>. We are looking forward to seeing past, present and new members on court.

We've had a really positive season in the Mens, Ladies and Mixed Summer League matches and many congratulations to the Mens A who got promoted. The Ladies narrowly missed promotion as they couldn't quite secure a last match win ! As ever the young players who took part – Phoebe, Mia, Nicole and Emily were absolutely brilliant when they played upsetting the opposition and giving us some great wins. Huge thanks to our team captains, Becky, Angela and Doug for making it all happen. We are now looking forward to putting teams together for the Winter League. Becky has also been busy all summer running very popular and successful camps for the youngsters.

The club house has just been repainted and is looking fantastic thanks to an amazing team of volunteers - Ron Carter, Mike Coxhead, Glyn Davis, Tim Thurston, Colin Moulding, Tony Robb, James Robb, David Turnbull. This dedication and commitment to help the club run smoothly is hugely appreciated and demonstrates the real essence of the club.

Coming up:

We have a mixed doubles club tournament on Saturday 27th September from 12pm to 2pm which is open to all members. Please register with Becky if you would like to take part and she will organise the pairings. It will be a good, fun event.

Becky will continue to run weekly group coaching sessions restarting in the Autumn to cater for a range of levels. These are not only good fun but very helpful in terms of tactics and skills. The new Autumn term starts on Wednesday 3rd September so do contact her if you are interested in joining or check the website. For those that want a one to one, Becky also offers excellent coaching. And finally we continue to have a range of social sessions throughout the week such as rusty rackets, Friday and Sunday socials and walking tennis.

Wanborough Petanque Club (Wanborough PC)

Coach Tip – Practice ideas with basic or no equipment

Petanque can be played by ALL ages and physical ability. At Wanborough PC it is primarily a FUN social activity, light exercise and an environment to improve wellbeing.

Lee is a Petanque England qualified coach with DBS clearance and many years experience in competition play.

Some ideas when starting out and maybe want to practice the techniques explained at our free Introduction sessions.

In a Triples team we normally have a pointer and shooter plus the middle (Milleau). In both Singles and Doubles knowing how to shoot is useful tactically, to both defend and score as an alternative to point nearest to the jack.



• Warm Up

Stretching and loosening from head to fingers/toes. Swinging your arms with a boule but not releasing. Bending your knees if possible, even walking to the practice area with arms swinging will help as well as will some deeper breaths.

• Pointing

So holding the first boule picked up, hopefully palm down with fingers only (thumb resting on side) throw to land at a particular spot. After all three have landed close, return from the other end and land a metre further away. Next use a jack at about 6.5 metres away, if no circle/jack use your bag and a stick. Land in front of jack but only award a point if you do not roll past it. Change the height to adjust distance and try to improve each throw, but pick up just one boule and reset feet position each time.

• Shooting

Starting at 6.5 metres place a boule and try to hit it with a looping action landing just in front of target. When both boules thrown, place again at 6.5 metres and keep going both directions until you have hit twice. Next session record how many you hit without a miss!

Now place one boule directly behind with a 10cm gap, throw over the first and hit the boule behind. Count how many attempts to hit the boule behind cleanly. Next time hopefully will be the first time. For any progression on all exercises you can increase distance up to maximum 10.5 metres away but most shots normally are between 7m and 8m in matches. If you need a loop in throw when going over top of target – release later, maybe place a piece of wood in front.



Simple		Sun 03	August 25	
#		P	W	L
1	RWB Bees	4	2	2
2	Wanborough	1	1	0
3	Petanque@KS	2	1	1
4	Cheltenham U3A	2	1	2

Cotswold League latest

Next match away at **Royal Wootton Bassett** Thu 21st Aug 6:30pm

Diary Dates (latest news will be posted on social media)

Tues 4pm Coaching

Thurs 10am Melee (Doubles/Triples turn up and play)

Sat 9:30 am Coaching

Sat 10:30 am Melee (Doubles/Triples turn up and play)

For those interested in joining the club, using the terrain or unsure of the rules please go to the club website:

www.wanboroughhpc.com

Vince Witts (Chair)

IS THERE ANYTHING MORE VARIED THAN SCOUTS?

"Fun at Squirrel Scouts"

In the Summer term we've been busy at 1st Wanborough Squirrels (4-6 years): Testing the hoses at the fire station, following a map on a hike with a scavenger hunt, talking to the Lotmead farmer and picking yummy strawberries, designing superhero costumes, planting flowers, and learning fire lighting skills. And yes, the Squirrels are all under 6 years old!

We're really proud of our oldest Squirrels who have all earned their top badge, the Acorn Award, before moving up to Beavers: evidence that they've thrown themselves in, to all the fun activities that Squirrels has to offer!

Plans on the horizon include canoeing, trampolining, kindness parcels, a campfire with more Squirrels in the district, and our Squirrels voted to do their 'Get Creative' badge soon too. There's never a dull week at Squirrels!

We've loved seeing the Squirrels make new friends and grow in confidence so much, in less than a year since we opened the Drey.

"Busy Beavers"

The Beavers (6-8 years) have had a fun Summer term. From bugs to international food tasting, knots to meeting a guide dog, the Beavers have been busy! On top of all this fun they have spent their first night under canvas when they camped outdoors (a first for 1st Wanborough Beavers), at Angel's Corner Scout campsite, alongside our Scout section.

We are very proud of our six Beavers who have achieved their top award, The Chief Scout Bronze Award as they now move on to further adventures in Cubs. Watch out for other exciting adventures that the Beavers will get up to in the Autumn.

1st Wanborough Beavers, along with the Cubs and Scout (almost 60 young people in total), were lucky enough to attend RIAT this year and had an amazing day. Nineteen of our young people between 6 and 8 years old joined in and everyone, including our six parent helpers, really enjoyed the day. After getting the bus where the Beavers occupied the whole of bottom deck except for one seat which was taken by an Italian gentleman who had travelled here for the air tattoo and was quite amused by our group, we had a quick snack stop and were then invited to board a plane of the Royal Pakistan Air Force and were given badges and a lot of the pilot's time to answer the many questions posed by our Beavers. We were also treated to a Q&A with some very friendly German pilots and we were able to have our photos taken with them too. After lunch, we had ice creams and did some of the STEM activities on offer before a quick stop at the souvenir shop and back on the bus to go home. A busy tiring day for us all but importantly some new skills and knowledge acquired and lots of fun along the way.

"Cub Capers"

The Cubs (8 - 10 1/2 years) have also had a busy term getting outside as much as they can. Firelighting, backwoods cooking, den building, battleships and bed rolls - just some of the fun varied activities that Cubs have also been up to this term.

Alongside also attending RIAT, for the fourth year running, Cubs enjoyed an action-packed weekend in Cirencester for the annual Evolution camp, the slightly smaller sibling to the Scouts Strategy weekend.

Over 20 Cubs camped out over two nights and took part in a number of activities over the course of the weekend. They did climbing, caving (inside a trailer!), Battleships and speed Lego making amongst other things.

Despite having walked many miles on the Saturday they still had enough energy to run around the site, indulge in the tuck shop, watch a movie or go to the silent disco.

The fun then continued on the Sunday morning with bouncy castles, art and crafts and more running around!

"A super Scouting summer"

The Scouts (10-14 years) have also made the most of the Summer months, filling their programme with outdoor adventurous activities and achieving lots of badges and awards. There has been cooking on fire, expeditions, cycling, mini hawks & air rifle shooting. They have also completed their expedition challenge, thoroughly enjoyed Strategy camp, been to RIAT and had a fun packed water adventure camp which we will describe in more detail.

In July, a group of 16 Scouts took part in a weekend water camp at a scenic riverside campsite in Buckinghamshire, making the most of the perfect summer weather with a packed schedule of activities. The campsite, set along a quiet stretch of the River Thames, provided the ideal base for outdoor adventure. With temperatures high and spirits even higher, the Scouts were busy from the off.

On the water, they tried their hand at canoeing, paddle boarding, and rafting—testing balance, coordination, and teamwork. There were plenty of splashing and soaked clothes, but everyone got stuck in and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Off the water, laser tag proved popular. The wooded course allowed for competitive games that had Scouts running, hiding, and working together to win. They also undertook Jacob's Ladder, a team climbing challenge that required focus, cooperation, and a bit of nerve.

Evenings were low-key, with time to eat, relax around the campfire, and reflect on the day. There was even a performance or two from the young people. With no screens and plenty of fresh air, it was a welcome break from routine. The camp wrapped up with tired legs, wet shoes, and a lot of new experiences under their belts.

Finally....

Don't think that it's just the young people who get all the fun! Absolutely not. Not only have our amazing team of volunteers been able to enjoy getting involved in the activities they've put on, but they've been developing their skills too.

In June, 4 of our team members & occasional helpers completed a 'Mini Hawks' training course. In August we have a couple exploring getting their SUP (Stand Up Paddleboarding) Permits, some are doing Archery training in September & a couple are working towards their Hill Walking permits. This is all funded by the group to increase the opportunities we can give our young people.

If you would be interested in finding out how your hobbies could contribute to those opportunities, knowing that training, where possible is available, please get in touch.

As a new Scouting year approaches, the team is already busy planning weekly evenings, weekend camps, District Competitions & community events. There is also talk of reviving the very popular Family Camp - we are sure many of you readers have fond memories of the very successful, fun filled camps of pre COVID.



1st Wanborough's waiting list is growing. Indeed, we've just celebrated one of Team Members newest arrivals, adding them to the waiting list at just 5 days old! This is fantastic and we are looking at the best way to deliver Scouts in Wanborough, the surrounding villages & local area moving forward. This may include opening new sections! Watch this space. However, if you think you would like your child to become a part of 1st Wanborough, the sooner they join the waiting list the better so that we can plan ahead. So please don't delay or think it's too early. It rarely is.

If you're looking for a fun new thing to do, why not get involved? Whether it is directly working with young people or behind the scenes, you would be very welcome. Or if you think your child would enjoy any of the activities above, why not add them to our waiting list please get in touch: www.1stwanborough.org.uk



SWINDON OPEN STUDIOS 2025

Open Saturday 20th September & Sunday 21st September 11am-7pm

Great Moorleaze Farm

Wanborough SN4 0SW

Contact: Jo Bains 07976879602



Prospect Hospice
together making every day count

A warm welcome to our space. We are excited to have 6 Artists displaying their fantastic creative work. Our space is raising funds for The Prospect Hospice & PSP as Refreshments cakes & snacks served by lovely volunteers. Would be wonderful to see visitors.

Lindsay Best

This artist uses the tradition of plein-air painting. A direct engagement with the landscape and surroundings, interpreting the light, colours and shapes, creating a visual synoptic of that transient moment of atmosphere and emotion through expressive marks and colour.

lindsay.best13@btinternet.com

Francesca Di-Lella

Francesca Di-Lella is a self-taught fine artist specialising in acrylic paintings of florals submerged underwater. Her art explores emotional depth with vibrant colours, using water to symbolize emotions. Flowers, immersed yet reaching for sunlight, reflect resilience, while their mirrored hues evoke inner strength. Her bold, joyous style evolved through years of exploration.

<http://www.dilella.co.uk>

Theresa Dowdeswell

Theresa mostly works with slipcast porcelain, making moulds of items (including some that hold memories) to produce tealights, lamps, vases, bowls and mugs. City-scapes, lighthouses and hearts, plus random ideas are expressed in drawn and pierced work. Handbuilding, throwing and tile-making also feature in her work.

theresa.dowdeswell@yahoo.co.uk

Rhona Jack

Rhona works in watercolour, acrylics and ceramics and is fascinated by animals: their fur, feathers, strength and grace. Having mastered photo-realistic animals, she now chooses a looser style. Recent work focuses on landscapes or more colourful interpretations of animals. Her work hangs in the USA, Spain and Poland. Pet portraits upon request and art lessons available.

<https://www.rhonajackcreative.com/>

Nicola King

Nature is Nicola's muse — its quiet intimacy, hidden wonders, and fleeting moments.

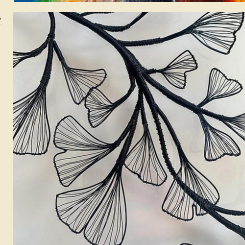
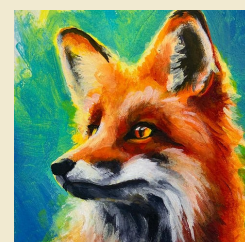
Working with oils, acrylics, and inks, she captures the sweetness of British wildlife and flora with vibrant colour and a touch of whimsy. Blending realism with imagination, her spontaneous use of colour embraces bold contrasts and soft transitions, unveiling the spirit behind the material.

<https://www.nicolakingart.co.uk>

Laura Milne

Laura has been a sculptural artist for over 20 years currently working in wire. Laura is inspired by her love of flowers and trees and watching their beauty evolve. Walking in nature she studies the intricate details and natural compositions that inspires her beautiful floral creations.

wire.and.wool@outlook.com





SWINDON OPEN

Opportunity to visit

Swindon Open Studios is a free community arts event, offering the public the opportunity to visit artists' studios, workshops and exhibition spaces in September.

During the weekend of 20th and 21st September local artists from Wanborough, Liddington, and Bishopstone are opening their studios to you.

Your local artists are **Sheryll Fox, Nicky Sutton, Maggie Errington, Hilary Sinclair, Stephanie Cosgrove, Toni Foot, Charlotte Riley, and Bishopstone Pottery**. Along with host, **Jo Bains** who will have 6 artists showing their work at **Great Moorleaze Farm, Wanborough**.

A warm welcome awaits you from all the local artists, who will be in their studios and on hand to chat about their tools and materials, inspiration, processes and the stories behind their work.

From discovering original art available to purchase, exploring creative processes to supporting your local artists and enhancing your art knowledge, open studios is a great way to connect, support and meet the artists living and working in your local community.

All the artists will be distributing printed brochures locally, however, if you would like a brochure delivered, do get in touch and they will drop one through your letterbox.

You may also wish to visit nearby artist Tara Parker-Woolway in Bourton as you travel around the local area.

For more information about Swindon Open Studios [20th, 21st, 27th, 28th September] visit www.swindonopenstudios.org

Sheryll Fox - Wanborough

Sheryll is a professionally trained artist. Visit her home studio to enjoy a stunning collection of landscape and figurative paintings, drawings, and prints. Her art is characterised by classical drawing techniques, a warm palette with rich textures, and loose, expressive marks, that create a distinctive and dramatic effect.

Join her for tea, cake, and art chat!

5 The Beanlands, Wanborough SN4 0EJ

Open Saturday 20 & Sunday 21 September 11am to 5pm

Contact: www.skfoxart.com

Nicky Sutton - Wanborough

Nicky is a stained glass mosaic artist. Visit her garden studio to discover her inspiration and creative process. Her pieces can be displayed either in your home or garden.

Nicky welcomes commissions for bespoke artwork and also offers workshops and creative sessions.

Wrightsbridge, The Marsh, Wanborough, SN4 0AR

Open Saturday 20 & Sunday 21 September 11am to 5pm

Contact: www.instagram.com/fabricamosaics

Maggie Errington - Wanborough

Maggie is a pastel artist, although she has worked in acrylics, watercolour and oils. She also has a passion for creating felted pictures.

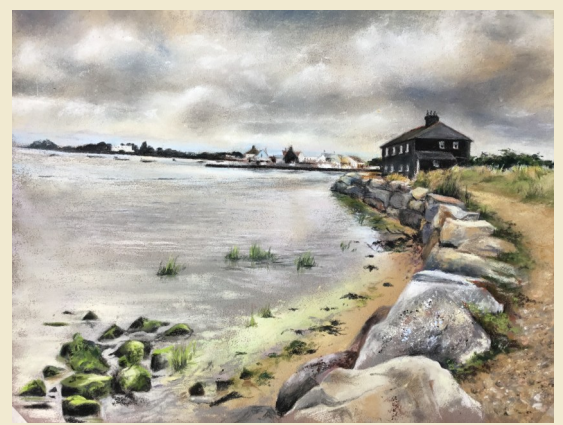
Her pastels are of various subjects including animals, portraits, still life and landscapes.

A warm welcome awaits you with refreshments in her barn conversion studio.

Trelawny Barn, Wanborough Road, Wanborough, SN4 0AB

Open Saturday 20 September & Sunday 21 September 11am to 4pm

Contact: maggie.errington@outlook.com



STUDIOS 2025

Meet your local artists

Hilary Sinclair - Wanborough

Hilary paints in watercolour and oils, enjoying a wide range of subject matter, and wherever possible from life, so expect plein air studies, florals, and still life.

This year Hilary has been working en plein air to complete a series depicting Coate Water Country Park throughout the seasons - seen for the first time at this year's Open Studio!

6 The Lynch Field, Wanborough, SN4 0DA

Open Saturday 20 September & Sunday 21 September 11am to 5pm

Contact: hilary.sinclair@me.com



Charlotte Riley - Liddington

Visit Charlotte's studio to explore her creative journey and see the evolution of her artwork.

Pulling inspiration from the landscape, Charlotte paints intuitively, creating calm and restful pieces, working on canvas in acrylics this year.

Browse her studio workbooks, sketches and works in progress, to learn about her process. She looks forward to sharing her art with you.

1 Lidenbrook, Liddington, SN4 0HL

Open Saturday 20 September & Sunday 21 September 10am to 4pm

Contact: www.charlotterileyart.com



Stephanie Cosgrove - Wanborough

Steph is a self-taught artist who specializes in animal portraiture, drawing inspiration from the beauty of the natural world. Recently, she's been exploring human portraits inspired by film and TV.

Working mainly with acrylics and watercolours on paper, she loves experimenting with different media and embraces her crafty spirit in every creative project.

Coverack, Kite Hill, Wanborough, SN4 0AW

Open Saturday 20 September & Sunday 21 September 10am to 5pm

Contact:

essee.art@gmail.com



Toni Foot - Wanborough

Toni uses art to process strong emotions and make beautiful things. With an abstract style and plenty of colour, Toni enjoys experimenting with a wide range of materials (oils, acrylics, fluid pouring and texture), often featuring figurative or natural themes.

As well as her artwork, there will be a selection of jewellery, poetry, conversation and cake!

62 Church Road, Wanborough, SN4 0BZ

Open Saturday 20 September & Sunday 21 September 10am to 5pm

Contact:

www.tonifootabstractartist.co.uk



Bishopstone Pottery - Bishopstone

The pottery studio is in a cottage garden in the village of Bishopstone. Here Sue and Adrian indulge their passion for clay producing brightly coloured slip decorated earthenware and raku ceramics.

The slip decorated pots reflect the potters' interests in geometric and natural forms. Raku pots are glazed with crackle glazes producing black and coloured designs.

4 West End Lane, Bishopstone, SN6 8PX

Open Saturday 20 September & Sunday 21 September 11am-5pm

Contact: susan.walton790@gmail.com

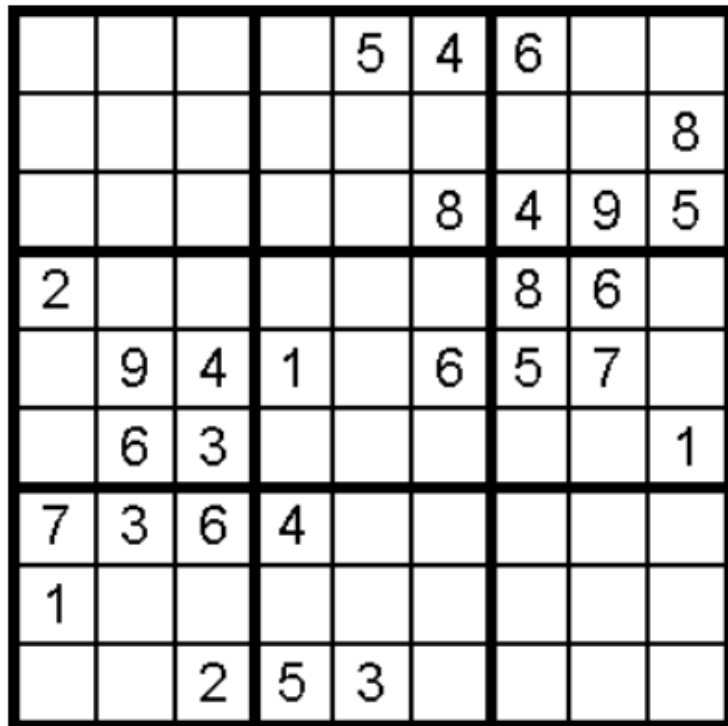


Puzzle of the Month - September 2025

We are pleased to confirm that **The Brewer's Arms** Pub have agreed to sponsor the "Puzzle of the month" for 2025 and are offering a £25 Amazon voucher to the winning person each month. Please complete the puzzle below, take a picture of your answers and send them to Lydenmagazine@gmail.com by **14th September 2025**. In the event of more than 1 correct answer received, the winner will be drawn out of a hat - good luck!

Winner and answers will be provided in next month's Lyden

This month's puzzle is a "Sudoku"



August's Winner

Maggie Hartridge

Well Done

Solutions for August's puzzle



The Brewer's Arms

Our outside play area is now complete so come and see us and let the children have some fun outside while the adults enjoy a catch up!

Our main menu is now available for takeaway, collection and delivery to Wanborough and Redlands is available.

Finally, our offer of the month is a special pizza which will change weekly and cocktail for only £13.95 (eating in only available Wednesday and Thursday evening)

To book at table:-

Tel - 01793 790707

E-mail - enquiries@brewers-arms.co.uk

Well done to everyone who submitted correct answers. Winner was drawn out of a hat. If you didn't win this month please try again!

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Swindon, SN4 0HF



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Monarch Roofing have successfully carried out over forty million pounds worth of roofing from the town house to large country estates, churches to listed university buildings. We specialise in slating, traditional Cotswold stone and lead. Our gallery shows examples of projects and workmanship. We pride ourselves in offering a professional service on any size contract where personal attention, health and safety and quality of work are paramount.

Our labour force has a wealth of experience and knowledge gained over the past forty years in most disciplines of pitch roofing. Our entire workforce have current CSCS registration cards and are well versed in site health and safety.

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T: 01793 485623

E: office@monarchroofing.co.uk

Website:-

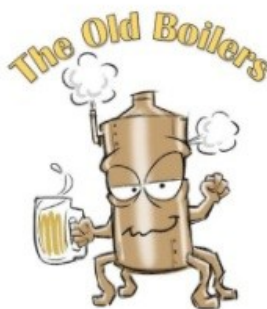
www.monarchroofing.co.uk



The Old Boilers

In association with Magnum Wines;
Present

An Evening of Wine Tasting
Friday 26th September 2025
7:30pm @Wanborough Village Hall
Tickets £17.50 (£100 for a full table
of 6 people)



Ticket price includes: Generous tasting measures from a curated selection of wines.
Supper, consisting of cold meat and cheese platters with french bread (Shared with the table).



Maximum of 6 per table – Sorry, it messes up the food and makes service difficult –
If you have a bigger party then book more tickets (or 2 tables and we will arrange for them to be adjacent)

To book visit: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-old-boilers/t-pqjadaz>
or scan the QR code with your phone



Old Boiler News

We have had a bumper month funding local organisations, and villagers from the profits achieved at our annual Wanborough Beer and Cider Festival.

We have sponsored £750 to buy new kit for the Wanborough Wasps Under-14's football team.

We have sponsored villager Grace Lewis (Upper Wanborough) £500 to run in the London Marathon in aid of Prospect Cancer Research.

And we have sponsored £250 to the Wanborough St. Andrew's Flower Club, toward flowers in our church for weddings and bereavements.

Now it's time to organise a few events for villagers. Do you have your tickets / tables yet for the wine tasting event in the Village Hall? Please see poster to the left for further details.

Tickets are now on sale also for our coach trip to Cardiff Christmas Market, **Saturday 29th November**. This is an Old Boiler sponsored event for the village, as the coach will cost £1,100.

We are only asking £10 + £1 booking fee for villagers to experience this exciting extravaganza. Check out

www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-old-boilers

Swindon Half Marathon - Sunday 28th September 2025

Swindon's Half Marathon will be going through Wanborough village, including Wanborough Road, Burycroft, The Marsh, Pack Hill, Church Road then up The Hollow (King Edwards Road).

Please note that the race is run on closed roads, this means there will be several roads through the village closed during the morning, approximate times shown to the right.

Further information can be found on their website:-

www.swindonhalf.co.uk

SWINDON HALF MARATHON

Marlborough Road – 08:58-09:13
Dorcan Way (Southbound) – 08:30-09:40
Kingfisher Drive – 08:30-09:50
Wanborough Road – 08:30-10:10
Burycroft, The Marsh – 08:30-10:30
Pack Hill, Church Road – 08:30-10:45
King Edwards Road – 08:30-11:10
The Ridgeway, Aldbourne Road – 08:30-11:45
Badbury Lane, Medbourne Road – 08:30-12:00
Medbourne Lane, Meadow Way, Homington Avenue – 08:30-12:15
Day House Lane – 08:30-12:30

May Archer's personal account of World War 2 in Wanborough (Part 2)

The searchlights were manned by the army, and the field by The Hollow was shut off as that was the airfield where they trained the gliders. There was always a couple of airplanes there that would take up the gliders and would return with the tow rope hanging down after they had released the glider. At that time, at The Grange, that belonged to the Hintons. They used to let it out to a man who was a major in the air force. He used to fly this plane and if he was coming home for tea he would fly low over the houses once but if he wasn't and was going out over Germany, he would come over twice so that his wife would know that he wasn't coming home for tea. There was no fences or trees or anything, you could see her running out with a tablecloth to show that she was looking out for him.

The Miles family used to live up at Kite Hill farm, he never used to work, and their son Jessie Miles worked at the Great Western Railway and they had a donkey. If we got up there at 9am on a Saturday then he would give us a donkey ride for an hour, we used to go up most Saturdays to try and get a ride.

My mum Polly Wallace belonged to the Mother's Union, and they used to knit gloves and socks for the troops, and we used to knit these cuffs. Mum was only really good at knitting dish cloths on four needles, but they used to knit cuffs to cover their wrists that they could put underneath the gloves and sleeves. The army used to give them this khaki wool to do it or Air Force blue ones. She also used to knit balaclavas, I then used to knit them for my boys too after the War, and that was all done on four needles. We used to get terrible winters so it was important that as many gloves, socks and cuffs were knitted as possible.

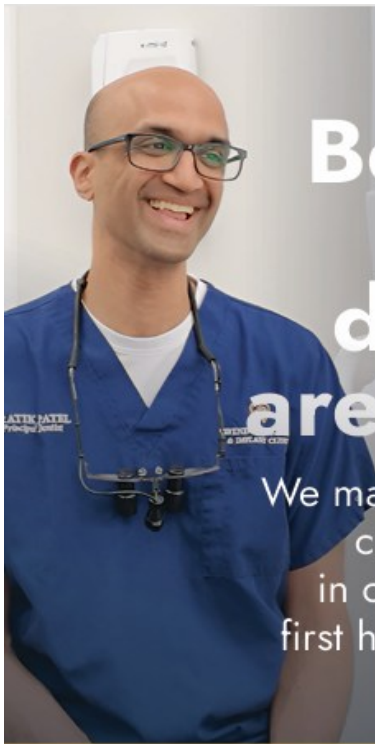
My Granny Keen died on 8 February 1940 and Grampy Keen died on 15 March 1940, Grampy Keen had been in hospital and Granny Keen died at home, it was all icy, frosty and snow and that. They had to take Granny Keen from Foxbridge to Wanborough Road in a dung cart because it was so icy to stop the horses from getting injured, before she could be taken up the church.

There was a Home Guard in Wanborough and there was a picture outside of the Brewers of the Home Guard, with two little faces looking out of the bedroom window. Those faces were Pam Smith and Maureen Crawford who were cousins, and they were looking out the window when the picture was taken. It is in Elizabeth Wilson's Wanborough book that I have full of pictures of Wanborough. We had a fire brigade that was based out of the blacksmith shop in Upper Wanborough, up where the bus stop is now. In those days we used to have a Bristol bus when the Chaney's bus would go into the railworks factory at 7am in the morning and would, then on its way back, pick up the children from Coate Water to bring them to school. After Rimes' took it on, they used to pick up children from Nythe and Stratton too.

My dad fought during WW1, he was a lorry driver, and during WW2 he worked for Bradley's as a lorry driver, but he did join the home guard towards the end. Once the soldiers moved out of the camp at the end of the War, a lot of Italian Prisoners of War moved in, they were able to walk around the village and Glynnis Hatch, who lived at Hinton Parva, even married one of them. There were various people who we went to school with, but I can't remember all their names, but he was a window cleaner in Swindon (isn't it stupid how I can't remember their names?).

I left school at 14, I used to wear a hair net. I used to put dinky curls in my hair to try and curl it under and it once hooked up on Reg Coward's tin lunchbox and for the rest of the lesson, I had to sit with a crooked neck with my hair attached to the lunchbox. I couldn't move my head because of the damn hair net! When they started the school dinners up at school, they used to come up with urns and a little oven they used put it outside of the school gate. Then the form would come and put the urn on a trolley, wheel it across the playground and take it to the classroom. The food would come from a school in Swindon; we had to make sure that all of the classroom was clean before the food could be taken to the next room. After the War, they brought up a big hut from the field and they used it as a dining room so all the kids could be in one room - this happened in 1945. There used to be a sentry box on the end where the horses are at Fox Hill now, at those stables, and lots of mushrooms used to grow there. We used to get up there really early in the morning before the sentry got there else they would tell us off for stealing the mushrooms.

These are just some of the tales that I can remember today, but I will think of some more and make sure that they are written down too. I can't believe that I have spoken for 45 minutes "good god" were my exact words when I was told! Sorry that I can't remember all the names of the people.



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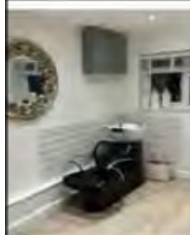
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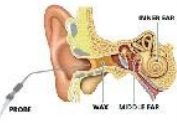
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The Master Thatcher

There was great excitement that the Thatcher was coming, the same jubilation that you'd associate with a pop star. The women got a bit giddy, the men chuckled, nice to see a bit of life there yet.

It was like a Rock 'n Roll gig in the '60s when hysterical teenager girls threw underwear on to the stage. I often wondered where they are now, those grannies. Alive and well, it seems.

Between the end of the "Chatterley" ban and the Beatles' first LP

Thatching is totally manual, months from start to finish using old tools as described in the poem. Gary Martin created a work of art. You'll see examples of his wonderful work in all the villages around Wiltshire.

We were also hopeful that his apprentice, Aidan, makes a good life as a thatcher, carries that trade to another generation.

The women, they framed this photo, taken from a bedroom window and gave it to him. When he left, the village went back to itself.



*The miracle was he came at all
booked out for years on end,
our high expectations marred
then suddenly the truck appeared,
the yellow sheaves his calling card.*

*Next day, the scaffold and ladders,
tools as if from an old shrink's
satchel, the wonder in the rustic plage
of reeds and batons until the roof
is a snug overcoat over the old cottage.*

*We watched in awe those several months,
cased the sky for clement weather
for the thatcher, to say it'll be dry,
the women watching as he watched them
from his eerie, exalted as the red kite.*

*There's no nod to the modern here
just layer upon layer of wheat straw
hand-pinned, split hazel and willow sticks,
knit one purl one to trap the air bubbles
in a set that began with last year's ricks.*

*Then the last days, wisps around each rod
until the ridge board, adorned by a necklace
in perfect proportions, the tighter shave
to trim and shape before the encasement,
the sweep of straw and he's gone next day.*

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Chiseldon Museum

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 17th September 2025 in the Church Hall, Butts Rd, SN4 0NN at 7.30 p.m. The subject is "1066 and all that – The Bayeux Tapestry" presented by Timothy Brain



The museum is open for the summer season every Saturday afternoon from 2 to 4 pm until the end of September. The museum can be found at Old Chapel, Butts Road, Chiseldon, SN4 0NN. New displays this year include an archaeological map of the area, a look back at the Spearhead festival held in the village in 1975 and exhibits to mark the 80th Anniversary of VE Day. The display featuring the railway has also been revamped to include a "then and now" section, and we have a new volume of village photographs available to view.

Membership subscriptions are £20 per year, with the subscription year starting in October. Visitor fees for non-members are £5 per meeting. The schedule is published on the website (see below).

Our website www.chiseldonlhg.org.uk contains news of forthcoming meetings as well as general information on the History Group and local historical links and information. Other events will be published here when available.

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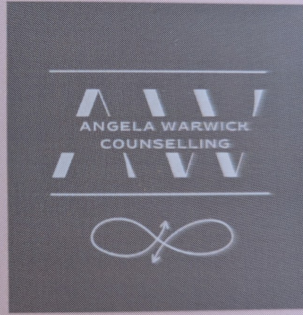
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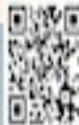
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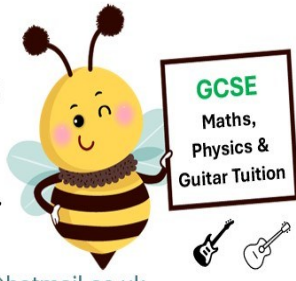
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