

Community Matters



Pictured with his WWII medals, Great Wishford's Henryk Trybus celebrates his 100th birthday on 27th October. We honour both this remarkable milestone and his distinguished service.

**Lower Wylfe and Till Valley
Parishes Magazine**
NOVEMBER 2025

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WELCOME TO NOVEMBER'S COMMUNITY MATTERS MAGAZINE!

Hello everyone! This month's cover star is the wonderful Henryk Trybus, who celebrates his 100th birthday with family on 27th October. A Great Wishford celebration is to be held on Thursday 30th October (see p17), all welcome. And what's Henryk's secret to a long life? *Don't diet* — wonderful advice as Christmas approaches! Henryk is pictured with his WWII medals (from L-R):

1. 1934-1945 Star
2. France & Germany Star
3. 1939-1945 War Medal
4. Poland Army Active Service Medal Fighting
5. Polish Army Medal for War 1939-1945

Remembrance Sunday falls on 9th November and there will be two Remembrance Services in the Benefice: St Mary's Church, Wylie and the Church of St James, Berwick St James. Please see pages 5-9 for more details.

Finally, thank you for all the fantastic photos being sent in — please keep them coming! I'll include as many as possible in future issues. **Contributions, notice of celebrations and remembrance, comments or suggestions can be sent to Rachael at: twovalleysed@hotmail.com**

Last available date for submissions is the 14th of each month. Please note I do not tend to check emails until the week prior to submission.

ALL VILLAGES

SWANS WI

Our October Meeting has to rank as the most important and vital that anyone could attend, given the subject matter. Tim Watts from the St. John Ambulance Brigade gave us a very concise and informative lesson on the subject of CPR. He also advised us on what to do when a person chokes or is bleeding profusely. He was very knowledgeable, and aided by his colleague Helen, we were shown a practical demonstration of giving CPR as well as using a defibrillator. Some members then had a go themselves whilst being aided by Tim and Helen. The session was invaluable. None of us know when we may be called upon to help, before an ambulance arrives. These hugely informative sessions go a long way towards giving us the confidence to step forward if necessary.



What remarkable work the Saint John Ambulance Brigade undertake. It was formed in 1837 and has over 30,000 volunteers. It has a Youth Section and Ambulances and Crews to support the NHS. With people like Tim informing and explaining the practical side of CPR to Clubs and Groups across the country, perhaps more of us bystanders really will become lifesavers.

The usual monthly reports and business followed, then it was time for tea with a rather special addition this month. One member had recently celebrated a rather significant birthday and had been given a large and amazing cake - a model of her previous long term home in Stapleford. It was beautiful and delicious - not a crumb was left! Competition results and raffle followed, then we all made our fond farewells.

We are a friendly group who meet on the first Thursday of each month at Wilton Community Centre. Our next Meeting is on 6th. November 2.00p.m. when Gordon Brockman will be talking to us about "His Life as an Auctioneer" - it sounds fun! If you would like to know more about us, come along to a Meeting, you will be given a warm welcome, or 'phone Sue, our President, on 01722 790316

FOOD TRUCKS

Food trucks will be serving in The Royal Oak carpark, Great Wishford:

Thu 6 th Nov	6-8pm	Travelling Thai (Quiz night)
Thu 13 th Nov	6-8pm	Tapas Company
Thu 20 th Nov	6-8pm	Rocky's Pizza
Mon 24 th Nov	6-8pm	Ali Kebab
Fri 28 th Nov	6-8pm	Indriya Indian Kitchen

Please check at the pub for any changes or additions to the above.

BIG 'THANK YOU' TO DONNA JOHNSON

Some in the valley will know Donna as one of the Teaching assistants at Great Wishford school. Donna has recently left after giving over 17 years working with the children across the year groups and with children individually. The support she has given has been immeasurable in encouraging the children to flourish. As a child, Donna attended the school and consequently has seen many changes over the years she has been connected with the school and community.

Thank you Donna for all that you have given to the school in particular to the many children you have helped on their way.

With our grateful thanks, the Governors of Great Wishford School.

WILDLIFE WATCH

These three reports are from Mike Stoneman from Great Wishford. More like this, please!

On 9th September I enjoyed a 3-hour leisurely walk going from Great Wishford to Stapleford, up on towards Druids Head Farm before heading back down to Great Wishford. In total I saw 50 species of birds. The highlights included Great Egret, Little Egret, Kingfisher, Grey Wagtail, Raven, Corn Bunting, Bullfinch, Spotted Flycatcher, Wheatear, Grey Partridge and Sparrowhawk. Other wildlife of note included Painted Lady butterflies and a Southern Hawker dragonfly. Also a Robins Pin Cushion on Dog rose which is created by a type of gall wasp. There are lots of them in the hedgerows at this time of the year. The wasp will eventually emerge in May.

Just a few weeks ago, I was watching hundreds of swallows and house martins pass over the house but now they have all gone. It does feel like winter is not too far away. However, Autumn is full of surprises and in the garden, we've had Ivy Bees burrowing into the lawn to make their nests, and in the moth trap that I regularly set we've had some interesting autumnal moths including Brindled green, Frosted Orange and lots of Lunar Underwings.

On 15th October whilst taking the dog out for a walk I came across two immature White-tailed Eagles feeding on a carcass just off the road that leads up from Great Wishford to Grovely Wood. They were enormous and dwarfed the Red Kites and Buzzards that were mobbing them. I assume they must be birds

from the reintroduction scheme on the Isle of Wight. Amazing to see them in the Wiltshire countryside!

A Great White Egret was seen in north Berwick on 25th September.

It has been a very good autumn for beech mast, acorns, conkers and berries. It is called a Mast Year. It typically happens when a warm, sunny spring and summer promotes good pollination and fruit development leading to a bumper crop.

All reports very welcome – from all our villages. Nicky Street
chstreet@btinternet.com Please could you let me have the reports by the 14th November for the December magazine.

SALISBURY & SOUTH WILTS DISTRICT SCOUTS CHRISTMAS POST

Stamps 40p (Cash Only)

Last Posting Date: Wednesday 3rd December 2025

Local Post Boxes & Stamps available from:

Wilton: Annie's Wool Shop, North Street, Wilton Hardware, West Street, Top Style, Water Ditchampton, Wilton Place Care Home, Buckeridge Road, Bob Blandford Memorial Scout Hall:

Tuesday 6:30-8:00, Wednesday 7:00-9:00, Thursday 6:15-7:15

Wilton Community Centre (Brownies): Tuesday 6:15-7:15,

South Newton: Wessex Timber Windows

Stapleford: Riverside Service Station

Dinton: The Wyndham Arms

Codford: Budgens Shop & Post Office

Broadchalke: Shop & Post office

Wylke: The Bell Inn (The Little Wylke Shop)

Please check delivery areas on posters at outlets as we cannot deliver cards outside the advertised areas or those incorrectly addressed.

Wilton Scouts & Wilton Brownies share proceeds from local sales from the outlets above and any cards they deliver.

Other Post Boxes and Stamps are also available at other outlets and delivery areas can be found on the Scout Website by following the link:

<https://sswscouts.org.uk/christmas-post/>

BENEFICE LETTER NOVEMBER 2025

*Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will uphold you.*

Isaiah 41:10

Dear Friends,

I hope all is well.

In November the Church wears red, the colour for Kingdom Season, the season of 'remembering'. Across these weeks prior to Advent Sunday, we remember the 'Saints of the Church', on All Saints Day, the dearly departed on All Souls' Day, we remember the fallen from our communities on Remembrance Sunday and celebrate 'Christ the King' on the last Sunday of Church year.

We *remember* in different ways, sometimes alone and sometimes together. *Remembering* can be a highly emotional and powerful experience ~ as on Remembrance Sunday, when we gather as villages to hear again the *narratives and names of the past* and in the silence, we give thanks for duty, courage and sacrifice. Stapleford, however, remembers differently. It is one of a very few 'thankful villages' in this country where all those left to serve in the two world wars returned home.

Remembering confirms who we are and where we belong, which might explain why the contrasting '*narratives of memories*' have become such contested perspectives in recent times. In the Scripture, however, there is but one single narrative of a faithful, steadfast and ever-loving God. A God who delivered on His promise to end the enslavement in Egypt, calling on the people to *remember* their salvation on Passover. In the sharing of the bread and wine, we *remember* the life, death, and resurrection of Christ as our way to new life, the narrative of our salvation.

As we gather during Kingdom Season, our thoughts arc from the personal and civic to the national, and even international. This is very much a community season and so I hope that you will be able to join us for All Saints Day, our All Souls' Service and Remembrance Sunday, for in our time together, in the here and the now, *we shall remember them*.

*Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will uphold you.*

With every blessing

Jonathan
Rector
Wylze and Till Valley Benefice.

ALL SOULS AND REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 2025

ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS, SUNDAY 2ND NOVEMBER

We shall celebrate All Saints Day during our morning worship across the Benefice Service. There will be two All Souls' services. These are moments to remember those from our community who have died in recent years. This year our services will be held at Steeple Langford and Great Wishford both at 3:00pm.

We will remember specifically those who have died since January 2022 ~ the names, however, of all loved ones who died prior to January 2022 will rest on the altar during the service and will be remembered in our prayers. There will be refreshments after the service.

If you have a relative you wish remembered at these services then please contact Rev'd Jonathan Plows, Rectorwtv@gmail.com, 01722 790616.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 9TH NOVEMBER

There will be Holy Communion for Remembrance Day at 09:00am at St Peter's Church, Winterbourne Stoke.

There will be two Remembrance Services in the Benefice: St Mary's Church, Wylze and the Church of St James, Berwick St James. Please gather from 10:40am and car sharing would be much appreciated.

Everyone is welcome to all services.

Rev'd Jonathan Plows
Rector

BENEFICE CHURCH SERVICES DURING NOVEMBER 2025

SUNDAY 2ND NOVEMBER – ALL SAINTS' AND ALL SOULS' DAY

09:30am	Stockton	Holy Communion (BCP)
09:30am	Berwick St James	Holy Communion (CW)
11:00am	South Newton	Holy Communion (CW)
11:00am	Stapleford	Sunday Worship
11:00am	Wylke	Sunday Worship
3:00pm	Great Wishford	All Souls' Service
3:00pm	Steeple Langford	All Souls' Service
4:00pm	Little Langford	Evensong (BCP) CHANGE OF TIME

SUNDAY 9TH NOVEMBER – REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

09:30am	Winterbourne Stoke	Holy Communion (CW)
11:00am	Berwick St James	Remembrance Service
11:00am	Wylke	Remembrance Service

SUNDAY 16TH NOVEMBER – SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

09:30am	Great Wishford	Holy Communion (CW)
11:00am	Berwick St James	Matins (BCP)
11:00am	Wylke	Holy Communion (CW)
6:00pm	Stockton	Evening Worship

THURSDAY 20TH NOVEMBER

11:00am	Wylke	Midweek service with organ music followed by coffee
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SUNDAY 23RD NOVEMBER – CHRIST THE KING

09:30am	Little Langford	Holy Communion (BCP)
11:00am	Stapleford	Holy Communion (CW)
6:00pm	Steeple Langford	Taizé service for Christ the King

SUNDAY 30TH NOVEMBER – ADVENT SUNDAY

10:30am	Steeple Langford	Benefice Holy Communion for Advent Sunday
6:00pm	South Newton	Benefice Advent Carol Service

Please look at the Parish News Sheets for any changes to services
or contact the Rector, Rev'd Jonathan Plows

Monday being his day off Rectorwtv@gmail.com **01722 790616**

CW = Common Worship, BCP = Book of Common Prayer

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

BERWICK ST JAMES

First World War

Frank Blanchard

Leonard Humphries

Frank Brice

Herbert Smith

William Draper

William Witchell

Second World War

Richard Saunderson

Korean War

John Kilburn

GREAT WISHFORD

First World War

Leonard Chivers

William Samways

Albert Gilbert

George Sanger

Stanley Gray

William Smith

William Head

John Tuffin

William Lever

Alban West

Bertie Lever

Alfred Williams

Edward Middlewick

Second World War

Stanley Crouch

Reginald White

WINTERBOURNE STOKE

First World War

Bryan Alfred Dyer

Sidney Petty

Sidney Gray

Alfred Adlam

Fred Stevens

EJ Kilford

Henry George Mitchell

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

SOUTH NEWTON

First World War

Edward Bailey	Bertram Henstridge
Charles Blake	Bertram Macey
Frederick Blake	Ernest Shergold
Arthur Candy	Reuben Shergold

Second World War

Gordon Baldwin	John Elliot
Arthur Cannings	Roy Plowman
Reginald Crocker	

STAPLEFORD

A Thankful Village in Both World Wars

*THEY SHALL GROW NOT OLD
AS WE THAT ARE LEFT GROW OLD
AGE SHALL NOT WEARY THEM
NOR THE YEARS CONDEMN
AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN
AND IN THE MORNING
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM*

There will be two Remembrance Services in the Benefice on Sunday 9th November: St Mary's Church, Wylle and the Church of St James, Berwick St James. Please gather from 10:40am and car sharing would be much appreciated. Everyone is welcome.

BERWICK ST JAMES

BERWICK GIRLGUIDING CENTRE

We thought it would be good to update you on another busy year at our Girlguiding Centre. During 2025, our volunteers have been continuing to maintain and upgrade the centre, funded by some kind bequests and income from Launch2Learning.

The area where the old wooden classroom was, has been levelled and sown with grass seed. We have the addition of a new covered outdoor washing up area with deep sinks and draining areas which has been officially opened this summer. Further work has been done to improve drainage across the site and complete the resurfacing of the car park and driveways, with special thanks to local farmer, Mike, who has removed the old and unwanted materials, and repaired the entrance gate for us.

It has been great to see old friends returning and new groups enjoying the facilities at the Girlguiding Centre. The summer bookings have been good, with local Guides and Brownies camping and staying in the house, some visiting from further afield, a couple of private events and Duke of Edinburgh Award camps. We have also welcomed hirers from the village, including the annual Harvest Supper evening.

Our volunteers have worked tirelessly to ensure that the centre is maintained to a high standard, we are now actively seeking people for a paid role, ideally from the local community. We are looking for a maintenance person for the centre. For further information please email wsberwickmc@gmail.com

We would also welcome someone from the community to join our Berwick Management Committee. We hold 8 or 9 meetings each year which are usually held at the Centre with others being Zoom during the winter months. We thank the community for being our “extra pair of eyes”, your support to the centre is very much appreciated, and we look forward to seeing some of you during 2026. If you would like to make a visit to the site, please email wsberwick@gmail.com

CHURCH NEWS

We had a great time at the Harvest Supper, it was lovely to have so many children there. Many thanks to Jane, Janey, Wendy and all the cooks, thanks to the Raffle Ticket sellers, setters up and cleaners and everyone who came and helped, and, of course, thanks to Bill for the organization. The event made a surplus of £164 which has been divided between the Trussell Trust and our church.

In November we have our two regular services, Holy Communion at 9.30a.m. on Sunday 2nd and a Matins service at 11.00a.m. on Sunday 16th.

As mentioned in last month's magazine, there will also be a Remembrance Sunday service at 10.50 a.m. on Sunday 9th November, when we will pay thanks to those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the First and Second World wars. This service rotates around the five churches in the southern end of the Till Valley (South Newton, Great Wishford, Stapleford, Berwick St James and Winterbourne Stoke) so it is held in Berwick every five years. Everyone is welcome.

THE READING ROOM CHRISTMAS FAYRE

We would like to invite you all to the Reading Room Christmas Fayre on SATURDAY 22ND NOVEMBER starting at 10.30am.

FREE tea, coffee and soft drinks, and your first mince pie of the season! There will be a Great Raffle, Fabulous Tombola, lovely Christmas Stall, Tasty Cakes, Biscuits and other produce, Bargain Children gifts, also Cards and Gifts by Ellie O'Neill-Street, Pottery by Caroline Ainsworth, Cards by Jane Rowe. Also plant arrangements by Christine which will be sold in aid of Cancer Research.

Cash only please (the internet is still not sorted!)

The Reading Room will be open for donations on FRIDAY 21st from 3 – 4pm. We would very much welcome prizes for the Raffle and Tombola, Christmas items, and especially cakes, mince pies, biscuits, other produce.....

Or you can leave stuff at The Dairy House (in the garage by the eggs), or contact Nicky chstreet@btinternet.com 790309, or text or WhatsApp 07989 722112. I can collect if it helps!

TEA and CAKE and CHAT

The November Tea and Chats are on Tuesdays 4th and 18th from 2.30 to 4pm.

Everyone is very much welcome – there is no charge.

We will have tea cakes or crumpets in the cold weather – we have a toaster now.

So come along and enjoy tasty and warm tea cakes in great company (especially if you are there!).

CHEESE & WINE VILLAGE GET-TOGETHER

Thursday 6 November: From 7.00pm-8.30pm at The Reading Room.

As winter sits just over the time horizon, we are organising an evening get-together. This is in place of a more formal meeting and is open not just to those who might attend the usual Village Meetings. We do not see the need to plan and prepare to hold a formal Village Meeting until January 2026, however this social evening with cheese and wine will give us the opportunity to catch up and chat about village matters.

If you are yet to let us know if you can attend, please

email: chair@berwickstjames.org.uk. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

Julian, Bill and Carolyn.

PLANT PRODUCE and FLOWER TABLE supporting C.R.UK

Hello villagers and neighbouring villages.

Where did the growing season go...all too fast, it's now put the garden to bedtime. Oh well I suppose that gives us the time to start plotting and planning for the spring let's hope we don't have the dry summer we have had this year.

I don't often talk about wildlife in the magazine, but I will ask you caring gardeners to be vigilant when doing that tidy up as there are late litter hedgehogs about, I have a few in my garden.

I look forward to tallying up our raised funds for 2025 but not quite finished yet, I will be having a table of plants at our annual Christmas Fayre on the 22nd November in the Reading Room. I hope you can pop in the support the wonderful crafts and other things that will be going on and of course have cake and a cuppa.

Yours Aye Christine.

ART APPRECIATION IN BERWICK-ST-JAMES

The last presentation of the year will take place in the Reading Room, opposite the Boot Inn on Thursday 4th December, commencing at 7.30, when the subject will be “The Art of the Fin de Siecle”, the period of the “Turn of the Century”; the last decade of the 19th century, when European society was in great flux, coinciding with an out pouring of ideas, literature and visual art.

From the Aesthetic Movement, Art Nouveau and the Vienna Secession to symbolism and Post Impressionism, the European capitals, especially Paris, Brussels, and Vienna, were a magnet for revolutionary and transformative artistic expression. Artists as diverse as Edward Burne Jones, Whistler, Gustav Moreau, Gauguin, Seurat, Munch, Odilon Redon, Klimt and Toulouse Lautrec, to name but a few, produced images of angst, mystery, beauty and decadence, the most iconic of which we will explore.

And, just a reminder that the second presentation, Mythology into Art, will take place on Thursday, 30th October in the Reading Room in Berwick-St-James, commencing 7.30 with entry available from 7.15pm; a donation of £5 for the Reading Room Fund at the door, to include a glass of wine, beer or soft drink. For further information, please see the Berwick-St-James Village website, or email Brian Armstrong at brianarm100@icloud.com

THE LIFE OF SWANS ON THE RIVER TILL IN BERWICK ST JAMES

by Mark Geffryes

Over the last 30 years there have been lots of swans visiting our stretch of the River Till. Some have stayed for a few seasons; some have bred here, and some visited briefly before being encouraged to leave. From 2013 until last year, we had a dominant pair (easy to recognise from their Darvic rings – P2X and P3L).

Swans are said to “mate for life”. However, female P2X was first seen in spring 2011 with male P3D and stayed with him until autumn 2013 when she traded him in for younger male P3L. Each year this pair has nested on the island (at the north end of the village) and successfully raised many cygnets. They have also patrolled the river to keep other swans/geese away. In spring 2025 P2X paired up with a younger male (no identifying Darvic ring) and raised 7 cygnets. Identifying swans has become more difficult in the last 10 years as new swans haven’t been ringed.

In early summer 2025 a young pair (probably previous year’s cygnets) turned up. Mid-summer P3L returned on his own and also another (different) young pair

arrived with 3 cygnets. By August P3L was accompanied by a female with 2 cygnets – probably the one first seen with a mate and 3 cygnets. Not sure what happened to her mate. Cygnets (especially the males) do tend to drift away from the family group from late summer as they reach adult size and gain white feathers.

This year, with the dry period reducing the river level and with the bridge repairs, the swans' territory has been altered and possibly leading to more swans. Naturally with 4 distinct groups, on our short stretch of river, there have been "territory disputes" and swans are very territorial especially when with cygnets. In mid-summer P3L had moulted (annual process of renewing feathers when swans cannot fly or look impressive to competition) and was regularly attacked by P2X and her new mate. In September, once P3L had regrown a full set of feathers, the tables were turned and he could be seen chasing 9 swans (2 adults and 7 cygnets) up or down the river.

It is too early to know how these groups will interact in the long term.

THE BERWICK PART OF THIS MAGAZINE - ENTRIES

Please send to me, Nicky Street The Dairy House 790309, or e-mail chstreet@btinternet.com by 14th of the month before the magazine is due out, indicating it is a magazine entry. Or, if you prefer, directly to the editor (see elsewhere in the magazine).

GREAT WISHFORD

HARVEST FESTIVAL AT ST GILES'

A fine example of teamwork and coordination, this joyous village event combined thankful worship with warm-hearted conviviality - even the church cleaning the day before turned into a sociable soup lunch. The church was aglow with autumn hues and the warm light shed by the heaters; the altar was heaving with donations from the school and congregation, which Jamie took to the Food Bank the day after. We reflected on what makes gardens and lives productive - fertiliser aside, patience, tolerance, faith and self-control are important to both. The singing was joyous, Louisa's famous plaited loaf was greatly admired (and devoured), and just about everyone had remembered to bring their plates and cutlery for the supper.



We left promptly at the end to take our seats at tables set up in the school hall, where we were greeted by the gorgeous aroma of meat and vegetarian cottage pies and fruit crumbles, not to mention Daphs' famous roulade and the array of cheeses. A record number of people went up for seconds!!

There was a raffle, and all

financial donations from the supper, amounting to around £400, went to CRESS, the charity supporting those from South Sudan who have been forced to flee to Uganda.

Grateful thanks go to the large number of people who made it all possible (you know who you are!) - couldn't have done it without you.

Yvonne Allen

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

The coffee and cake morning organised by Carol Fellows was a huge success, raising an amazing £470 for Macmillan! Carol very much wanted to thank everyone - for attending, buying cake, buying raffle tickets, as well as baking such a wonderful batch of cakes. Everyone commented on how lucky we are to live in such a supportive village.

As a visitor (and self-confessed cake enthusiast), I'd like to thank Carol for hosting such a brilliant event — and Mike for managing the longest raffle in history with saint-like patience. A wonderful morning was had by all... along with a generous helping of calories!

THE ROYAL OAK

Please see all villages section (page 2) for information on upcoming food trucks at The Royal Oak carpark. Rude Giant are planning on organising a brewery visit in November — please ask at the pub for details.

LETTER FROM DONNA JOHNSON

Dear Pupils, Parents, Staff, and Governors of Great Wishford Primary School,

I hope this message finds you all in great spirits. As I reflect on my 18 wonderful years as a teaching assistant at Great Wishford, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the amazing gifts and heartfelt gestures I received upon my departure. Thank you for your kindness and thoughtfulness.

Each gift and message served as a lovely reminder of the countless memories we have created together. It has truly been a privilege to be part of such a supportive and caring community for so long. The relationships I developed over the years with each of you, whether past or present, have enriched my life in ways I cannot express.

As I move on to new adventures, I will carry each of you in my heart. Thank you once again for your generosity and for making my time here so special.

Wishing you all continued success and happiness in the years to come as you work at everything with all of your heart.

Warmest regards, Donna Johnson

GROVELY CRANK-UP



What an amazing day the Grovely Crank-Up was – packed with people, exhibits, and brilliant community spirit! A huge thank you to Zoe and her team at The Royal Oak for their hard work and long day's graft and to Lukey Luciano's for keeping everyone deliciously fed with top-notch burgers! Even better, Lukey Luciano's donated an incredible £200 to the club, which was hugely appreciated.

Another big thank you to Barney and Sam for organising (and funding!) the band and stage gazebo – The Junkyard Dogs were fantastic and definitely a group we'll want to see again. Thanks also to Gus and Richard for the marathon job of sorting out the car park, and to Rob, Henno, Phil, and Ben for keeping everyone safe on the road and pitching in throughout the setup and clear-down.

Hanna and Hayley – your behind-the-scenes efforts didn't go unnoticed! And a big shout-out to Tim and Helen for providing the gazebo, sorting the field, and helping wherever needed. Finally, Just Joe – you brought the energy back to life when everyone was flagging with your amazing music!

Together, we raised a fantastic £385 for South Newton and Wishford FC – thank you all for your support and for making it such a brilliant day!

HENRYK TRYBUS – 100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Our very own Henryk Trybus (pictured on this month's front cover!) turns 100 on 27th October! To mark this incredible milestone, we'll be celebrating at The Café @ The Church on Thursday 30th October between 2-4pm. Everyone is warmly invited to join us in raising a cup of tea or coffee and a generous slice of cake, to Henryk. Please do come along to share your good wishes and enjoy the usual café welcome.

OAK APPLE CLUB

Helen Phelps and Rachael White attended the Stonehenge area board in September, to pitch for a grant to purchase two new large gazebos for Oak Apple Day and other local community events and celebrations (e.g. Jubilee, Stofest etc). Some of you may recall two years ago, the damage sustained to the existing gazebos from the wind. And I'm sure many of you have been involved in the head scratching and time required to put up the old ones, as well as fix parts! We are pleased to report the grant was provided meaning the area board will provide 50% of funds that we have to match, so two new ones will be purchased shortly.

Please remember the upcoming dates for your diary:

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS - 6 Dec, 5pm

Santa will once again be stopping by Great Wishford and is hoping to see as many children as possible! Join us for festive nibbles, drinks, a raffle, and of course the big switch-on of the Christmas tree lights. We're always grateful for raffle prizes – big or small, for children or adults – please pass these on to Carol & Mike Fellows.

CHRISTMAS DINNER & PROMISE AUCTION - 20 Dec, 7pm

Celebrate the season with a festive dinner and dessert, followed by a lively promise auction – an evening not to be missed in the Village Hall! If you'd like to offer something for the auction (e.g. a horse ride, singing lesson or a home-cooked meal), please contact Carol or Mike Fellows on 07825 875 105. Tickets are £20 and must be purchased in advance from Helen Phelps on 07555 605570. Numbers are limited, so book early to secure your spot!

GREAT WISHFORD CAROL SINGING

Carol singing around the village is planned for Monday 22nd December, meeting at St Giles church and ending at the pub. All being well Sophie will accompany the final singsong of carols. Look out for the details in December magazine.

GREAT WISHFORD GROUP WHATSAPP

If you live in Great Wishford and would like to be added to the community WhatsApp please contact Sean Noble on 07932 034376.

SOUTH NEWTON AND STOFORD

SOUTH NEWTON AND WISHFORD RECREATION CENTRE – VILLAGE HALL**EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER**

Tuesdays @ 7.00pm; weekly Bingo at the village hall. Great fun, come along and join us

Forsaken Guardians MCC Firework Night Saturday 1st November. Timings are to follow. All are welcome to join the event to be held at the

Recreation Centre grounds. No entry fee, donations welcome for their charity work. Please walk there if you can.

Breakfast Morning Saturday 29th last breakfast morning of the year!

CHRISTMAS BINGO

Our fantastic Christmas Bingo will take place on Tuesday 16th December

SOUTH NEWTON AND WISHFORD FOOTBALL CLUB

Saturday 29th November – Race Night – a joint fund raising venture with the Village Hall. This is already proving popular. Tickets are £15 and include a sausage, mash, peas and onion gravy supper (please let us know if you would like veggie sausages) There will also be a raffle. Contact James Stewart or Dan Henstridge to book your places. We are looking for sponsors for each race. Thank you to Charlie Blake Evolved Health for agreeing the first sponsorship!

CHRISTMAS CHARITY FOOTBALL MATCHES SATURDAY 27TH DECEMBER

Something of a tradition now! We shall be playing two matches in the morning and all proceeds are for Salisbury Hospice who do such a fantastic service for the community. Wrap up warm and come along to enjoy the matches. We shall be serving breakfast baps, sweet muffins and hot drinks.

200 CLUB

This special club was formed to raise money specifically to build the Recreation Centre play area and cover ongoing maintenance costs. The funds are ring fenced and not available for general use. Each ticket costs £12 per year and there is a draw each month for 10 months of £90 split £50, £30 and £10. Twice per year, the draw is for £200 split £100, £60 and £40.

Heather Bryans runs the club on behalf of the village hall and is always on the lookout for new members. Please contact Heather Bryans 01722 742207 or Janet Hailstone 01722 790547 if you would like to join and help raise funds for the children's play area in the community.

We shall shortly be commencing work at the play area with the installation of new metal fencing.

200 CLUB AUGUST DRAWS

1st – £50	(No. 210)	Mick Cooney
2nd – £30	(No. 218)	Steve Jones
3rd – £10	(No. 155)	Sandra Jones

REFURBISHMENT PROJECT AT THE VILLAGE HALL AND RECREATION GROUNDS

Redecoration of the main hall and the new lighting is under way!

Karen Barnes, Honorary Treasurer and Secretary

POTATOES AT MANOR FARM

We're pleased to announce that the automated locker type vending machine is now up and running at Manor Farm. There are a choice of various bag sizes along with a selection of other local farm produce e.g. eggs, honey and rapeseed oil. Payment can be made by card or cash.

STAPLEFORD

HARVEST FESTIVAL

On Sunday 5th October St. Mary's celebrated with a lovely Harvest Festival service. The church was decorated beautifully by the wonderful flower ladies and the service was followed by coffee and cookies – a great opportunity to catch up with friends and neighbours. Many thanks to those who left donations for the Trussell Trust.

BELL TALK ON 26TH OCTOBER

After the 11am service at St. Mary's on Sunday 26th October, Stapleford's very own local historian, Terry Waldron, will be giving a brief talk on the history of the church bells. This will be followed by refreshments and the rare opportunity to go up the bell tower and meet some of our amazing ringers. No doubt everyone in the village will have heard the bells ringing – on some Sundays to call people to church but also for weddings and sadly for funerals too. The bells are also rung to mark significant national events like the coronation and Terry will also tell us about how the village raised enough money to buy a new bell to celebrate the Millennium!

Do come along and support Terry, learn some interesting things about such an important feature of our village and of course enjoy coffee and cake with friends and neighbours!

STAPLEFORD LOTTERY

The quarterly draw was held at the coffee morning on Wednesday 1st October. There was much jubilation as two of the attendees won prizes this time around. The winners were as follows: 1st prize (£250) No. 294, N Walker; 2nd prize (£125) No. 363, M Butler; 3rd prize (£50) No. 47, S Waldron; 4th prize (£25) No. 83, S Pratt. Do get in touch with Sue Bale via the village WhatsApp or on 01722 792763 if you would like to join.

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Our indefatigable Chairman, Keith Jackson, and his team have continued to make improvements to the village hall and its garden. The porch was cleared, new solar lights installed along the path and, following advice from a surveyor, all the vegetation around the building has been cut back. The garden is now cleared (thank you, Neil Rhind-Tutt) ready to be planted with low maintenance shrubs and perennials next spring.

The Gardening Club has had a very successful first year. In addition to the meetings, the What's App group shares very useful information and advice. Everything from tips about great gardens to visit to learning when your forsythia has 'fasciation'. Many thanks to Susi Mason for organising a delivery to our doors of very good quality rotted manure from Wilsford. Our gardens will certainly feel the benefit.

Next meeting: Monday November 3rd



The September Quiz was sold out and was another fun evening. Competition was deceptively light-hearted as teams tackled questions on subjects including farming, tech, random sporting trivia, films and books and picture rounds of paintings and prime ministers. The village hall's latest purchase – an air fryer- turned out excellent chips while Keith flipped burgers outside on the barbeque and Steve Mason poured a copious quantity of wine. The Applebees – Caroline, Martin,

Jerome and Nigel – won the prosecco prize, with Hector's university team (and Rob) second and the Rawleys, Jo and Susi in third place. It was great to be able to welcome several first timers and hope that everyone will be back for the next quiz on November 14th.

The next event will be a night of horseracing. The horses are raring to go but we will have to wait until next month for the results!

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday November 5th: Coffee and Chat (Many apologies for getting the date wrong in the last edition of Community News. It's always the first Wednesday of the month)

Wednesday December 3rd: Festive Coffee and Chat. With mince pies and Christmassy extras.

Saturday January 24th: Burn's Night social with supper. Haggis, neeps, tatties and whisky etc. More details to follow.

RETURN OF THE BROCANTE SALE - Saturday 8th November

Those of you who came to Natalia's brocante sale held in the spring will remember what a great morning that was. Lots of interesting glass, china, fabrics, pictures – you name it, it was there. Natalia is planning another sale on Saturday 8th November at the Village Hall from 9am to 1pm. Do come along for a rummage, a chat and a coffee. You may find some fabulous bargains, and you'll certainly have a good time.

PELICAN CRIBBAGE CLUB

Is there enthusiasm in Stapleford and the surrounding villages for setting up a Cribbage Club in The Pelican Inn? Cribbage is a great card game traditionally played in Pubs offering a time to meet up and warm up as Autumn and Winter beckons. Day time suits the Pub, probably in the afternoon, exact timings can be decided later. Learners, beginners, experienced players would all be welcomed. You had better start looking out your Cribbage Peg Boards! Please contact Richard Wells tel 01722-790847

WINTERBOURNE STOKE

WELCOME

A huge warm welcome to Codie and Chris who have all recently moved into Meadow View. We hope you'll be very happy living in the village and enjoy your new surroundings.

VILLAGE WHATSAPP

If anyone from the village would like to be added to the Winterbourne Stoke WhatsApp group please message Tracy on 07956514137 with your name and number and she'll add you to it.

WINTERBOURNE STOKE PARISH COUNCIL

On Tuesday 30 September the Parish Council became aware of the Government's funding for improvements to Wiltshire Council's bus stops. Wiltshire Council has invited Town and Parish Council's to submit cases for bus stop improvements in their respective areas.

There are 4873 bus stops in Wiltshire, some are on Wiltshire Council Roads, some (like the ones in Winterbourne Stoke) are on National Highways roads, and some in Salisbury are sponsored by third party advertisers. Wiltshire Council has no budget or maintenance programme for bus stops, and consequently there has been a degradation of the quality of the bus stops, and the Council has an inconsistent and incomplete asset record.

Government funding was secured in July 2025, and a process of tendering for contractors has begun with a view to awarding a contract in February 2026 for work to begin in Spring 2026. Given that this appears to be the only funding-route open to address the urgent concerns regarding the bus stop on the A303 slip road onto the B3083 Shrewton Road, the Parish Council has submitted a request to support our urgent and priority case. The email to Wiltshire Council has been copied to Danny Kruger MP, Cllr Kevin Daley, National Highways and Wiltshire Council's Director of Highways and Transport.

The case is at <https://winterbournestoke-pc.gov.uk/funding-available-to-improve-bus-stops/>

WINTERBOURNE STOKE MAGAZINE ENTRIES

Please send to me - Tracy Ewart 07956514137 or email: tracy1502@gmail.com before the 14th of every month. This can include welcomes to new villagers, events, parish council updates, congratulation messages, or anything else you'd like to see added.

Many thanks

Tracy

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