

July & August
2025

Downton Parish News



Loving St Laurence

50p

St Laurence Church Downton

Enquiries for Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals,
or requests for pastoral visits, should be made to
the team vicar Revd Veronica Batchelor.

Tel. 01725 513878

Email: veronicaforestandavon@gmail.com

Director of Music: Mrs Elaine Hicks-Arnold 01722 710341

Sunday School: Dr Janet McGee 01725 513869

Church Flowers: Mrs C. Parry 01725 514511

Church website: www.stlaurencedownton.co.uk



www.facebook.com/stlaurencedownton

Anyone is welcome to come and look round this
beautiful, ancient church or just take time to reflect
and pray in peaceful surroundings. The church will
usually be open daily from 9.30 am till 4.30pm



*"St Laurence Church explores & builds the Kingdom of God
through prayer, learning together & serving the local community."*

St Laurence is part of the Forest and Avon Team of Churches,
together with St Birinus, Morgans Vale; St Mary, Redlynch;
St Andrew, Landford; St Peter, Bramshaw; St Peter, Plaitford.

Downton Parish News is published 10 times a year and is also currently
online. Information for contributors and advertisers is at the back of
the magazine. If you would like to have the magazine delivered to you,
please contact downtonparishnews@gmail.com

From Bramshaw Rectory:

Dear Friends

No doubt!

On 3rd July, I will have been ordained for 37 years, and every year God reminds me of His wonderful sense of humour, because on 3rd July, the Church invites us to remember and celebrate Thomas – yes, that’s right, the one who doubted! (See John 20:24-29)

Previous generations of Christians were taught that doubt was something to feel guilty about. I remember visiting a lady in her 90’s who often said, “I mustn’t be a doubting Thomas”. More recently, we’ve learned to recognise that doubt is not the opposite of faith, it’s part of faith. It could be argued that anyone who hasn’t had times of doubt cannot really have thought that deeply about faith.

I grew up in a churchgoing family and I’ve never really known a time when I didn’t believe in God; but I have certainly gone through times when I have doubted God’s love and purpose for me. In the last 37 years, the hardest times have been when I have doubted God’s call on my life. But God is faithful, and He often uses our times of doubt to strengthen us for the future – as He did with Thomas who would become one of the most- travelled and effective of Jesus’ disciples.

The Devil loves to use our doubts to undermine and devalue our faith – especially in times of uncertainty and new challenges (which we shall all be facing very soon). The future is uncertain for us, but it is thoroughly and completely known to God. He has a plan which is good - and of that, I have no doubt!

With my love and prayers

David

Sundays Services in the Forest and Avon Team – July & August 2025

You are welcome to attend any of these local services.

Wednesday 2nd July

10.45am Café Service at Woodfalls followed by lunch

Sunday 6th July

9.30am Service at Plaitford Folk Festival
 9.30am Communion Service at Bramshaw
 10am Communion Service at Woodfalls
 10.30am Communion Service at Downton
 4pm Forest Church at Redlynch

Sunday 13th July

9.30am Morning Worship at Bramshaw
 10am Communion Service at Morgans Vale
 10.30am Communion Service at Downton (Chancel)
 10.30am The Gathering at Landford (Methodist Hall)

Wednesday 16th July

10.45am Café Service at Woodfalls followed by lunch

Sunday 20th July

9.30am Communion Service at Bramshaw
 10am Café Church at Woodfalls
 10.30am Communion Service at Downton
 10.30am The Gathering at Landford (Methodist Hall)
 6pm Choral Evensong at Downton
With the Halcyon Singers

Sunday 27th July

9.30am Silent Prayer to 10am at Bramshaw
 10am Communion Service at Redlynch
 10.30am Café-Style Service at Downton
 10.30am Sunday Worship at Landford (Methodist Church)
 11am Communion Service at Landford (St Andrew's)

Services at St Laurence, Downton in August

3rd August 10.30am – Communion Service
 10th August 10.30am – Communion Service (Chancel)
 17th August 10.30am – Communion Service
 24th August 10.30am – Café Church
 31st August 10.30am – Communion Service

Other local Church Services

Woodfalls Methodist Church

The Ridge, Woodfalls, SP5 2LH

Service details listed on p.2.

All enquiries to Graham Tanner (01725 512648).



Roman Catholic Services

Church of the Good Shepherd. Barford Lane, Downton, SP5 3QA

The Catholic chapel is now available for private prayer.

At 6.30 pm on Tuesdays the congregation hold a

Service of the Word by Zoom.

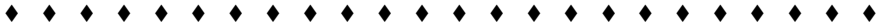
There is a Mass in the chapel on the third Thursday of the month.

The next Mass will be on 20th March at 6.30 pm.

If you would like to join the Zoom services or use the chapel for private prayer,
please contact John Elliott on 07980 921558.

St Osmund's Church TV system

can be accessed at: <https://salisbury Catholics.org/church-tv>



Downton Baptist Church

South Lane, Downton, SP5 3NA Tel: 01725 512971

www.downtonbaptist.org | office@downtonbaptist.org

Sunday Morning Worship at 10.30 am:

including groups for young people.

Services can be found on the DBC Church website.

Thursday Morning Worship at 10.30 am:

Followed by a two-course community lunch

every 2nd/4th Thursday of the month.

The PLAYROOM: Wednesday Morning at 9.00 am:

Free Toddler Church playgroup and their adults: from birth to Pre-School.

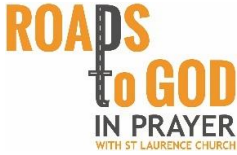
The LARDER: Food for the Community.

6.00 pm to 7.00 pm Every Monday

9.00 am to 10.00 am Every Wednesday (with refreshments)

Pastors: Rev Philip Rhoades and Rev Katy Ulliyatt

Tel: 07468 491143 or 07786 248880.



In our cycle of prayer for all living and working in our community during **July** we will be offering prayers for:

Catherine Crescent, South Lane, Green Lane, Lode Hill, Slab Lane, Downlands close.

During **August**: Gravel Close, Greenacres and Wheelwright Mews, Saxonthurst, Wick Lane.

Requests for particular prayers can be made by telephoning Reverend Ron Hart on 01725 514772 or emailing info@stlaurencedownton.co.uk. Any such requests will be kept confidential. You can request prayers at any time – not just when your road is on the monthly list. For more information, please see the Roads to God page on our website: www.stlaurencedownton.co.uk

Roads to God Prayer Group

The next Roads to God Prayer Group will meet on Wednesday **16th July** at **10.30am** in the Lady Chapel and will be led by Rev Ron Hart.



St Laurence Bells Restoration Fund

We are raising £80,000 to pay for the restoration of the bells in Downton St. Laurence church.

Bell ringing is a traditional activity, used to remind people that a church service is about to begin and to mark national events such as the King's coronation. Downton bells have been rung for many of these for many years. Recently the bells have been getting more difficult to ring, and significant restoration work is required.

All donations, of whatever size, are very much appreciated. Please give what you are comfortable donating.

Make a donation on our Just Giving page:

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/downton-bells-restoration-fund?utm_term=qqxNmPNPm&utm_medium=FA&utm_source=CL

All contributions are very much appreciated.

Join the Friends of St Laurence 100 Club

The 100 Club was set up many years ago as a fund raiser to help contribute to the large maintenance expenses of our Grade 1 listed building. There are 4 draws a year with 3 prizes of £50, £35 and £25. The balance of monies is passed on to the church.

If you would like to help St. Laurence by becoming a member of the 100 club, please contact Ken or Jo Parsons on 01725 512738. It only costs £12 per year.

A big thankyou to all those of you who have recently joined. It is much appreciated.



Events at Woodfalls Methodist Church

Talkabout

Thursday 3rd July Rosemary Legrand will talk on New Zealand's north Island in Woodfalls Methodist Hall. Coffee from 10.00am, talk starts at 10.30. All Welcome. There will be no meeting in August.

Social

Saturday 12th July Starting with a meal at 5.30pm, followed by team "Associations" the game of quick connections. To help with catering if you hope to come please ring or text 07816542204. Plans for August to TBC.

Save the Date

Big Breakfast Saturday 27th September 8-11am in Woodfalls Methodist Building. Everyone welcome to come along for breakfast, everything from fruit salad, cereal, toast to full English. Any profit to be divided between St Mary's, St Birinus and Woodfalls Methodist.

A date for the diary 10th -12th October Puzzle Festival in Woodfalls Methodist Building. Further details to follow.

Downton Horticultural Society

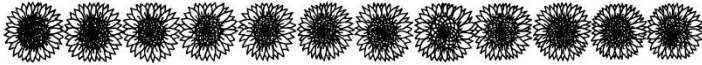
Our recent Summer Show was probably the best ever with more Sweet Pea exhibits than we have ever had. There were 11 entries in some classes. We even had entries from a grower who won a Silver Gilt award at this year's Chelsea Flower Show and got to shake hands with the King, having got a Gold award in 2024. The Memorial Hall was full of the scent of the hundreds of Sweet Peas, Roses and other flowers. and we were pleased with the large number of people who came to see them and enjoyed the refreshments. Thanks also go to Downton Primary School for allowing us to exhibit colourful flowers made by some of their pupils from up-cycled materials.

Our Autumn Show will be held in the Memorial Hall at 2pm on Saturday 30th August. Admission is free, so please come and view the many exhibits of chrysanthemums, gladioli, dahlias, pot plants, vegetables and fruit, as well as the floral arrangements. This show also has a large Bake-Off section with prizes for the best carrot cake, shortbread, Victoria sponge, lemon drizzle cake, cheese straws, tray bake, cheese scones, flapjacks, chocolate sponge, and fruit scones. The winner of the best Dundee cake will be awarded the President's Cup. You do not have to be a member of the society to enter and you do get your entry back afterwards so why not give it a go? The Show Schedules contain all the details you need to know and an entry form, they are available from any committee member including Chris Parry, 'Cymbeline', 51 The Borough, Downton (opposite the Co-op) - 01725 514511. It costs 25p per entry and for most classes the first prize is £1 and the second prize 50p, there are also trophies for some classes. Entry forms must be submitted by 8pm on the Wednesday before the show and the exhibit brought along to the hall, either on the Friday evening or Saturday morning of the Show.

Gordon Bishop

Save the Date!

Saturday 20th September - Goose Fair at St Laurence
More details to follow!



Why not buy a Downton Cuckoo Fair bag or tea towel?

Good value, and unique to our village

Contact Edna Pike on 01725 511332

Jute Shopping bags

£4 each

Tea towels

£2.50 each



Goldies Sing-Along Social Group at Downton Memorial Hall

Goldies takes place upstairs at **Downton Memorial Hall** on the **4th Wednesday of the month from 10.00 am**, led by Carole Still. Walk down the side of the Hall and enter through the door on the left.

At Goldies we chat and laugh with friends, whilst singing along to the hits of the 50's onwards, with artists such as Sir Cliff Richard, Tom Jones, Elvis, Dusty Springfield, Petula Clark and many more. Goldies is not a choir, you don't have to be able to sing to join, just love music and socialising.

Goldies Sing & Smile sessions are open to everyone, but particularly aim to reduce isolation with older adults. We ask for a £3 donation to attend.

For further information go to the website: www.golden-oldies.org.uk

Or ring Carole Still on 01722 337880

SUITE JAZZ CONCERT

FEATURING



KATE EDGAR **KEYBOARD**



PAUL BORRELLI **SAXOPHONE**



DAVE MACE **BASS**



ANWEN HOWELLS
VOCALIST

SUNDAY 6TH JULY AT 6.30 PM

St. LAURENCE CHURCHYARD

DOWNTON

(OR IN CHURCH IF WET)

**BRING A SAVOURY PICNIC, CHAIRS, YOUR
FRIENDS AND WARM CLOTHES!**

PUDDINGS AND HOT DRINKS WILL BE ON SALE

TICKETS - £10 (UNDER 18s £5) AVAILABLE ON THE GATE
OR IN ADVANCE FROM THE BOROUGH CAFÉ – FROM MID
JUNE - JO PARSONS 512738 OR SUE HUMBY – 511402

PROCEEDS IN AID OF ST. LAURENCE CHURCH

*All members of our local, and wider,
communities are invited to attend this **social
fundraising event with exhibitions of
historical memorabilia.....***

All the Fun of the (Wedding) Fayre

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS:

Friday 18th July 7 - 10pm

"Evening Reception" - free 1st drink & canapes; cash / card bar

Saturday 19th 10 - 12 noon

"Wedding Breakfast" coffee, pastries & cakes

Saturday 19th 3 - 5pm

"Afternoon Tea" with wedding cake

at St Birinus Church, Morgan's Vale Road, SP5 2HU

***Bring your family and friends to enjoy wedding displays,
wedding-themed refreshments, craft opportunities, selfie
photo booth and children's dressing up!***

*Free entry, but donations welcome in support
of maintaining our beautiful church building
and all the work of St Birinus
in our community*

Redlynch W.I

After a successful A.G.M. and a very interesting talk about the Air Ambulance, we are now looking forward to our V.E tea party on June 11th.

The National Federation of the W.I. also held it's A.G.M. this month, for the first time online. Our delegate Jan, did a wonderful job, glued to her seat and screen nearly all day, and producing a comprehensive report afterwards. It was very satisfying to hear that several of our campaigns have gained both political and media attention. For example.....Dental Health Matters....Clean Rivers which was our campaign 2 years ago.....Campaign to end domestic violence etc. It is good to see all the campaigning that is done throughout the country has an effect.

We need new voices and ideas for our W.I. so do come and join us and let your voice be heard ? Tea and cake included ! !

Our next meetings are:

- June 11th.....V E. celebration tea party
- July 9th.....The Farmer's Butcher-Demonstration
- August 13th.....Annual Outing to Weymouth by Coach. (Still a few tickets left £25.)
- September 10th.....Rev.Veronica Batchelor - Life as a Parish Vicar.

Everyone is welcome to our meeting, we just ask for a £5 donation towards catering and hall costs. We start promptly at 2.15 in Morgan's Vale & District Village Hall.

Come and try us out, new members are particularly welcome.

The trip to Christmas market in Winchester is on December 3rd at a cost of £18 and is open to everybody. To book for either of our Outings: Sandra .tel.07901717949 or email sandrajimpearce@gmail.com

For any other information: Ann Kelly 01725514550, annkelly33@gmail.com

TWO RACES,
ONE AMAZING
IMPACT

COLOUR DASH ¹

JOIN THE RACE TO END HOMELESSNESS

Fun. Loud. Family-friendly.

One mad lap of the race circuit filled with colour, music and foam.

PRICES FROM
CHILD £5
ADULT £22
All ages welcome

BOOK NOW



RUN THE

10K SPEEDWAY ²

Alternatively, lace-up your running shoes and get ready to achieve your P.B. on the fastest motor racing circuit in the UK, the perfect running ground for beginners and experienced runners alike!

Prices start from £20. Minimum age 15+.

As a charity, Alabaré has been helping people who are homeless for over 30 years by providing a warm, safe home, and support to rebuild their lives. By taking part, you could support a vulnerable person take the first steps towards building a new life.

13 SEPTEMBER 2025

THRUXTON RACE CIRCUIT

#LETSENDHOMELESSNESS

Alabaré

Registered with:



Financial
REGULATOR

Alabaré is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England No 2659311. Registered Charity No 1056324.
Riverside House, 2 West Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP3 7UD

Royal British Legion Downton Branch

The Branch has its meetings in Downton Brewery Tap Bar (upstairs). Our meetings for the remainder of this year are as follows:

- Thursday 31st July
- Thursday 25th September
- AGM on Thursday 27th November

All meetings start at 7.30pm. If you are interested in joining the Branch, please come along to a meeting. We look forward to seeing you.



The New Forest & The Trafalgar School are recruiting new school governors

Your role will be to work with the other governors, using your own professional or community expertise, to benefit the school and enhance the experience and opportunities for our pupils.

The Committee's role is to provide focussed governance for the school at a local level. It does this by supporting, challenging and encouraging in two principal areas: vision, ethos and strategic direction and the educational performance.

If you are interested, please contact us at:

governance@magnalearningpartnership.org.uk



St Laurence PCC seeking new Treasurer for 2026

After many years of dedicated service our current treasurer will step down at the end of 2025, and so St Laurence is seeking a new treasurer from 1st January 2026. Your role as treasurer would be to maintain the church accounts and carry out the financial decisions made by the PCC. Desired skills are: aptitude with numbers, familiarity with excel, honesty, enthusiasm and communication skills.

If you are interested and would like further details before making any commitment, please contact Revd Veronica Batchelor email: veronicaforestandavon@gmail.com or tel: 01725 513878.

Downton Bowling Club

The season is now well underway, the refurb of our clubhouse has been completed & all four of our teams have started playing matches. As at 9th June, our New Forest team's record is P6 W3 L3 +21 shots 8th/10. Westbrook MTL P1 L1, but we have won a cup match. Bustards P6 W3 D1 L2 +18 3rd/10. Dragons P6 W2 D1 L3 -47 6th/10. Throughout the summer, we will be holding roll ups every Monday afternoon 2pm to 4pm & every Friday evening 6pm to 8pm (excluding B/H). If you fancy giving bowls a try, why not join our members & pop along to one of our sessions. There is ample free parking & all equipment, coaching & light refreshments are provided free of charge. All we ask, is that you kindly wear flat soled shoes (trainers). If you would prefer to watch, on Thursday evenings & Saturday lunchtimes the bar is open whilst the matches are on, so why not come along, relax & watch a good game of bowls in the sun, with a beer in hand! We look forward to seeing you. For more information & to see our fixtures list, please visit our website www.downtonbc.co.uk or phone Ivan on 07910 290735 or email buib7@icloud.com



Downton Bowling Club

Why not join us for a roll up at 2pm every Monday or 6pm every Friday throughout the season* from 25th April?

All equipment & tuition provided free of charge.

Downton Bowling Club
Wick Lane, Downton, SP5 3NF

Contact: Ivan Buss - 07910 290735

email: buib7@icloud.com

web: downtonbc.co.uk

or: facebook.com/downtonbc/



A warm welcome awaits you.

*excluding Bank Holidays



Forest Edge Flower Arranging Society



Our June meeting was so much fun – Alison Finch demonstrated fascinating floral designs associated with popular toys from the past. We all felt nostalgic and inspired by her striking designs.

Do come along and join us for ‘Cream Tea and Talk’ on 7th July. We love home-made scones and socialising! Our speaker, Bronda Dossett will be entertaining us with her talk ‘Aspects of Jane Austen’ – very timely to celebrate the 250th birthday of its famed and beloved author!

Cream teas from 7 pm, followed by a talk at 7.30 pm. Do join us and bring your friend(s)! Non-members are welcome (£8 door fee including cream teas).

All meetings and events are held at Morgans Vale & Woodfalls Village Hall, Redlynch (SP5 2LD).

A full programme for 2025/26 is available on the notice board in the hall, our facebook group from the weblink <https://tinyurl.com/FEFAS2025>.

We look forward to welcoming you!

Contact: Miyuki Griffin 07990 868351, forestedgeflower@gmail.com

Facebook group: www.facebook.com/groups/forestedgeflower

Upcoming meetings:

- 7th July - Cream Tea & Talk ‘Aspects of Jane Austen’ Bronda Dossett (7 pm Tea, 7.30 pm Talk)
- 1st September - Demonstration ‘Floral Delight’ by Martina Coleman 7.30 pm (7 pm Refreshments)
- 6th October - Demonstration ‘Time to Relax’ by Andrea Hillyard 7.30 pm (7 pm Refreshments)



Downton’s Mobile Post Office

Every Friday Morning

Moot Lane (near to Recreation Ground): 9.00 am - 10.00 am.

The Bull car park: 10.05 am till 11.05 am.

Lover Repair Café

'SUMMER IS UPON US & WE HAVE BEEN BUSY REPAIRING GARDEN EQUIPMENT. IF YOU HAVE A GARDEN ITEM TO REPAIR BRING IT IN.



On the left is the well loved "Theresa Terry", who came into our hospital simply to give her back her nose, hand and feet pads. The main pleasure for us all was the tears of joy when Theresa met with her owner who had cherished her since she was two years old.

Now, the editor has a quandary, he was given the name for this type of stringed puppet, on the right. If you know the name please let me know. She came to us as a bunch of mixed up strings and was very distressed, but of all people, one of our clock specialists managed to untangle her and get her back into her dancing mode.



PRE-LOVED ITEMS AVAILABLE THIS MONTH

Below is a List of pre-loved Items now available

NOTE:- **Lover Garage Sale 28th June**, many other items will be available at Repair Cafe Stall.

3 No. Coffee Makers	23" Panasonic Television £10	George Sandwich Maker £3
Cyclon-Handy – Small Vac £3	Larkspur Bike £12	Power Devil Elect Planer £3
Salter Digital B/Room Scales £3	White Opaque Glass Lamp £2	Philips Electric Oil Heater £4
Cookworks Toaster (2 slices) £3	Philips Steam Iron £2	Panasonic DVD Player £5
Tower 2Lt Slow Cooker £3	Casio Song-bank Keyboard £4	32" LG Television £6



A rather surprising fact is that one of the most popular repairs we get is Sewing Machines (Good on you ladies). Most often we are able to repair machines, if not we can recommend a Specialist. If unrepairable we send to "Tool Aid".

We are always here to help you by repairing furniture, ceramics, electrical goods, clothing item or old treasures. Simply contact us or drop in to see us at:-

Redlynch Village Hall.

Wed and Fri mornings - 10am - 12pm

Or

1st Sat. month at Downton Baptist Church

from 10am – Midday

CONTACT US:

Email:

loverrepaircafe@gmail.com

downtonrepaircafe@gmail.com

Web Site:

www.loverrepaircafe.org.uk

Tel: (If essential) 01725 510753



On reflection, I think our Helper made a brilliant job of restoring this lovely mirror. Come and join the Team

Downton Parish Council News



We have been lucky recently with some rain and sunshine for the garden but not so lucky with the wind blowing all the petals off the flowers! Please find below a few of DPC's recent tasks:

- DPC has asked PC Marc Evans to keep an eye out for dangerous parking by Barford Lane Junction with the High Street. He will ticket these cars, and if necessary, issue a £30 fine
- Wiltshire Rights of Way Officers with the Ramblers will soon start improvement work on a little-known footpath DOWN60 which is a loop off South Lane
- DPC is considering improvements to the informal crossing opposite the Wooden Spoon
- Our Parish Steward Steve will be out and about this month – removing dead wood from the Memorial Gardens, strimming Long Close to Gravel Close from the bin onwards, strimming Avon Meadow and Weeke Close amongst other jobs
- DPC held a successful pop-up event on Friday 6 June, asking residents how would they spend £88K (not from your Council tax contribution) Maybe on: Public toilets refurb, Cemetery refurb, The Leisure Centre, Green Environment, Moot Rec football pitch, Footpaths BUT.... We can't achieve all that we want to without recruiting more councillors to share the excitement! So please contact the Clerk Mel on clerk@downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk for more information

The Parish Council meetings are held on the **second Monday of the month in the Bonvalot Room in the Downton Memorial Centre. Meetings start at 7pm.**

There is always a public question time at the beginning of the meeting, so do come along and have your say. **It is YOUR Parish after all!**

Susan Parsons is the Administrative Officer for the Parish Council. She can be contacted on **Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 07483 344035** admin@downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk Where appropriate, she may redirect queries to Councillors or the Parish Clerk.

Redlynch and District Local History Society

Our June event was led by Peter Roberts who took us on a guided tour of Hale; in essence a walk around the Green. Our first stopping point was the tumulus, also known by a variety of names. As the site has not been properly excavated, it is unknown whether it is actually a tumulus or the site of a windmill. As we walked around the Green Peter described the houses and their occupants to us. Many of the properties or their sites were sold by Hale estate in 1920. One purchase around that time was for a sizeable parcel of land with a rundown house for £110; within a few years after doing the house up the buyer sold the house and packages of land for over £300, a large amount of money prior to WW1. We saw the Old Post Office, the listed telephone box (moved from its original position on the opposite side of the road on the corner) and the site of the postman's rest hut (a corrugated shed) next to Hobbs Oak. Moving along the Green we saw the old school, Old Dames School/Cottage, and more picturesque cottages and the old village shop which closed in the 1950s. We finished the tour at the village Hall where we had a cup of tea and were able to see old pictures on the large screen display and in the paper archive, which included the splendid water colour illustrated WI 1952 book of the village.

Finally, a plea for new committee members, we are in need of fresh faces on the committee. Duties are not onerous if you do not wish them to be. Please contact me at robertinns@tiscali.co.uk if you are interested.

German Airmen at Hale House

Prior to our June 2025 walk around Hale village we heard that two German Airmen had been laid out in Hale House during WW2. We were asked if we could determine any further details. To our knowledge there were two local crashes involving German aircraft; both occurred during the Battle of Britain.

The first was Junkers Ju88 twin engine bomber of LG1 at Turf Hill on 14 th August; to quote "The Battle of Britain, then and now" A Ju88A-1 of 1/LG1 was shot down following an attack on Middle Wallop, it crashed at Turf Hill, North Charford at 6pm. Oberleutnant Heinrich, Gefreiter Stark and Gefreiter Ahrens were killed and Gefreiter Sauer was captured.

LG stands for LehrGeschwader (Teaching Wing) which was tasked with developing new tactics.

Oberleutnant was equivalent to an RAF Flying Officer

Gefreiter was equivalent to an RAF Airman First Class

The second was a Heinkel 111H of 3/KG27 1G+EL at Hale on 29 August. Quoting from the source above,

Shot down by Pilot Officer Alan Wright of 92 squadron during night operations over Bristol. Crashed at Hale 11pm. Oberleutnant Haunerbein, Unteroffizier Schlosser, Unteroffizier Siebers and Obergefreiter Walpert all baled out and captured. Walpert later died of injuries.

KG stands for Kampfgeschader, literally battle wing or bomber group in RAF parlance.

Unteroffizier was equivalent to an RAF Corporal.

As only one person died in the second case and in Salisbury Infirmary, it was apparent that the airmen in the original query were from the first crash.

Further research from the Battle of Britain on line at www.battle-of-britain.org.uk gave:

Ju 88A-1 of 1/LG1 was shot down by Sergeants A.N. Feary, M.C.B. Boddington of 609 and 234 Squadron respectfully at 17.05 after a low level attack on Middle Wallop airfield. The aircraft crashed at Turf Hill, North Charford, Oberlt W. Heinrici and Gefr H-W. Stark killed. Gefr F. Ahrens captured but died the next day in Salisbury Infirmary. Gefr E. Sauer was captured unhurt. The deceased aircrew were buried at Devizes Road Cemetery in Salisbury.

All other sources credit Sgt Feary shooting this aircraft down and as Boddington is also credited with helping shoot down another aircraft around half an hour later the later's involvement is questionable. Both squadrons were equipped with Spitfires at Middle Wallop.

It therefore appears the Hale House deceased airmen were Heinrici and Stark. Examination of Devizes Cemetery records on line failed to reveal the burial sires but when the search was widened, it was discovered that all three were reinterred in the German Military Cemetery at Cannock Chase, Staffordshire. 2,786 WW2 Germans are buried there and another 1000 lie locally to their place of death.

Hale House was apparently the local HQ for the Home Guard of the local Hampshire area. The local Wiltshire Home Guard are believed to have used Redlynch House.

Good Companions

We meet in the Downton Memorial Hall on Tuesdays from 2.00 to 4.00 pm. Regulars pay £2 and visitors, who are always welcome, pay £2.50. Cup of tea and biscuit included. Contact Julia Whitmarsh on 01725 510601 for further information.

Joanne has arranged the following for us:

- 1st July (week 1) - Outing to Milestones Museum, Basingstoke - includes cream tea (scone and a cuppa)
- 8th July (week 2) - Games
- 15th July (week3) - Exercises and fun with June Phillimore
- 22nd July (week 4) - Games and quiz
- 29th July (week 5) - Salisbury Pluckers will be here to entertain us.

- 5th August (week 1) - Games
- 12th August (week 2) - Carol Watson will be sharing her trip to Lake Como in Italy.
- 19th August (week 3) - Games
- 26th August (week 4) - Games

Week numbers are for the refreshment rota. If you would like to help with the making of drinks; taking out the trays of doing the dishes please speak to Edna.

On the 6th May we had an interesting, informative, humorous talk by Ron Taylor about the foods we buy and eat. Ron had done months of research into the many additives that go into these foods. We were able to see the names of the additives on the large screen. There seemed to be a large number of E additives; it was also surprising to see sugar was one of the ingredients in the humble OXO cube. There was lots of laughter and the time passed quickly.

The LARDER for our community



Everyone is welcome to come and share from **The LARDER**, situated in Downton Baptist Church. You will find a wide variety of food donated by our local community, including the Co-op and Bidfood. Our hope is that **The LARDER** will reduce food waste and make food available to everyone who would like it. It is absolutely FREE, and anyone can come and access one bag of food per week.

We welcome donations from individuals as well, of items of unopened food, cleaning and hygiene products. We also welcome fresh food. Any financial donations received will go to purchasing more food.

There continue to be many locations where food can be taken. The Collection points are: The Co-op; Ashley Grange; The Cedars at Landford; the Primary School and The Trafalgar School in Downton. You can also bring fresh food and any other items to the church during Larder open times or church office hours. (9.00 am to 1.00 pm Monday to Thursday),

Please see Downton Baptist Church website for further information.
www.downtonbaptist.org/Groups/384889/The_Larder.aspx

The LARDER is open each week on Monday Evenings from 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm, and Wednesday Mornings from 9.00 am to 10.00 am.



Hearing Aid Clinic

Downton Baptist Church, South Lane

First Thursday of the month from 10.00 am to 12.00 pm. Drop in and get your hearing aids retubed and cleaned and obtain new batteries.

We will only be able to let a maximum number of clients into the room at any one time. Please respect social distancing measures. This service is for NHS Salisbury hearing aid users. Please bring your battery issue card.



We are RNID and together, we'll make life fully inclusive for deaf people and those with hearing loss or tinnitus.

Contact: Gill Drayson 01722 580014 or 07570 670 643

gillian.drayson@rnid.org.uk

Redlynch Players

Backstage News



Tea with Jane

Last month we held two special afternoon performances in tribute to Jane Austen, who was born 250 years ago. Interspersed with music, song and sketches from her books, we learnt about this most quintessentially English author whilst enjoying a delicious cream tea! This event was held in support of our local church, St Mary's, Redlynch and we were delighted to have raised some much-needed funds for the building and the community it serves. It was lovely to welcome some of the church members to participate in the performances (and do the raffle, of course!) and we were very grateful to Janet Newman for organising the cakes and scones. A winning combination! Thank you once again for all of the support of our audiences, we really appreciate it.

Summer beckons...!

Our AGM for members and Patrons will be held later this month. It is always encouraging to look back on the past year and to spend a moment reflecting on all that we have achieved. For a small group of people, Redlynch Players has accomplished much over the last year! We have held two very successful productions as well as the recent fundraiser welcoming over 600 people to watch us perform!

First was our Autumn production, **Visitors** by Barney Norris: *"This Redlynch Players production of Visitors was very good indeed, but then that's what we have come to expect from this talented theatre group. It is always a pleasure to come here knowing that the quality of acting is likely to be first rate and the venue just perfect – even when the subject matter is as hard hitting as this."* SceneOne+

And our latest production, **Deckchairs** by Jean McConnell

"This is the sort of theatre that the ever-good Redlynch Players excel in producing and they have chosen well from the repertoire – a selection of five 15-minute episodes, where we meet an assortment of extremely colourful and exaggerated characters, with interesting tales to tell. The ten characters are played by only Sarah Newman, Gina Hodsman and Ali Silver – a quite remarkable achievement. All three of them turned in skillful nuanced performances, as they moved from one character to another, with full costume changes, in quick succession."

They gave the impression of accomplishing this with effortless ease, though the reality must have been the complete opposite. They engaged with the audience from the first to the last scenes and drew spontaneous laughter with a succession of comedic lines, together with emotional responses from the serious and harder hitting elements. In a word, they were brilliant!"

– Scene One

Quite something for a little drama group in a local village hall! For now, we have a little break, but **do come and see us in the Autumn during the week beginning 24th November – SAVE THE DATE!**

Find out more about us!

To be included on our emailing list to hear our latest news, email:

info@redlynchplayers.co.uk

Alternatively, see our website for recent reviews and past productions:

www.redlynchplayers.co.uk

Ali Silver

Chair of Redlynch Players



Downton Swift Walk

Please note the date of our Downton Swift Walk and Talk has been changed to Wed 9th July at 7.30 pm. Meet outside at St Laurence Church.

Stroll through the village on a Summer's evening to watch and learn more about swifts and how we have worked with the local community to create more nesting opportunities.

A suggested donation of £5 will be collected on the day.

Please do come along to watch and learn about these extraordinary birds!





Downton Band presents

Brass On The Grass

Featuring Downton Beginners,
Downton Training Band
and Downton Band

Sunday, 13th July 2025

from 3pm

The Moot

Downton, SP5 3PH

*Bring a picnic and enjoy a
wonderful afternoon of music*

Downton Band Registered Charity No. 274510

Hampshire Open studios

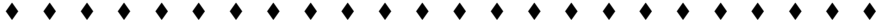


Hampshire Open Studios will return this year from Saturday 16th August to Monday 25th August.

It is an annual art trail where the visiting public can meet artists in their homes, studios and galleries free of charge to see a range of art and craft on offer in the county, including painting, sculpture, ceramics, textiles, glass, wood, metal and jewellery.

This year there will be over 300 venues open, many in the New Forest including our local area in Downton, Charlton, Redlynch, Hale, Breamore and Woodgreen. For more details (including maps) please visit www.hampshireopenstudios.org.uk

Free paper brochures listing all the venues in The New Forest area and beyond can be obtained from the end of July from Downton Library.



What's on at Downton Library

Remember that all events are on our new [What's On](#) Wiltshire website with Downton Library filter.

Thursday



Happy to Chat, 10am – 1pm

Take some time for yourself and enjoy a chat with our lovely volunteers. **Just drop in.**

Friday



Rhyme Time, 9:30am – 10am

For babies, toddlers and children under 5. **Just drop in**

Saturday



Brick Creator Play, 10:30am – 11:30am

A creative brick building session for children aged 6-12 years. **Just drop in.**

The Summer Reading Challenge is coming!



Registration starts on 5th July

The theme this year is Story Garden. For all children aged 4-11. Free just need a Wiltshire Library card. Now is a great time to sign up if you don't have one.

- Hospital, surgery, dental as well as optical appointments, shopping, and hairdressers.
- Visiting friends or relatives in hospital.
- Collecting prescriptions, library books.
- Social and House visits and taking clients to day centres.

Its clients are enthusiastic about the service provided. One says, "Having a volunteer driver take me to the right hospital parking area gives me renewed confidence and maintains my link with my local community". Another comments, "I am picked up from my home and taken to Salisbury District Hospital, Salisbury Medical Centre, Dentist or Doctors Surgery. What a fabulous service! Thank you."

There is no charge for the service but the Link depends on donations from its users to help run the service. Our volunteers receive a mileage allowance and we organise training / information / social events twice a year.

Becoming a Downton Link driver can be a rewarding pastime and we are always in need of volunteers especially drivers .

If you would like to join us a volunteer or need help with transport and live in our catchment area please contact us on: **01725 513807**, Monday to Friday 9-5 (answer phone operates outside these times).

Or e mail info@downtonlink.org.uk



St Laurence

For further details on St Laurence and to keep in touch, join our e-mail list! Please contact veronicaforestandavon@gmail.com or tel 01725 513878.

Downton Clubs and Societies

Allotments Wick Lane	Chris Hall	01725 511877
Barford Day Centre (not active at the moment, please contact)	Jeremy Parsons.....	07762 218409
BWSC Association Chairman	Mr Simon Bromilow	07785 265019
Downton Bowling Club	Mr Mike Hallam.....	01725 513359
Cuckoo Fair Committee	Mr T Pike	01725 511332
DCT Links Youth Group: School years 7/8/9+.....	Mr P Rhoades	01725 514792
Downton Band Secretary	Danie Williams	07535 994164
Downton Community Choir	Kate Edgar	01725 512635
Downton Community Pre-School	Naomi Hawker	01725 511178
Downton Football Club	Dan Newman	07900 370600
Downton Green Group	Jane Brentor	01725 510504
Downton History Group	Mr Dave Webber	01725 513759
Downton Horticultural Society	Mr Tony Ashford	01725 510656
Downton Lace Group	Mrs Judi Brown	01725 511649
Downton Leisure Centre	Dave Taylor	01725 557268
Downton Link	Co-ordinator	01725 513807
Downton Millennium Green Trust	Sue Larkin	01725 511209
Downton Parish Council Clerk (Mel Camilleri)	clerk@downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk	07798 698199
Admin Officer Downton Parish Council (Susan Parsons)	admin@downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk	07483 344035
Downton Society	Susan Parsons	07875 036879
Downton Society Footpath Group	Susan Parsons	07875 036879
Downton Tennis Centre	Dave Taylor.....	01725 557268
Forest Edge Flower Arranging Society	Miyuki Griffin.....	07990 868351
Gallipoli (D) Company, Wilts, Army Cadet Force.....	SSI J Burton	07788 975846
Goldies Sing & Smile	Carole Still	01722 337880
Good Companions	Mrs Julia Whitmarsh	01725 510601
Guides: Rainbows	Sam Bennie	07866 318497
First Downton Brownies	Kirstie Penton	07824 898611
First Downton Guides	Liz Jennings	
	lstdowntonguides@gmail.com	
Guild of Ringers (Church Bells)	Mr R Plaskett	01725 511258
Longwater Tai Chi	Jane Launchbury	07522 602379
Memorial Hall Bookings	Mrs Hilary Mace	07760 415818
Parochial Church Council	Mrs Jo Parsons	01725 512738
Royal British Legion	Mr Paul Hammond	07710 425983
Scouts: Beavers	Jon Edwards ... downtonbeavers@gmail.com	
Cubs	Jonathan Borwell... downtoncubs@gmail.com	
Scouts	Kevin Hill	downtonscouts@gmail.com
St Laurence Sunday School	Dr J McGee	01725 513869
The Moot – Friends of the Moot	Mrs J Greville-Heygate	01725 511755
The Moot Preservation Trust: Secretary	Mr Hamish Dunlop.....	01725 512514

*Please notify the Editor of any changes, additions or deletions
(Amended June 2025)*

Community Café in the Memorial Hall



This regular event takes place at Downton Memorial Hall on the last Friday of each month, from 10.00 am - 12 noon.

Tea, coffee and homemade cake - plus the opportunity to chat to old friends and make new ones. There is a book share, and it is hoped that people will bring and share excess garden produce and flowers.

Everyone is welcome – pop in for a few minutes or stay all morning.

There is no charge but leave a donation if you wish.

If you know anyone who would like to come but needs a lift please contact stephaniejalland1@gmail.com.

To advertise goods or services in this magazine:

Block advertisements: Details from Gordon Bishop
(01725 511475) Email: g.bishop551@btinternet.com

**All box and line advertisements in this magazine
are accepted in good faith**

Sending editorial copy

Articles and notices of events for the **September** issue to be emailed to the Editor by **7th August**.

Please contact the Editor if you wish to submit a paper copy.

Articles will be shortened if space is limited; any received late may not be used. Please use black and white clipart rather than colored items.

Word documents are preferable to pdfs or jpgs.

Email: downtonparishnews@gmail.com

Opinions expressed or implied in the Downton Parish News are not necessarily those of the Editor or Parochial Church Council, and no responsibility can be accepted for any errors of fact printed.