

September 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

Grace, Love and Fellowship

If I asked you to quote from Paul's 2nd Letter to the Corinthians, Chapter 13 verse 13, I wonder if you could do so? But if I said, "Let's say 'The Grace'" far more would know what to say.

"May the **grace** of our Lord Jesus Christ, the **love** of God and the **fellowship** of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore".

As those words trip easily off our tongues, I am struck by the fact that in that one verse we find three of the defining characteristics of Christian faith.

Grace is amazing! The God revealed by Jesus is a God of total grace. He doesn't love us because we are good enough (any of us) and He doesn't cease to love us whatever we do. He chooses to love us freely and without condition. This, incidentally, is why following Jesus is not about "religion". Religion is what we do to try to get closer to God. We don't need to; in Jesus, God comes close to us!

And through grace, we discover just how much God **loves** us. Love is the 2nd of our great Christian truths. I was a bit alarmed to read in the Daily Telegraph (so, it must be true!) that a prominent politician has "given up on God" but is still a "cultural Christian". Sorry, but you can't be a Christian of any sort if you don't believe in God (That's like being vegan but still enjoying the occasional bacon sandwich!) We proclaim that God is real – and is all about Love.

Once we learn about God's amazing grace and begin to respond to His love, it is hardly surprising that we seek out others who share our faith. And that leads us to the 3rd extraordinary thing about the followers of Jesus – we seek out a community of faith. And this is the **fellowship** that has always defined the church. Fellowship isn't actually a great translation of the Greek word "koinonia", but it's the best word that English can give us. God calls us with His grace, reveals His love and places us within a huge multi-cultural, multi-national, multi-lingual, all-age community of believers.

Church is not a place we go to – it's a family to which we choose to belong.

After 20+ years among you, I have learned many things about myself and about our faith in Jesus who uniquely reveals God.

As I take my leave and begin the next stage of discipleship and ministry, I pray that we would all know God's grace, receive His love and rejoice to be part of the community of faith.

"May the **grace** of our Lord Jesus Christ, the **love** of God and the **fellowship** of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore". AMEN.

With my love and prayers

David

Forest and Avon Team Services for September 2025

You are welcome to attend any of these local services.

Wednesday 3rd September

10:45am Café Service at Woodfalls Methodist Church *followed by lunch*

Sunday 7th September – The last Sunday before Revd David Bacon's retirement

9:30am Communion Service at St Laurence Downton

11:15am The Gathering at Landford Village Hall

Followed by Bring and Share Lunch at 12:30pm – all very welcome

4:00pm Forest Church at St Mary's Redlynch

Sunday 14th September

9:30am Morning Worship at St Peter's Bramshaw

10am Communion Service at St Birinus Morgans Vale

10:30am Communion Service at St Laurence Downton (Chancel)

10:30am The Gathering at Landford Methodist Hall

Wednesday 17th September

10:45am Café Service at Woodfalls Methodist Church *followed by lunch*

Sunday 21st September

09:30am Communion Service at St Peter's Bramshaw

10am Café Church at Woodfalls Methodist Church

10:30am Communion Service at St Laurence Downton

10:30am Harvest Festival at Landford Methodist Hall *followed by bring and share lunch*

4pm Harvest Service at St Peter's Plaitford

6pm Evensong at St Mary's Redlynch

Sunday 28th September

9:30am Harvest Festival at St Peter's Bramshaw

10am Communion Service at St Mary's Redlynch

10:00am Harvest Festival at St Andrew's Landford

10:30am Harvest Festival at St Laurence Downton

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 18th September 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.

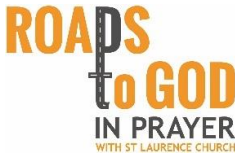
The LARDER: Food for the Community.

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 **September** we will be offering prayers for:

High Street, The Borough

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 **24th September** at **10.30am** in the Lady Chapel and will be led by Rev Ron Hart.



Could you capture the beauty of St Laurence Church?

Thank you for the many positive comments we've received about our new church logo. The logo started as a sketch on the back of an envelope and we're very grateful to Jane Launchberry and Susan Mason who helped develop the design along the way, and our grateful thanks also to Jason Bennett who completed the final digital design. The logo captures the beauty of the building as well as the love of God that is within and reaches beyond the building.



Following the successful introduction of our new logo, we are now looking for some contemporary and creative photo images. Whether you're passionate about photography, have a creative eye or simply like taking photos why not visit St Laurence and see if you can capture the beauty of St Laurence Church? We're hoping to use some of the best photos (with the photographer's agreement) in our promotional material in the coming months.

You can email your photos to lovestlaurence@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support and we're looking forward to seeing your images.

Love,
St Laurence

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 thank you to all those of you who have recently joined. It is much appreciated.

The results of the last draw

1st prize Mr P Pleydell-Bouvier

2nd Prize Mrs Margaret Beesom

3rd Prize Mrs P Chandler

Many thanks. We hope to hear from you.



Events at Woodfalls Methodist Church

Talkabout

Thursday 4th September – Chris Walker will be giving a talk on The Great American Songbook in Woodfalls Methodist Hall. The talk starts at 10:30am, with coffee from 10:00am.

Big Breakfast

Join us for Breakfast on Saturday 27 September from 8 – 11am at Woodfalls Methodist Church. Everything from Toast to a Full English Breakfast will be served for a donation, including vegetarian and gluten free options. All profits from this event will go to the 3 local churches (St Mary's Redlynch, Woodfalls Methodist and St Birinus).



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.

Downton Christmas Tree Festival 2025 in St Laurence Church



We are delighted to be bringing the Downton Christmas Tree Festival to St Laurence Church again on Friday 5th, Saturday 6th & Sunday 7th December. We are thrilled to announce that for the first time we are launching the weekend with a spectacular performance by The Salisbury Big Band in the church on Friday 5th December @7.00pm

We will provide the beautiful setting, the wide variety of music, activities for children and our renowned selection of cakes to enjoy with your tea or coffee while you soak up the festive atmosphere.

ALL WE NEED NOW ARE YOUR CREATIONS!

DECORATED TREES, CHRISTMAS SCENES OR WREATHS.

Let your creativity fly and have fun making something. Pick up an entry form from the 19 September from the library, Borough Café or the church, or go to www.stlaurencedownton.co.uk
www.indownton.org.uk

Final entry deadline: 17 November 2025

The festival will start with:

Friday 5 December live music from the Salisbury Big Band, with a licenced bar **tickets available from September 1st**

Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 December 10.00 am – 4.00 pm
Church opens with exhibits, activities, cakes and music

Entries welcome from individuals, schools, families, businesses, charities and community groups of Christmas wreaths and trees of your own design.

Any funds raised during the festival will be divided between St Laurence Church and Lover Baby Bank.



Occasional afternoon group for people to meet over refreshments
& activities.

Tuesday 16th September 2pm

**Our local friend Juan Phillimore will talk on
her life in the local area.**

**Followed by a Cream
Tea.**

**In Woodfalls
Methodist Small Hall**



A PLACE TO CHAT TO OLD FRIENDS AND MEET NEW ONES

ALL WELCOME

Future dates planned 21/10, 2/12, 13/1



SOCIAL EVENT

SATURDAY 20th SEPTEMBER

WOODFALLS METHODIST HALL

STARTING WITH A MEAL AT 5.30pm
FOLLOWED BY TEAM "Higher or Lower"



The game of dizzying heights and all time lows.
 E.g. In snooker is the blue ball higher or lower in points than the pink ball.

To help with catering if you hope to come please ring or text 07816542204. But if you haven't and can come at the last minute still come, but let us know if you have a special diet.

ALL WELCOME

A SOCIAL EVENT YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A CHURCH GOER !!



Future dates 15/11 and 13/12.

In October joining Lover Island Discs on 18/10

Downton Horticultural Society

If you receive your copy of the Parish News early, please do not forget 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 and a large Bake-Off section. As usual there will be a raffle and refreshments, and we now have boxes so you can buy a slice or three of home-made cake to take home with you.

We would like to thank Glyn and Chris Parry for hosting our summer garden party at their home. We were blessed with perfect weather and the evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all who came along. The last two years we have had to cancel the event due to the weather being unkind, so it made this year very special.

We are still looking for people to become involved with the society. This could involve putting up notices, distributing schedules booking speakers etc. It would not need to be particularly onerous so if you could help then please get in touch.

Gordon Bishop (511475)



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

World Homeless Day – Friday 10th October

Government figures published in February for the numbers of people sleeping rough on a particular night in November showed an increase of 20% on the previous year. Alabaré is determined to work to break the cycle of homelessness. **Would you help us?**



To mark **World Homeless Day on Friday October 10th** we would love you to hold a sponsored BIG Sleep at Home to raise funds for our local homes and services. It could be in your local church, school or community hall or your garden. We will provide information on how to make it a successful event and during the evening we are planning to join everyone together online to celebrate the impact you are all making.

Do let me know if you can help us, and if you would like to organise a different event – maybe a pub quiz, a darts event or a bake sale – that would be fabulous too! Your one act of compassion will ensure we can bring more of the most vulnerable and homeless off the street, providing homes, restoring hearts and empowering minds.

Thank you for your support.

Helen Inglis, Community Fundraising Officer h.inglis@alabare.co.uk



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

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



Keep in Touch with St Laurence Church

Would you be interested in learning more about what's going on at St Laurence Church? We have a range of exciting events forthcoming, details of which you can see throughout the magazine, with plans for more exciting events and activities for 2026.

If you would like to learn more, please sign up to our mailing list, where you'll receive monthly emails about what's been going on, plans for the month, and information about our services.

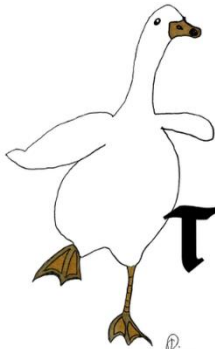
To sign up, please email Revd Veronica Batchelor

veronicaforestandavon@gmail.com

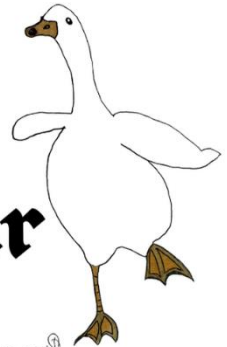
We're also keen to hear any ideas for activities you'd like to take place in the church – please do let Veronica know if you have any ideas or thoughts!



St Laurence



The Goose Fair



Saturday 20 September

10am - 2pm

St Laurence Church, Downton

New Stalls for 2025!

Craftwork, jewellery,

homemade & local produce

Refreshments, including light lunches

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:

2nd September (week 1) - Ann Blake will be visiting us with her support dog, Snoopy. Ann will be bringing things to sell to raise money for **Dog Aid UK** and muscular dystrophy UK. Donations welcome.

9th September (week 2) - Games and Quiz.

16th September (week 3) - Games

23rd September (week 4) - Victor from Royal National Institute for the Deaf will be coming to talk about the work they do. If you haven't had a hearing test and don't wear hearing aids, he can also do hearing tests. He will not be able to fix hearing aids but may be able to offer advice based on his own experience.

30th September (week 5) - Games

On 15th June, we had a fun time with June Phillimore doing seated exercises. June, Julia, Ann and Carol did an enjoyable exercise routine to music.

On 29th July, we had a very entertaining afternoon listening to and singing along with the Salisbury Pluckers. It was thirsty work, and they were ready for a refreshing cup of tea afterwards.



An Evening with Mark Dawson

St Laurence Church are delighted to be hosting an evening with local bestselling crime author, Mark Dawson, on Friday 10th October. The evening will be an interview, followed by a Q&A, and will celebrate the launch of Mark's fifth book in the Atticus Priest series, *The Inheritance*. Copies of the new book will be available to purchase at the event.

Downton Brewery have kindly agreed to supply a bar for the event. Tickets are available in the Borough Café or on the door, and will cost £5.

FRIDAY 10TH OCTOBER

DOORS OPEN 6.30 FOR 7 PM START

AN EVENING WITH

**MARK
DAWSON**

Local best-selling author Mark Dawson will join us for an interview and to introduce his new Atticus Priest book, followed by a Q&A session. Copies of the new book will be available to purchase on the day!

St Laurence Church, Downton
Tickets £5 - Available to purchase from
The Borough Cafe / on the door

Refreshments
available to purchase



Keep an eye on our facebook page for further information:
www.facebook.com/stlaurencedownton

**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.

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All ages welcome

BOOK NOW



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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+.

**EARLY BIRD
TICKETS
AVAILABLE**

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

Approved with:

Financial
REGULATOR
Alabaré is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England No. 2629011. Registered Charity No. 1004304.
Riverside House, 2 Voad Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP3 7UD

- Thursday 25th September
- AGM on Thursday 27th November

[illegible][illegible]

In the Bournemouth & District div 4, the Bustards are currently 4th & the Dragons 5th with 5 matches left. In New Forest div 4, we came 5th out of 8 & are still in the cup. Full details & the results from our club championships will appear in the next edition.

We had 12 new members join the club, several of which have progressed to play in our teams. Thank you to everyone at the magazine for helping us to promote the club.

We also had our first ever wheelchair user play on our green. Local icon Ian Dixon has joined our club & we extend a warm welcome to him.

Sadly, in June & July, the club lost club legends Rosemary Foster & Bob Tanner. Their contributions to the club over many years was immense & they will both be greatly missed.

The 2026 season will commence around Easter time & if you are interested in playing bowls, or want any more information about the club, please contact Ivan on 07910 290735 or email him on buib7@icloud.com or visit our website www.downtonbc.com



Forest Edge Flower Arranging Society



Hope you are having a lovely summer.

FEFAS is having a break after our July meeting (Cream Tea and Talk with Bronda Dossett), but we have some news!

A few of FEFAS members (Heather, Louise and Miyuki) arranged flowers for the "All the Fun of the (Wedding) Fayre" event at St Birinus Church, Morgan's Vale on 18-19 July

There were fabulous displays of wedding dresses and artefacts by local residents, plus wedding-themed delicious food. So pleased the event was successful. The photographs of the floral designs can be seen at our FB page from the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/FEFASweddingfayre>

The Flower Arranger magazine - autumn edition is OUT NOW. Have you spotted floral designs by FEFAS members? Do check out page 22/23 and page 26 by Martina, Page 44 by Miyuki. The magazine contains lots of fabulous designs and ideas - Enjoy The photographs of the floral designs can be seen at our FB page from the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/FEFASmagazine>

We shall look forward to our September meeting (1st Sep) when our very own demonstrator, Martina Coleman, will give us a floral demonstration entitled 'Floral Delight'. Refreshments from 7 pm, followed by a demonstration at 7.30 pm. Do join us and bring your friend(s)! Non-members are welcome (£8 door fee including refreshments).

All meetings/events are held at Morgans Vale & Woodfalls Village Hall, Woodfalls (SP5 2LD). A full programme for 2025/26 is available from the weblink <https://tinyurl.com/FEFAS2025> and on the notice board in the hall, and on our Facebook group.

We look forward to welcoming you!

Contact: Miyuki Griffin 07990 868351

Email: forestedgeflower@gmail.com

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

View full programme for 2025/26: <https://tinyurl.com/FEFAS2025>

Upcoming meetings:

1 September Demonstration 'Floral Delight' with Martina Coleman 7.30 pm (7 pm refreshments)

- 6 October Demonstration 'Time to Relax' with Andrea Hillyard 7.30 pm
(7 pm refreshments)
- 3 November Workshop 'Ikebana' with Miyuki Griffin 7.30 pm
(7 pm refreshments)



Downton Parish Council News

Our Parish is experiencing the school holidays with NO rain! We hope that you are taking advantage of the wild growing blackberries, apples and plums around us, do make use of nature's free harvest.



- Please do remember to report any anti-social behaviour by ringing 101 or online at www.wiltshire.police.uk, NOT on Facebook. In an emergency, always dial 999
- Wiltshire Rights of Way Officers with the Ramblers have done a beautiful job on footpath DOWN60 which is a loop off South Lane, a fantastic result for the walkers amongst us who don't want a long walk
- DPC is taking the improvements to the informal crossing opposite the Wooden Spoon to the Area Board for agreement on the 4 September, watch this space for details
- Our Parish Steward Steve will be out and about in September, there are plenty of weeds for him to deal with (especially around the library), anything else you think he can do then please contact me
- All of the Parish Councillors and Officers continue to work hard for our Parish, please do get in touch. Have a look at our web site for more information on what we do – downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

The Parish Council meetings are usually 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.

Lover Repair Cafe

‘THE REPAIR TEAM CELEBRATED RECEIVING OVER 8000 JOBS DURING AUGUST, SADLY THE 8000TH, A COFFEE MAKER, WAS ONE OF THE RARE JOB’S WE COULD NOT REPAIR AS A RESULT OF A POOR DESIGN ELEMENT THAT PREVENTS THE REPLACEMENT OF BASIC PARTS.



The two items on the left are amongst the over 8000 jobs now received and completed by the Team.

The Kitchen Chair came in as a result of an overactive Grand Child, who managed to smash the bottom rail at both ends.

We defy you to find the joint in the repair.

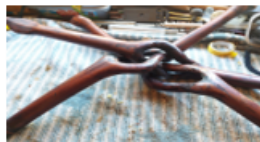
The beautiful Musical Sewing Box came in 'Legless' and a bit de-laminated as a result of a fall. It's a pity you cannot hear it, but we can assure you it is now standing firm, re-veneered and sounding lovely.

Just to let you know, if you have any item requiring repair, as long as you get it to us in a car, we will attempt to repair it.

NEWS & PRE-LOVED ITEMS AVAILABLE THIS MONTH

*Gaza Disaster Appeal - We have submitted £240 to the Government DEC fund which is match funded. **This means in September we will have given over £50k to charity as a result of your repairs & giving, so many thanks to Everyone:-

Salter Bathroom Scales (say £3)	Phillips elect. Oil Heater (£4)	Miele Vacuum Cleaner (say £3)
Casio Songbank Keyboard (say £5)	Flexible Desk Lamp (say£3)	Cookworks Food Mixer (say £5)
Easyway Manual Slicer (say £2)	Chinese 'God of Fortune'(say £4)	USA Pro Exercise Big Ball (£3)



Talk about 'Getting knotted' we got a broken African Folding Tripod Table in. Highly confusing but following three failures we believe we have got it right this time

We are 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



One of the wonders of RC is the ability to help in many ways. This yacht belonged to a chap who passed away; we were able to refurb. & find it a new home for his wife.

Redlynch and District Local History Society

Redlynch and Local District history Society Talks Programme 2025-26

2 September - "The Man in the Picture? – Finding my uncle's RAF past" by Robert Inns.

Bob describes his journey and advice for finding his relatives RAF service history and what they experienced.

7 October - History of Communication by Phil Whitemore.

This presentation ranges from jungle drums, to semaphore, to the humble telephone and on to present day mobile phones, outlining the changes in technology on the way. Presented in a way that everyone can understand.

4 November - "The Brick Revolution": Courtier Houses in Tudor Wiltshire, by Graham Bathe.

After the Romans departed, brick was rare in Britain for over a thousand years. In the Tudor period, the ability to build ostentatious brick palaces at breakneck speed set a runaway new trend. Brick became the fashionable material of choice, first seen in Wiltshire at showpiece stately homes. This talk will attempt to identify the first records of brick in the county and assess its impact on the county.

2 December - "The Duke of Monmouth – how his head was turned and lost" Jacqueline and Brian Sutton.

We explore the rise and fall of the Duke of Monmouth in this fascinating and well researched 1 hour PowerPoint presentation. The story covers the Royal characters behind the Duke's story, the Battle of Sedgemoor 1685 and its aftermath including the Bloody Assize, the trial of Alice Lisle of Ringwood and the Duke's eventual execution.

6 January - The Lost Mansions of Whiteparish by Rosalind Johnson.

Whiteparish suffered the loss of three major houses: the St Barbe manor

house (the site is now the doctors' surgery car park), Broxmore House and Cowesfield House. Additionally, the original Brickworth House was badly damaged by fire in the mid-19th c. and substantially rebuilt.

3 February - Wings Over the Forest: The New Forest's Aviation Pioneers by Marc Heighway.

The New Forest has a rich aviation history; from the early dreamers and inventors, to the pioneers of Great War aircraft. This presentation explores the innovative spirit of those magnificent men and their flying machines. Marc Heighway presents tales of adventure, bravery, sacrifice, plus many strange inventions that didn't quite take flight.

3 March - Romans in the Avon Valley by Adrian Green from Salisbury Museum.

The talk includes the Roman history of Downton, Cranborne, New Forest and Salisbury.

7 April - Built heritage by Wessex Archaeology.

5 May - Milestones by Jamie Hobson, from Salisbury Museum.

A look at the subject focused mainly on milestones, directional signs and boundary stones in and around Salisbury with occasional excursions into the weirdness of Cornish milestones. It focuses on typography, typology, numerals, manicules and the magnificent work of Kinneir and Calvert.

2 June - Airfield Visit to Old Sarum Airfield Museum Boscombe Down Aviation Collection.

An early evening visit.

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.

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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.

Redlynch Players

Backstage News

Autumn Production 2025



The month of August has been one of rest and recuperation for our members, as well as gathering ideas and inspiration for producing our next play in the Autumn. We are delighted to say that Ron Perry will be directing us for this production, and we have already started putting the moves together now that rehearsals have begun again. It is always exciting reading a new script and getting under the surface of the characters in it. After reading it we then plot the moves as well as begin to source costumes. Other aspects we also work on are the staging and set as well as creating the publicity. It's a very creative time! At the time of writing, we are not revealing details the play yet but watch out for announcements on social media and on posters locally very soon!

The play will be performed during the **week of 24th November** in Redlynch Village Hall, so please make a note of the date ready to purchase tickets as soon as they go on sale!



Why not join us?

Be part of a fun team! We are looking for new members to join our lovely group and now is the *perfect* time to do it! Being part of a production is very special indeed, and we would love to share that experience with more of you! There is a wide range of interesting and varied tasks you may like to be involved in, both on and off stage. So, if you fancy treading the

boards, helping with set, props, costume or doing something technical such as lighting or sound effects, we would love to hear from you! Full training and support will be given, so please don't be put off if you lack experience!

We meet on Monday and Thursday evenings at Redlynch Village Hall from 7:30pm and rehearsals for our Autumn production have just begun. Please do get in touch if you'd like some more information. I am happy to answer any questions.

Email: info@redlynchplayers.co.uk or direct message us on our Facebook or Instagram pages. I look forward to hearing from you!

Do come and see us in the Autumn during the week beginning 24th November. More details to follow– SAVE THE DATE!

Find out more about us!

If you would like to be included on our emailing list to hear our latest news, please email: info@redlynchplayers.co.uk

Alternatively, see our website for recent reviews, how to buy tickets and past productions: www.redlynchplayers.co.uk

We post regular updates on our Redlynch Players Facebook and Instagram pages @redlynchplayers.

Ali Silver, Chair of Redlynch Players



St Mary's Church, Redlynch presents

The Last Night of the Proms!

13th September, 2025

At Redlynch Village Hall

Join us for a fundraising evening of musical entertainment and patriotic revels, as we watch the Last Night of the Proms live streamed on the big screen together!

Bring your own food, buy a drink at the bar, and join in the fun!

Doors open at 6:30 for 7pm start

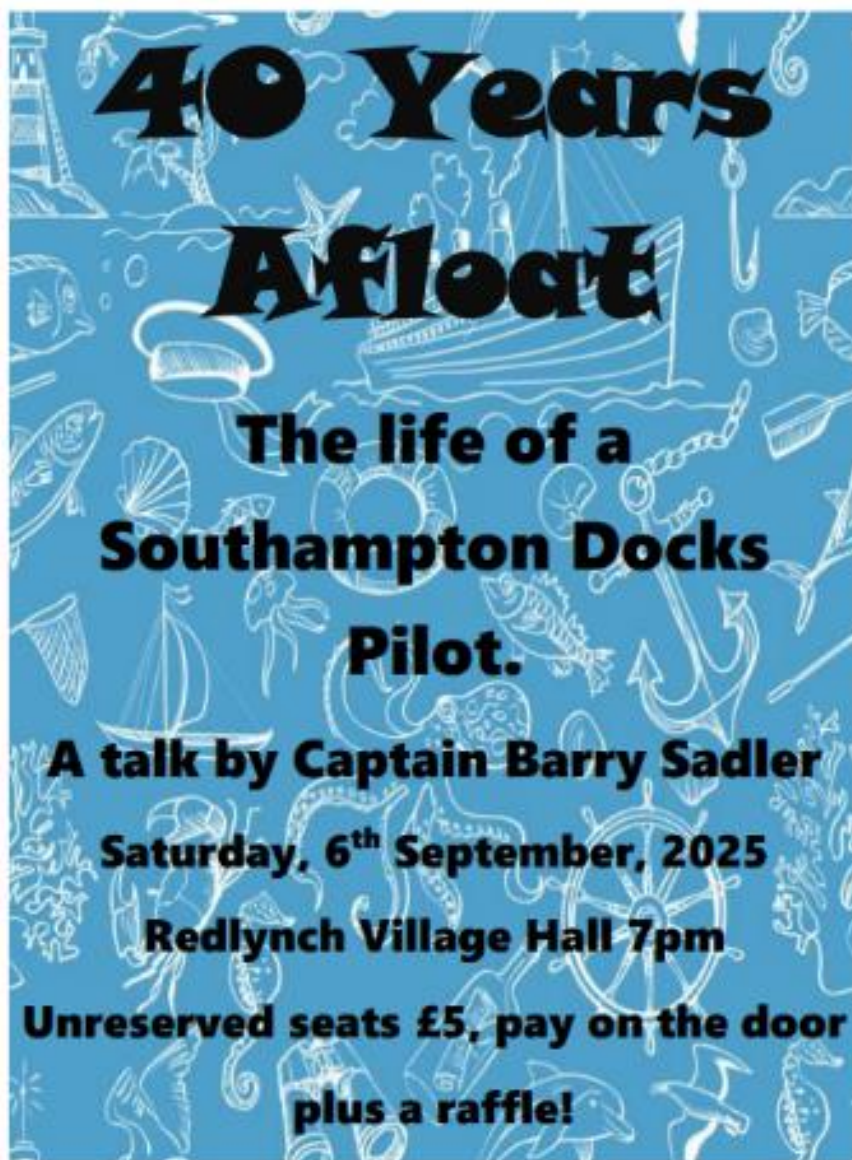
Tickets at £10 for unreserved seating are available from Valerie Warner, email: promstickets@stmarys-redlynch.org.uk

All proceeds in aid of St Mary's Church, Redlynch.



Remember to bring your flags to wave with pride!

**Please note: the concert's first half is played in the background while you enjoy your food and drink*



40 Years Afloat

**The life of a
Southampton Docks
Pilot.**

A talk by Captain Barry Sadler
Saturday, 6th September, 2025
Redlynch Village Hall 7pm
Unreserved seats £5, pay on the door
plus a raffle!

**Proceeds in aid of both Redlynch Village Hall and St
Mary's Church, Redlynch**

ART CLASSES

at St.Laurence Church with



Lucinda Nicholas



TUESDAY'S 10AM - 12 NOON

9 SEP 14 OCT

11 NOV 9 DEC

£15.00 per person

all materials provided

7 places available

Contact Lucinda to book.

07876 551622 or email

lucindanicholas63@gmail.com

Downton Link – Volunteers providing a much-needed service

Downton Link is run by local volunteers who offer help with transport and act as good neighbours for people in need, regardless of age or circumstances.

We serve residents living in Downton, Charlton All Saints, Woodfalls, Redlynch, Morgans Vale, Lover, Hale, Woodgreen and Breamore.

Transport is available for:

- 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.

We also provide a befriending service.

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**



COME ALONG AND JOIN US
FOR AN EVENING OF SONG WITH

THE DARLING BUDDS

WITH HARRY & GEORGIE BUDD
IN THE BEAUTIFUL SURROUNDINGS OF
ST LAURENCE'S CHURCH DOWITON
ON SATURDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2025
AT 7PM

TICKETS £5
BAR AND BAR FOOD AVAILABLE

TICKETS AVAILABLE
AT THE BOROUGH CAFE
DOWITON
AND ON THE DOOR



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 **November** issue to be emailed to the Editor by **7th October**.

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.