

NETHERAVON, HAXTON & FITTLETON NEWSLETTER

March 2022

Issue no. 441

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COPY DEADLINE for April issue is **Thursday 24 March at 5pm**

Take advantage of technology with our email: netheravonnewsletter@gmail.com or hard copy to Maggie Butler at 11 Mill Road, Netheravon, SP4 9QB. Phone 01980 670122

The Butlers still print, collate and distribute your newsletters, compile all commercial advertisements and maintain the accounts.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

March 2022

8 th	7:30pm	Fittleton cum Haxton Parish Council Mtg	Phoenix Hall, Netheravon
10 th	6:30pm	Netheravon Annual Parish Meeting	Phoenix Hall, Netheravon
10 th	7:00pm	Enford Garden Club- Avebury Manor Gardens	Enford Village Hall

MINI DIRECTORY

(01980 unless otherwise stated)

Phoenix Hall Bookings (Michala)	670646
Day Centre (Caroline A-F)	670364
Rev. Gale Hunt, Avon River Team	670326
Rev. Barry Davis, Amesbury Baptist Centre	622355
Christ the King, Catholic Church, Amesbury	622177
Methodist Church Amesbury	676766
SSAFA Forces Help	632567
Plainwatch	674700
Durrington & District Link Scheme	594857
AWS JOBS, Pre-Schools, Creches	673379
Scout Group for Boys & Girls	07768 579314
Enford Football Club, Children's Coaching Club	670634
Wiltshire Councillor, Ian Blair-Pilling	07518 942216
Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers contact	girlguiding.org.uk/joinus

Avon River Team Services for March

Parish\Date	March 6	March 13	March 20	March 27
Bulford	11.00 HC CW		11.00 HC	10.30 Family Service
Durrington	9.30 Fun Church		9.30 HC	9.30 Informal HC
Enford	9.30 HC		9.30 Breakfast Church	6.00 Evensong
Figheldean	11.00 Morning Worship		11.00 HC	11.00 Breakfast Church
Fittleton	11.00 Family Worship		6.00 Evensong	9.30 HC BCP
Milston	9.30 HC BCP	10.30 Team HC	9.30 HC BCP	9.30 Matins
Netheravon	11.00 Morning Worship		11.00 Family HC	11.00 Family Service

Each Wednesday at 10.00 HC at Bulford.

Ash Wednesday 2 March 7.30 HC at Durrington

Each Thursday at 10.30 HC at Durrington

For details of Sunday ZOOM Services see the Avon River Team web site.

HC – Holy Communion; BCP – Book of Common Prayer

STOP PRESS!

Don't forget to plan your Jubilee Garden.

The theme is red, white and blue

Prizes for the best decorated front garden are:

**1st prize £75,
2nd prize £50 and
3rd prize £25.**

Netheravon Parish Council

Blast From The Past

In years gone by, Netheravon had an army camp and an RAF camp. My first job, 2 weeks before my 15th birthday, was delivery boy for the NAAFI shop. When I went for the job they laughed, as the bike was nearly as big as me. But I managed and stayed for 2 years for £3 2s 6p a week. The RAF camp as it was had been an occupied camp since 1913, by the Royal Flying Corps. In 1918 it became the Royal Air Force. The airfield is claimed to be one of the oldest continually used airfields in the world. The RAF left in 1963, just after the coldest winter on Salisbury Plain. Up until it's closure from the RAF, it was used to train RAF police dogs. In 1962-63 winter, the worst in living memory, the snow was so deep, the dogs just walked out over the top of their 6ft enclosures. In 1966 it was taken over by the Army Air Corps as an extension to Middle Wallop, as they could no longer cope with army aviation. It is still used by the army for parachute training.

A word from Gale Hunt our Team Vicar:

It is wonderful to see the signs of new life beginning to show in the garden, with spring bulbs coming through and birds preparing their nests. Nature giving us hope of warmer weather to come after the cold of winter.

March 2nd sees the beginning of the season of Lent in the Churches year. The 40 days of Lent that lead to Easter are the most sacred and spiritually powerful in the Christian calendar. Historically the characteristic notes of Lent are – self-examination, penitence, self-denial, study, and preparation for Easter, to which almsgiving has traditionally been added. The whole Christian community was invited to join in the process of study and repentance, the extension of which over forty days would remind them of the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness, being tested by Satan. This where the idea of giving up something in Lent comes from, but now people often take up something like doing 40 acts of kindness or generosity. As well as it being a time when Christians are invited to examine their faith and deepen their commitment to live the Christian life. It is also a time when we look forward to the hope of Easter, when we recall the death and resurrection of Jesus.

The 4th Sunday in Lent is always kept as Mothering Sunday. Traditionally, it was a day when children, mainly daughters, who had gone to work as domestic servants were given a day off to visit their mother and family. Centuries ago, it was also considered important for people to return to their home or 'mother' church once a year. So, each year in the middle of Lent, everyone would visit their 'mother' church - the main church or cathedral of the area. So, this year why not come and join us in worship on that day – March 27th.

Best wishes
Gale.



"A Quarter Peal dedicated to the memory of Allan Cook will be rung at Netheravon Church on Thursday 10 March 2022 by members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild of Ringers. Allan, our Tower Captain, devoted over 60 years to ringing, maintaining the bells and working in the Parishes of Netheravon, Fittleton cum Haxton and Enford. He will be missed by his fellow ringers in our Parishes and by bellringers and friends across the length and breadth of Wiltshire."

Amesbury Community & Visitors Centre, Flower Lane.

The Community Shop in Amesbury collects prescription glasses that are no longer required, (these are checked over and sent to third world countries), used postage stamps and milk bottle tops.

Netheravon Working Men's Club

- * Come & Support your Team in the Six Nations
- * Race Night Sat 26th March
Come and buy your horse early.

A Direct Appeal for Community Support

SPLAT

Salisbury Plain Litter Attack Team

We are fortunate enough to live in the special conservation area of Salisbury Plain. Whilst this is under the guardianship of the MOD, civilians are privileged to be able to access a large proportion of the plain for recreation.

Over the years, due to increased civilian activity, littering has become an issue, particularly in certain areas such as C Crossing.

The Salisbury Plain Training Area Team responds to incidents of fly-tipping and deal with this efficiently however, low level littering is sadly ongoing.

We are looking for a co-ordinator (with social media skills) and volunteers to start a SPLAT group willing to take some responsibility for keeping the footpaths, tracks and local villages cleared of litter, ideally on a regular basis.

We will need to liaise with local councils and representatives from the military bases in the southern area of the plain.

If you believe that you have the necessary skills to co-ordinate from your home or office, then please contact me on 07788849165.

If you think that this is a worthwhile cause and would like to volunteer from time to time then please contact me 07788849165

The more volunteers we can muster, the more effective we can be!

Cllr Graham Wright cllrgrahamwright@btinternet.com on Behalf of SPLAT

Time to get walking again!

At this time of year we start to think about the mud drying up and getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Wiltshire <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/wiltshire> has hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (the custodian of the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Wiltshire (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So, home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

John Harris

www.walkinginengland.co.uk

john@walkinginengland.co.uk

Netheravon Library Opening Hours

Monday: 1pm to 5pm

Thursday: 1pm to 5pm



Fittleton cum Haxton Parish Council

At the last meeting of the parish council, the vacancy that has been open since May 2021 was finally filled. Councillors voted unanimously to co-opt Paul Cranch to the post. We are delighted that he brings previous experience with him and has already started to work for the parish.

Late last year we applied to the Stonehenge Area Board for match funding to purchase a Speed Indicator Device for the parish. This followed a number of feline fatalities and the fear of human casualties, given the speed that some drivers achieve on the roads. We received 50% of the cost from the Area Board and we now have our own Speed Indicator Device erected on the road between the red bridge and Haxton Pound. We are looking at plans to fund-raise for another device on the Everleigh Road as cars enter Haxton. Any ideas for fund-raising projects would be warmly welcomed.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 8 March, 7:30pm at Phoenix Hall.

Jubilee Committee

Plans are being drawn up to celebrate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee, which is being celebrated during a long bank holiday weekend from Thursday 2 June to Sunday 5 June.

Plans are underway to host a bumper street party on 5 June, 12 noon to 5pm. There will be live entertainment, a fancy dress competition, cake competition and entertainment for all ages. We would really like to encourage all mobility scooter users to join in a cavalcade of scooters dressed up with a royal theme. People are invited to bring their picnics and enjoy the festivities on this historic occasion. In order to ensure that we cater for everyone, please fill in the slip below and return it to McColls shop. Details will also be on the local Facebook pages.

NETHERAVON, HAXTON and FITTLETON

Celebrate The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee



Thursday 2 June
**Lighting the Jubilee Beacon at
The Washdown**
*A joint venture of Avon Valley
Parishes*

Sunday 5 June
The Big STREET PARTY
High Street, Netheravon.
*Bring your picnic, Live entertainment, fancy
dress, something for everyone*

More details coming soon on parish noticeboards, Facebook pages and Parish websites.

Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Street Party – 5 June 2022

Yes, we will be joining the party

Number of adults Number of children Any disabled guests.....

Name:

*Please return this voucher to McColls so that we can cater for everyone who is coming to join the party.
Tables will be available on a first come, first served basis.*

**Wiltshire Council’s Budget, Business Plan & Climate & Natural Environment Strategies - Report by
Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling – Avon Valley**

At a marathon 9.5hour meeting on 15 February, Council approved the 2022-23 budget, a new 10-year Business Plan and Climate and Blue & Green Infrastructure (Natural Environment) Strategies. The Summons (Agenda & Papers) alone was 600 pages! I do my best to summarise and welcome any interest in elaboration. As a Cabinet member I take collective responsibility.

The Budget and Business Plan focus on financial sustainability and transforming services to meet future needs.

- Our 2022-23 budget is just over £417m.
- More than half (around £235m) gives support and care for adults and children.
- Around £92m is for day-to-day services; waste management, road maintenance, leisure and library services, as well as carbon management and climate change work. We were recently ranked the 5th best unitary authority in the UK for our response to the global challenge.
- £1m a year supports our market town and cathedral city high streets.
- £1.7m is to increase special educational needs and inclusion services.

Each £100 is to be spent as:

£35 - caring for Adults	£20 - supporting and safeguarding children and young people
£10 - managing Waste	£9 - maintaining Highways and subsidising bus services
£9 – schools, roads & housing	£7 - running the Council and elections
£4 - our Property	£3 - online and digital services
£2 - Leisure & Libraries	£1 - improving Wiltshire’s economy

The £307m 2022-23 capital programme is to improve and maintain infrastructure. Projects include leisure services, council house building, schools’ maintenance, footpath and highway improvements, and improvements to the high streets of Salisbury and Trowbridge.

The Business Plan has a clear long-term focus. Guiding themes are:

- prevention and early intervention
- improving social mobility and tackling inequalities
- understanding communities; and working together.

This strategic focus faces up to the public sector’s financial challenges: the ongoing pandemic, rising inflation, and increased demand for services. There are plans to make savings of around £25m in 2022/23, while limiting the impact on vital services as much as possible. More than half of our income is from council tax, which rises by 1.99%, with an additional 1% directly supporting adult social care. For a Band D property, that’s an increase of £47.56 annually or 91p per week.

Some measures that will directly affect us include:

- a new framework and funding system for luncheon clubs addressing inequalities and inconsistencies across the county.
- increases to parking charges, which increased 4 years ago and will be fixed for the next 4 years, to help maintain our rural bus services
- a shift of Area Board funding to help improve and maintain roads and footpaths
- a new approach to our smaller libraries, bringing them closer to their communities, ensuring a sustainable service adapting to need.

YOU ARE INVITED TO NETHERAVON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

On Thursday, 10th March, 2022 in the Phoenix Hall

HAVE YOUR SAY

- Tell us what you think of the proposed plans for the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations:
 - Street Party
 - Jubilee Wood
 - Queen's Jubilee Beacon
- Have you any other ideas on how to celebrate or commemorate the Jubilee?

Also there will be reports from:

- The Chairman of the Parish Council
- Youth Club
- All Saints School
- All Saints Church
- Cheerful Cuppa
- Phoenix Hall

Annual Parish Meeting starts at 6.30pm

Come and have a glass of wine and cheese with your Councillors

This is your opportunity to tell us what you think

It is your meeting - you set the Agenda!

VALENTINE FUNDRAISER FOR DEMENTIA UK AT CHEERFUL CUPPA

The Fundraising event at Cheerful Cuppa on 15th February was very well attended despite the wet weather. There was a raffle, bric a brac stall and cake stall together with tea and coffee. Judging by the hubbub in the Phoenix Hall, everyone enjoyed themselves and had a good time catching up. The pandemic has been a lonely time for many people and the fundraising event was an opportunity to see people again under normal circumstances.

An exceptional sum of **£257.82** pence was raised and it all will be sent to Dementia UK which is a charity which provides support for people living with Dementia. They also provide Admiral Nurses who visit people who need help.

Thank you to everyone who made cakes - they were truly delicious and much appreciated - and people who brought bric a brac and raffle prizes. And also of course thanks to the helpers without whom the event would not be able to take place.

Sarah and Mary x

The Eunice Banks Library

Mike Langtree (2841)

Sheppard Family Archive

Eight large boxes of research waited me when I drove over to Four Marks in Hampshire back in the Summer. Since then, I have been sorting, cataloguing, and indexing the contents of the many ring- binders, folders, cardboardtubes and local history books that were offered to the Society by the daughter of deceased member, Richard Sheppard.

Richard had lived his entire life in Fittleton, a small community to the east of central Wiltshire. The material he compiled and gathered over many years comprises records of many connected families, most of which are concentrated around the same part of the county. Each file, or set of files, focuses on a particular family: Bell, Barlow/ Barley, Batt, Box, Brown, Carter, Davey, Farley, Forsyth, Head, Harding, Holmes, Howell, Hurkett, Keel, Kite, Leach, Maggs, Newton, Payne, Plank, Pope, Sawyer, Simms, Smith, Spreadbury, Thomas and Worsfold, and, of course, Sheppard.

The files contain transcripts, family trees, some wonderful original and copy documents, photographs of people and places, obituary cards, certificates, transcripts of wills, newspaper cuttings, military service records, and miscellaneous notes – all the stuff that we, as family historians, gather over the decades. Some of the numerous family trees are large documents and these are stored in cardboard tubes. Many names other than those listed above, are mentioned in the records and most of them, along with the main locations, have been added to the catalogue database. Inevitably, some families spread beyond Wiltshire to other counties with a few turning up in South Africa, New Zealand, and Canada.

Most of the larger family collections we have been given remain in the boxes in which we received them and are labelled as such in the library. However, this collection is so large – 56 ring binders alone – that the best way to display them on the library shelves is in alphabetical order of the key surnames and clearly labelled that they are part of the Sheppard collection.

It has been quite a challenge to decide the best way to record and display the items that will assist researchers, without compromising the integrity of the collection. I am hoping that, by browsing or by use of the catalogue database, anyone who has an interest in the surnames will benefit from Richard's research, the very purpose behind his generous bequest to the Society.

malmesbury@wiltshirefhs.co.uk

**Avebury Manor Gardens
with Simon Brooks Head
Gardener**

Thursday 10th March 2022

7.00 for 7.15 pm

ENFORD VILLAGE HALL

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email: steve.stringer@outlook.fr

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