

FREE

Autumn InDownton

Parish Council plan an orchard for the community

The Parish Council is planning to plant more apple trees around the village beacon, creating a community orchard. It will add to the apple tree planted last year. All residents will be able to enjoy the blossom and the fruit of the trees planted at The Beacon. Volunteers will pick fruit regularly and take it to the monthly 'Fridays' Club at the Memorial Hall. Local children will also have the opportunity to be engaged in picking, cooking and taking home fruit. There will be publicity via Downton Facebook groups for families to pick your own. It is planned that there will be some recipe cards available. The Council has pointed out that: "Downton has some lovely trees in the community areas, but no orchard areas. The new apple trees will belong to the community."



The original apple tree being planted last year

The Council is also applying for funding to plant further trees around the parish. A few trees will join the walnut tree in the playpark at Charlton All Saints. Some small trees will be added to the cemetery, to help promote a sense of calm, peace and contemplation there. In the Memorial Hall Gardens, partial shade loving trees (Holly, Viburnum, & Hawthorn) will separate the play-park with the aim of encouraging a sense of peace and tranquillity. There are also plans to plant wild flowers next year in various locations around the village - the Green Network is working with the Parish Council on these plans. More information at indownton.org.uk.

At InDownton we are anxious not to make the newsletter so full of adverts that it's hard to find the news - but currently we have some space for extra adverts. The newsletter is delivered five times a year to every household in Downton and Charlton All Saints, with extra copies going into the library, and local businesses. Our advertising rates and more details can be found on our website. There is a discount of 20% for committing to advertise for a year. Contact editor@indownton.org.uk for more information, or to request an advert in the Christmas issue.

RAINBOWS, BROWNIES AND GUIDES SET EXAMPLE

The Parish Council are asking all residents to help look after the village - including the wildlife - so that all areas (especially the water meadows, the Moot and the Millennium Green) are kept litter free and cigarette butts and other rubbish is placed in bins.

Earlier in the summer, Rainbows, Brownies and Guides did a litter pick around the Memorial Gardens, the greens from South Lane to the end of the village and along the main road, Long Close and Gravel Close. The girls were doing this because they expressed interest in the environment and making a difference. This also formed part of their badge work. They were shocked at the amount of litter collected, especially from areas which have bins!

If a girl is interested in joining one of the groups, there's more information and a link to register interest via girlguiding.org.uk. The age ranges of the groups are: Rainbows (4-7), Brownies (7-10), Guides (10-14).



TRAFALGAR SCHOOL GCSE RESULTS

Students at The Trafalgar School at Downton are celebrating another good set of GCSE results today with many outstanding individual achievements.

Headteacher, Jy Taylor, commented: "We are so proud of all of our Year 11 students who have experienced unprecedented challenges during their secondary school education. It is easy to forget that these young people confronted a world pandemic, the challenges associated with returning to normality and well-known difficulties for some with regard to attendance, as well as a GCSE journey in Year 10 which was punctuated by national industrial action. The results they receive today are a testament to their dedication and hard work. As always amongst the celebrations and success there are some students who have not achieved the grades that they had hoped for. However, I am

confident that the character and values they have developed over their 5 years at Trafalgar will enable them to overcome future hurdles and that every one of them will go on to be incredibly successful.

The success of our students is shared also by their parents and our staff who should not be forgotten and have supported these children throughout their 5 years with us at Trafalgar. We wish them all well as they move on to the next phase of their education and we are proud to now be able to call them Trafalgar Alumni."



Howie Cole and Rosetta Gill celebrate GCSE success

DOWNTON BAND'S SUMMER OF MUSIC

Downton Band's biggest event this year, the New Forest Show, took place at the end of July. The musicians played in extremely hot weather on the show's Village Green and thoroughly enjoyed seeing some familiar faces who came along to support them at this 3 day event. They are looking forward to returning next year.

A small number of players also entertained at The Borough Dental Practice's open afternoon. The Band is very grateful to the Practice - also to The Downton Brewery - for their continued support this year. In August, the band again entered the entertainment contest at

The White Horse Pub, Stourpaine where on each Sunday night through the

summer a different band plays. They are currently awaiting the results. Autumn rehearsals have already started for the Wessex Contest, The Harvest Festival at St Laurence Church and Remembrance Sunday - leading up to the Christmas festive season.



The Band at the New Forest Show

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TENNIS STAR HAYDEN JOINS ELITE BARCELONA ACADEMY

Downton Tennis Centre is celebrating one of its rising stars, Hayden Mundy's acceptance into the prestigious Emilio Sanchez Academy in Barcelona. The 15-year-old Trafalgar School student will be starting at the same academy where tennis star Andy Murray trained at the same age. Hayden started Saturday morning tennis sessions with Lee Mahony to burn off some of his energy when he was five. From the age of 10, Hayden's commitment to tennis grew stronger. By 12, his ranking soared to within the top 200 in the country.

Hayden will be heading to Barcelona for a three-year stint, during which he will attend the American School alongside his tennis training at the Emilio Sanchez Academy. Hayden said: "I'm really excited about the challenge of raising my game to the next level and massively increasing my dedicated tennis hours each week. Plus, I won't have my Dad moaning at me to keep my bedroom tidy!"

Hayden's Dad is immensely proud and also grateful for the support from his coaches. He said: "Thanks to Lee for believing in him. I'm



Hayden today and in action aged 5



looking forward to Hayden having the opportunity to really focus on his tennis and schooling in a fantastic environment. I'm also looking forward to regaining about 15 hours per week of my life as being a tennis Dad takes a lot of driving!"

CAN YOU HELP DELIVER INDOWNTON IN YOUR AREA?

InDownton is looking to expand its delivery team and would especially like to hear from people in the Batchelor Way estate, Morgans Close and Catherine Crescent who can spare an hour or two, five times a year, to deliver the newsletter. The team would also be happy to hear from volunteers who could occasionally take over a delivery round if one of our regular team is unable to do so. For more details, contact Paul on 513191 or email: editor@indownton.org.uk.

Julia Whitmarsh and her daughter Rachel Noble are once again knitting bobble hats in exchange for donations in aid of the Brain Tumour Trust in memory of Rachel's daughter Zoe. There will be a stall at the Goose Fair and at other events in the coming months. Contact Julia on 510601 or Rachel on 07960 767598



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CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL: CALL FOR ENTRIES

The Christmas Tree Festival at St Laurence Church will take place on Saturday 14 & Sunday 15 December. The organisers are looking for entries (Christmas wreaths or Christmas tree designs) from individuals, schools, families, businesses, charities and community groups. Entries can be unusual or traditional decorations - whatever inspires! This year the chosen charity is the Salisbury Women's Refuge.

Entry forms are available from the Downton Library, the Borough Cafe and St Laurence Church from 6 September or can be downloaded from village websites including indownton.org.uk. Final entry deadline is Friday 15 November.

If you would like to help for a couple of hours on either day then please get in touch with Wiz on 07866 742530 or Susan 07875 036879. If you have any unused and unwanted Christmas gifts that could be sold, please contact Philippa on 512175.



DBC WARDROBE

Autumn dates for The Wardrobe clothing exchange at DBC are 20 September, 18 October and 22 November. On these afternoons, the church will be open from 2 - 3:30pm and everyone is welcome to come and browse through the pre-loved clothing items which have been donated - and take away what they would like for free. Refreshments are on offer.

The Wardrobe is run by volunteers who are very grateful for all clothing donations from the

community. Please note that they are unable to accept bric-a-brac or children's toys due to a lack of storage.

More details (including on how to donate unwanted clothes in good condition) from Downton Baptist Church website: downtonbaptist.org.



FREE DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING



Downton has four defibrillators in various locations throughout the village. There is another chance to join a free Defibrillator Awareness course at 6pm on Tuesday 17 September, at the Memorial Centre. The

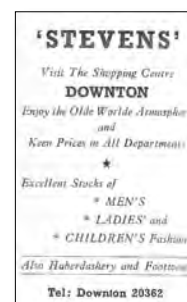
course will provide training on how to use the equipment with confidence, and answer any questions that participants might have. To book a place, email Susan on admin@downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Picture is of the defibrillator outside the entrance to the Memorial Hall.

GOOD COMPANIONS

The group's autumn programme includes an update on the Hospital's Stars Appeal (on 10 September) and a talk by June Phillimore (on 24 September) about the days when she was working in Stevens' Drapery Shop at 101 The Borough (Borough House). The old shopfront can now be seen in the Breamore Countryside Museum. On 8 October, David Canty, the Estate Manager at Longford Estate will talk about the history of the estate and how it is run nowadays.

Good Companions meet in the Memorial Hall on Tuesdays from 2 - 4pm. Regulars pay £2 and visitors pay £2.50, refreshments included. Contact Julia Whitmarsh on 510601 for more information.



ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE!

InDownton is delivered to every house in Downton and Charlton All Saints villages. Adverts can book a single issue or a year's run of 5 issues in black and white or in colour, including changing the advert each time to advertise seasonal offers. Go to indownton.org.uk

PARISH COUNCIL THREE YEAR PLAN

In August, the Council approved a new three Year Plan. The main aims of the plan are: improving the health and wellbeing of residents, working with local groups to enhance the local environment (including street scene, public green spaces, footpaths, climate, rivers, overall image of Downton, Charlton All Saints, and Standlynch, road safety), respecting and preserving heritage, and working with local groups to encourage commercial prosperity.

Amongst the short term plans - to be actioned in the next six months - are the tree planting projects, investigation of river sustainability, and a redesigned website. Over

the next 12 months, the council will work on several more initiatives, including identifying interest in running a “Men’s Shed” to support a volunteer workforce and commissioning a sustainability audit of council owned assets. Over the three year period, various other projects will depend on available funding. The council would aim to refurbish the public toilets and push for increased surgery facilities.

Copies of the plan can be picked up from the Library and the Leisure Centre, or on the Council’s website from mid September. The plan will be reviewed every six months so that it responds to changing needs and ideas.

KATE HOWARD TALKS ABOUT HOMEOPATHY

Local homeopath and Downton resident, Kate Howard, has talked to InDownton about this alternative medicine based on the principle that ‘like treats like’. A substance which can cause symptoms of disease, when taken in a healthy person, can be used in small amounts to treat them against diseases. Homeopathy has grown in popularity; even The King is a fan. Homeopathic medicines are derived from plants, minerals, and animals. It can lead to a rise in health and vitality, and bring the body back into homeostasis.

Homoeopathic medicines don’t treat single symptoms. Instead, a homoeopath looks at the whole physical, mental, and emotional picture. It involves looking at the patient's whole life,

going right back to their own mum's pregnancy, their birth, and their family history and taking into consideration all the illnesses suffered from any other symptoms. It’s an in-depth prescription based on one person's whole experience, rather than just treating the issue, because there's always going to be a root cause for this issue. It can be used alongside conventional medicines and treatment prescribed by the NHS. Benefits of homeopathy include that it’s sustainable and cheap and the remedies are only made from organic products, thus making it less toxic. It can strengthen the immune system, with the ability to improve overall emotional, physical, and mental health. Whilst can to be used in conjunction with conventionally prescribed medicines, it can enable people to come off medication they have been on for a long time.



Kate used to be a nurse, and discovered homeopathy after having children. She said, “I was experiencing anxiety and I went to see a homeopath, who gave me a remedy. Within a few days, I felt completely different. My homeopath taught me how to treat my kids. So when they were unwell with temperatures, coughs, and other acute symptoms at home, I would use these remedies, and I’d see such a rapid response it made me interested to learn more.” More information can be found at katehowardhomeopathy.com.

Read Kate’s full interview at indownton.org.uk.

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HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY AUTUMN SHOW

At the Society's recent Autumn Show, Melvin Ward was awarded the Banksian Medal for winning the most prize money and the William Barnaby Cup for scoring the highest overall points. His vegetables won the Stone Cup as well as the President's Bowl for the best exhibit of vegetables. Dahlia-growing champion was Andy Savage, who won both the Avon Cup and a Silver Medal and Card for being Dahlia Championship winner. Neal Hatch was the runner-up. Graham Edwards had the best gladioli exhibit, for which he was awarded an RHS certificate, and also won the Captain Hutson Cup for his gladioli. Mark Hatcher won the Coronation Cup and was awarded a Silver Medal and Certificate for his exhibit of Chrysanthemums (pictured), which was the best flora exhibit in the show. He also won the JGS Mitchell Cup for his chrysanthemums. Ted Perren won the A E Holman Cup for the best flowering pot plant, as well as the Miss Parminter Cup for the highest points in the fruit section. Heather Borelli won the Floral Art Cup for achieving the highest points in the Floral Art section, as well as the Iris Sherman Memorial Trophy for the best exhibit of floral art. Jen Shutler's Dundee cake was the best in show, winning her the President's Cup, and Laura Jerome won the Tannery Cup for the highest points in homecraft.



HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY PROGRAM

In a change to their published programme, October's meeting of the Horticultural Society will feature Janet Newman, giving a floral art demonstration entitled 'Blooming Wonderful'. This will be at the Memorial Hall at 7:30pm on Friday 11. Janet is a founder member of Fordingbridge Flower Club and is also the wife of undertaker, Ian Newman. She is planning to

do a total of four arrangements with a break in the middle. Non-members are very welcome to come along in exchange for a small donation to the Society. There will also be refreshments, a sales table and a raffle.

The Society's AGM is on Thursday 21 November at 7:30pm at the Memorial Hall. There will be a quiz - and wine will be served.

ST LAURENCE PET SERVICE

St Laurence Church is holding a 'Thank you for our Pets and Animals' service on Sunday 13 October at 10:30 am, to which you are invited to bring your friendly pets. For further details contact Veronica on 513878 or veronicaforestandavon@gmail.com



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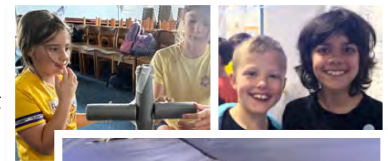
REGISTERED MEMBER

200 'MINIONS' JOIN SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUB

At the end of July, masses of 'minions' gathered at DBC for the annual Holiday Club. Children from the local primary schools came together for a time of singing, crafts, games and mind-scrambling challenges. Borrowing the theme from the popular film about Gru, Dr Nefario and their minion friends, the church was transformed into the super villain's lair.

Phil and Katy said: "This year we were following the story of the lost sheep, and everyone discovered just how important they are to God. As always, Holiday Club came to a spectacular end with an epic water fight on the church field. No minion was left un-soaked!!"

The club ended with the families gathering together in the church garden for a sun-bathed picnic.



ASHLEY GRANGE

Ashley Grange Nursing Home has recently welcomed Alison Wetherall as their new care home manager. Ashley Grange is hosting a meet-and-greet event on Friday 20 September 2 - 4pm. Alison will welcome families to meet the team and learn more about the amenities and care provided at Ashley Grange, while enjoying afternoon tea and entertainment from a local performer. Alison says, "We are hosting this event to help visitors understand how our team can support their loved ones."

On 19 September, resident Joan White will be celebrating her 100th birthday. Joan loves flowers, so the team is asking the community to send hand-crafted flowers, which can be painted, crocheted, knitted, or even crafted out of egg boxes, to help mark this milestone birthday.

On the last Tuesday of every month, parents and children are invited to the home for an afternoon of fun, music and interaction as part of the 'Jiggy

Vintage' programme. The session includes colourful props, puppets and music. The residents enjoy watching the children have fun with bubbles, puppets, colourful lights, music and dance.



Jilly Wrigglers at Ashley Grange


Jiggy Wrigglers provide music, movement and sensory developmental classes for children from 0-5. More information from jiggywrigglers.com.

On 31 October, the home will be hosting its Trick & Treat event from 3:30 - 5:30 pm, where children are invited to pop in after school for a spooktacular afternoon of fun, games, and treats.

For more information on Ashley Grange, call 512811.

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SKY AT NIGHT BY MICHAEL F. BARRATT FRAS

This autumn will see three “supermoons”, when the moon is close to the earth and appears to be slightly larger than normal. September’s full moon (the “Harvest Moon”) will be on the 18th, when there will also be a partial lunar eclipse in the early hours (between 3.12 and 4.15). October’s full moon (the “Hunter’s Moon”) on the 17th, will be the brightest of the autumn supermoons.

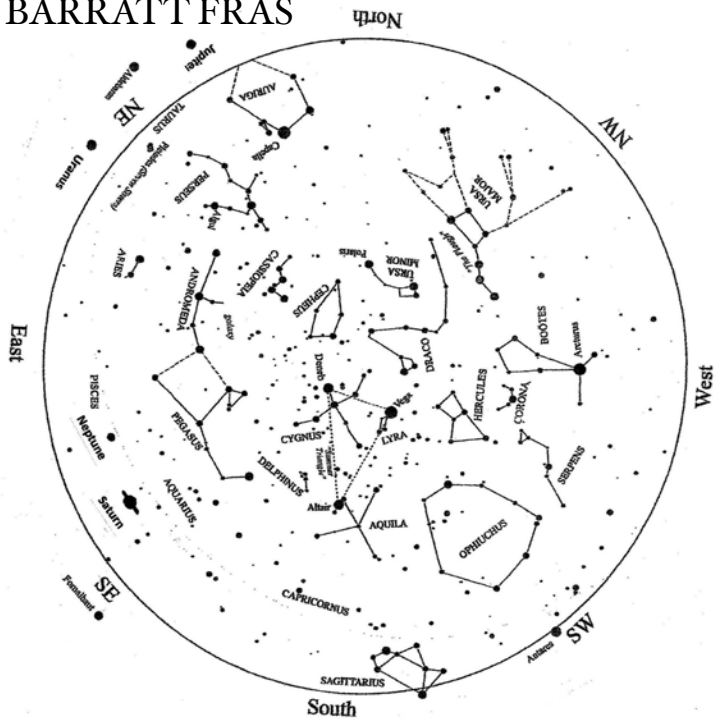
The autumn equinox on 22 September marks the start of longer nights - which means longer periods of dark sky observing, with the Milky Way at its most prominent in the evening sky. In October, if you stay up into the early hours of the morning, the winter constellations, such as Orion (the Hunter) and Taurus (the Bull) are starting to appear over the eastern horizon.

Planets to look out for this autumn are:

Mars - moving from the constellation Taurus (the Bull) into Gemini (the Twins) in September, passing close by the star cluster Messier 35 on the night of 8/9 - giving a good view with binoculars. It rises after 11pm.

Jupiter - found in Taurus, rising earlier than Mars at around 10:30 pm in September (earlier through October). On the night of 23 September, the Moon will be very close to this gas giant planet which will be far brighter than anything else in the evening sky other than the Moon.

Saturn - closest to the Earth and at its brightest and highest this year on 8 September, when it can be seen opposite the sun. It is visible for most of the night in the constellation of Aquarius (the Water Bearer). Because of the angle at which it appears, its rings seem to be disappearing - this will be the case until 2026.



Map of night sky in mid-September (around 2100 hours)

GOOSE FAIR

The Goose Fair takes place at St Laurence Church on Saturday 21 September, from 10am - 2pm. There will be stalls selling craft-work, jewellery and home-made produce, as well as a

raffle and exhibitions. Refreshments (including light lunches) will be available.





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PRIMARY SCHOOL REQUEST

The pupils that form Downton Primary School's Eco-Council have been planning the replanting of the gardens in front of the school.

They are looking for help (see letter). The cuttings / plants / bulbs that the children would like to plant to encourage birds and hedgehogs into their garden include: elderberry; escallonia-macrantha; cherry trees; lavender; smoke bush; orange pyracantha; white hawthorn; daffodils; English bluebells; English snowdrops; crocus; wisteria; pink viburnum; daphne odora; photinium; variegated pittisporum tom thumb (purple); bergamot monarda – beauty of Cobham

Contact the school for more information on how to donate - call in or email science@downton-pri.wilts.sch.uk.



Dear Downton Community

At the Primary school we are replanting our front garden after necessary building work. We are very grateful to Downton Horticultural Society who are going to donate us some cherry trees to complement our existing trees. We plan to have a rose climbing over the entrance by the blue door. Please would you help us by donating some plants. One part of the garden will be planted to encourage birds and one part of the front garden is going to become another outdoor learning space for children. We would appreciate any cuttings. Please would you help us restore our front gardens with the plants below. Thank you for your time and consideration.

From Downton Primary School Eco-Council

LOCAL PRODUCE AT THE BULL

Mike Moody, landlord at The Bull, is working hard to source the items on his menu as locally as possible. Most of the meat is supplied by the Moody Cow Farm Shop, based at Gouldings Farm in Ringwood - this includes dairy products and beef. The farm also keeps sheep and pigs. Other meat comes from Salisbury market, including the Wiltshire ham on the menu. Mike says: "Our emphasis is on quality - we choose menu items to use the best quality produce available. Traceability is important." Free-range eggs come from Fluffet Farm in Wimborne and are used throughout the menu. The Bull makes its own sausages - and pies are also made in house. The ethos is all

about local suppliers and minimising waste.

Although vegetables are more of a challenge to source locally and consistently, Mike and new chef, Simon, are proud of their home-cooked roast potatoes. The Bull uses local suppliers for its fish, and is currently putting together a fishing package for visitors, in conjunction with Rockbourne Trout Fishery.

Food is served at The Bull seven days a week. **If readers mention the InDownton newsletter they will be given a 10% discount during September.**



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LIBRARY CELEBRATES 21ST BIRTHDAY

September marks Downton Library's 21st birthday at its current location. To celebrate, staff are hosting an informal reminiscence session on Friday 27 September, 10:30am - 12:00pm, with refreshments. Bring mementos and share stories of Downton to help them mark the occasion. No booking is required.

Silver Salisbury is hosting a talk about the history of Salisbury Hospital at the library on Monday 30 September. More details in the Silver Salisbury article on page 13.

Over 100 children took part in the Summer Reading Challenge this year - the number being measured by Duplo Jack, who reached the top of the beanstalk. During the summer holidays, there were activity sessions each Monday, where

children could draw, colour, do origami, sewing and Lego.

Regular events continue through the autumn. New families are welcome at the regular Rhyme Times, which run every other Friday morning for babies and pre-schoolers (search "Downton Library" on Eventbrite for details). The craft group meets monthly. The next session is on Friday 13 September, 10:45am - 2pm. All crafters, whatever ability, are welcome.



Duplo Jack on the beanstalk

DRONE PICTURES FOR NEW DOWNTON VISITOR WEBSITE

A new website is being developed, with the support of the Parish Council, to promote Downton as a visitor destination. It will use funds allocated to the village from the Wiltshire Council Towns Programme. The programme supports the economy of settlements and Downton is just large enough to qualify!

New drone photographs of the village have been commissioned from local drone operator, Steve Kynaston. His drone will be above the village early in September to capture images of the iconic parts of Downton from the air including The Borough, The Moot and the river.

Steve has the appropriate licence and conforms to the CAA code on the use of drones. The photographs will help to show what a great



Earlier drone picture by Steve Kynaston

place Downton is to visit, positioned between the New Forest, Cranbourne Chase, Salisbury and the coast. Steve can be contacted by email at kynastonsteve@aol.com and will be pleased to answer any questions or concerns.

MEET THE DOWNTON FREEMASONS

About the Freemasons

We are a members' organisation which has thrived for over 300 years.

We have no political connections, we have members of all ages, races, religions, cultures and backgrounds.

Freemasons have met in Downton for over 20 years and currently meet at the Downton Football Club.

L9064@wiltshirefreemasons.org.uk

wiltshirefreemasons.co.uk

Our Principles

- ◉ Integrity
- ◉ Respect
- ◉ Friendship
- ◉ Service

NEW RIVER GROUP

Concerned residents are planning to set up a Downton River Group to bring together like-minded people to help protect the river as it flows through Downton. The aim is to work alongside other local organisations, to monitor and record issues affecting the village’s watercourses, to help educate and encourage positive actions and to improve the river environment where possible.



Members of the community, along with a group of local farmers, are already engaged in citizen science water quality testing with Community Interest Company FLOW. Data that is collected is shared on FLOW’s website and in their newsletters, but more volunteers are needed for a variety of tasks such as building up photographic records of the watercourses and impacts of pollution; monitoring and recording wildlife; organising and analysing data; invasive species management; gravel cleaning.

Look out for details of the group’s launch where it is hoped to invite an expert speaker. The river is an important part of the village, and following on from the River Fest initiative, a banner has been produced which can be borrowed from the group to spread awareness about the history, ecology and wildlife associated with the river. For more information, contact Jane Launchbury at iane@eatdrinkmanwoman.co.uk.

DOWNTON SOCIETY NEWS

The Downton Society AGM will be held in the Memorial Hall on the evening of 17 October. It will include a review of Society activities during the year – from protecting the Downton Conservation area and monitoring planning to maintaining planters in the Borough, organising walks and clearing local footpaths.


The short AGM will be followed by a talk from Downton Society member Linda Sutcliffe, who visited Kenya earlier in the year to take part in a learning exchange, supporting local medical practitioners, as reported in Summer InDownton. The Society supported the group’s venture and Linda will be recounting some of the ups - and downs - of the trip.

In November, provisionally on Friday 15 in the Memorial Hall, the Society will sponsor a

talk by former President of the NFU, Minette Batters, who farms in Downton and is a passionate advocate of sustainable agriculture. This talk, billed as a reminder of the importance of farming in our community, is open to all, and will mark the 50th anniversary of the Society.

Nikki Wilson, Chair, says, “If you’ve ever thought about becoming a member this would be a good opportunity to see what it’s all about.”

For more information about DSoc, and for updates on planning issues as well as talks, visits and events (including those run by the Salisbury Civic Society, who organise visits and are running a series of Heritage days in Salisbury between 5-9 September), go to the website: thedowntonsociety.org.



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DOWNTON LINK

Downton Link is run entirely by volunteers willing to assist members of the local community who need help with transport to medical appointments or other events. The service covers Downton and the surrounding villages and recruits local drivers. 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."

Becoming a Downton Link driver can be a rewarding pastime and more volunteers are always needed. It is an opportunity to meet local people with diverse backgrounds and people who have moved to the area to work or retire.



*Anne and Tony (clients from Downton) .
"We are delighted with the excellent service provided by the transport coordinators and volunteer drivers from Downton Link"*

Volunteer drivers receive a mileage allowance and are just as enthusiastic as the clients. They enjoy social events

where they can meet other drivers. There is flexibility to choose when to drive: "I love volunteering for Downton Link because I choose which drives I do, and I fit them around my busy schedule."

To find out more about Downton Link, visit redlynch.org.uk and select the Hosted Pages section or contact one of the transport co-ordinators on 513807 / email info@downtonlink.org.uk.

DOWNTON DOWNTIME

Downton Downtime is a dementia-inclusive group for people with dementia and their loved ones, or anyone who may feel socially isolated. They meet on Tuesday mornings during term time, 10:15am-12 pm at the Sherwood Suite, Wick Lane. Activities include music-making, arts, photography, creative movement and life story work. The organisers can help signpost to

other dementia & carers services in the area. The new term starts on 17 September with a dementia-friendly concert featuring live music from the musicals. For more information / to reserve a place at the concert, contact downtondowntime@gmail.com.





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KATE HEADLINES SILVER SALISBURY'S AUTUMN FESTIVAL

Silver Salisbury has announced that Downton resident Kate Edgar (Olivier award-winning composer, musical director and choir leader) will headline their Autumn celebration at the Guildhall, Salisbury at 2pm on Wednesday 25 September. Kate will share stories about her life and the music that makes up the soundtrack to her varied and fascinating career. The event is free, but there will be a fund-raising collection for Downton 4 Family and Silver Salisbury.

On Monday 30 September, 11 - 12:30, Downton Library is hosting a discussion with Lesley Self from ArtCare about the origins of Salisbury Hospital at Odstock: 80 years since D-Day! Everyone is welcome to share their memories and learn more about the history of this amazing site. Booking essential on eventbrite.co.uk/e/959126281527 or 01722 336262

ext 5617.

Silver Salisbury promotes activities where older people will get a warm welcome in and around Salisbury, Downton, Amesbury and Wilton. Their festival is taking place between 21 September and 12 October. They also produce a directory of free and low-cost clubs and activities happening throughout the winter and into spring. This is available from mid-September. Find out more from their website www.silversalisbury.co.uk or pick up paper programmes from Downton Library or the Baptist Church.



Kate Edgar

THERE'S A NEW CARPET CLEANER IN TOWN!

A new carpet cleaning and upholstery company, JJ Renovations, has arrived in the village, owned and run by James Clarke. James started the business in 2002 after leaving a 25 year career in marketing. Disillusioned with the London rat race, he bought a public house in Dartford and also started up a company, specialising in all areas of commercial and domestic cleaning services. He and his wife, Tracey, have taken holidays in The New Forest for the last 18 years and for the last 10 in Woodgreen and Downton. They fell in love with the area and hoped one day to retire here - deciding a few months ago to sell up in Dartford

and move to Slab Lane, bringing the cleaning business with them. James has been working one week a month in the area to get the business established prior to the move, which officially happened at the end of August. James said, "We have been delighted with the response and friendly welcome we have received. Tracey and myself can't wait to join the Downton community."

Contact details are in the advert below.



Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning

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Corunna, Slab Lane
Downton, Wiltshire, SP5 3PS
Telephone 07889 641457
Email: jjrenovations@hotmail.co.uk

SILVER SALISBURY

Salisbury Hospital - 80 Years since D-Day

Founded 80 years ago, this remarkable site played a crucial role, caring for American casualties from D-Day. Lesley Self from Salisbury District Hospital's ArtCare shares photos, documents and objects to bring the history alive. Please book a FREE place on one of the links below. Donations appreciated for coffee and cake.

Downton Library
11.15 - 12.30am (doors 11) Mon 30 Sept
eventbrite.co.uk/e/959126281527
or 01722 336262 ext 5617

DOWNTON'S HISTORY THROUGH OBJECTS

It's probably hardly surprising that the eight bells that ring out from St Laurence Church are old. In fact, the two lightest bells date from 1946 when the ring of six bells had two new bells added. The oldest bell is number 5, which dates from the 14th century, possibly around 1350, making it one of Downton's oldest functioning items. Little is known of its origin, but it has the inscription "R.W." which indicates that it was made by a foundry in Winchester which made bells for churches in the area during the middle of the 14th century. When it was manufactured, St Laurence was under the bishopric of Winchester. It's listed in the Church Building Council Schedule of Bells for Preservation, effectively making it a "listed" bell. It's around 100 years older than the next oldest bell in the tower, the sanctus bell. This bell is separate from the ring of eight and is rung during services. It was made at the Salisbury foundry in about 1499.



Bell number 5 would have been heard in the village for nearly 800 years as a witness to events including the Black Death Plague, the English Civil War and the two world wars. One of many changes to the church during this time was in 1791. The tower was raised so that the Earl of Radnor could see it from Longford Castle. It was lowered to its former height in 1859 to avoid the danger of collapse.

It's over 120 years since there was last significant work carried out on the bells, and a recent survey has recommended various works to the frame and bells to restore them to continue to ring out across the village for many years to come. The works will involve a significant amount of money, and plans are being made to raise the funds needed.

MOOT FAIR AND FUN DOG SHOW

On Sunday 22 September, from 12:30 - 5pm, The Moot will be hosting a Fair, where there will be musical entertainment, food stalls, Pimms, craft stalls, and tombola. Downton Brewery will be there and the annual Dog Show. Dog Agility sessions will be available, starting at 3pm. Entry costs £2 for adults and £1 for children (12 and under) with proceeds going to The Moot. There

is still time to book a place for your stall: contact Pennie at

pennie.dunlop@btinternet.com



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CROQUET OPEN AFTERNOON

Hamptworth Croquet Club is holding a free taster session for prospective players (over 15) on Sunday 15 September, from 2pm - 4:30pm. Whether you have been an expert in the past, or have never picked up a croquet mallet in your life, you are invited to come and experience what croquet at Hamptworth has to offer. Members will be on hand to guide and answer questions, and all equipment will be supplied. You are asked to wear flat-soled shoes to protect the lawns. Free refreshments will be provided in the club house. There is no need to book a place - just turn up on the day.

Hamptworth Croquet Club is based in the

grounds of Hamptworth Golf Club (SP5 2DU). They have five full sized croquet lawns. Unfortunately the club does not have equipment of the correct size to allow children to take part.



More information from Steve 07912 608733.

BOWLING SEASON COMING TO AN END

Although the club has had mixed results this year, players report another enjoyable season, which closes at the end of September. Notable successes have been the promotion of The Bustards team to the next section of their triples league (where they will join the other Downton team, The Dragons) and Downton's participation in the "Ivor Fourmy" trophy where the team is through to the final. There is also a chance that the team who entered the Westbrook mixed triples league could be the top team in this league - having already played in the final of the knockout cup. A Westbrook Gala

Day saw the Downton Divas team finishing 3rd out of the 19 teams that entered.

Social bowling takes place on Mondays and Fridays - for more information, contact Ivan Buss (07910 290735) / email Info@downtonbc.co.uk or visit the club's Facebook page: facebook.com/DowntonBC.



EVENTS AT WOODFALLS METHODIST CHURCH

Woodfalls Methodist Church is holding a Jigsaw Puzzle Festival over the weekend of 27 - 29 September. The church will be open on Friday 3-7pm, Saturday 10-4 pm and Sunday 12-4pm. There will be a selection of 100s of puzzles (suitable for a variety of ages) to buy, small puzzles to make up on the spot, and large puzzles to add to whilst chatting with friends.

The church is also holding a Christmas Market on Saturday 9 November, 10am - 12 noon, with stalls selling bric-a-brac, books, cakes and savouries, Christmas decorations, cards, toys and gifts - as well as a lucky dip, tombola and

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26-30 Salisbury Street, Fordingbridge

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

The Parish Steward (Steve) will be back working in Downton on the 11 / 12 September. He will be working in Charlton all Saints as well as doing some jobs around the parish in Downton.

The Speed Indicator Device (SID) will be recording speeds in the Borough next. The statistics from the SID's last placing in Moot Lane show that whilst most drivers were sticking to under 30mph, a few drivers were recorded at speeds way above the limit. The statistics are sent to the Police who decide if any further action is to be taken.

The Parish Council, the Downton Society and some extremely helpful volunteers have been busy clearing some of the Parish footpaths. A new loop footpath is under review so watch this space.

The Council would like to extend a huge thank you to all the volunteers involved, saying "We know that the doughnuts helped!"

Parish Council meetings are held on the second Monday of the month in the Bonvalot Room in the Memorial Centre. Meetings start at 7pm. There is always a public question time at the beginning of the meeting, so anyone can go along and have their say. Susan Barnhurst Davies is the Administrative Officer for the Parish Council. She can be contacted on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays on 07483 344035 or email admin@downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk. Where appropriate, she may redirect queries to Councillors or the Parish Clerk.



LOVER REPAIR CAFE COMPLETES ITS 500TH SESSION

The Lover Repair cafe has now exceeded 500 repair sessions - and raised over £40,000 for a variety of local charities, including Salisbury Hospital and Lover Baby Bank.

The team will be at the Moot Fest on 22 September, where they will be selling items from their stock of donated and repaired projects. Currently they have coffee tables, radios and bikes on offer.

The cafe has extended now into Downton and is open on the first Saturday of each month, 10am - 1pm at Downton Baptist Church.

The team is looking for more helpers from the Downton area. A spokesman said: "Skill or no skill, we would like to see you. Just pop in for a chat about joining us!"

For more information, email downtonrepaircafe@gmail.com



Repair Cafe Volunteers

INDOWNTON NEWSLETTER

Sponsored and supported by Downton Baptist Church

Christmas Issue: Deadline for contributions: 10 November 2024

Publication date: 23 November 2024

Distributed to every house in the village, 5 times a year.

For information about contributing or advertising, email: editor@indownton.org.uk or visit indownton.org.uk

X: @indownton Facebook: [facebook.com/InDownton](https://www.facebook.com/InDownton)

Telephone: 01725 513191

Production Team: Rosemary Leo, Paul Leo, Natalie Wright and Jamie Love

DOWNTON LINK NEEDS YOU

Do you drive a car?
Would you be willing to spare a few hours a week
to be a good neighbour volunteer?
Have you considered joining Downton Link as a volunteer driver?

We are urgently seeking drivers to help
maintain our valuable local service.

To find out more, call 01725 513807
or email info@downtonlink.org.uk and we will
call you back for a confidential no-obligation chat.

HELPING LOCAL PEOPLE TO GO PLACES

What, Where, When

September

Sunday	15	2 - 4:30pm	Croquet club taster day, Hamptworth Golf Course	Page 15
Tuesday	17	10:30am - 12 noon	Downton Downtime Concert, Sherwood Room, Wick Lane	Page 12
Tuesday	17	6 - 7:30pm	Defibrillator awareness course, Bonvalot Room, Memorial Centre	Page 4
Friday	20	2 - 3:30pm	The Wardrobe, Clothing Exchange, Baptist Church	Page 4
Saturday	21	10am - 2pm	Goose Fair, St Laurence Church	Page 8
Sunday	22	12:30 - 5pm	Moot Fair, the Moot	Page 14
Friday	27	10am - 12 noon	'Fridays' Community Cafe, Memorial Hall	
Friday	27	10:30am - 12 noon	Library 21st Birthday Celebration	Page 10
Monday	30	11am - 12:30pm	Silver Salisbury Talk: The History of Salisbury Hospital, The Library	Page 10 / 13
Monday	30	2pm	Silver Salisbury Autumn Celebration, Salisbury Guildhall	Page 13

October

Thursday	3	10am - 12 noon	Hearing Aid Clinic, Downton Baptist Church	
Friday	11	7:30pm	Horticultural Society talk: Blooming Wonderful, Memorial Hall	Page 6
Sunday	13	10:30	Thank You Service for Pets and Animals, St Laurence Church	Page 6
Thursday	17	7 pm	Downton Society AGM, Memorial Hall	Page 11
Friday	18	2 - 3:30pm	The Wardrobe, Clothing Exchange, Baptist Church	Page 4
Friday	25	10am - 12 noon	'Fridays' Community Cafe, Memorial Hall	

November

Thursday	7	10am - 12 noon	Hearing Aid Clinic, Downton Baptist Church	
Friday	15	7 pm	Downton Society Talk: Minette Batters (provisional date), Memorial Hall	Page 11
Thursday	21	7:30pm	Horticultural Society AGM, Memorial Hall	Page 6
Friday	22	2 - 3:30pm	The Wardrobe, Clothing Exchange, Baptist Church	Page 4

ASHLEY GRANGE FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Free activities and entertainment for older people
 Thursdays 1.45pm
 Ashley Grange, Lode Hill, SP5 3PP

DOWNTON DOWNTIME

Activities for anyone with memory problems or who feels isolated
 Tuesdays 10.15am - 12pm Free
 Sherwood Suite, Wick Lane SP5 3NF
 Jane Abel musecic@gmail.com

GOOD COMPANIONS

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 Tuesdays 2pm - 4pm £2.50 fee
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VILLAGE INFORMATION & REGULAR EVENTS

PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Melanie Camilleri
 Telephone: 07798 698199
 Office Hours: Monday - Friday
 10am - 3pm
 clerk@downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk
 downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

Clr Richard Clewer
 53 Highlands Avenue, Whiteparish,
 Salisbury SP5 2SZ
 01794 884550
 richard.clewer@wiltshire.gov.uk

MOBILE POST OFFICE

Fridays
 Moot Lane 9am - 10am
 The Bull 10.05am - 11.05am

HIGH STREET PHARMACY

Monday to Friday 8.30am - 6pm
 (closed for lunch 1-2pm)
 Saturday 9am - 12noon
 Tel: 01725 510388

LIBRARY

01725 511003
 Opening Hours
 Monday 2pm - 7pm
 Tuesday 2pm - 5pm*
 Wednesday 2pm - 5pm*
 Thursday 10am - 1pm*
 Friday 10am - 5pm
 Saturday 10 - 1

* volunteer operated sessions

LEISURE CENTRE

Mon - Fri 6.30am - 10pm
 Sat & Sun 9am - 5pm
 01725 557268
 downtonleisurecentre.co.uk

LOVER REPAIR CAFE

Wednesdays / Fridays 10am - 12pm
 Fixing household items
 Redlynch Village Hall SP5 2PG

MEMORIAL CENTRE

To book hall or meeting rooms
 contact Hilary Mace 07760 415818
 email: bookingsecretary@
 downtonmemorialcentre.co.uk

VILLAGE WEBSITE

downtonvillage.co.uk

DOWNTON BAPTIST CHURCH (DBC)

South Lane, Downton SP5 3NA
 Sunday Service: 10.30 am (check website for latest details)
 Ministers:
 Rev Philip Rhoades: philip@downtonbaptist.org 07468 491143
 Rev Katy Ulyatt: katy@downtonbaptist.org 07786 248880
 Church Office open Monday - Thursday, 9am - 1pm 512971
 Email: office@downtonbaptist.org Web: downtonbaptist.org

ST LAURENCE PARISH CHURCH

Church Hatch, Downton SP5 3PU
 Sunday Service: 10.30 am (check website for latest details)
 Cafe Church 2nd Sunday 10.30 - 11.30am
 Team Vicar: Revd Veronica Batchelor 01725 513878;
 veronicaforestandavon@gmail.com
 Parish Administrator, Jo Parsons 01725 512738
 stlaurencedownton.co.uk

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

(ROMAN CATHOLIC)

Barford Lane, Downton SP5 3QA
 Mass 3rd Thursday of the month 6.30pm
 Service of the word Tuesdays 6.30pm (via zoom on weeks when no mass on
 Thursdays). To join, contact John Elliott 07980 921558
 Telephone: 01722 333581; office@salisbury Catholics.org

NEW LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH (NLCC)

4th Sunday of the month Word & Worship Service: 7pm
 Bonvalot Room, Memorial Centre, The Borough, Downton SP5 3NB
 Life Group Wednesday evenings (contact office for details)
 office@newlifecommunitychurch.co.uk

THE PLAYROOM (DBC)

Toddler Church
 Toys, stories, singing.
 Wednesdays term time 9 - 11am

**BREASTFEEDING
 SUPPORT GROUP @ DBC**

Wednesdays 11am - 12.30pm
 Wiltshire Breastfeeding Support

LITTLE BUDS (NLCC)

Free postnatal group
 Tuesdays term time 1 - 2.30pm
 Bonvalot Room, Memorial Centres

THE LARDER (DBC)

Free food, every week.
 Open for donations and collections
 Monday 6 - 7pm
 Wednesday 9 - 10am

THE GARDEN (DBC)

A garden for everyone to grow food
 and flowers for The Larder
 Open for gardening or to share tea in
 the garden
 Thursdays after school 3.15 - 4.15pm
 Sundays 2.30 - 4.30pm

THURSDAYS (DBC)

10.30am coffee/cake
 11am short church service
 2nd & 4th Thursdays lunch @ 12pm

THE WORKSHOP (DBC)

Lover Repair Cafe in Downton
 1st Saturday of each month
 10am - 1pm

THE WARDROBE (DBC)

Free Clothing Exchange
 Usually 3rd Friday 2 - 3.30pm
 See article to confirm dates