

# Charlton Parish Chat



Visitors have been quick to find our newly excavated stretch of canal!

*February and March  
2026*

Just a few words about the picture on the front page... Walking frequently up and down The Street, as I do, I observed this freshly dug out ditch, and after one of the recent periods of heavy rain it was almost overflowing onto the pavement. It reminded me of a canal, so when it had subsided I took this photo. A bit of editing produced the picture on the front cover. I hope you like it!

Ed.



## Mrs Doreen Austin

Doreen passed away peacefully on Wednesday 7th January. Doreen had lived in the village for more than 80 years having arrived in Charlton from London as an WWII evacuee. You may have heard one of Doreen's talks about her early life here.

Doreen was a valued member of the village community, always involved in village life and its various initiatives and activities. This included the project to replace the old drill hall with the current village hall, performing in many CHAOS pantomimes and more latterly attending the monthly coffee morning and an exercise class at the hall.

Doreen's involvement in the life of the church started as a child attending Sunday school continuing to become church secretary, church warden and refreshment supremo faithfully providing coffee after all our services.

Sadly Doreen's increasing frailty meant that in January 2025 she moved to Stainsbridge House.

All of us who knew Doreen send our condolences to Susan, Lindsey and families.

## Submissions for the next issue of the Chat

Next Chat "deadline": Input would be appreciated by 10<sup>th</sup> March, but can probably be accepted a few days after this date - please check with the editor.

Please email articles to the editor at [charltonchat@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:charltonchat@yahoo.co.uk) or by post/hand delivery to Peter Holland, 25 Park Street, Charlton, or phone 01666 823719.

Do you know anyone outside the village who would like to receive a copy of Charlton Parish Chat? Annual subscription - £10. Call Marion Adkins on 07909 911753.

**Small ads...** Charlton Chat accepts adverts from local people, businesses and organisations. Per issue, a small display box, approx. a twelfth of a page costs £1; Up to £20 for a full page. Contact the editor, or Marion Adkins.

# Farming News

*A little while ago it was suggested to me that it would be interesting to know what was happening in the fields around us, so I contacted Robin Aird and he has agreed to contribute to the Chat...*

*Ed.*

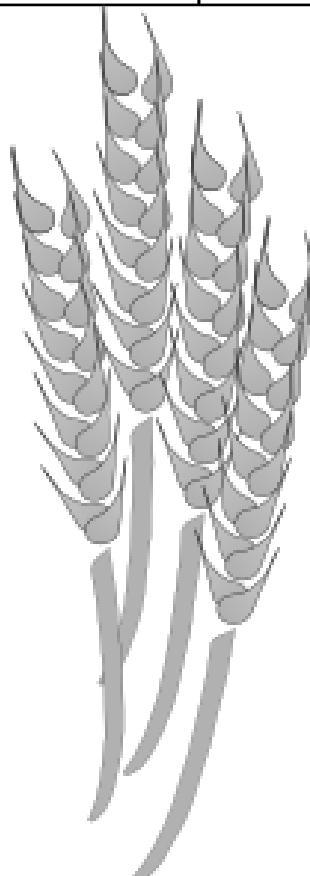


Firstly, let me introduce myself, I expect some of you know me, but I am Robin Aird and have been Farm Manager at Charlton Park for the last 23 years. Charlton Park Estate covers 4,500 acres and there are residential and commercial properties and also our events area.

We grow crops on about 3000 acres of land and also have 600 acres of grassland.

There is also over 200 acres of permanent environmental areas for wildlife.

We block crop the land on the farm which means bunching the fields into groups to make it more efficient to farm, we have 10 blocks in total.



We have Charlton block which is the block behind the cricket field and Church and then The Park which is the block that runs parallel to five lanes. We use a 4-year crop rotation to change the crops in the blocks each year to reduce weeds, pests and diseases.

Our rotation is winter wheat, winter barley or rye, this is then followed by a wild bird food covercrop,

spring wheat - which is followed by a cover crop and finally maize. At present we have the wild bird seed crop in the Charlton block and winter wheat in The Park block. We grow wild bird seed crop as a result of the Government's post-Brexit support for farmers scheme.

As we go through the season I will expand on the farming cycle.

## January PC Meeting

- Usually PC meetings are held early in the month (every other month, starting in January), and this allows news from the meeting to be reported in the Chat.
- However this year the Village Hall is closed for refurbishment until 19 January so the PC meeting cannot be held until too late for this Chat.

## Precept 2026/27

- The precept (the Charlton PC element of your Council Tax) is always set in the January PC meeting for the coming year and is reported in this Chat. We will have to report it in the March Chat instead.

## Gem Festival Licence Application

- Charlton PC objected to Gem Festival's licencing application for an open-ended premises licence for an annual 4-day music festival in Charlton Park with music to 2am on the Friday and Saturday nights (to midnight on Thursday and Sunday nights).
- On 13 January the PC Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Clerk attended the hearing for this application in Wilts Council.
- The Wilts Council decision was to grant the licence but with one amendment – the music and alcohol sales to end at 1am not 2am on Fridays and Saturdays.
- Full reasons for the decision will be available on the Wilts Council website by the time this Chat is printed. When we know where this is we will include a link on the Parish Council website.
- Gem Festival's dates in 2026 are 11-14 June. (Shindig's dates are 21-24 May.)

## Road Signage

- Charlton PC is acutely aware that some road signage is unsatisfactory within the parish at the moment.
- The speed limit/sharp bend/and junction warning sign just before the Noah's Ark junction was knocked over by a lorry over a year ago. The PC has continued to report this and remind Wilts Highways about the need for the sign to be replaced. We know Highways have issued the task to their contractors and we are in their queue somewhere.
- The signs for Bullocks Horn Lane have been missing for even longer. Again, we keep reminding Wilts Highways about these signs being missing, and again we know the task has been issued by Highways to the contractors.

Contd...

- However there was one recent success – a resident requested Horse and Rider warning signs after being frightened when riding on the B4040 on leaving the village eastwards. We raised this as a request to the Area Board and the signs have appeared – you may have noticed them. The PC pays 30% of the cost (but no invoice received yet).

### Minety Solar Farm

- It looks as if the start of the main construction period of the Minety (or Upper Stonehill) Solar Farm is imminent.
- All the construction traffic is to be routed from the M4, Junction 17, north up the A429 to Malmesbury then east on the B4040 through Charlton.
- The Construction Traffic Management Plan forecasts an average of just 3-4 deliveries per day (but noting that they have to go home too so that's 6-8 movements in either direction per day).

### Reminder:Defibrillator – what to do...

- Someone is unresponsive, not breathing normally. Dial 999 and ask for an ambulance.
- Start CPR – 30 chest compressions, 2 breaths, repeat and keep repeating.
- If you are alone with the casualty – it is far better to do CPR than to go to fetch the defibrillator. However if anyone else is with you or you can shout and call anyone else – send them for the defib.
- You need to understand the 200-metre Rule – when you call 999, the operator's computer will not tell the operator about our defibrillator if your location is further than 200 metres away from the defib, so the 999 operator can't tell you. That doesn't matter – you know where it is so you can go and get it or send someone else to get it.
- The cabinet on the Village Hall outer wall is unlocked. Open the defib when it gets to you – it starts operating as soon as you open it up. It tells you what to do, with a recorded voice. It cannot do any harm to the casualty – it will not give a shock unless it detects that the casualty needs a shock.
- But tell anyone else in the vicinity to stand back before shocking.
- Keep going with CPR until the ambulance arrives.

## Movies@Malmesbury

The Thing With Feathers	Mon 02-Feb, 8:00 pm
Marty Supreme	Fri 06-Feb, 2:00 pm & Thu 19-Feb, 8:00 pm
SpongeBob : Search for SquarePants	Fri 06-Feb, 5:30 pm & Mon 16-Feb, 5:30 pm
Avatar: Fire and Ash	Fri 06-Feb, 8:00 pm & Fri 20-Feb, 1:30 pm
The Royal Ballet: Woolf Works	Mon 09-Feb, 7:15 pm & Wed 11-Feb, 2:00 pm
Sinners	Mon 16-Feb, 2:00 pm & Mon 16-Feb, 8:00 pm
Song Sung Blue	Tue 24-Feb, 2:00 pm & Mon 02-Mar, 8:00 pm
National Theatre: The Audience	Fri 27-Feb, 7:00 pm & Tue 03-Mar, 2:00 pm
Hamnet	Mon 02-Mar, 2:00 pm & 06-Mar, 8:00 pm
The Royal Ballet: Giselle	Tue 03-Mar, 7:15 pm & Tue 10-Mar, 2:00 pm
Exhibition on Screen: Turner and Constable	Tue 10-Mar, 7:30 pm
28 Years Later: The Bone Temple	Mon 16-Mar, 2:00 pm & Mon 16-Mar, 8:00 pm



## February's Message from the Ministry

I saw a clip of a conversation with comedian Henning Wehn discussing with Jake Wood how if he was a Christian, he would be really mad about the people who only come to church at Christmas. They joked that it's like football - people should have been to a few games before they are allowed to stay for the big match, and that most of them don't even know the names of the players "who's this Gabriel?", or that churches should just close altogether for these times! "Let them come on wet morning in February! "You can't come and wash all your sins in 10 minutes and boom, you're done for the rest of the year"

It was funny, and it was nice to hear a mainstream comedian talk positively about church, but I felt that they had spectacularly missed the point.

Someone had commented on the video quoting theologian William Temple: 'church is the only organisation that exists primarily for the benefit of its non-members'.

Church is not just here for the people who walk through the door on Sunday mornings.

Church is there for the lonely

Church is there for the joyful

Church is there for the family

Church is there for the bereaved

Church is there for the seeker



Church is there for the community it serves

We are the family of God – his only mouth and hands in this world – and we long to share him with anyone and everyone who walks through that door, whether it's for the 1st time or the 1000th time, whether it's in a beautiful act of worship or a fun community event. It's a complete joy to welcome new people or occasional attendees – you are such an important part of our church family (and having lots of people makes singing hymns so much more fun!)

So no, Henning, thanks for the laughs, but we won't be closing our doors and keeping to ourselves as Easter approaches – well be flinging them wide open, and asking anyone who might be interested to come inside and join us for a wonderful celebration – we are each a beloved child of God, and all are welcome in his house.

Just don't forget, we're here all year round too, so don't be a stranger.

Revd Bob Molton

## Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals at Charlton

### Funeral & Burial

28th January Doreen Ethel Austin

# CHARLTON RECREATIONAL CENTRE



A Happy New Year from all of the Charlton Recreational Committee.

Following the committee's AGM in December, the group is happy to announce that the committee has been re-elected without any changes for the next year. The AGM also captured the details that the hall is doing well, with increased numbers of bookings providing a stable income to the hall.

Unfortunately the committee also discussed the deteriorating support for the 150 Club. Over the years this has provided a vital and valuable source of income for the hall, however the continued lack of take up is reducing the efficiency of keeping it going. The committee would love you all to support this fund raising project, however if not, then the committee may well have to stop it later in the year.

Many of you will have seen the recent additions around the playing field. Feedback on both the 'Fairy trail' and the new ramp and climbing rope on the side ramp have been positive. The committee are always looking at ways to improve the hall, playground and playing field. Current thoughts are for possible children's Easter and Halloween events later this year. Do you agree? Do you have any other ideas, if so, please get in touch with any member of the committee or send an email to the group mailbox (charltonhall22@gmail.com).

Other recent improvements to the hall include the full replacement of its lights, both inside and outside to provide a more energy efficient system. We have also improved the use of the two air-conditioning units in the hall. Rather than working individually, they will now work as a pair, with the aim of a more evenly distributed heat signature.

The final improvement is the full decoration of the interior of the hall. All of this work has led to the hall being out of use from mid December to mid January, we apologise for this, however we hope you will agree that it will look far better and should not need anything major for a few years again!

The last bit of updating for the hall and field is a new website. At writing the committee are still canvassing local web designers to help us to improve our current system. More to come on this shortly.

The last point for this iteration of the chat is to ask if any of you would like to join the CRC? The committee still has an opening. So If you would like to join a team providing support to the local populace then please get in touch!

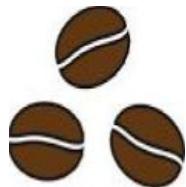
Doz James

# Coffee Mornings @ Charlton Village Hall

Funds raised Charlton Recreational Centre 279819



10.30am on Mondays:



2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2<sup>nd</sup> March  
and 13<sup>th</sup> April

All are welcome, young or old.

£1 Charge

Do ring me if you want a lift.

Anne 823719



The Winter Solstice and longest day is behind us, yet we are only a few weeks into Astronomical Winter with Spring Equinox of 20th March still a long way off.



At this time of year going out in the cold to walk the footpaths may not sound appealing, yet if we overcome that initial reticence and put on the right clothing the experience is usually uplifting. When the ground is hard on those crisp frosty and clear sunny mornings, the trees are bare, the pheasants call, the deer stand and watch. We are so fortunate.



So, do enjoy and keep our footpaths walked throughout the year. Our Footpaths Group endeavour to ensure the paths and signage in the Charlton Parish are properly maintained. A reminder that booklets of Charlton Walks are still available from Roy and all contributions go to the Village Hall and Parish Church.



If you find any issues with the footpaths please continue to raise them as it will help us get them resolved sooner.

Contact Roy on 01666 826600 or 07917 806604 or [evansrej@gmail.com](mailto:evansrej@gmail.com)



# Charlton Village Hall Hire for parties, events, business hire, etc.

**Special Events Package:** All day booking, plus access to the premises from the middle of the previous day to 10.00am the following day. Use of all Hall facilities and a roped off area outside.

## **Children's Parties: 4 hours access to the Hall.**

**Friday and Saturday Evenings:** Access to the Hall from 6.00pm to midnight. All other event and party bookings are chargeable by the hour. The hirer should request a booking that covers their total occupancy of the Hall (including setting and clearing up).

Event Type	Deposit	Charge (Local*)	Charge (Other)
Special Event	£100	£450	£550
Children's Party	£50	£35	£55
Friday or Saturday Evening	£100	£100	£150
Other Events	£50	£10 per hour	£15 per hour

The Local rate is available to residents of Charlton, Hankerton & Garsdon

To enquire about using the Village Hall or Playing Field, whether for a one-off event or regular booking please email us on [enquiries@charltonvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@charltonvillagehall.co.uk) or call Tracey Hobbs on 07557 124628.

See: [www.charltonvillagehall.co.uk/bookings/](http://www.charltonvillagehall.co.uk/bookings/) for details of the current bookings and a copy of the booking form and terms and conditions.

Charlton Recreational Centre - 150 Club Monthly Prize Draw Winners

December			January		
1 <sup>st</sup>	32	J.Thompson	1 <sup>st</sup>	35	S.Baffour
2 <sup>nd</sup>	7	D.James	2 <sup>nd</sup>	25	C.Perchard
3 <sup>rd</sup>	34	J.Pennycott	3 <sup>rd</sup>	48	E.Williams



Our thanks to all those who have bought a ticket for 2025/6.

Your subscription has helped us to install new low energy lighting in and around the hall and to redecorate inside.

150clubcharlton@gmail.com

or call Tracey on 07557 124628 to reserve tickets.

**WATCH THE**



**GUINNESS**  
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**downonthefarm,wilts**





Join us this  
**Mothering Sunday**  
for Afternoon Tea

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March**

**Down on the Farm**

**Little Lype Farm, Moor Lane, Charlton, SN16 9DR**

Our popular delicious Afternoon Tea includes: sandwiches, sausage roll, scone with jam, cream and tasty treats, tea or coffee. For an extra £5 have a glass of Prosecco!

*May be different to the picture.*



£20 / per person  
£25 with a glass of Prosecco



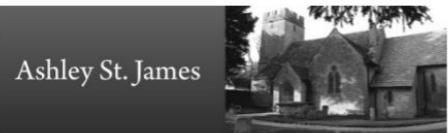
Down on the Farm, Wilts

**Booking is essential.**

To book your Afternoon Tea, please email  
[downonthefarm24@gmail.com](mailto:downonthefarm24@gmail.com) or call  
07966 964437

# February Services across the Braydon Brook Benefice

All are welcome to attend any of the services taking place across the Benefice



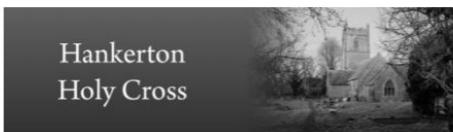
Ashley St. James



Charlton  
St. John the Baptist



All Saints  
Crudwell



Hankerton  
Holy Cross



Minety  
St. Leonard



Oaksey  
All Saints

Date	Services in Church	Additional information
Sunday 1st February	9.30am, <b>Holy Communion</b> @ Hankerton 10am, <b>Friends &amp; Family</b> @ Crudwell 11am, <b>Holy Communion</b> @ Oaksey 6pm, <b>Evening Service</b> @ Ashley	
Sunday 8th February	10.00 am, <b>Benefice Communion</b> @ Ashley	
Sunday 15th February	9.30am, <b>Holy Communion</b> @ Charlton 9.30am, <b>Morning Praise</b> @ Crudwell 11am, <b>Holy Communion</b> @ Minety 11am, <b>Matins</b> @ Oaksey 4.30pm <b>Prayer, Praise &amp; Story</b> @ Hankerton	
Sunday 22nd February	9.30am, <b>Holy Communion</b> @ Ashley 9.30am, <b>Morning Praise</b> @ Charlton 11am, <b>Holy Communion</b> @ Crudwell 11am, <b>Morning Praise</b> @ Minety 10.00 <b>Kids Club</b> and 11am, <b>Family Service</b> @ Oaksey	

## Mid-Week Services and Events

Tuesday	Weekly	9.00am	Morning Prayer via Zoom
Wednesday	11th February (2nd Wed)	10.30am	Coffee & Chat @ Crudwell
	18th February (Ash Wednesday)	12.00 Noon	Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes @ Ashley
	Weekly	7.00pm	Men's Bible Study 1 Days Court, Crudwell
Thursday	12th February (2nd Thu)	9.45am	BCP Communion Service @ Minety
Friday	Weekly	9.00am	Morning Prayer via Zoom
Saturday	7th February (1st Sat)	11am – 12.30pm	Café Church @ Hankerton

Please visit our website [www.braydonbrook.co.uk](http://www.braydonbrook.co.uk) and **Braydon Brook Churches Facebook Page** to find out more.

# March Services across the Braydon Brook Benefice

All are welcome to attend any of the services taking place across the Benefice



Date	Services in Church	Additional information
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	9.30am, <b>Holy Communion</b> @ Hankerton 10am, <b>Friends &amp; Family</b> @ Crudwell 11am, <b>Holy Communion</b> @ Oaksey 6pm, <b>Evening Service</b> @ Ashley	
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00 am, <b>Benefice Communion</b> @ Charlton	
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30am, <b>Holy Communion</b> @ Charlton 9.30am, <b>Morning Praise</b> @ Crudwell 11am, <b>Holy Communion</b> @ Minety 11am, <b>Matins</b> @ Oaksey 4.30pm <b>Prayer, Praise &amp; Story</b> @ Hankerton	
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	9.30am, <b>Holy Communion</b> @ Ashley 9.30am, <b>Morning Praise</b> @ Charlton 11am, <b>Holy Communion</b> @ Crudwell 11am, <b>Morning Praise</b> @ Minety 10.00 <b>Kids Club</b> and 11am, <b>Family Service</b> @ Oaksey	
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00 am, <b>Benefice Communion</b> @ Crudwell	

## Mid-Week Services and Events

Monday	30 <sup>th</sup> March	5.30pm	Stillness & Peace Service @ Charlton
Tuesday	Weekly	9.00am	Morning Prayer via Zoom
Wednesday	11 <sup>th</sup> March (2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed)	10.30am	Coffee & Chat @ Crudwell
	Weekly	2pm	Women's Discussion Group 1 Days Court, Crudwell
	Weekly	7.00pm	Men's Bible Study 1 Days Court, Crudwell
Thursday	12th March (2 <sup>nd</sup> Thu)	9.45am	BCP Communion Service @ Minety
Friday	Weekly	9.00am	Morning Prayer via Zoom
Saturday	7 <sup>th</sup> March (1 <sup>st</sup> Sat)	11am – 12.30pm	Café Church @ Hankerton

Please visit our website [www.braydonbrook.co.uk](http://www.braydonbrook.co.uk) and Braydon Brook Churches Facebook Page to find out more.

## North Wiltshire Villages

### Flower Club

Hi there this is Cathy Carroll again. I'm writing to tell you about our club the North Wilshire Flower Club that is based in Crudwell Village Hall and meets every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7 for 7.30 start. On February 18th we have Cathryn Brown coming to demonstrate "a Flower Prescription for you". I do hope you will join us. It should be interesting as well as beautiful.

We have plenty of parking space and a raffle for the demonstration flowers. We also have free cake and tea/coffee afterwards and your first visit is free. We would love you to join us.

Cathy Carroll



**Holiday cottages available**  
for short breaks,  
weekends and  
weekly bookings.

**Contact Ruth Baker**  
01666 577274

### **James Hutton Auto Repair**

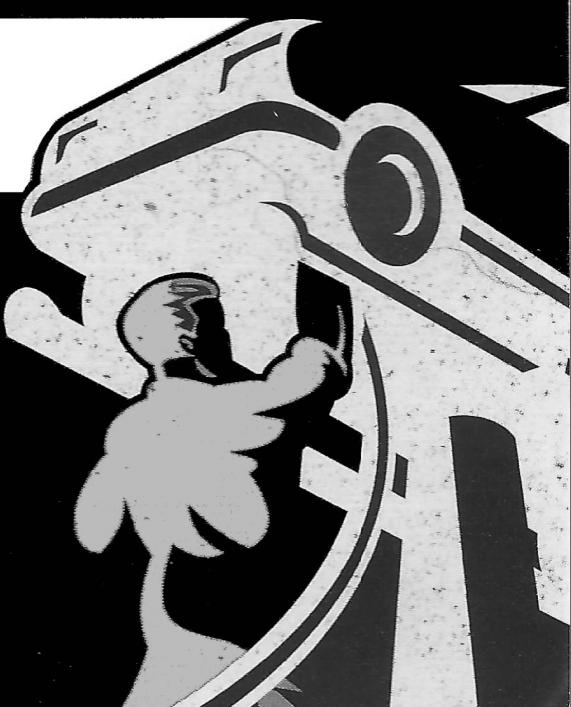
**James Hutton**

Motor mechanic

Email: [james13.hutton@outlook.com](mailto:james13.hutton@outlook.com)

Cowage Farm  
Foxley, SN16 0JH

**Tel: 07568193062**



# The Dragonfly Café and Nature Centre

Situated on the Lower Moor nature reserve overlooking Cottage Lake is the newly built but already becoming firmly established Dragonfly Café and Nature Centre.

Since 2007 the reserve has been home to a plethora of wildlife from insects to otters and offers the opportunity to get lost in the nature we endeavour to protect.

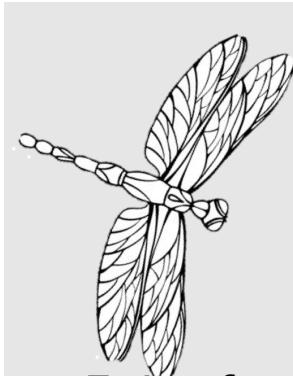


Open all year round, the Dragonfly Café and Nature Centre is the perfect spot to sight otters, herons and (of course) the many species of dragonfly, ideal for professional and amateur wildlife photographers and passionate nature enthusiasts.



The Dragonfly and Nature Centre caters for those with a sweet or savoury tooth presenting delicious homemade scones baked fresh every morning, fresh homemade soups and a variety of heavenly cakes including vegan and gluten free options.

With excellent locally roasted coffee and hot chocolate to warm you in winter as well as refreshing apple juice made from apples in Lower Moor orchard to cool you in summer, the Dragonfly can start your journey around the reserve or end it with a well deserved treat.



## **Dragonfly Café & Nature Centre**

Lower Moor Nature Reserve  
Oaksey, SN16 9TW



Enjoy freshly baked scones and cakes whilst watching dragonflies over Cottage Lake

Find us at: <https://www.wiltshirewildlife.org/dragonfly-cafe>  
Or on Instagram follow us @dragonfly.cafe\_

Lower Moor Nature Reserve is on the road between Oaksey  
and Somerford Keynes.



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**Sam 07833477165**



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obligation quotation:  
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call 07398278355-**



If you would like to advertise in the Chat, please see page 1....

# Foxley Plumbing & Heating

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**Tim Hibbard**

Mobile 07966 462202

Email foxleyph@gmail.com

**WELCOME TO**



Dating back to the 16th century, The Horse & Groom is a grade II-listed pub in the heart of Charlton. Recently refurbished inside and out, the pub boasts 5 beautiful boutique bedrooms, stunning seasonal menus, and award-winning Butcombe beer behind the bar.

Book a table or room on our website, over the phone or via the Butcombe App.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

The Horse & Groom, The Street, Charlton, Malmesbury, SN16 9DL

horseandgroom@butcombeplc.com

butcombe.com/the-horse-and-groom-wiltshire

@horseandgroomcharlton

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[www.justheatingltd.co.uk](http://www.justheatingltd.co.uk)

2 The Old Dairy

Charlton Park Estate

Malmesbury, Wiltshire

SN16 9DG



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## Who's who

Rector	Revd Bob Molton	848684
Associate Minister	Revd Sarah Wyman	577159
Licensed Lay Minister	Rachel Swatton	861035
PCC Churchwarden/Treasurer	Marion Adkins	07909 911753
Captain of bell ringers	Bob Blanden	860308
Secretary of bell ringers	Christopher Daws	824029
Church organist	Megan Mills	823840
Village Hall booking	Tracey Hobbs	07557 124628
Charlton newsletter	Peter Holland	823719

## Charlton Parish Councillors:

Tom Blanden	charltonchairman@gmail.com	860308
Marion Adkins		07909 911753
Lord Suffolk	Earl.Suffolk@CharltonPark.Estate	
Philip Baffour		822721
Elizabeth Garforth-Bles		824380
David Rawlings		826654
Hannah Piet		824650
Philip Thompson		825482
Jonathan Branton		
<b>Parish Council Clerk:</b>		
Michael Bromley-Gardner	clerk@charltonnorthwilts-pc.gov.uk	07972 266767
	or mrbgl@outlook.com	

## The Parish Office The Old Squash Court, Holloway, Malmesbury, SN16 9BA

Administrator: Kath Tallboys  
Office: 01666 825019, opening hours:  
Monday and Wednesday 9.00am -  
4.00pm and Friday 9.00am -3.30pm  
or: bbbandgb@gmail.com .

Rector: 01666 848684.  
Associate Minister: 01666 577169.

Contact us for wedding or baptism inquiries  
and other matters regarding the Braydon  
Brook Group (Ashley, Charlton, Crudwell,  
Hankerton, Minety & Oaksey).

## Useful Websites:

The Village Hall website is at:  
[www.charltonvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.charltonvillagehall.co.uk)

The Parish Council website is at:  
[www.charltonnorthwilts-pc.gov.uk](http://www.charltonnorthwilts-pc.gov.uk)

Charlton Church website is at:  
[www.braydonbrook.co.uk](http://www.braydonbrook.co.uk)

Also see the Charlton Community  
Hub on Facebook.



Malmesbury Abbey  
Music Society

Malmesbury Abbey Music Society is pleased to announce the third and fourth concerts in the 2025-2026 season. These will take place in the beautiful Malmesbury Abbey setting on Wednesday 11 February and Friday 25 March, both at 7pm.

**7pm Wednesday 11 February:  
MUSIC FOR THE SOUL  
Orchestra Pro Anima**

Leader Michael Bochmann

with David Campbell Clarinet



Michael Bochmann and the Orchestra Pro Anima return with an exciting programme which includes the Vivaldi Concerto alla Rustica and Molly on the Shore by Percy Grainger.

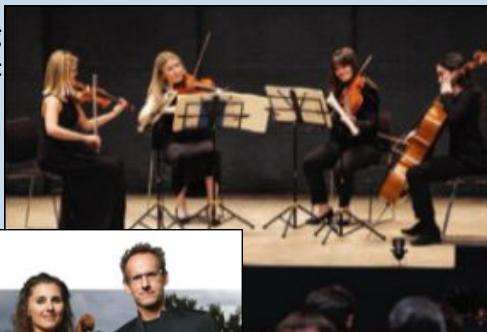
Orchestra Pro Anima are joined by David Campbell for the Mozart Clarinet Concerto K622 and an arrangement of the Finzi Five Bagatelles for Clarinet and strings.

This concert continues the MAMS 'Sound Sense' series designed around building the musicians and audiences of the future. Young musicians work with established classical music ensembles, musicians and educators to enhance the opportunities for both audiences and students alike to develop their joy in music.

For this concert wind players from around Malmesbury join Orchestra Pro Anima and David Campbell in excerpts from Vivaldi and Berlioz.

**7pm Friday 20 March:  
Carducci String Quartet with the Vita  
String Quartet**

Vita String Quartet



Carducci String Quartet

The season winds up with what will be a fitting conclusion to the 2025-2026 season given by the internationally recognised Carducci String Quartet. The programme will include a performance of the Opus 89 string quartet by late 19th and early 20th century American composer Amy Beach whose works are receiving increasing exposure and the Shostakovich Quartet No. 2. The programme also includes the Mendelssohn Octet in E-flat Major for which the Carducci are joined by the Vita String Quartet from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.

Tickets for both concerts may be obtained via [www.malmesburyabbeymusic.com](http://www.malmesburyabbeymusic.com) or in person at Caerbladon, 24 High Street, Malmesbury.