

Spring InDownton

Downton and The Goat support Ukraine

On Tuesday evening on the 1st March, regulars at The Goat pub in Downton George Syrett and David Williamson-Jones were discussing what they could do to help the Ukrainian people affected by the Russian invasion. By last orders they had formulated a plan to take essential



The vans and drivers ready to leave

supplies to the Ukrainian border in Poland. They discussed the idea with the pub's co-owner Karolina Korys-Jones, who added some helpful suggestions and insight about how they could navigate her home country of Poland and what to expect and prepare for.

On Wednesday morning they shared their plan with the local community on social media and by word of mouth, asking for donations of useful items for Ukrainians. Downton and nearby villages responded and soon there was a constant stream of deliveries. The Goat's snug area was dedicated to storage, and soon became full.

Karolina said: "It went crazy! There were deliveries non-stop. We would wake up, open the doors and all sorts would be there."

As well as donating their belongings, many people bought top quality and brand new items to donate. Karolina helped to organise travel and accommodation and connect with relatives in Poland. She also bought



In Poland near the Ukraine border

Continued on page 3...

Comment

This jumbo issue of InDownton includes a colour insert from Silver Salisbury in Downton listing the many regular clubs and activities which will be of particular interest to older residents. Do extract it and keep it if you might want to refer to it later.

We've also got news of the return of Cuckoo Fair, there is lots more information on the fair website and on the programme which you should see soon.

Our photo competition to create a local calendar for next year continues to get entries, although we ran out of space to include any in this issue. Do keep sending in local seasonal photos; they could be from earlier years, since it doesn't look like we'll have any snowy village pictures from 2022.

Our next issue will be published on 28 May, a week earlier than originally planned. This is so that we can include details of Platinum Jubilee events. Meanwhile we'll be updating the website with the latest news.

The Editors

CUCKOO FAIR RETURNS FOR 2022

The Cuckoo Fair returns on Saturday 30 April from 10am to 4.30pm. Visitors will be able to enjoy the usual mix of creative, crafty and delicious things being sold on more than 300 stalls on the greens and in the produce market behind the Co-Op - as well as bands, choirs, morris dancers and entertainers. The Cuckoo Fair Princess will be crowned outside The Goat Inn at 10am, signalling the official opening of the Fair. This will be followed by the procession, beginning at The Bull Hotel and ending at The Maypole.

Continued on page 2...

CUCKOO FAIR RETURNS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

The Borough will be closed from 8.30 am - 6 pm. The Co-op car park will be closed on the evening of Friday 29 April to allow for setting up the Produce Market and vehicles will need to be removed from there before 6pm. Letters will be circulated in advance to those residents who will be affected by the road closure, detailing alternative car parking arrangements. Visitors are asked to use the car parks (£5 for the day) and avoid congesting the roads around the village which may be required for access by emergency vehicles.

With 20,000 people expected to visit, visitors will be encouraged to follow the best practice surrounding Covid: wearing masks where appropriate, using hand sanitiser etc. Anyone experiencing any Covid symptoms is asked to be considerate of others and to stay away. The committee understands that there will be concerns. They say: "We'd like to reassure everyone that we have contact with Wiltshire Council's Event Safety



2019 Cuckoo Fair photos by Jo Ramsay Horbury

Advisory Group and take account of Industry wide guidance on holding safe events. We have qualified and experienced health and safety people on the team so we have been very well placed to make an informed and measured decision about the Fair based on the latest information." The FAQs on the Fair's website highlight considerations and decisions about holding the Fair in 2022 (cuckoofair.co.uk). Jo Ramsay Horbury, Communications Manager of the Downton Cuckoo Fair said: "After a two year hiatus, we are looking forward to getting back to fulfilling the purpose of the Fair - to support our local community and organisations by facilitating their fundraising at the Fair." It is estimated that since 1980 the Fair has helped local organisations raise over £1 million. For more information, or to get involved and help, contact the Cuckoo Fair Committee, email info@cuckoofair.co.uk.

Dear Resident

**ROAD CLOSURE FOR DOWNTON CUCKOO FAIR
SATURDAY 30th APRIL 2022**

ORDERS UNDER SECTION 21 OF THE TOWN POLICE CLAUSES ACT 1847

I wish to advise you that I have applied for a Road Closure Order under Section 21 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 as detailed in the Schedule below:

| SCHEDULE | | |
|---|--|------------------------|
| Streets within Wiltshire Council | DATE | TIME |
| <i>The Borough from The Headlands to Church Hatch including Gravel Close, South Land and Green Lane</i> | <i>Saturday 30th April 2022</i> | <i>0830 – 1800 hrs</i> |

I have sent an Application Form to Wiltshire Council for the above Order, along with a copy of this letter. If you have any objections or recommendations to this order, please forward them to me in writing to me as soon as possible.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course and confirm that I have written in similar terms to Wiltshire Police and to the Manager of Morebus.

Yours faithfully



Bev Cornish
Clerk to Downton Parish Council
West View, Slab Lane, Downton, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP5 3PS
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Email: clerk@downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

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EASTER EGG HUNT AT THE MOOT

The Easter Egg Hunt is on again at the Moot - taking place on Easter Monday: April 18. Children aged 11 or under are welcome to take part. The entry fee is £3 per participating child, but there is no charge for accompanying adults and under-2s. This year there will be 4000 eggs to find. (Parents are warned that the eggs may contain traces of nuts). Gates will open at 10:30am in readiness for the hunt to start at 11. Refreshments will be available, but you are

asked if possible to bring your own mug to save on single use plastic. Please do not bring dogs, or send your children unaccompanied. All proceeds will go to Downton Moot Preservation Trust. If it is wet on the day, please check that the event is running on downtonmoot.co.uk and social media.



SUPPORTING UKRAINE (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

George and David a Polish for Dummies book and CD to listen to in the van (but she doesn't think they used it).

By Thursday it was clear that one van was not enough. Wessex Care and Nationwide Engineering loaned two vans and Downton Tyres renewed four tyres on a van for free.

Along with donations, the team set up a Justgiving page, which at the time of writing has raised more than £22,000.

The convoy of vans set off on Friday 4th March with a first night in Antwerp, then they stayed in Krakow on 5th March and made it to Przemysl (ten miles from the Ukrainian border) on the 6th March. They gave two mothers and three young children a lift to Kassel on their way to Switzerland. They unloaded all the vans successfully and were met with open arms by Polish locals. They were able to help some families in Przemysl by paying for taxis to their destinations with some of the donations. George's brother took two mothers and a boy to

Paris where they will stay until a Visa is granted by the UK for them to live in Downton. They are hoping that the boy, aged six, will be able to join the Primary School. Karolina has offered work at The Goat to the women if they need it.



Karolina with George and David

On 10th March they returned to The Goat for a heroes' welcome. Karolina said: "I want to thank everyone

involved and who donated. I'm so proud of the Polish people and their hospitality. Polish people have been through a lot and have had to leave their country and ask for help during wartime. They were helped and now they are helping." Donations are still welcomed at www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/david-williamsonjones



Hero's welcome

BRINGING A NIGHT OUT TO YOUR WORKOUT
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POLICE UPDATE

The local police team report that there have been some positive results in relation to the recent issues of anti-social behaviour and criminal damage in and around the Village . Three individuals have been arrested for a recent burglary and remain under investigation. The team is currently looking at more community consultation dates and will advertise these on their social media



PCSO Matthew Murray

pages in the next few weeks. They would encourage anyone with questions to come along to one of these consultations. The advice remains the same - do report any incidents either via the online crime reporting tool on Wiltshire Police website, 101 or 999 in an emergency. There is also a Neighbourhood Policing Team email for Salisbury Area: SalisburyAreaCPT@wiltshire.police.uk.

The team will soon be offering free bike marking for bicycles with the Bike Register scheme, visit bikeregister.com for details.

CHURCHES AT CUCKOO FAIR

At Cuckoo Fair, DBC will be serving refreshments from 10am - 4pm outside the front of the Church providing "a moment of peace amidst the celebrations", and the Church Field will be available for picnics. All donations will go towards the work of PCF community projects in the Philippines.

St Laurence Larder will again be open at the Memorial Hall, serving refreshments.

The Cuckoo Fair Service will be held on Sunday 1 May in the Memorial Hall, led by Downton Churches Together and everyone is welcome.



WHAT SUPPORTING THE CUCKOO FAIR MEANS

The fund raising at the fair has been missed in the last two years. 1st Downton Girl Guides would have paid for transport to Guiding UK events and would have used funds from the last two years to update their camping kit. They said: "The Fair is not only an important fundraising activity but it is something which brings the whole community together. It gives the village an identifiable activity to work towards for the benefit of all."

The Fair is run by volunteers and meets its costs using the income from stall holders, advertising, car

parking fees and donations from local fundraisers and businesses who benefit from the income generated by the Fair. Any money raised over and above running costs is offered back to the local community (for example, the Christmas tree which is gifted to the village). Downton Football Club, who raise critical core funds at the Fair said: "Thank you for the work of the Cuckoo Fair team. We know running our own voluntary organisation one rarely gets thanks for the thousands of volunteer hours we all put in!" Info@cuckoofair.co.uk

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MEMORIAL CENTRE UPDATE

The Memorial Centre is now open following the lock down periods during the past two years. The main hall is busy with old favourites, such as Tai Chi and Good Companions, plus new regular bookings including the popular community café ('Fridays'). Children's parties continue to be popular at the weekends particularly in the colder, wetter months.

There are several new regular bookings in the extension – Seated Yoga, Pilates and Golden Oldies (sing along session for everyone). The Health Visitor drop in clinic is returning this month for the first time in two years. The two meeting rooms are suitable for all types of business meetings. See the diary on the website to find out 'what's on' and, if looking to book one of the rooms, when free slots are available.

In addition to the Centenary and Bonvalot rooms, there is an office suitable for one or two people which can be booked either by the hour

or on a longer term basis which may suit someone working from home who wants an alternative space.

With Wi-Fi throughout, a lift to the meeting rooms and a good sized stage, the Memorial Centre is well suited for meeting the needs of the growing community of Downton.

The Centre encourages its users not to use 'single use plastic' and has plates, bowls and mugs available for children's parties at no extra charge. In addition to the crockery kept in the kitchen, the Centre has some additional good quality crockery, cutlery and glasses (including champagne flutes) that can be hired for special events, including events to be held elsewhere.

Call Hilary on 07760 415818, go to downtonmemorialcentre.co.uk or email bookingsecretary@downtonmemeorialcentre.co.uk.



COMMUNITY PRE-SCHOOL

The children have started to learn Makaton and have done lots of baking. They have gone on some lovely nature walks and used the construction area to make various structures - from go karts to towers. Now that Spring is here they are looking forward to gardening in the playground and planting fruit and vegetables to eat at snack time. There are limited spaces available for after Easter and the September list is open. If you would like more information, or to secure a place for your child, email admin@downtonpreschool.co.uk or call 511178. The PreSchool is open Monday- Friday 8am-5.30pm (term time only) and accepts

children from 2-4 years old.

The Preschool is holding a "Frock Swap" at the Sherwood Room, Wick Lane from 7:30 - 10pm on Friday 1 April to raise funds. You are invited to bring along between 3 and 5 items of clothing (including bags and shoes) and swap them for something different. There will also be an opportunity to purchase from local business stalls. Tickets (£5) are available from the PreSchool or by email. Their famous duck race will be back at the Cuckoo Fair. Ducks cost £1 each and are available from the Preschool, Borough Cafe, Burnout Bikes, the Football Club and Downton Tyres.



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NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REVIEW MEETING

Plans by Formula Land to build 100 houses off the Breamore Road south of Catherine Close were refused by Wiltshire Council at the end of February. The application was submitted in June 2021 following a developer survey which showed minimal support from the community for development at that location. Objections highlighted concerns about flood risk, traffic and pedestrian safety and environmental issues, including responses from The Parish Council, Downton Society and Green Group.

The Downton Neighbourhood Plan was taken into account in the decision, with Wiltshire Council noting that the Formula Land site had not been favourably identified and that the proposal “conflicts with (the Plan’s) sustainable development principles” The Downton Society points out that opposition to further development is not simply an anti-housing issue. There may still be a need for a

small amount of genuine low cost housing but the village has already reached the housing targets previously allocated by WC, so any new proposals would have to be appropriate in scale, in location and include genuinely affordable housing. Local infrastructure (from roads and sewage to medical services and schools) has to be able to cope with additional pressures that additional housing might bring.

Government planning policy is changing, and there is pressure for more housing. It has therefore been decided that the Downton Neighbourhood Plan should be strengthened and updated. An initial public consultation at the Memorial Hall at the beginning of March showed encouraging interest, and with Parish Council support, it is going forward. There will be an Open meeting at the Memorial Hall at 6pm on Tuesday 5th April for anyone who would like to help review the Plan.

DOWNTON LINK: A VITAL SERVICE

Downton Link was founded in 1996 and has been transporting local people to hospitals, GPs, dentists, hairdressers and shops ever since. They also provide a befriending service for anyone needing someone to talk to. Volunteers arrange to meet up for an hour or two for a friendly chat over a coffee. The link is also always looking for new volunteers to become drivers, befrienders or co-ordinators. At the moment, they are particularly looking for co-ordinators. This role is home-based and is responsible for taking calls from clients and allocating the job to a driver. If you are interested in giving a few hours to a worthwhile and rewarding service call 513807 or email info@downtonlink.org.uk.

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Make a difference in your community

COMMUNITY FIRST

LINK CO-ORDINATOR VOLUNTEERS

Could you volunteer as a Link Co-ordinator?

Co-ordinators should be outgoing and friendly, have a warm telephone manner, be good listeners and communicators. They will also need to be well-organised. A Link Scheme Volunteer Co-ordinator will typically operate from home, receiving requests from clients or other services. A telephone with voicemail and in some schemes, a laptop will be provided.

Volunteer with your local Link Scheme:

Demand for our service is growing and we urgently need new Link Co-ordinators to support the service

Volunteer from home

If you could spare some time, or for more information please contact us:

DOWNTON LINK
01725 513807

DOWNTON 4 FAMILY

The local family charity is seeing an increase in referrals, but is encouraged that families feel able to reach out for help. Representatives have visited local schools and pre schools to introduce themselves and offer support where it is needed. The community continues to support the charity via its various fundraising initiatives - the Co-op community scheme; booking charity cars for weddings, proms and special occasions; buying goodies from the shop. The shop has an updated range of items for gifting at Easter. As well as chocolates, candles and bath time treats, it offers items

from 'Bees and Botanical' (natural products including wild flower seeds, planters and lip balm). The shop now stocks items by 2 local artists - including mugs, tea towels and prints.



You can also help by adding something to the food collection point at the Co-op. Anyone in need of a food parcel and with an authorised voucher is able to collect from Downton Baptist Church on a Monday between 9 and 11am.

More information at downton4family.org.uk

MOVIOLA AT THE MEMORIAL HALL

On Saturday 23rd April the film is "The French Dispatch" (15). From the director of The Grand Budapest Hotel, and sharing its idiosyncratic visual and narrative style, The French Dispatch is a portmanteau film. It brings to life a collection of stories from the final issue of a fictional American magazine published in Ennui-Sur-Blasé, a fictional 20th-century French city. Starring a host of Anderson regulars - Adrien Brody, Tilda Swinton, Léa Seydoux, Bill Murray, Saoirse Ronan - it's described as "an eccentric delight".



Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start and tickets are £7 on the door. Refreshments will be available. Films for May to July have not yet be confirmed. Check the online newsletter for details. For further information call Sue and Lawrence on 07825 745 246.

CELEBRATION ORGAN RECITAL - FRIDAY 6 MAY AT 7PM

In 2017 St Laurence Church started the restoration of its pipe organ, a fine example by the Victorian organ builder Willian Sweetland. Progress was delayed, but is now almost complete.

To celebrate the restoration, the Assistant

Director of Music from Salisbury Cathedral, John Challenger, will give a concert of organ music including pieces by Bach, Elgar, Lefebure-Wely and Wesley. Tickets will be £12 and available on the door and also from the Borough Café from 4 April.

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REPAIR CAFE CONTINUES TO GROW

The Repair Cafe has now received over 2900 jobs received and 6 new volunteers bring the total to 67 registered on their file. They are still actively supporting NHS Hospital Staff and the figure donated now stands at over £11,000. They are also happy to take donations to DEC to support the humanitarian effort in Ukraine - and so far £650 has been collected.

The Cafe has a "Bargain Basement" of items that are repaired but no longer required. In a policy change, there is no longer a set charge for any item, as they have limited storage space - so all items are free, although voluntary donations



Recent repairs

are always welcome.

The Cafe is open again to use whilst small jobs are repaired. Thanks to Jane, Cherry and the catering staff for their efforts.

PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATION IN THE MOOT

There will be a Platinum Jubilee Celebration family picnic and concert in the Moot on Sunday June 5th from 2 pm to 7 pm with the

concert starting at 5 pm. Refreshments, children's games and a bar will be provided. Proceeds will go to the Moot.

VIVAT REGINA: PLATINUM JUBILEE CONCERT

Local business man John Underhill of Docombe's is putting on a concert in Salisbury in April to celebrate the Queen's platinum jubilee. He writes: "To celebrate this unprecedented anniversary, Salisbury Cathedral is hosting a unique concert bringing together the Central Band of the Royal British Legion, 70 Voices of St John Singers and the Commonwealth Children's Choir in a musical extravaganza featuring works by Frederick Handel, John Barry, John Rutter and Lt. Col

Simon Haw and other well-known composers.

The concert will focus on many of the Queen's major contributions to her nation and the world at large. The event is surely destined to become a memorable occasion."




VIVAT REGINA
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SALISBURY CATHEDRAL
 Saturday, 23rd April 2022
 7.00pm

BOX OFFICE
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 10am - 4pm

PROCEEDS TO
 The Gurkha Welfare Trust and The Royal British Legion



PRIMARY SCHOOL

World Book Day

At the beginning of March, Downton Primary celebrated World Book Day which was a reminder of how much enthusiasm the children have for reading, as well as the chance for them to dress up as their favourite book characters and talk about their favourite books. As part of the day, the children also had the opportunity to work with different teachers and different year groups. They helped to decorate the classroom doors with work inspired by the book 'A Child of Books'. The children were invited back into school for a 'Share a Story' evening to enjoy a story with their teacher along with a treat of hot chocolate and a biscuit.

International Language Day

Last term, the school celebrated International Language Day with the children learning about a range of languages and cultures with French, Spanish, Hindi and Japanese amongst them. During the day, children shared different texts and learnt all about different cultures. Some children built Parisian



World book day dressing up



landmarks, producing some impressive models, others learnt the Three Billy Goats Gruff in French, inferred the context from stories written in 4 languages, as well as identifying the areas and percentages of different international flags. Even the youngest children learnt to say hello and count to five in French.

'FRIDAYS' AT THE MEMORIAL HALL

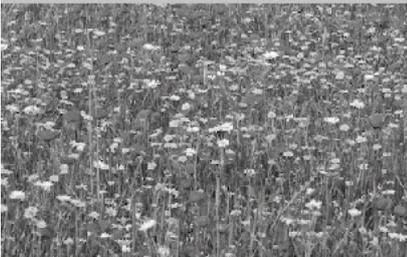
'Fridays' launched at the Memorial Hall in January and looks set to become a popular monthly event in the village calendar. The hall will be open from 10am - 12 noon on the last Friday of each month, the next events being on 29 April and 27 May. The book swap was well received - though if you would like to bring a book to share, please bring only one at a time as there is no room to store extra books. Cake

donations will always be very welcome to bring along, for those who like baking. All ages are welcome - pop in, pop out, or stay all morning. Bring your knitting, your neighbour, your friend, you! If you know anyone who would like to come but needs transportation please contact stephaniejallandr@gmail.com.



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DOWNTON GREEN NETWORK

As reported in our last edition, Neve Mellodey is continuing with her litter picking mission - and receiving some heart-warming support from the people she meets. Several families have expressed an interest in helping her - and she has even received a personal thank you card. The Great British Spring Clean is taking place from 25 March to 10 April, so to take part go to the Green Network's website: downtongreengroup.org.uk.

The recycling shed (at the back of the Baptist Church) continues to be mostly well used - although the organisers would again like to put out a plea to only put items in the shed if they are currently being collected, as several bags full of 'rogue' items have had to be disposed

of recently. If you're unsure, check the Green Network's website - batteries can be recycled at any shop which sells them - and the Co-op is collecting all 'soft plastic' that cannot go into the kerbside bin. If you would like to help by collecting specific items that you are able to arrange to move on in a planet-friendly way, do contact the Green Network, who will be pleased to help.

Seedy Sunday attracted many visitors, many of whom went away with seeds to sow and new plants. The Green Network was happy to receive some generous donations, some of which will be used to finance a camera for the Primary School's swift nesting box.



Seedy Sunday Plant Stall

DOWNTON BAND

The band is busy preparing for their Spring and Summer engagements including performing at the Cuckoo Fair - when you will be able to catch all four bands performing outside the Memorial Hall. A small group will accompany the Churches Together service on the Sunday morning (1 May) and in the afternoon the band is organising a Cuckoo Fair concert at 3pm at the Memorial Hall. This year it's entitled 'Planes, Trains and Automobiles' and explores a

variety of transport themed music.

All four bands are looking for new members. If you are around Grade Five standard and play cornet or tuba, the senior band would love to hear from you. The training band is especially looking for cornets players. New starters to come along and learn with the Beginners Band are always welcome. The band will provide the instrument, music and tuition for just £1 per week. For more information contact paul@downtonband.org.uk.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY PLANT SALE: CAN YOU HELP?

The horticultural society is currently accepting table bookings for their Plant and Table-top sale at the Memorial Hall on the afternoon of Saturday 7 May. Tables are free for charities but otherwise cost £5. Contact Chris Parry on 514511 to reserve one. The society can

receive any spare plants (rooted and labelled) to sell on the day. They would also be grateful for help on the day, both setting up and manning the refreshments and plant stalls, where people are always looking for advice on growing the various plants.

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MEET LAURA MELLODEY, DOWNTON'S NEW LIBRARY ASSISTANT



We caught up with Laura, who lives in the village with her family, to find out more about our new librarian and what's

new at Downton Library. You might have already come across Laura as the organiser of the popular Downton and Woodfalls Pop-up Mask Tree.

Q: What you did before joining the library?

A: I've worked in fashion, travel and education. In the last couple of years, I have tutored and volunteered.

Q: What do you have planned for the library this year?

A: We are in the process of increasing the opening hours and hope to see both returning and new members. We are recommencing school visits and reading groups. Currently, we are running a Harry Potter trail and have an activity planned for the Cuckoo Fair and we are looking forward to the Summer Reading Challenge. We are also hoping to get lots of new babies and toddlers to join the library as we have lots of board and picture books and children's book reservations are free.

Q: What you think makes a great library?

A: It's the people. A great library should be welcoming, friendly and a safe place. It should also help the community by giving access to information whether that is using the internet to pay a bill, helping you develop skills for work or education or simply finding your next exciting or relaxing read.

Q: How can people get involved with the Library?

A: Come in and see us and perhaps borrow a

new book. We are happy to explain what's on offer, discuss a group visit, look at how to set up a new reading group, help you join the library, set you up with our new apps such as Libby (e-books, audiobooks and magazines) or tell you more about volunteering opportunities at the library. Downton library is run by both staff and volunteers and if you'd like to join our wonderful group of volunteers please come in or send an email to jane.hunt@wiltshire.gov.uk. Currently our volunteers help us on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons and we are looking to add another volunteer session on Thursday afternoons.

Q: What are your top three books?

A: I've changed my mind multiple times but at this exact minute and not strictly keeping to three, here are my choices:

Children's: Matilda by Roald Dahl

Teen: The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

Adult Fiction: A Little Life by Hanya Yanagihara

Non-fiction: The Articulate Mammal by Jean Aitchison and multiple sewing/craft books

Current Read: The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue by V.E. Schwab (Teen + and despite my age, I think this is my favourite section of the library!)

Downton Library is open at the following times:

Tue 2-5 (Volunteer Session)

Wed 2-5 (Volunteer Session)

Fri 10-1, 2-5 (Staffed Session)

Sat 10-1 (Staffed Session)

From the 4th of April the library will also open on Monday afternoons 2-5.

There is a Facebook Bookchat page with discussions about favourite authors and books at facebook.com/groups/salisburylibrarybookchat

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TENNIS CLUB OPEN TO NEW MEMBERS

Downton Tennis Club has an open day on Sunday 1 May from 11am - 3pm to highlight what the club has to offer beginners and players of all abilities. There will be lots of activities and the opportunity to play in a social tournament. The club's well qualified resident coach will be present to offer tips to help you improve your game so that you can participate in the fun.

Membership fees start at £20 for juniors, with members enjoying free access to the outdoor courts and to the indoor facilities at

certain times. They also have the opportunity to participate in the ballot for Wimbledon tickets as the club is a member of the LTA.

Non-members can use the club's courts on a pay-as-you-go basis.

A spokesperson for the club said, "Please support this local club, enjoy the exercise and games arranged according to age and abilities. It is a great way to embrace the outdoors and meet our friendly and welcoming members, particularly for those who are new to Downton."

BOWLING CLUB

Downton Bowling Club season starts on 16 April with a Charity Match and open day. The club will be ready to welcome new bowlers, or anyone that is interested in finding out about the sport. They are holding an open day on Sunday 1 May and will be joining in with the Big Bowls Weekend on 28 May. The club is happy to arrange a 'bowls experience' outside these times.

During the closed season, the club has held coffee mornings, Short Mat bowls sessions, a

Race Night and a Quiz.

A spokesperson for the club said: "Downton Bowling Club is not just about the bowls. Join us for a good social life and to catch up with old and new friends. Bowls will have a high profile at the Commonwealth Games this year, and this is your opportunity to try it out at a local Club."

Details can be found on the club's website, or contact Mike Hallam on 513359, email 107mh@live.co.uk.

CLOTHING EXCHANGE 2022

The next four Clothing Exchange Fridays, including refreshments, are between 2pm - 3.30pm on 22nd April, 20th May, 17th June and

15th July. Some donations of clothes also go to help refugees. More information from Downton Baptist Church.



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REDLYNCH & HALE CRICKET CLUB

The cricket season will soon be here, and the club wants to install a new double bay practice net. Much work has already been done, including some of the funding agreed, so the club hopes to be pressing forward soon.

They have had to fold their 4th Saturday team, partly thanks to the Covid restrictions of the past 2 seasons, but their remaining 3 sides are all ready to go, with practice nets being organised at the moment. New players are always welcome to get in touch via the club's website rhcc.play-cricket.com.

The Ladies Softball cricket squad is keen to get back into action. Contact Samantha at: samanthaplumb@googlemail.com.

Junior tester / practice sessions indoors have been taking place on Wednesdays at Trafalgar

School since mid March. Due to the popularity of Junior cricket, places for new members are scarce, although there are some spaces for Under 9's. For more information, email under 9s coach Ian at iandixon11@hotmail.com. If your child is older, it's still worth checking with Under 11 Squad Manager Graham: graham.ytl@gmail.com or Under 13's Coach Stan: nickyandstan2000@gmail.com. The club is also running the English Cricket Board backed "Allstars" (for ages 5 - 8) and a girls only "Dynamos" (for ages 8 - 11) again this year. You can register your child on the club's website for these schemes.

For more from club secretary, James Taylor (07762787041), or Youth Teams coordinator, Andy Church (07729355248).



HAMPTWORTH CROQUET CLUB

The Croquet Club Winter Tournament Program has been so well supported this year. Competitors have so far travelled from 15 different English counties, London and South Wales to enjoy the unique atmosphere that Hamptworth provides.

While other croquet clubs hibernate between the end of September and the start of April, members of Hamptworth dress up in their hats, coats and scarves and brave the elements. This month sees the start of the project between the Croquet Club and the Duke of Edinburgh Award group from The

Trafalgar School at Downton. Hamptworth Croquet Club is proud to be playing a part in the scheme

Towards the end of April, the club will be publishing the details of this year's Introductory Sessions. These are aimed at people who have never played the game before. A limited number of membership places may be available from May, but there will be no pressure to take out a membership, so if you think that croquet might be for you, please check out the next edition or visit their website at croquet-websites.org.uk/hamptworth.

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EASTER AND HOLY WEEK SPECIAL SERVICES & EVENTS

Downton Churches welcome you to join their Easter celebrations

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|--|--------------------|
| 10th April PALM SUNDAY | 10.30 am 10:30 am | Holy Communion with distribution of palm crosses Morning worship, all age. | St Laurence DBC |
| 14th April MAUNDY THURSDAY | 11:00 am | Service, followed by Community Lunch | DBC |
| 15th April GOOD FRIDAY | 9:30 - 11:30 am 1.15 pm | Easter crafts for families Downton Churches Together Walk of Witness, starting at St Laurence and finishing at DBC. | DBC |
| | 2 pm | Downton Churches Together Good Friday Service | DBC |
| 17th April EASTER SUNDAY | 8.30am | Easter Early Morning Prayers | DBC |
| | 9:45 am | Breakfast (tea/coffee and croissants) | DBC |
| | 10.30 am | All-Age Worship (with Holy Communion) | St Laurence |
| | 10:30 am | Easter Morning Family Celebration | DBC |

For details of Roman Catholic Services, call 01722 333581 or go to salisburycatholicdeanery.org

OPEN GARDENS

Open gardens for Ukraine will take place on Sunday 26th June, when several gardens in The Borough and Headlands will be open. See notices and the next issue for further details

CHILDREN'S PARTYWARE

If you're planning a children's party, you now have no need to buy single use paper / plastic which will end up in landfill. Kate Outhwaite has purchased a set which you can rent in aid of Downton Primary School Association. There are reusable cups, plates, jugs, cutlery and serving plates - the price paid depends on your willingness to wash up. Contact Kate on 07971 518975.



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| What, Where, When | | | | |
|--------------------------|----|---------------|--|------------|
| April | | | | |
| Friday | 1 | 7.30pm - 10pm | Frock Swap for Community Pre-school, Sherwood Suite, Wick Lane | Page 5 |
| Tuesday | 5 | 6pm | Neighbourhood Plan Open Meeting, Memorial Hall | Page 6 |
| Saturday | 16 | 10am - 5pm | Garage Sale, Old Malthouse, Church Hatch | Page 8 |
| Monday | 18 | 11am | Easter Egg Hunt, The Moot | Page 3 |
| Friday | 22 | 2 - 3:30pm | Clothing Exchange, Downton Baptist Church | Page 12 |
| Saturday | 23 | 7 for 7:30pm | Moviola: The French Dispatch (15), Memorial Hall | Page 7 |
| Saturday | 23 | 7pm | Platinum Jubilee Concert, Salisbury Cathedral | Page 8 |
| Friday | 29 | 10am - 12noon | 'Fridays' at the Memorial Hall | Page 9 |
| Saturday | 30 | 10am - 4.30pm | Cuckoo Fair Day | Front page |
| May | | | | |
| Sunday | 1 | 10.30am | Cuckoo Fair Service | Page 4 |
| Sunday | 1 | 11am - 3pm | Tennis Club Open Day, Wick Lane | Page 12 |
| Sunday | 1 | 11am - 3pm | Bowling Club Open Day, Wick Lane | Page 12 |
| Friday | 6 | 7pm | Organ Recital, St Laurence Church | Page 7 |
| Friday | 20 | 2 - 3:30pm | Clothing Exchange, Downton Baptist Church | Page 12 |
| Friday | 27 | 10am - 12noon | 'Fridays' at the Memorial Hall | Page 9 |
| June | | | | |
| Sunday | 5 | 2pm - 7pm | Platinum Jubilee Picnic and Concert, The Moot | Page 8 |

DRY JANUARY

January rainfall was only 1.24 inches and the driest one since 1997. Whilst February did not become 'Fill Dyke' we still had 2.92 inches for the month but below average. Recorded by Mick Chaplin.

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CHURCHES ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

The Little Club Toddler Church playgroup meets every Wednesday (term time only) at Downton Baptist Church from 9 - 11am. Parents and grandparents, carers and their children are welcomed with tea, coffee and toast. It includes plenty of toys, singing and music, a Bible story time and craft activity.

Every Monday in term time, the Links Youth Group (for secondary school ages) is at DBC from 6 - 7.30pm offering a chance for young people from different schools to come together for friendship, music, pool, table tennis, drumming...the list is long, and ends with goodies from the tuck shop.

Both DBC and St Laurence have activities for children on a Sunday morning. St Laurence Sunday school meets at 10.30am in the Church Rooms. DBC normally has a creche for its morning service, as well as a group for primary age children and a group for teens.

PARISH COUNCIL

Bev Cornish, Clerk to the Parish Council
01725 513874

10am - 3pm Monday - Friday
clerk@downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk
downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

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

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Wednesday 2pm - 5pm*
Friday 10am - 1pm 2pm - 4pm
Saturday 10 - 1
* volunteer operated sessions

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downtonleisurecentre.co.uk

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email: bookingsecretary@
downtonmemorialcentre.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 & Rev Katy Ulyatt
07468 491143 (out of hours contact number)
Email: rhoades470@btinternet.com
Church Office 01725 512971 office@downtonbaptist.org
downtonbaptist.org

ST LAURENCE PARISH CHURCH

Sunday Service: 10.30 am (check website for details)
Priest In Charge: Rev David Bacon,
Part of the Forest and Avon Team of Churches
Parish Administrator, Jo Parsons 512738
Rev David Bacon, 01794 390256; davidbramrec@aol.com
stlaurencedownton.co.uk

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD (ROMAN CATHOLIC)

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Service of the word on Tuesdays at 18.30 via zoom on weeks when no
mass on Thursdays. To join, contact michael.rennie@velaplan.co.uk
Enquiries: St Osmund's, 95 Exeter Street, Salisbury SP1 2SF
Telephone: 01722 333581; office@salisburycatholics.org

VILLAGE WEBSITE:
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For information about contributing or advertising, email:
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Publication date: 28 May
*Note this date changed from the original advertised to allow for the
platinum jubilee events.*

Newsletter sponsored by Downton Baptist Church

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