

Please could any copy for the August edition of The Ebble be sent to Ebbleeditor@hotmail.com no later than 24th July 2023. Anything received after this date cannot be guaranteed to be included.

If you would like an email copy of The Ebble instead of a paper one, please could you let me know.

Treasurer of The Ebble

Lucy Hooper is very keen to relinquish her post as the Treasurer of The Ebble. She has done a great job for the past 16 months, for which grateful thanks from us all. Lucy has a new, demanding position with the Margaret Green Animal Rescue. She says being treasurer of The Ebble is not a hugely labour-intensive voluntary role, as it mainly involves paying the printing bill throughout the year and facilitating advertising payments from local businesses from time to time. Unfortunately Lucy doesn't have the time to do it justice and promote The Ebble to those who may want to advertise because she has changed jobs since taking the role on and her new job takes up a great deal more of her time. She is happy to have a chat if you would like to contact her on 07525 778 904

It would be an enormous help if someone would offer to take over this role? As you will see from the following messages, to keep the Ebble going will need interest and input from the three villages, with news, information, diary dates, and help with new advertising. The Editor.

Printing Costs for The Ebble

The cost to print The Ebble is £38 per month. The only form of income to support this is through local businesses and organisations advertising their services, and from funds raised and donated by very kind local people and groups. For us to be able to keep producing The Ebble newsletter, which is a great tool for maintaining a connection between our villages, we would love to take on more advertising. The cost to advertise your business works out at £2 per month / £24 per year. The Ebble reaches all residents of Ebbesbourne Wake, Alvediston & Fifield Bavant, and some folk beyond, so gives great potential for creating new customers for your business. Please email your advertising enquiry to: ebbleeditor@hotmail.com

The Alfiwake Fund- Supporting Our Community

Please contact us if you are finding the current cost of living difficult. We have previously been able to help people by making contributions towards the cost of utility bills, logs, heating oil, car repairs, household appliances, driving lessons and so much more. Your request, as always, will remain confidential.

[Hugh Pelly- hjwpelly@gmail.com](mailto:hjwpelly@gmail.com) 780 258, Janine Hillary- janinehillary1@gmail.com 780 271, Bridget Watts - kbbjwatts@btinternet.com 780 662, Carly Stainforth- carlystainforth@gmail.com 780 848, Andrew Boys- afrboys@gmail.com 780 835.

News from the Villages

Comings and Goings

Pound Street in Ebbesbourne Wake has lost 20% of its residents in the past few weeks: after many years Claire and Ed Donne have left for the salty charms of Lymington while Mia, Rob and Zephyr Cox have returned to Rob's roots in Cornwall. They were all stalwarts of the community, and we missed them greatly. Meanwhile we welcome Debbie, James and Bea Twinn to The Cottage-on-the-Bank, who moved here from the Deverills. (I love the practicality of the names of the houses in Pound Street but was disappointed to discover through Postcode Finder© that there is another CotB, in St Austell, Cornwall). Hugh

Welcome to Mark and Billie Stiles who live at 9 Hill View. They have been here for a few months, having moved from Newton Tony, and are enjoying living in Ebbesbourne Wake.

Also to the Cairns Family, Sophie, James, Tommy (7) and Astrid (5) who moved to Westbourne Cottage from Broadchalke, prior to which they lived in Sweden.

The Closure of BRIGHT SPARKS NURSERY SCHOOL

A thank you from Claire Macdonald, Alvediston

Catherine Arundell / Allwood started the Nursery School in Ebbesbourne Wake Village Hall. As her family grew, Catherine looked for someone to take over and as I was running nurseries in Wiltshire and Dorset, it became part of the Flying Start chain.

Angela, Karen and Nicky were an excellent team. Early Years' education became more valued and the demand for longer hours to help working parents meant that "mornings, 9-12" became year round, 8-6 at the larger nurseries, so it was the right time to encourage the EW nursery to "fly solo". I knew they would be wonderful, and they were. It was very special to be able to send my own grandson to Bright Sparks for a year before he started at Broadchalke School.

So many children and families owe a great debt of thanks for the exceptionally warm and professional start they were given in EW Village Hall. Bright Sparks will be very much missed, but I doubt if anyone will miss packing away an entire nursery school for the upholstery class!

A thank you from Angelika Hamilton on behalf of the Village Hall Committee

The Village Hall Committee is saying farewell to a long-standing tenant and partner. We understand the difficult decision to close Bright Sparks after an incredible nearly 24 years. The nursery has been fixture in village life and it will be sadly missed. It is a testament to the team's dedication and hard work that the organization has thrived for such a long time. Thank you so much for the tremendous support you have provided to the Village Hall over the past few years and good luck with your next endeavours!

A message from Karen, Nicky and Angela

It is with great sadness and heavy hearts that we are closing the doors of Bright Sparks Nursery for the last time at the end of the term, after running for just short of 24 years.

We started our journey when Catherine Arundel opened Noah's ark. Then with Claire McDonald as A Flying start nursery. It was Claire that gave us the opportunity to branch out on our own. Which is when our own wonderful journey began.

We have met so many lovely families and children along the way.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents past and present for all your support throughout the years.

Also, huge thanks to the village hall who have been an amazing support to us and for which we are extremally grateful. With our best wishes

Future Plans for the Village Hall

All energy at the moment is going into planning another fantastic Alvewake Fete. We will hold a meeting later this summer to get together and discuss new opportunities for using the Village Hall. There has been considerable change since the nursery started 25 years ago and this is a chance to make the village hall work to meet today's needs of the three villages.

We are in a fairly good position. There are funds and grants available for renovating the village hall and exploring new potential. By incorporating new facilities, we could attract a wider range of events, workshops, and activities, offer classes, workshops, or create a platform within the village hall to celebrate and showcase local talent or provide remote workspace. In the meantime, everyone, look around for what works elsewhere! What are the events you wished we could have had, but did not because the hall was busy during daytime? If you have thoughts, ideas or functionalities you would like to see included in the hall, get in touch. The Village Hall Committee is happy for anyone to join a meeting on an ad hoc basis.

Angelika Hamilton on behalf of the VHC.

Alvediston Picnic

58 of us from Alvediston, Berwick and further afield piled into Prescombe Shoot trailers on a glorious sunny Bank Holiday Monday, to be jiggled and jolted most comfortably with our picnic gear up Trow Lane to a 'secret location' through Mann Wood. The intense pleasure of very small boys at being quite so close to enormous tractors was a delight in itself, and just the start of a fabulous, unforgettable afternoon. Rugs were spread, chairs wrestled with, drinks uncorked and food of all descriptions (including a birthday cake for Deborah) produced as a mellow afternoon unfolded. Cricket and tree-climbing for the young and active, a hubbub of conversation for the rest of us.

Thank you so very much to all who made it happen – Tim and Janet, Helen and Chris, the Sykes family, Prescombe Shoot. Donations were made to the fund in aid of Gloria and Steve after the tragedy of The Crown burning down, with the total loss of their home and livelihood. This fund will remain open until the end of June, please contact Andrew Boys on 780835 for how to donate.

The Three Bells @ St Mary's

Also masterminded by Chris and Helen and Janet and Tim was the first opening of our pop-up pub, our pub-club as it was aptly described, in the church at Alvediston on the first Wednesday of the month. Another glorious evening saw 36 of us – including welcome visitors from over the borders with Ebbesbourne and Berwick as well as from miles down the valley - sitting about outside, enjoying the sunshine, the get-together and the view.

Donations were invited to the fund for Gloria and Steve.

A huge thank you to all who helped, came, and contributed.

The Three Bells will open again on Wednesday July 5th from 6pm – bring family and friends for as long as you've got.

Chalke Valley Stores

Village Rep

We are very grateful to Claire Donne who for some time not only represented our villages as a committee member but also volunteered, working in the shop on Friday afternoons. Now that Claire has moved away, I have taken over as your village rep/committee member. It is a two-way appointment. I shall endeavour to keep you updated with news - and I welcome any comments or suggestions to pass on. The Hub is totally dependent on our support for its survival. Please can we all remember to use it, and not just for that forgotten loaf, bottle of milk or occasional coffee. Could we commit to buying a proportion of our shopping there, spending perhaps £5 or £10 per week? It would make a huge difference. We would certainly miss The Hub if it wasn't there. Use it or lose it is so very true. - Fiona Stacey

The First 10 Years of the Hub

We were extremely pleased that so many people attended our 10th Anniversary Celebration Party and all who attended said it was a great success. Many old friends, volunteers, and customers enjoyed the tea, wine and delicious food prepared for them by Jayne and the team. The day was added to by the presence of our MP, John Glen, The High Sherriff of Wiltshire and the Deputy Mayor of Salisbury, who spoke most encouragingly about the effort the whole Community has made. The event made the local Press, even if the wrong name was put to the picture of the former Chairman! Our grateful thanks go to all of you who made sure that it was such a success. We look forward to the next 10 years.

CVHF

We are proud, once again, to be able to support the hugely awaited Festival with the "Pop-Up Horse Box" Catering unit offering fresh, cooked food for Breakfast time at the Campsite and a range of other supplies. The service we give is much appreciated by the Campers and the Festival Management.

Shop News

We are now offering our own Branded "Chalke Valley Stores" House Wines, which many people have already agreed are "extremely pleasant and drinkable" and offer very good value for money...available to purchase In-Store now. New beers from Stone Daisy Brewery a local, independent craft brewer IPA, Best Bitter & Pale Ale are now on sale. The range of affordable products continues to grow, now much appreciated in these difficult times.

Newspapers

We very, very much regret that we will be unable to provide newspapers from Monday July 4 to Saturday July 10 inclusive, as our wholesaler is unable to supply us. It has not proved possible to source them from elsewhere...

NB - There is a Trussell Trust Collection Point in the Hub for any donations of foodstuffs you may wish to make. Your generosity will help those in need.

Dates for the diary

DORSET WILDLIFE TRUST'S LIVING CHURCHYARD PROJECT

On **Wednesday 12th July** 10am-1pm Dorset Wildlife Trust's Living Churchyard Project team are coming to St Mary's for a FREE event, a training session providing an opportunity to learn to recognise key grassland and woodland indicator species typically found in many Dorset/Wiltshire churchyards. The training will also cover other species of relevance to churchyards such as common and more notable fern species using walls and stonework and plants which are of particular value to pollinators and other wildlife. We will discuss the use of bird boxes, bug hotels and the benefit of wild areas which may attract frogs, slow worms etc. The session is aimed at people with a varying level of experience of surveying habitats and is also suitable for those with little or no experience who want to be better able to recognise, protect and manage key features of their own local Churchyard. As well as the survey, the event will also cover various management options and considerations for different habitats which will help volunteers / surveyors make recommendations and help churchyard communities understand how to enhance the wildlife value of the sites in their care.

There will be an opportunity to ask questions of some of our expert advisors and meet and chat to other churchyard wildlife enthusiasts!

Alvewake Fete - Saturday 15 July - 2.30pm

Please come along to the bi-annual Alvewake Fete! There will be lots of the usual fete attractions including a dog show and agility course (please bring lots of change....)

If you can help with the following before the fete:

Plants - any surplus plants which people would like to donate would be gratefully received and nurtured by Astrid and Jane in Alvediston. Jane Rouse - rouserjkl@hotmail.com.

Books - please leave donations in the pavilion (no rubbish please)

Refreshments/Cake and Produce - please leave your delicious donations in the Village Hall from 9.30am or bring to the fete.

We will be setting up from 9.30am so any volunteers welcome, and any spare gazebos also welcome....

Thank you all and hope to see you there - The Village Hall Committee

Raffle/Silent Auction for the Village Fete on **Saturday 15th July.**

Please have another think about - and save anything you might like to donate as a Raffle Prize or for a Silent Auction. Vouchers, promises, wine, luxury items, chocolates, books, etc etc and anything that might appeal to children, or pet owners maybe, anything you think you would like to win, or might want to bid on will be most gratefully received. Please contact me on 07787 804260 or email me at sarahisard63@gmail.com I'm very happy to collect from you if that helps.

Alvewake Flower and Vegetable show Saturday 12th August

It is just over a month until the annual flower and vegetable show on Saturday 12th August. Due to a change in the distribution of the Ebble the schedule, entry forms and advice sheet of how to prepare exhibits will be delivered to each home in the three villages. We have included some coronation themed classes which we hope will inspire you. We would welcome entries from everyone who is able so please give it a go as it is vital for the show to continue to have a good show of exhibits. Details on how to enter the show are on the schedule and entry form which can be submitted anytime before 6.00 pm on Tuesday 8th August. The show is a traditional village event and the chance for everyone to get involved either by exhibiting or coming along on the day. Please could all last year's winners return the cups/ shields to Carole Trickett at Meadow Bank (780968) by the end of July. Any queries please contact sue.cox-martin@hotmail.co.uk

Chalke Valley Fete and Produce Show- August 19th at 2pm at the Sports Centre Broad Chalke

What a treat we have in store for you this year!

Here are some of the attractions

- fun games and competitions for all the family- produce show- lots of goodies to eat- birds of prey display and meet the birds- classic cars- craft and charity stalls- rural crafts to watch and have a go at- plant and bottle stall- raffle - have a go dog agility etc.

If you have any plants that you can spare please donate to the plant stall either on the day or drop off with Ena at Sunrise, North Street, Broad Chalke.

Look out for more information on our website: <https://Chalkevalleyfete.co.uk>

The Bishopstone Community Coffee Mornings are normally held on alternate Thursdays. Dates for the coming period are the 6th and 20th of July and the 3rd, 17th and 31st August at 10.30am until 12.00noon. Everyone is welcome to look in for a coffee and chat. There is presently no charge for refreshments.

Bowerchalke Market takes place on the 2nd Saturday of the month in the Village Hall so July's market is on 8 July, starting at 9.30am in

Lots of fresh local produce including Helen's lamb and Knowle Fare beef and pork. Excellent pies, soups, and teatime treats. Plus of course Lesley's Full English Cafe to begin the weekend properly.

Church Flowers and Cleaning – July

Alvediston - Sheila Sykes & Sue Heath

Ebbesbourne Wake - Angelika Hamilton and Anna Hayward

Fifield Bavant - Pip Reis

CHURCH SERVICES for JULY

2nd July: 4th Sunday after Trinity - 11am =- Family Communion – Ebbesbourne Wake – Kate Woolven.

9th July: 5th Sunday after Trinity – 11am – All Age Service – Alvediston – Biddy Trahair.

9th July: 5th Sunday after Trinity – 3pm – Evening Prayer – Fifield Bavant – Biddy Trahair.

16th July: 6th Sunday after Trinity – 11am – Morning Prayer – Ebbesbourne Wake – Biddy Trahair.

23rd July: 7th Sunday after Trinity – 11am – Holy Communion – Alvediston – The Revd Dr Ruth Howlett-Shipley
Sung Compline at St. Martin's, Fifield Bavant. Do join us on Sunday, 30th July at 4pm. for another service of 'early' Sung Compline with the Manor Singers under Chris Littlemore, followed by tea.

Notes from a Church Warden

The seven stages of the souls development toward God in the garden. Santa Teresa del Avilla , Carmelite Nun

Lawn . Humble and simple lawn representing self-knowledge

Medicinal herb garden. Purification through prayer, conversations, sermon and books

Vegetable garden. Symbol for developing the ability to practice clarity

Vineyard. The mystical prayer bringing God's presence

Ancient flowers. Hidden treasures, passive contemplation

Olive trees . Transition from illuminative stage to unitive stage

Wood and forest. Marriage with God.

Save the Date - Harvest Supper - Saturday 7 October

Helpful Information

Member of Parliament for Alvediston. Dr Andrew Murrison. murrison@parliament.uk - 01225 358584

Member of Parliament for Ebbesbourne Wake. John Glen. John.glen.mp@parliament.uk - 01722 323050

Alvediston Parish Meeting Chairman Andrew Boys. Clerk Robert Macdonald

The Alvediston Parish meeting meets twice a year, usually in May (AGM) and November

Conservative Councillor for Fovant and Chalke Valley. Nabil Najjar. nabil.najjar@wiltshire.gov.uk - 07716 311293

Ebbesbourne Through the Ages by Peter Mears

I was so pleased to have been lent, by Peter Booth, a hard copy of Ebbesbourne through the Ages by Peter Mears. I have begun reading it and found it completely fascinating. Maybe others, like us, who did not read it in the original form when it was published in 2002, or subsequently, would like to have a look at it. The transcript can be found very easily on the internet. There is also a short supplement added by Peter Mears, written in 2006, also to be found there.

And for **Alvediston** there is **Biddy Trahair's Alvediston, A History** which she wrote in 2011. This is the first full-scale local history of the Parish. Biddy has a few copies for sale at £14.95 or it can be bought online from Hobnob Press. Daphne

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Vehicle paint and body repair. Contact Joe on 07980350484 or jdvehicleservices@hotmail.co.uk

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