



# *The Ebble* DECEMBER 2025

The Alvediston, Ebbesbourne Wake and Fifield Bavant Newsletter

Issue 483

Copy for the January edition of The Ebble to [ebbleeditor@hotmail.com](mailto:ebbleeditor@hotmail.com) no later than 24 December 2025 please.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY AND HEALTHY 2026 TO EVERYONE!! Your January Ebble may be a little late but please send me any items nice and early please .....**

To **book the Village Hall** for events get in touch with Fran. Please note that there is a small charge for hiring the hall car park, to help with the maintenance of the hall and pavilion.

Bookings at: [ebbesbournewakevillagehall@hotmail.com](mailto:ebbesbournewakevillagehall@hotmail.com)

**The Alfiwake Fund - Can we help?** - The Alfiwake Fund is available to the residents of Alvediston, Ebbesbourne Wake and Fifield Bavant who are suffering financial hardship. We are able to contribute towards items such as logs, coal, heating oil, portable heaters, dehumidifiers, boiler services or repairs. We are not only here for seasonal support but for all of those unexpected bills too, whether that be car repairs, MOTs, washing machine repairs or replacements, or perhaps a new cooker. Our contributions are not limited to the examples listed, so please do contact the Fund via telephone, email or in person if there is anything we may be able to help you with. We will endeavour to deal with your request promptly however there may be occasions when responses take a little longer due to the availability of trustees. Any request made will remain strictly confidential. [Email:alfiwakefund@gmail.com](mailto:alfiwakefund@gmail.com) Tel: Hugh Pelly - 780258, Janine Hillary - 780271, Bridget Watts - 780662, Carly Stainforth - 780848, or Andrew Boys - 780835

**Volunteer Emergency Telephone System** - V.E.T.S. In the event of an emergency please dial 999, followed by 01722 581001; this will summon a local volunteer who will assist whilst waiting for the emergency services to arrive.

## **Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2025**

A total of £522.90 has been credited to the Royal British Legion as a result of collections in the valley. Many thanks to: Fyfield and Prescombe Shoot, The Horseshoe Inn and residents of Fyfield Bavant, Ebbesbourne Wake and West End. Peter Trickett - RBL collections

## **Ebbesbourne Wake, Fifield Bavant and Alvediston Village Hall**

Thank you to all who came to the Uzbekistan talk this month, we raised over £500, a great help in covering the costs of the Pavilion floor. The pavilion is now ready for use again.

We also managed to recover the costs of the fireworks on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November and made some profit – it all helps! Thank you!

Thank you to all who joined the Friends of the Village Hall scheme, it makes financial planning so much easier and helps us keeping events affordable for all. If you want to know more get in touch with Angelika.

## **Ebbesbourne Wake and Fyfield Bavant Parish Council**

The Parish Council met on Thursday 20th November. And are pleased to welcome Matthew Kench onto the PC who was co-opted by Alex Hill, proposer, and seconded by Cathy Long.

Again, it was very encouraging to see some local support at the meeting. Thank you to Hugh, Pete, Andy and Jane for your valuable contributions.

Potholes, Dodgy Trees; Please continue to report dodgy Potholes and Trees on the MyWilts app. This can be downloaded onto your smart phones, or you can report online or telephone 0300 456 0105 or email

southernhighways@wiltshire.gov.uk (Salisbury, Amesbury, Tidworth, Durrington, Wilton, Mere, Downton)

Parish Precept - This is the amount of money a parish council requests from the local taxpayers, which is allocated as part of the annual Council Tax bill. It is the Council's main source of income, and funds are used to pay for the services that the parish provides. As there hasn't been an increase for 4 years, it was agreed that for the year 2026/2027, the Precept will increase.

Next Parish Council Meeting; Thursday 19 February 2026 at 7.30pm

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS (in chronological order) - PLEASE SEE ALL THE CHURCH SERVICES AT THE END**

**The Alfiwake Film Club – Monday 1 December – Far from the Madding Crowd (Julie Christie, Trevor Stamp, Peter Finch and Alan Bates)**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Far\\_from\\_the\\_Madding\\_Crowd](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Far_from_the_Madding_Crowd) but more importantly some of it was filmed at West End in Ebbesbourne!

Doors open at 7, Film starts at 7.30 prompt, £5, Drinks available to buy - please bring cash! Film suggestions welcome! Hugh Pelly ☎ 780258 [hjwpelly@gmail.com](mailto:hjwpelly@gmail.com)

**Carols in the Village Hall - Thursday 11 December 6-8pm. Free!**

Helen Lodge and Cathy Long, on behalf of the Village Hall Committee, invite you to sing carols, drink mulled wine and eat mince pies in the hall. Entry is free but please bring some cash as there will be a donations pot. Donations will be split between the Hall and the Alabare charity. Alabare provides housing, support and training for the homeless and vulnerable.

**Candlelit Carol Service at Alvediston – Tuesday 23 December at 6pm**

Carol service for, and involving, all ages, to be led by the Rev. Dr. Ruth Howlett-Shiple. If you would like to join the short procession, we will meet at the Manor, (thanks to Rodney and Sue Heath,) at 5.30, bearing torches, but otherwise go straight to the church and enjoy our new, effective heaters. Afterwards mulled wine and soft drinks will be provided, and if you'd like to bring a plate of mince pies or other festive food to share, that will be very welcome.

**Performance Poetry – Bishopstone Village Hall – Saturday 24 January at 7 for 7.30pm**

Join Brenda Read-Brown in a playful celebration of growing older. A show to amuse and delight anyone who is older than they were yesterday. £12.50 (inc a drink and canapes). Booking essential. Anne Stutchbury ([annewheelwright@gmail.com](mailto:annewheelwright@gmail.com)) and Sarah Seal ([theseal1@outlook.com](mailto:theseal1@outlook.com)).

**What's on @NewVic in Tisbury in December** – look at [www.newvictisbury.com](http://www.newvictisbury.com) or call 0300 302 3090.

**Save the Date - Alvewake Flower and Vegetable Show - 1 August 2026**

## **BROAD CHALKE**

**Chalke Valley Stores** - [www.chalkevalleystores.co.uk](http://www.chalkevalleystores.co.uk), email: [info@chalkevalleystores.co.uk](mailto:info@chalkevalleystores.co.uk).

**Home deliveries:** If you need a delivery, please call the shop on 01722 780998.

Open weekdays 9.00am - 5pm (1pm on Saturdays)

Cafe weekdays 9am – 2.30pm, 11.30am on Saturdays

**Post Office:** Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9.30am to 1pm

After 12 years of business, our community shop has undergone a much-needed refit—and we couldn't be more delighted with the results! The transformation has brought a modern, welcoming space that we hope will make shopping and gathering here even more enjoyable. This refit is more than just a facelift—it's an investment in our community's future. We look forward to welcoming you back into the shop, and we hope you enjoy the new space as much as we do. We hope to have an event attended by some of our local suppliers in early December to celebrate our new look. We will keep you posted.

### **Chalke Valley Sports Centre**

Chairman: [chris.rothwell@chalkevalleysportscentre.co.uk](mailto:chris.rothwell@chalkevalleysportscentre.co.uk) Tel: 07552 159369

Treasurer: [Michaela.johns@chalkevalleysportscentre.co.uk](mailto:Michaela.johns@chalkevalleysportscentre.co.uk) Tel: 01722 780915

Secretary: Vacant

Social Media: [tim.moss@chalkevalleysportscentre.co.uk](mailto:tim.moss@chalkevalleysportscentre.co.uk)

Parish Council Rep: John Fry

Sports Centre general email: [info@chalkevalleysportscentre.co.uk](mailto:info@chalkevalleysportscentre.co.uk). Hall available for private hire.

Our website is [www.chalkevalleysportscentre.co.uk](http://www.chalkevalleysportscentre.co.uk)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Chalke-Valley-Sports-Centre-110944004548798>

**Petanque** – Friday evening, 6-8pm. All welcome, £2 per session.

**Tennis Club nights** – Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Sunday mornings.

**Tennis Coaching** – Adult and Junior, Tuesdays. More info from the Tennis Club.

**Table Tennis** – Sunday evenings, **Short Mat Bowls** – Monday evenings

### **BOWERCHALKE**

**Bowerchalke Market Saturday 13 December, 9.30 to 12 noon in the Village Hall**

All the usual market favourites plus some special Christmas extras. Tim and Cathy Brown will be showing and selling their lovely pottery, perfect for gifts or to keep for yourself! Local artist, Jane Smart, will be there with her range of gift cards and prints both beautiful and sometimes very funny! Pam Fisher has a selection of vintage clothes and jewellery. Christmas puddings and cakes and mince pies will join the usual fare of local lamb, beef, venison, pheasant and partridge. Homemade pies, cakes, soups, preserves and more. Plus lots of seasonal vegetables. Carolyn will be outside with special cheeses for your festive tables. And inside the café will be there to provide coffee, teas and breakfasts. Do come and join us. For further information contact Laura on 07445 743014 or email [lauraloncar.cvp@gmail.com](mailto:lauraloncar.cvp@gmail.com)

### **BISHOPSTONE**

**The Christmas Fayre – Friday 5 December – 6-7pm** – A variety of stalls. Donations please (for books, tombola and cake stalls) in the hall between 2.30-3.30 on the day.

**Bishopstone Community Café** - The Village Hall Café is normally open on alternate Thursdays throughout the year. Dates are 4 and 18 December and 15 and 19 January from 10.30am until noon. Everyone is welcome to look in for a coffee and chat. There is presently no charge for refreshments.

**Moviola** – Friday 30 January – “Downton Abbey – The Grand Finale”. Doors open at 7pm and the film will begin at 7.30pm. Entry for the film is £7. A cash bar with ices and snacks will be available. If possible, please book in advance with Caroline Ash on 781044 or Sue Taylor on 780316. A trailer for the film can be seen in the Events section of the village website at [www.bishopstone-salisbury.co.uk](http://www.bishopstone-salisbury.co.uk).

**Bishopstone Community Lunches** – Wednesday 3 December. Times as usual: 12 for 12.30pm. Advance booking is essential. Please telephone Caroline Ash on 781044 and advise her of any dietary requirements. The cost is £8.50 and includes a drink.

**Bishopstone Playgroup** – Friday mornings during term time from 9.30 – 11am. Breastfeeding support is available from qualified breastfeeding counsellor Cally Edwards and trained peer supporters. Find further information on our Facebook page or contact Cally [callyedwards@me.com](mailto:callyedwards@me.com) or 07968 797168.

## CHURCH MATTERS - Parish of Ebbesbourne Wake with Fifield Bavant and Alvediston

### Notes from a Churchwarden - David Walsh

"Neither we ourselves nor things remain the same, they do not keep their identities in tact: every new second brings them a modification which transforms their very nature". Monet The Restless Vision - Wullschlager

Monet painted Rouen Cathedral fifty times and the waterlilies forty times. Impressionism is a school of abstraction and is tied in with the subjective appearance of things. When we look at things we are subject to light, knowledge and memory.

**Lay Pastoral Assistants (LPAs)** are trained and authorised by the church to visit and/or offer pastoral care to anyone in our parishes. Whether you are sick, recently bereaved, new to the area, or know someone who might like a visit from the church community, please contact the clergy (see below). If you would like to explore this ministry yourself, for more information please contact Maggie on [revmaggie@gmail.com](mailto:revmaggie@gmail.com) or chat with anyone on the team.

### EXTRA SERVICES FOR CHRISTMAS

**Advent Service at Fifield Bavant - Sunday 14 December at 3pm** - we will hold our usual Advent service, with poems, prayers, readings, music and hymns based on Advent Antiphons. Do join us for this special, contemplative service midway during Advent.

**Christmas Eve at 10pm** – do join us for our “Midnight” Eucharist in Fifield, the path will be twinkling and the brazier alight, refreshments to follow.

### Church Flowers and Cleaning – December 2025

Alvediston -	Vicki Brown & Jenny McVeigh
Ebbesbourne Wake -	Team
Fifield Bavant -	Pip Reis

### Church Services - December 2025

7 December	11.00am	Ebbesbourne Wake	Morning Prayer (BCP)	Biddy Trahair
14 December	11.00am	Alvediston	All Age Service	Biddy Trahair
14 December	3.00pm	Fifield Bavant	Advent Service	Biddy Trahair
21 December	11.00am	Ebbesbourne Wake	Family Communion	Ruth H-S
23 December	6.00pm	Alvediston	Carol Service	Ruth H-S
24 December	10.00pm	Fifield Bavant	“Midnight” Eucharist	Ruth H-S
25 December	11.00am	Ebbesbourne Wake	Family Communion	Kate Woolven
28 December	<b>10.00am</b>	Alvediston	Holy Communion	Ruth H-S
4 January	11.00am	Ebbesbourne Wake	Morning Prayer	Biddy Trahair

Ministry Team: Team Rector ~ The Revd. Dr Ruth Howlett-Shiple: 01722 697022

Team Vicar ~ The Revd. Alison Waterhouse: 07904 034221

Associate Priests ~ The Revd. Kate Woolven: 07754 582395, The Revd. Maggie Metcalfe: 01722 325825

Team Administrator ~ Mrs Emily Broomhead: 07890 262376

Lay Worship Leader ~ Biddy Trahair: 01722 780666

For the weekly email bulletin with details of services and activities throughout the Chalke Valley, contact Emily on [thechalkevalleychurches@gmail.com](mailto:thechalkevalleychurches@gmail.com)

## ADVERTISEMENTS

If you would like to advertise in *The Ebble* please contact Rachel Thomson, [rachel.thomson@argosgeorgia.com](mailto:rachel.thomson@argosgeorgia.com). Your continuing support helps to keep the *Ebble* running, thank you.

Richard Harris: Personal Training, Nutrition Advice for all dietary requirements, Sports Massage, Injury Rehabilitation/Prevention, Deep Tissue, and Relaxation Massage. Please feel free to call 07425 620003 email: [richardspersonaltraining@gmail.com](mailto:richardspersonaltraining@gmail.com)

Max Turney - Fern Joinery – Windows, Doors, Kitchens, Bespoke Carpentry and more. [max@fernjoinery.com](mailto:max@fernjoinery.com), 07900 987406, [www.fernjoinery.com](http://www.fernjoinery.com)

K H Soft Furnishings (including B V Foam Supplies) bespoke soft furnishings: curtains, blinds cushions etc as well as foam cut to size and material by the metre. Contact [info@ksoftfurnishings.com](mailto:info@ksoftfurnishings.com) 07810 661000 or 01722 780742 [www.wilkinsonyoga.co.uk](http://www.wilkinsonyoga.co.uk)

Charlotte Steel (Dip. Couns. MBACP), Qualified Counsellor and Complementary Therapist The Chapel, Church Street, Bowerchalke, SP5 5AY, 07811 944328, [cjsteel92@gmail.com](mailto:cjsteel92@gmail.com), [www.charlottesteel.org](http://www.charlottesteel.org). Counselling: £50, Hot Stone Massage: Full Body (90 minutes) £65, Back (1 hour) £50, Massage: Full Body (90 mins) £60, Back (1 hour) £45, Reflexology: Initial Consultation £38, Further Treatments £35. Peaceful therapy room with plenty of parking, Gift Vouchers Available, please see [www.bacp.co.uk](http://www.bacp.co.uk) for more information.

JD Vehicle services, Manor Farm, Fifield Bavant. Vehicle paint and body repair. Contact Joe on 07980 350484 or [jdvehicleservices@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jdvehicleservices@hotmail.co.uk)

Local grass-fed lamb and Dexter beef from Knowle Farm always available, and pork/sausages often available. Please enquire: Hugo Mann, 07974453623, [Dmannandson@outlook.com](mailto:Dmannandson@outlook.com)

Filthy Squirrels Woodland Nursery, Manor Farm Fifield Bavant. Ofsted rated Outstanding. For all information, please visit [www.filthysquirrels.co.uk](http://www.filthysquirrels.co.uk)

Gurston Down Speed Hill Climb – the South's premier Speed Hill Climb venue – near Broad Chalke. [www.gurstondown.org](http://www.gurstondown.org) or follow us on Facebook.



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