

Copy for the April edition of The Ebble to [ebbleeditor@hotmail.com](mailto:ebbleeditor@hotmail.com) no later than 24 March 2026 please.

Farewell: We wish Olly and Georgie Thomas well as they return to Bridport: we'll miss them! Biddy

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS (in chronological order)**

**The Village Hall Film Club – Monday 2 March** -Marvellous – “a wonderful, uplifting, life affirming film” starring Toby Jones and Gemma Jones. 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)

## **Village Charity Marketplace and Coffee Morning - Saturday 14 March - 10-12 noon - Village Hall in Ebbesbourne Wake**

If you are planning a spring clear out, why not come along to sell any quality items you no longer want? Do you have any old mobile phones, laptops and ipads to donate as we can sell them? Do you have any larger items to sell - we will help you sell them online - Gumtree, eBay, Amazon Marketplace? A percentage of every sale will go towards the Church Lent Appeal in aid of The Bridge Project - a wonderful local charity supporting children in our schools.

If you have small items to sell, please bring them, labelled with your name and price, letting us know in advance if you would like table space.

For larger items, please bring your own device to use to add them and bring photos and decide what you would like to charge.

Please come along from 9.30am to set up if you would like to sell items on the day.

Please contact Alex Hill on [alex@dodingtonhouse.com](mailto:alex@dodingtonhouse.com) or 07767 796885 if you:

- would like table space for small items
- know how gumtree /marketplace etc. works and are happy to show others how to do it
- are happy to help make a cake or other goodies
- are happy to help serve coffees in kitchen on the morning
- are able to help organise sale of items for those just wanting us to arrange the sale

## **An evening with Frank Musker – Saturday 28 March – 7.30pm, Village Hall**

Tales and music from a songwriter who's written hits for Queen, Chaka Khan, Sheen Easton, Air Supply and many more. Interviewed by Ned Holland. Tickets £10, cash bar, proceeds to the VH. Tickets from Anna on [Annahayward55@gmail.com](mailto:Annahayward55@gmail.com).

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

## **Broad Chalke Sports Centre – Race Night – Saturday 18 April – 7pm**

Tickets (£18 to include a meal) from the Village Stores or email Michaela Johns ([michaela.johns@chalkevalleysportscentre.co.uk](mailto:michaela.johns@chalkevalleysportscentre.co.uk)). We would also welcome raffle prizes.

## **Save the Date - Alvewake Flower and Vegetable Show – Saturday 1 August**

## **Save the Date – Chalke Valley Fete and Produce Show – Saturday 25 August**

Please see [www.chalkevalleyfete.co.uk](http://www.chalkevalleyfete.co.uk) if you would like more info or get involved.

## USEFUL INFO

**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.

## **EBBESBOURNE WAKE, FIFIELD BAVANT AND ALVEDISTON VILLAGE HALL**

### **Village Hall news: A Remarkable, Happy and Uniting Exhibition**

Our packed out film club night featuring local films was a great precursor to the Local History Afternoon on the 14 February. It was a great success with over 80 visitors coming through the doors of the Village Hall. It was, in the words of one attendee, a “remarkable, happy, and uniting exhibition”.

From the moment the doors opened, the hall was alive with conversation. People were poring over displays, sharing memories and discovering new stories. The variety and richness of material on display was extraordinary. Contributions ranged from football club memorabilia to memories of filming *Pride and Prejudice* in Fifield Bavant, Lidar displays revealing hidden traces in the landscape, rainfall charts meticulously kept over the last ten years, and deeply personal accounts of farming life. Ludovic’s beautifully hand-drawn map of the village attracted much admiration and hopefully will finally solve the mystery of which name belongs to which house! We had remarkable local finds from bottle to ancient coins and roman beads! The Parish Council archives were opened and selections from personal collections on display and carefully curated. Thank you to all who contributed photos and displays, Janine Hillary, Sarah Cromwell, Peter Trickett, Bidy and Richard Trahair, Grace & Alan Witcomb, Geoff & Maggie Foyle, Angela Stacey and Grace Goodfellow, Pat & Martin Goodfellow, David Walsh, Kate Lavan, Angelika Hamilton and Hugh Pelly!

The talks were a true highlight of the afternoon. Tony Bath’s presentation of traditional farming tools (kindly brought from the pub collection) was both knowledgeable and hugely entertaining. His explanations brought these objects vividly to life, and it was clear from the laughter and rapt attention that everyone was thoroughly spellbound. We are especially grateful for his generosity in giving up part of a busy Valentine’s afternoon — what a treasure the pub is, in more ways than one!

Russell Emms’s talk was equally captivating. His depth of knowledge, combined with a wonderful selection of historic photographs, offered fresh insight into how the village once looked and functioned. Delivered with both clarity and humour, his presentation left many of us seeing the village landscape in a completely new light — particularly just how open it once was.

Bidy Trahair’s contribution on Alvediston school life was deeply appreciated. The care, research and personal understanding evident also in her beautifully prepared display boards shone through in her talk. She truly brought the past to life, and more than one visitor reflected on how fortunate younger generations are today when hearing about earlier times. We are very lucky to have such expertise among us.

Above all, the afternoon reminded us how fragile local history can be — so often held in private albums, personal memories, and treasured objects tucked away in drawers and sheds. By bringing these together, even for a few hours, we created not only an exhibition but a shared experience. Thank you to everyone who contributed time and enthusiasm to celebrate and record the rich history of Ebbesbourne Wake, Fifield Bavant and Alvediston. We are planning to put on more events on local history! Angelika

To **book the Village Hall** for events contact Fran Rose. There is a small charge for hiring the hall car park, to help with the maintenance of the hall and pavilion. Bookings: [ebbesbournewakevillagehall@hotmail.com](mailto:ebbesbournewakevillagehall@hotmail.com)

### Friends of the Village Hall

We continue to receive kind donations through the Friends of the Village Hall scheme — thank you so much. These donations are literally *added value*, as they enable us to reclaim Gift Aid. Thank you to all our generous donors; your support makes our work much easier and helps keep events affordable.

### EBBESBOURNE WAKE AND FYFIELD BAVANT PARISH COUNCIL

There was a meeting of the PC on Thursday 19 February. There were quite a few villagers present, and from Alvediston, as Nabil Najjar our local Wiltshire councillor came to give a report on the state of play at Wiltshire Council and how it affects the villages around here. He explained that the council are in the process of finalising budgets for the coming year - and was very helpful pointing out where we might apply for funds to help various village projects. He covered subjects ranging from the state of the roads, the recent flooding issues, the state of dying trees near highways and a potential budget available to mend the broken finger post at Fifield Bavant. He was saddened to hear of some of the councils recent housing policy decisions.

Cllr Cathy Long stood down as chair of the PC. She has not only been a long serving member of the council for 9 years but has stepped in and chaired the meetings for the past year. We have been so grateful for all she has done in this time. It was agreed that Alex Hill is to replace her. The next meeting is to be held on Thursday 7 May at 7pm.

We are now looking for another person from the village to replace Cathy. Your parish council shapes the future of our village - by becoming member, you can turn your ideas into real improvements for our area. Step forward, make your voice heard, and help build a stronger, more connected village for everyone. Please get in touch with Alex ([alex@dodingtonhouse.com](mailto:alex@dodingtonhouse.com)) to find out more. It's rewarding and not onerous!

### BROAD CHALKE

Our new chef, Ali Blackwell, has been with us for a month now and is a huge asset.

The bread from Hendersons' bakery in Salisbury is very popular. In order to stock it when we open on Saturday mornings, someone has to drive to collect it. We are short of people, so if you would be prepared to do this once a month please email [tony@chalkevalleystores.co.uk](mailto:tony@chalkevalleystores.co.uk).

*The Annual Members' Meeting of Chalke Valley Community Hub Limited will be held at the Hub at 7pm on Wednesday 11 March. This is open to all shareholders to attend. Further details will be provided nearer the time.*

**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

## **Chalke Valley Sports Centre**

Do you have a couple of hours a month that you could spare to help with the running of the Sports Centre, showing potential hirers around, helping on a fundraising activity or putting together a grant application? The Centre is managed by a small Team of 3 people who could really do with a few more on the Team to assist. Please contact anyone on the Committee if you are interested. Thank you.

We have been fortunate to have received a lot of investment over the last 5 years. We would now like to replace the water services and showers (22 years old). We are applying for a grant and are looking to raise around £15k in 2026.

Race Night – Saturday 18 April at 7pm (see details above)

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)

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), lots of clubs and groups listed (a few listed below)

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 14 March, 9.30 to 12 noon in the Village Hall**

We hope that Spring will be with us both officially and actually, but whatever the weather there will be a warm welcome for everyone. Fresh lamb, beef and venison, plenty of pies, cakes and vegetables. Carolyn will be back with the Cheese Truckle Truck and of course Lesley will be providing her excellent breakfast on offer in the café. For further information please contact Laura on 07445 743014 or email [lauraloncar.cvp@gmail.com](mailto:lauraloncar.cvp@gmail.com).

## **BISHOPSTONE**

**Bishopstone Community Café** - The Village Hall Café is normally open on alternate Thursdays throughout the year. Dates are 12 and 26 March and 9 and 23 April, 10.30-12. Everyone is welcome to look in for a coffee and chat. There is presently no charge for refreshments.

**Annual Spring Fayre – Saturday 9 May, 10-12 noon. More info next month.**

**Moviola – Friday 27 March – The Ballad of Wallis Island.** 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 March.** 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**

“Religious feelings should accompany every human deed like a holy music; we should do everything with religion not because of religion” Schleiermacher.

Many do not attend church services because they think religion implies telling people what they ought to think. But certainly here in our valley church services it’s the opposite. It is about allowing people the space and peace to be able to think for themselves.

**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.

### **Church Flowers and Cleaning – March 2026**

Alvediston - Pen Milburn and Victoria Walford  
Ebbesbourne Wake - Carla Walsh and Sam Lanyon  
Fifield Bavant - Pip Reis

### **Church Services – March 2026**

1 March	11.00am	Ebbesbourne Wake	Morning Prayer (BCP)	Biddy Trahair
8 March	11.00am	Alvediston	All Age Service	Biddy Trahair
8 March	3.00pm	Fifield Bavant	Evening Prayer	Biddy Trahair
15 March	11.00am	Ebbesbourne Wake	Family Communion	Ruth H-S
22 March	11.00am	Alvediston	Holy Communion (BCP)	Alison Waterhouse
24 March	5.30pm	Fifield Bavant	Lent Compline with time for quiet prayer	
29 March	10.00am	Broad Chalke	Family Communion	Ruth H-S
3 April	11.00am	Alvediston	St John’s Passion	Lay Led
5 April	11.00am	Ebbesbourne Wake	Parish Communion	Kate Woolven

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.

House Sitting – Dog and Small Pet Sitting - DBS, Insured and Pet First Aid  
Graham Elder, Ebbesbourne Wake 07484 883131 / [gjae@aol.com](mailto:gjae@aol.com)

Jeremy Yeo – All aspects of plumbing and heating. Heat pump systems a speciality. System design, installation and maintenance. Access to the Boiler Upgrade Scheme grant via my MCS certification for this technology. Chalke Valley based. Please call 07903 113856 or email [plumbing@jeremyyeo.co.uk](mailto:plumbing@jeremyyeo.co.uk)

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)

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@khsoftfurnishings.com](mailto:info@khsoftfurnishings.com) or 07810 661000

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)

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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