

Hullavington News



Edith Stewart
with the prize for
'Best Overall
Children's Entry'
in the Virtual
Village Show

October—November 2020

Free—please take a copy

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[Contributions]



We love to hear from you. Please send any articles & news to: editorhullavingtonnews@gmail.com or deliver to The Old Bakery, 1 Gibbs Lane. We reserve the right to edit any article. Please send in a Word file with a font of 12 and pictures/logos etc in jpeg. Pictures are printed in black and white.



Input deadline for the next issue is the 15th November.

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It's great to see that some of the Village Groups are starting up again after an enforced break.

There has been a massive effort made by the Village Hall Management Committee. There is a lot more information about their activities on page 21, but I'm sure you'd like to join me in thanking them all for giving up an enormous amount of their time for free on behalf of the Village.

There's more good news with the new Rector joining the Church and filling a much needed role. One of the Church Wardens, Catherine Sanderson, kindly sent the photos below showing how the Church are coping with the new regulations. It still takes some getting used to for me to see people in face coverings, but if it means we can continue with some of our Village activities then it seems a small price to pay.

I notice that the uptake for printed copies of the News has reduced considerably. I'd like to think it's because it's now also read online, is available on Hullavington Happenings Facebook Page and the Parish Website. If there is anything you'd like to see more of (or less of) to make it more relevant, do please drop me a line.

Many thanks, Sally Jeeves—Editor





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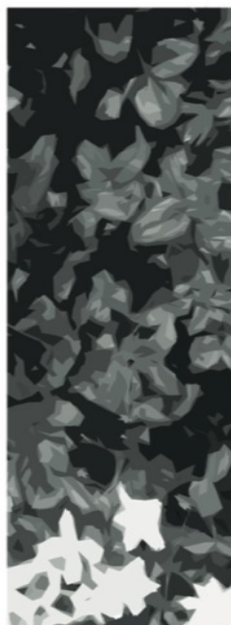
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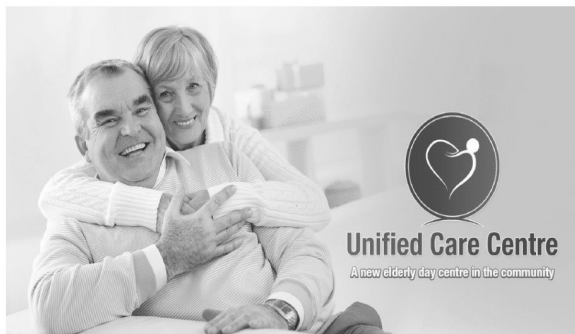
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COFFEE TIME TRIVIA QUIZ ANSWERS

(FROM THE BACK PAGE OF THE LAST ISSUE)

1. C, Hunlavintone
2. C, Princess Margaret et al
3. A, 1961
4. A, 12th century
5. B, Jamie Culllum
6. B, Eton College
7. C, 40%
8. B, Mrs Battle-axe
9. 9. C, Maggie Bawden-Rawsthorne (who sportingly accepted her anagram of Aggie Bartender Washwomen. Maggie used to be a barmaid at the Suffolk Arms in Malmesbury in the late 60s early 70s—best pub in Malmesbury apparently but sadly now houses!)



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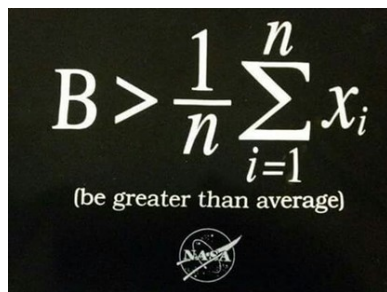
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MATHS TUITION

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(be greater than average)

Bill Sandiford and his wife Ruth recently moved from Scotland to Hullavington to be closer to their family. They have a daughter in Chippenham and a son in Bradford-on-Avon.

Prior to their move south, Bill had been tutoring maths in Scotland for 20+ years. He has also tutored maths in England, and is therefore familiar with the requirements of both the English and Scottish maths systems.

Bill has never “taught”. That is to say, he has never been a “teacher”. In his youth, and after a short spell as a Senior Technician working on V-Bombers with the Royal Air Force, Bill went on to gain a degree in maths, computing and statistics, and then spent the rest of his career as an Operations Analyst, both in the Military and Civil aviation sectors. He is now semi-retired.

In view of the newly discovered Coronavirus, Bill is currently tutoring via Skype.

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THEN AND NOW – Gardners Drive

The two pictures were taken from the pavement opposite the present road into Gardners Drive. The then picture was taken in 1988 and shows the entrance to Gardners Farm. The farmhouse gardens in the front and farm yard buildings behind. The white wall on the right can be seen in both photographs. Until very recently the tall tree above the farm buildings could also still be seen. Dave Hunt



VILLAGE LIFE— Groups, Events & News

HULLAVINGTON HELP FOR COVID-19

It is so good that most people in the village appear to be heeding Government guidelines in dealing with COVID-19. Let's keep it that way! Hopefully, we shall all emerge wiser and stronger having survived what will become an historic event. The village support group is still going strong and assisting anyone in the village with anything and everything! If you are in need of any help with shopping, dog walking, picking up prescriptions or anything else, please contact Issie Greenman 837958 or myself, Maggie Bawden, 837311 and we will do our best to assist.

Thanks to Maggie for the Parish Council round-up

AIRFIELD UPDATE

The long awaited roundabout at the junction of the A429/C1 is on its way! The programme of work is expected to last from Mid July 2020 until Spring 2021. More information and answers to FAQ's can be found at <https://community.alungriffiths.co.uk/a429-hullavington-access-road/>



THE MYSTERY OF THE CHURCH CLOCK

Several years ago, our church clock was automated by Cumbria Clock Company removing the need to have someone climb up the tower to wind the mechanism every week. On a recent visit the engineer decided to remove the regulator to take it back to the workshop



This is why the clock is losing time and chiming at the wrong time. To adjust the time, it is necessary to stop the clock for almost 12 hours before restarting the mechanism, then repeat every few days as it goes slow! The clock will continue to run slow, with occasional adjustment until the regulator is back in place. The clock will not chime until the regulator is back in place. We apologise for the lack of accuracy of the last few weeks, normal service will be resumed as soon as possible.

Thanks to the Church Wardens, Catherine Sanderson and Di Hamblin for the update.

CHIPPENHAM MINOR INJURY CLINIC OPEN



The clinic is open again but only if you book in advance via NHS 111, no walk-ins are possible and there is no X-Ray facility on site.



THE UNDER 17 CAR CLUB

Our aim is to enable under age drivers to practice & improve their driving skills legally & safely to produce safer drivers at age 17. We're pleased to announce that we're now opening up for new members. You can register for membership for the remaining 12 events of 2020 from 6th September today at a discounted rate: <https://under17-carclub.co.uk/register-si...>

WILTSHIRE LIBRARIES RE-OPENING

On 28 September, Malmesbury Library will re-open. You won't be able to drop-in and browse, but an order and collect service has been set-up providing access to books. Chippenham is already open for you to browse for up to 30 minutes, to select and loan books and use the computers for pre-booked 45 minute sessions. More information with opening times available on the Wiltshire Government website.



HEARING LOSS

I am Regional Information Coordinator working across Wiltshire areas to raise awareness for those with hearing loss. I am here to help with any related issue with hearing loss such as hearing aids or other equipment. Please don't hesitate to contact me as I am here to help. Many thanks, Kim Harbut, Regional Information Co-ordinator. 07769976266 (text only I am Deaf and unable to use voice call). kim.harbut@hearingloss.org.uk

OUR NEW RECTOR

Quite out of the blue I received an invitation from the Bishop of Bristol, the Rt Revd Vivienne Faull, to attend - as a representative of all the Parish Councils in the Benefice of Gauzebrook and the communities that they represent - the Licensing of our new Rector, Adam Beaumont.

The Celebration of Ministry was held in The Church of the Holy Cross in Sherston on Thursday, 10th September. Social distancing was in place, including the obligatory hand sanitizer and it was good to catch up with several people whom I had not seen for a while. The Service was interesting and enjoyable.

Following the promotion of Christopher Bryan to Archdeacon of Malmesbury eighteen months ago, we now have a new Rector and we look forward to welcoming Adam and seeing him around the village.

More news about Adam on page 45.

Thanks to Maggie Bawden for the updates

THE VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

**The Village Hall is reopening on Monday
14th September!**



Whilst it has been a sad time for those groups in the village that use the hall on a regular basis, there is an upside to the enforced closure which has been the opportunity to upgrade the hall.

The car park was showing signs of wear in parts and has been repaired; there is a lovely new floor inside the hall with new acoustic curtains. Hot water on demand is now available in all three toilets and the kitchen sinks. The Residual Current Device protection system has been upgraded as have the control systems on the six wall-mounted heaters in the two halls so that they can be operated and controlled remotely via Wi-Fi!

After 6 months of enforced closure, the hall is now ready to welcome back the Core User groups from 14th September but, as you will see below, Government imposed rules and regulations must be adhered to. All necessary sanitising stations, paper towel dispensers, notices and information sheets, marker tapes or bollards are in place. The Hall is now a COVID-19 Secure venue. This means that based on the latest Government advice, core users can resume their meetings.

A big thank you to those on the Hall Committee who have worked so hard to bring our Village Hall up to date and sort through all the reams of advice, rules and regulations to enable it to reopen.

Continued....

Cont...

To begin with, the hall will only be available to regular core user groups. All hall users must comply with the Government's rules. These include using hand sanitising stations, implementing a thorough cleaning regime of everything that has been touched or used during the period that a hall hirer was in the hall, social distancing (2-metres) must be maintained wherever possible and face masks or coverings must be worn by anyone over the age of 11 years when they are in the hall (unless there are good reasons for them not to do so).

For the time being the kitchen will not be in use, users are asked to bring their own refreshments. Hard plastic chairs will be used as these are much easier to clean after use, users are asked to bring their own cushions if required! All these requirements are tedious and frustrating and take away the joyful and spontaneous use of the village hall but at least we are now open again – many halls in Wiltshire are still closed and seem to have little prospect of opening again in the foreseeable future.

When the hall was closed in March 2020 it was because the hall committee felt that it could not 'guarantee' that it was a safe place for people to be in, particularly those who are vulnerable. The committee still cannot guarantee that the hall is risk and virus free, but it does believe that if all the rules are adhered to, it is a venue that is worth taking a risk to use again. Currently we can not accommodate large parties such as Weddings.

Major Hall enhancements - Our thanks go to Julian and Liz Greenman, Peter Parry-Williams, Paul Hadley and Issie Greenman of the Hall Committee and also, Maggie Bawden and Sharon Neal for all helping to make the outcome of these projects so successful. We must not forget Bob Fenner who, as always, supervised all the projects.

We also thank Bob for the many hours he has spent, often burning the midnight oil, interpreting the 30+ page document issued giving advice with regard Covid-19 and the opening of village halls. Every time he began to feel that he had understanding, another issue of the document would arrive - at least five issues so far!

It would also seem appropriate at this point to congratulate Bob and Sue Fenner on celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary this year.

Village Hall Maintenance Person -As mentioned in the last edition, we need a new maintenance person and it is vital that the position is filled. It is a paid position per hour. If you have time on your hands and you are of a practical nature this could be just the challenge for you. If you feel you might be interested please contact a member of the Village Hall Committee. *David Hunt*

HULLAVINGTON WOMENS INSTITUTE



Although we have been unable to have our usual monthly meetings in the hall, we have managed to keep in touch by holding Zoom meetings. In August however we held an outdoor meeting in Isobel's garden. The weather was just right (not too hot, not too cold) and whilst observing the 2 metre rule we were able to chat and catch up with everyone and have tea, scones and cake—although the cups of tea nearly didn't happen when a digger went through electric cables on Royal Field Close and we were unable to boil the water in the kettle. However, with a bit of quick thinking the problem was solved, hot tea was served and the rest of the afternoon passed without further dramas. Everyone agreed we had enjoyed a great afternoon.

In September we had hoped to return to the village hall but unfortunately the National Federation of WIs put a stop to WI meetings in groups of more than 6 members so unfortunately we had to cancel this arrangement. However, we have now arranged to have tea parties in 3 different members' gardens in groups of 6. At least we will be able to have a get together. If the ban by NFWI is lifted, then in October our speaker will be Phil Yates talking about 'Life as an Expedition Leader'. It will be interesting since Phil is something of an adventurer. In November we will be doing some Christmas Crafts with Edith.

We welcome new members and visitors to our meetings which are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 2pm in the village hall. *Isobel Acott*

Village Virtual Show



The show took place on the 29th August, albeit on a much reduced scale. Thanks to all those that sent in entries and to the judges with the tough job of choosing the winners from photographs submitted. Over the next few pages and on the last page are a few of the highlights. Fingers crossed next year we're able to run a 'full' show again.

Jonnie Jeeves

Flower Arranging—Petite



Recycled Container



Vegetables

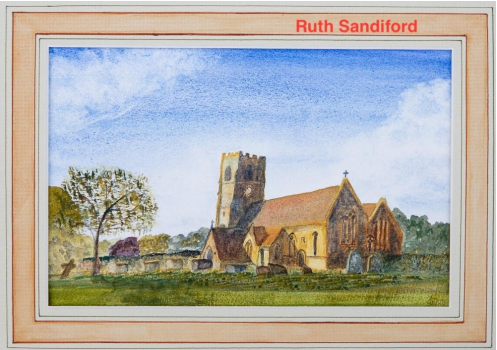
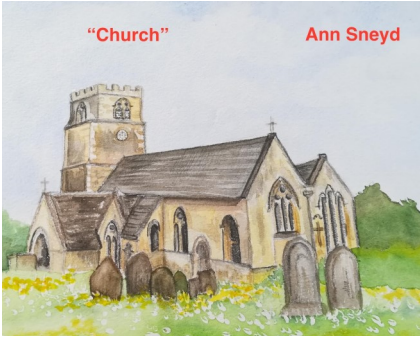


Sunflower in a pot

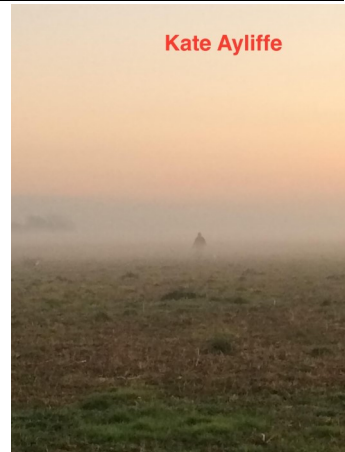
Flowers—Four Sweet Peas



Art—Church



Photography—Hullavington Weather



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1ST STANTON RAINBOWS

We are sad to say that the 1st Stanton Rainbows have closed.

I first became involved with them in 1993 when we held our meetings in Stanton School, after the lady who ran it had been posted away from RAF Hullavington. We had girls from many of the local villages and of course the Base. My friend Ros Whiting then joined me and the two of us have had many happy times doing projects with the girls. We have attended Rainbow celebrations at Bristol Zoo, Maud Heath, Malmesbury Abbey, Malmesbury Carnival and Wincanton Race Course to name a few.

We moved from the school onto the Camp when the Army arrived, eventually we thought it would be better to move into a hall and came to Hullavington Hall in February 2008. It has been great to have had the use of the facilities – we’ve had lots of fun making pizzas in the kitchen and enjoying activities and games inside and outside. The Girl guiding movement has changed over the years and we know that the girls really enjoyed earning their badges.

We hope that the many girls who have been in Rainbows have enjoyed themselves and have learnt skills that will help them in the future. We have seen them grow and blossom into young ladies. It has also been lovely to see some of them become mums themselves and introduce their girls to the Rainbows. I would also like to thank the ladies who have become Young Leaders and helped with the Rainbows.

The 1st Stanton Rainbows ran for over 28 years and hopefully in the future, they may form again so that many a young girl can enjoy the Girl Guiding movement. We would like to thank everybody who has been involved with us over the years.

Many thanks to all Sandra Hayes and Ros Whiting

Thanks so much for all your hard work—shame it had to end! Ed

How to look after the bees and insects in your garden

We all know that bee numbers have been declining drastically and while debate rages about the true cause of this decline there are practical things that we as gardeners can do to help reverse this trend. Planting some bee friendly flowers is a start but do make sure that you have something for them for the whole season. Bees have other needs too, for instance a variety of plant structures to give shelter and allow them to find a mate.

They need somewhere to live too! This might be holes in a wall, or some bare earth that allows them to create a burrow though of course it varies from species to species.

Providing Food—If you are growing ornamentals then pick those that you know are attractive to bees. However many vegetables and green manure crops that we use as part of our productive area can also help the bees. For instance allow green manure to flower; Phacelia, Buckwheat and Mustard can all be used. Do be careful to cut them down before they seed.

We can also optimise how we use food crops – for instance if you leave brassicas harvested in autumn / winter to flower in the early spring they provide food for bees. In addition this also gives a home to the parasitic wasps that eat cabbage white butterflies. Not to mention that it saves having to find another crop to cover the soil over the winter. If you have also under sown with a legume then this too will provide food and cover for bees.

Permanent areas in your veg garden—Many growers and farmers are looking at agroforestry as a way of improving the ecology and resilience of their system. Agroforestry as the name suggests is the combining of productive trees and annual crops. On a farm scale this often involves rows of carefully managed coppice or trained fruit or nut trees. Commercial agroforestry systems are carefully designed to make sure that the trees and other crops compliment but don't compete with each other. Generally speaking the spacing between rows of trees/ bushes should be at least 3 times the height of them to ensure enough light and sun reaches the ground crop. This may vary though depending on the crop.

Many gardens are living examples of agroforestry, though this is often by chance rather than design. Having a permanent area within your garden allows bees undisturbed ground for nesting and shelter, while a nice range of fruit trees can give lots of food during blossom.

Undisturbed soil is also great for soil organisms more generally and can provide a refuge which allows quicker recolonisation after you have dug over your annual rotations.

How seed saving can help the bees—As is often the case when you look at holistic systems, helping one part of your garden can bring benefits to the rest. One of the fringe benefits of saving your own seed is that you have to let plants go to flower which provides more food for bees and other insects. Umbelliferas (the family to which carrots, parsnips and others belong) are particularly attractive to a range of insects. Keep and replant some of your favourite biennials to flower and seed in their second year to give a greater range of bee food.

Many thanks to Ben Raskin for the above article. His son Ivan has recently volunteered at the Eden Animal Sanctuary in Malmesbury and has written a short story about his experience.....

This is a true story of a goat named Squirrel...

Hi I'm Squirrel I'm 5 weeks old and unless someone helps, me and my four brothers will be slaughtered. Every night we dream of kind people who will come to save us. Everyday we are scared for our lives.

3 days till we die and no one is helping...
2 days till we die and no one is helping...
1 day till we die and no one is helping...



I am hiding in earshot of the owner of all the animals at the slaughterhouse. We need help we will die this evening. I have to be quiet now they're coming to look for me. Wait, I hear someone at the door, they say they want to take us. I hope they're kind, I hope there's a nice hilly field with a river at the bottom. That would be amazing!

I'm here and it's everything I could ever want. Everyone is so kind and there's tons upon tons of other rescued animals. There's sheep, alpacas, emus, hens, turkeys and ducks and not to mention all the others they're all so fun. I get fed every day more than once and I'm as happy as possible so are my brothers and all the other animals.

If you liked this and want more animals like squirrel to be saved you can donate some money to Eden Animal Rescue Sanctuary.

By Ivan Raskin: age ten



HULLAVINGTON BOOK GROUP

The second Tuesday in the month, 2.00 pm in the side room at the village hall. We are planning to return to the village hall on **Tuesday 13th October** after a break of 6 months. I hope that by this time the library service will have kicked into action, and we will have a new set of titles to read.

At our first meeting, members will be discussing books they have enjoyed, (or not), during the summer months. We have a lot to talk about! Social distancing measures will be in place. If you are a member of the group, and do not wish to attend the meetings, you can read the current book and send me a review. As soon as books are available, these can be delivered to you, or can be collected from me at 20 The Street. Please bring your own food, drinks and utensils.

FILM OF THE BOOK

The first Monday in the month, 7.00 for 7.30 in the side room at the village hall. The first session will be on **Monday 5th October**. Please let me know if you would like to attend, numbers are limited. Although we are not providing the usual refreshments, we are continuing to charge £2.00 for both activities due to reduced numbers affecting our funds. I'm sure you understand.

The village hall committee has worked very hard to put in place all the recommendations to make the village hall as 'safe' as possible. As a 'thank you' for this, I feel that it is important, where possible, to start using the hall for our community events again.

I will post the latest details about meetings etc on:
www.hullavingtonhall.org.uk Please contact me if you require any more information. email: peac@globalnet.co.uk Tel: 01666 837713

Elizabeth

FILM GROUP

Wednesday 23rd September – 7.00 pm for 7.30 start. We will be showing 'JUDY', a film starring Renée Zellweger as Judy Garland, which focuses on the twilight years of her career from 1968 when she came to London to sell-out shows. Seating has been arranged to be 2m apart – with the exception of couples or 'bubbles'. it is essential that seats are booked before the event – by contacting William Harmer on harmerwilliam@yahoo.co.uk .



The decision has been made to reduce the entry fee for Film Group Wednesday nights until the end of the year to £1 (per member) or £2 (non-member) instead of the usual £2 or £4 – this is because the closure of the village hall meant members lost 6 months of their 2020 Membership Fees. Please bring your own refreshments and a face covering.



FILM GROUP EXTRA (Fridays)

Friday 18 September – 7pm for 7.30pm—
'Misbehaviour' a film starring Keira Knightley and about a group of women who plan to disrupt the Miss World Beauty Contest being held in London in 1970.

Seating arrangements as above. Tickets must be booked in advance at £1 for Members and £2 for non-members through Elizabeth Parry-Williams on peace@globainet.co.uk or Tel; 01666 837713.



Mount Zion has continued to gather together on a Sunday evening using Zoom. Obviously we are looking forward to coming back together as a body of people. However, with the current covid-19 regulations requiring face masks, social distancing and no singing, we feel unable to use the hall as we would wish to at the present time.

Although the nation has enjoyed a greater freedom these past couple of months, it is still necessary for each of us to continue to be sensible and obey the rules so that we do not put into jeopardy the elderly and other vulnerable members of society. Covid-19 has certainly not gone away as highlighted by the recent surge in coronavirus cases. While he was with us on this earth, our Lord Jesus was particularly sensitive to the needs of the poor and vulnerable.

How quickly the year is passing by and we are moving into autumn when we particularly give thanks for the harvest. The rain and storms of recent weeks have produced a number of lovely rainbows, always a reminder of God's promise to us. Following the flood, he made the promise to Noah that never again would there be a flood to destroy the earth and as a reminder of His covenant, he set a rainbow in the clouds. Further, He promised that as long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease. We worship a loving and faithful God.

We are delighted that Adam has now been licensed into the Benefice of Gauzebrook and we pray that he will truly know God's blessings as he begins his ministries in the area.

May the Lord continue to bless you and keep you safe.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY MAGDALENE



We are delighted to report that we now have a new Rector. Meet Adam: The Revd Adam Beaumont, his wife Sheona who is an artist, and their two children Amelie, and Dylan. Not in the picture is their one year old black lab called Gus.

Adam was licensed by the Bishop of Bristol to be our Rector on 10 September and they now live in the rectory in Sherston. Adam hopes to spend time in all the 8 villages attached to the Gauzebrook Group of churches, so when you see him in Hullavington, please introduce yourselves. He would love to meet you.

He has come to us from being Team Vicar in the Corsham and Lacock Group of Churches, as well as being Missioner for schools, children and families within the Chippenham Deanery. He's also into DIY, plays the drums, loves the outdoor, climbing mountains and riding a motorbike and he even cooks. So he says....

Our church is now open for Services on Sundays and for private prayer on Wednesday afternoons between 3.00pm and 4.00pm. This may change so please check on the Church Notice Board for changes or special events. Numbers are limited so please let Catherine Sanderson know if you would like to come to a Sunday Service. derekcatherine@hotmail.com

October

Sunday	4	11.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday	11	11.00am	Morning Worship
Sunday	18	11.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday	25	6.00pm	Evensong

November

Sunday	1	11.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday	8	10.50am	Remembrance Day Service
Sunday	15	11.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday	22	6.00pm	Evensong

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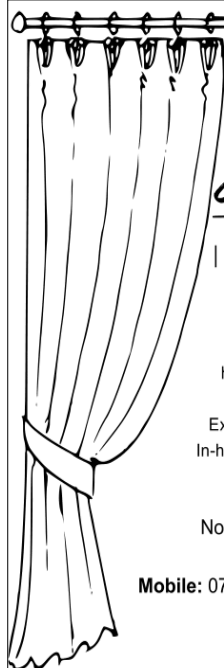
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Email: adamroberts@acertreesurgeons.co.uk



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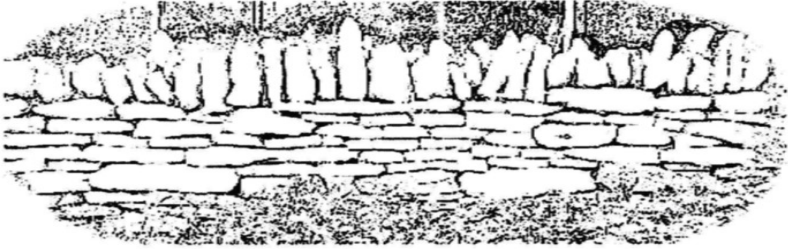
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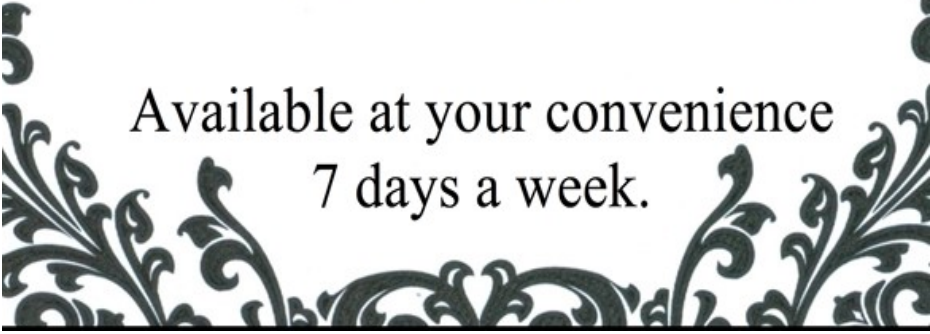


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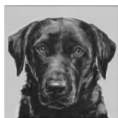
References available upon request.
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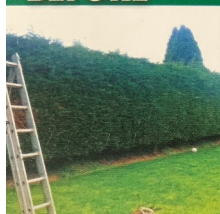
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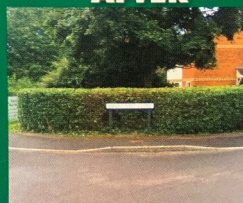
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RATES FOR HIRING HULLAVINGTON VILLAGE HALL

Rates from 1st April 2020

Basic charge for Hall £ per session (see note 1)

(Commercial/Government users see note 2)

User Category	Core User	Village User	Non-Village
Main Hall	£20	£26	£39
Side Hall	£12.50	£14.50	£24
Both Halls	£26.50	£31.50	£52.50

Supplementary Charges (below) are cumulative and additional to the above Basic Charge.

Up to 24 people	nil	nil	nil
25-49 people	nil	£5.50	£9.50
50-99 people	nil	£10.50	£15
100+ people	nil	£12.50	£28
Consumption of alcohol (see note 3)	nil	£10.50	£14

Notes

- 1 The Hall is hired on a session basis, there are 3 per day:
AM 09.00—13.00, **PM** 14.00—18.00, **Eve** 19.00—23.00
- 2 Booking fees for Commercial / Government use are by arrangement.
- 3 Temporary Event Notices (TENS) are required by law when alcohol is sold on the Hall premises. It is the sole responsibility of the hirer to arrange for the TENS and to declare his/her intention to apply for one when booking the hall.

To hire the Hall, please contact Paul Hadley on 01666 837096 or Bob Fenner on 01666 837320. Full details of hire are on the village website www.hullavington.info. Villagers who would like a one-off event in the hall should book min 3 months in advance.

For other matters concerning the Hall, contact Bob Fenner by telephone or at bobfenner5@gmail.com. **WiFi now available!**

200 Club for the Village Hall

We usually draw the August prize winners at the Village Show in Sept. It's normally with a bit of a fanfare and buzz as we award 4 winners this month! Like the Village Show judging, we had to revert to a virtual draw. We're delighted to announce the lucky recipients of our cheques—congratulations!

*** Simon Bawden * Will Hawker * Isobel Acott * John Joiner**

We need to start collecting subs again and our collectors will be in touch in October. This year more than ever, the Village Hall needs our support as they have lost 6 months of income. If you don't have a ticket yet – or want to buy more (!) – then please contact : Geraldine McKibbin 837736 or Linda Hadley 837096

Handy Information

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Sunday 12.00—17.30 (food served 12.00—15.00)

Eat in / collection or delivery available. Please see Facebook, notice board, email or call for updates and information.

Book group	Liz Parry Williams	01666 837713
Film Group	Sarah Harmer	01666 837704
Football Club	James Nation	07894 715080
Golden Threads	Alison Reed	01666 837661
Village Hall Committee	Bob Fenner	01666 837320
Health Liaison	Lis Cheshire	01666 837558
Jolly Tots	Rachel Cripps	07850 176901
M'bury & District Link Medical Transport		01666 840861
Mnt Zion Church	Hugh Greenman	01666 837958
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Parish Church	Adam Beaumont	01666 311177
www.hullavingtonparishcouncil.org.uk	Sharon Neal	01249 659842
Poetry Group	Catherine Sanderson	01666 838824
Primary School & Little Hoots Nursery	Sue Tudge	01666 837604
Recorder Group	Maggie Dyson	01666 837358
Rights of Way, Roads & Pavements		0300 4560105
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200 Club	Rachel Hurst	01666 837671
Women's Institute	Isobel Acott	01666 837458

“Meet the Villager”

A light hearted chat with a ‘local’ about their time in Hullavington

In this edition we meet Geoff Miller



My first contact with Hullavington was in the early 1970s during my RAF aircrew training phase. I spent some of the period living in the Mess at RAF Hullavington as nearby Lyneham was full at the time. The M4 was being constructed and I can remember the local people working in the Mess telling me what a waste of money it all was when we already had a perfectly good main road running through the county. I was posted to the Hercules fleet initially at Fairford where there were two squadrons and this at a time when that airfield was being used for Concorde trials

After the closure of Fairford I was moved back to Lyneham but living in the Mess at Hullavington. As the RAF shrank, the posting choices became so limited that it was inevitable that I would end up at Lyneham. In the meantime I had met and married Margaret, a Yorkshire lass who was initially suspicious of living in another County. I tried to soften the blow by saying we would probably move to Yorkshire when I retired. However, within a very short time she came to love this part of the world and now realises that the south of England is just as pretty.

We really ended up in Hullavington by default. We had been looking at various properties in the area, the criteria being my job at Lyneham and close enough to Bath to take advantage of its rich cultural life before possibly retiring there. It was a time of little choice and although we had been looking elsewhere, the estate agent said we might as well look at a property in Hullavington that had just come on the market.

As it was only going to be temporary we had a look and decided to buy it. We loved the location and amenities. I mean a garage, a post office, two shops and a bus service and two pubs. We've now lost some of those amenities, but here we still, are 23 years on in our 'temporary' house with no thoughts whatsoever to move to Bath (or Yorkshire).

The village has all we want and city life doesn't look so attractive now. We like Hullavington life and we have got to know many really lovely people through the church and village activities. This is a wonderful area of the country. North Wiltshire is particularly attractive with stunning villages and a beautiful landscape that's ideal for walking and cycling. With nearby access to the 'unnecessary' motorway, close proximity to rail and air links and the beautiful city of Bath we feel particularly privileged and lucky to be living here. We can't imagine moving and I'm sorry to disappoint those who would wish otherwise.

Guilty Pleasure? Doc Martin (The TV series, not the boots)

Who would play me in a movie? Maggie Smith (another curmudgeon like Doc Martin)

Change one thing in the village? The telegraph poles and unsightly overhead cables. They look ghastly.

Dream dinner party guest? In the interest of matrimonial harmony it ought to be Roger Federer, but as I love history it would have to be David Starkey.

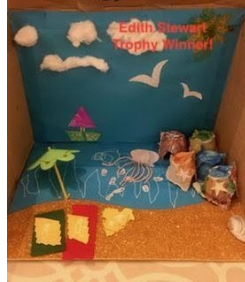
Advice to teenage self? The spots will disappear.

Cat or Dog? Neither but we have 3 pet 'sheep' in the garden!

Happiness is? A train journey.

Bucket list item? Following in Michael Portillo's train steps. I have my own jackets.

More Village Show highlights. Children—Seaside and Sock Puppet



Some Trophy Winners

