

# NETHERAVON, HAXTON & FITTLETON NEWSLETTER

December 2021/January 2022

Issue no. 439

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## **COPY DEADLINE** for February issue is **Thursday 20 January at 5pm**

Take advantage of technology with our email: [netheravonnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:netheravonnewsletter@gmail.com) or hard copy to Maggie Butler at 11 Mill Road, Netheravon, SP4 9QB. Phone 01980 670122

The Butlers still print, collate and distribute your newsletters, compile all commercial advertisements and maintain the accounts.

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

#### **December 2021**

4 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am	Christmas Bring & Buy Coffee Morning	The Old Tearooms, Haxton
7 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am – 15:30pm	Closure of Fittleton Village Road	Fittleton
21 <sup>st</sup>	10:00am	Cheerful Cuppa Christmas Party	Phoenix Hall, Netheravon

#### **January 2022**

11 <sup>th</sup>	7:30pm	Fittleton cum Haxton Parish Council Mtg	Phoenix Hall, Netheravon
13 <sup>th</sup>	7:00pm	Enford Gardening Club AGM	Enford Village Hall

### **MINI DIRECTORY**

(01980 unless otherwise stated)

Phoenix Hall Bookings (Michala)	670646
Day Centre (Caroline A-F)	670364
Rev. Gale Hunt, Avon River Team	670326
Rev. Barry Davis, Amesbury Baptist Centre	622355
Christ the King, Catholic Church, Amesbury	622177
Methodist Church Amesbury	676766
SSAFA Forces Help	632567
Plainwatch	674700
Durrington & District Link Scheme	594857
AWS JOBS, Pre-Schools, Creches	673379
Scout Group for Boys & Girls	07768 579314
Enford Football Club, Children's Coaching Club	670634
Wiltshire Councillor, Ian Blair-Pilling	07518 942216
Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers contact	<a href="http://girlguiding.org.uk/joinus">girlguiding.org.uk/joinus</a>

## December Church Services for Avon River Team – Happy Christmas!

Parish \ Date	5 December	12 December	19 December	<b>Saturday 25 December</b>	26 December
Bulford	11.00 HC		16.30 Carol Service	10.30 Family service + HC	
Durrington	9.30 Fun Church	18.00 Carol Service with Durrington Wind Band	9.30 HC		9.30 HC
Enford	9.30 HC		9.30 Breakfast Carol and crib Service	9.30 HC	
Figheledean			15.00 Carol Service	11.00 HC	
<b>Fittleton cum Haxton</b>	<b>9.30 Family Service</b>		<b>18.00 Carol Service</b>		
Milston	9.30 HC BCP		10.30 Carol Service	9.30 HC	
<b>Netheravon</b>	<b>11.00 Morning Worship</b>	<b>10.30 Team HC</b>	<b>11.00 Family HC</b>	<b>11.00 HC</b>	
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> at 10.00 HC at Bulford Every Thursday at 10.30 HC at Durrington					

**Fri 17<sup>th</sup> Dec                    18.30                    Carol Service at Netheravon**

**Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Dec                    23.30                    Midnight HC at Durrington**

“                                    **Midnight HC at Fittleton**

“                                    **Midnight HC at Enford**

## January Church Services for Avon River Team – Happy New Year!

Parish \ Date	2 January	9 January	16 January	23 January	30 January
Bulford		11.00 HC	10.30 Family Service	11.00 HC	11.00 Morning Worship
Durrington		9.30 Fun Church	9.30 HC	9.30 Informal Communion	9.30 HC
Enford		9.30 HC	9.30 Breakfast Church	6.00 Evensong	9.30 Family HC
Figheledean		11.00 Morning Worship	11.00 HC	11.00 Breakfast Church	
<b>Fittleton cum Haxton</b>		<b>9.30 Family Service</b>	<b>16.00 Evensong</b>	<b>9.30 HC BCP</b>	<b>11.00 Matins</b>
Milston	10.30 Team Service HC	9.30 HC BCP	9.30 HC BCP	9.30 Family Service	
<b>Netheravon</b>		<b>11.00 Morning Worship</b>	<b>11.00 Family HC</b>	<b>11.00 Family Service</b>	<b>18.00 Evensong</b>
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> at 10.00 HC at Bulford Every Thursday at 10.30 HC at Durrington					
<b>HC=Holy Communion, BCP=Book of Common Prayer, CW=Common Worship</b>					

**\*\*\* For details of online services check the Avon River Team website \*\*\***

## Holding God.

Last Christmas was nearly a right off! But somehow we muddled through. The church adapted. We held some socially distanced services in church and conducted a few online, thanks to YouTube and zoom. At one online school Christingle, a small girl appeared on screen to say a prayer.... "Thank you that my Christingle has a red ribbon wrapped around it. It tells me that love is wrapped round the world like a gift from God." My heart melted.

Isn't that great? There's a glimpse in that child's prayer of a profound truth. God loves us so much he gave us a gift and that gift's name was Jesus.... A baby boy, born miraculously, revealing a truth that God is with us. Reminding ourselves this year, as we continue to tackle complexities and disruption around covid, that the Christmas message is a precious gift, is a very wise thing to do.

God truly identifies with our circumstances, our fears, our questions, our vulnerabilities, our relationships and our life experiences. God isn't up there in the clouds, He's down here... in the messiness of it and IN OUR MIDST... even in 21 century pandemics.

Usually, after a birth, the baby is immediately given to the mother. It's the most natural thing in the world, but think about it happening in that stable on that day. God was held in a mother's arms! The God of the Universe that breathed life into this world... was held by His Creation.

It's utterly miraculous and demonstrates, in a radical way, that God trusts us. If that is the case... I have another thought. If God trusted us enough to let us hold His Son, perhaps we can trust God enough for Him to wrap his arms around us this Christmas and into the New Year? God truly cares for us and is truly involved in everything we do.

Rev Philip Bromiley (Team Rector, [philbromiley@gmail.com](mailto:philbromiley@gmail.com))



A festive poster for a Christmas event. At the top, a banner reads "MERRY CHRISTMAS" with a dove in the center. Below this, the text "Christmas Coffee Morning & Bring and Buy" is written in a large, elegant font. The event details are: "Saturday 4th December at The Old Tearooms Haxton 10.30 - 12.00". A circular badge indicates a "Donation £2". At the bottom, it lists "Gifts ★ Raffle ★ Cakes ★ Preserves" and "In aid of Fittleton Church". The background features a stylized sunburst and holly leaves.

## PLEASE HELP

We're expecting to lose one of our delivery team, so will need a volunteer to deliver 28 newsletters, ten times a year, along part of the High Street.

The round runs from "Church View" to "The Old Orchards".

Please call for details if you need a reason to take a walk. We're grateful for the ladies and gents who take round the News and wish them, and all our readers too.

A Happy and Healthy New Year

**Maggie 670122**

## **Extract from the newsletter serial issue number 87, October 1986**

### **At The WM Club**

Thanks for our invitations to dinner once again  
"Summer's come at last!" we said. It didn't even rain  
We were ushered to our places and handed a glass of Sherry  
The Chairman gave an opening speech and everyone felt merry

The helpers did a first-class job, with all their smiling faces  
Len, of course, their Number One, helped keep them in the traces  
The tables too look smashing, with all the coloured flowers  
The many little jobs to do must have taken hours.

Ron Munday asked for lady cakes, of course, 'twas only fun  
But Mary went and called his bluff, returned with currant bun!  
The menfolk did their stuff as well, dishing out the wine  
Kept filling up our glasses, I know they did with mine

We thought the meal was excellent, 'twas proved with empty plates.  
The final touch of coffee, and all those "After Eights"  
The vicar gave a vote of thanks, it ended with a cheer  
But sadly spoke of many friends that were no longer here

Later on we had a draw, that caused a lot of fun  
Some of us were lucky, but others never won  
I won a tiny tot of gin, the vicar won a marrow  
They say 'twas pretty weighty, so he wheeled it home in barrow

We had a little sing-song, then ended with a dance  
Some of us were tipsy, our partners took a chance  
And so the evening ended, we all felt in top gear  
If we get another invite we'll all be back next year!

OFF SALES AT THE BREWERY  
CASK CONDITIONED BITTER, OG 1042, at  
sale at the Brewery. Contains from 4  
pints to  
9 gallons, or in your own jug or bottle.  
Still only 60p a pint.  
Open Tuesdays – Fridays  
10.00 – 1:00 and 5:00 – 8:00  
And on Saturday mornings.  
BUNCE'S BREWERY, THE OLD MILL,  
NETHERAVON  
STONEHENGE 70631



### **C N Yates**

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### **In order to celebrate this historic occasion**

A group of residents are planning a street party  
**on Sunday 5th June from 12noon to 5pm.**

There will be music, entertainment and lots of fun for all age groups. More details to come  
out after Christmas as plans take shape.

**Make your mark on this event. Come along and join the organising committee on 18<sup>th</sup> January,  
7:30pm at the Working Men's Club.**

**Let's give this event the effort it truly deserves.**

## Our village church - Netheravon All Saints - an update

With a really difficult year for all of us last year but a return to something more normal-feeling this year, we thought that an update on our village church would be timely as we approach Christmas.

**Who's the church for and what does it do?** The short answer is that anyone is welcome in the church at any time - it's open most days - and many people visit just for a few moments of peace and tranquillity in a glorious historic building. We run Sunday services too of course - and always welcome new people warmly and enjoy a cup of coffee and a biscuit after each service. Many people only really experience the church for baptisms, weddings and funerals - and that's fine too. Our vicar, Gale Hunt, and other members of the pastoral team provide a valued service to those in need of help - and having a village church and a village vicar is a great comfort to many at times of difficulty in their lives. Finally, whilst the church is much more than just a building, the Parochial Church Council (PCC) (who represent the local 'organising committee' for the church) are also financially responsible for the upkeep of the building and grounds - no small task for a Grade I listed 900- year- old structure!

**Who pays for it and what was the impact of 2020?** The short answer is that we must all contribute if we wish to maintain a church and vicar in our village. The church is paid for entirely through donations and fundraising, with occasional grants sought from various charities for specific maintenance projects. Some of this giving is from a collection plate at Sunday services (about 20%), some is from people who agree to make a regular monthly or annual donation (about 25%), most of the rest has to be raised through fundraising (about 45%) with miscellaneous income making up the remainder. The bulk of the fundraising is via the village fete and putting on concerts or events for the benefit of the village. Average annual expenditure is about £22,500 which pays for utilities for the building, insurance, a payment to the Avon River Team (mainly for administrative services), a payment to the Church of England 'in exchange' for the services of a vicar etc and an amount of maintenance that varies depending on what needs doing. 2020 had a really serious impact on finances - we held very few services and no fundraising events. This wiped out the church's savings and, even then and for the first time in living memory, we were unable to pay all of our 'share' to the Church of England.

**How has this year been?** 2021 has thankfully been much improved and the village fete raised over £4000. This will all go towards a much-needed re-roofing of the lychgate which we could not put off any longer - and many of you will have seen the scaffolding that is now up. The roof will be stripped in November and retiled in January. We received a very generous £417 donation from the village mask-makers and their gift has paid for a much-needed refurbishment of the lavatory facilities, which will benefit all church visitors should they need them! The recent Belle Voci concert was very successful too, making up the bulk of the remaining fundraising for this year. Finally, we're really grateful to the Parish Council who have agreed to take on the mowing of the car park grass from next year. We still have virtually nothing in reserve, but hope to meet almost all of our obligations this year.

**How could I get involved?** There are lots of ways! We have a vibrant group of bellringers, we are always looking for people join the flower arranging team, we are in desperate need of people to join the cleaning rota and equally short of people to join in with mowing or strimming the churchyard. You could sponsor one of the two professional strims of the churchyard that we plan annually or just give a (preferably regular) donation - anything would be welcome. Of course, you could simply come to a Sunday service and would be warmly welcomed. Either way, we'd love to chat to you - and Gale is probably the best first point of contact.

**Finally**, with December now upon us, it just remains to wish you all an extremely happy Christmas and an enjoyable New Year - from **your** village church. Happy Christmas.

## LEARN & PLAY WHIST & CONTRACT BRIDGE

No joining fee. Free tuition & play until 2022.  
Tuition by Tournament player Alan Wood of Devizes Bridge Club

PHOENIX HALL - COMMITTEE ROOM  
MONDAY AFTERNOONS - 2 - 4pm  
Tea or Coffee and cake at 3.30pm.

Please let Alan know that you will be attending - 01980 671265  
*The Whist/Bridge Group would appreciate any unwanted card tables. Alan will collect.*

### Notice of Road Closure, Fittleton

This Order will come into operation on 07 December 2021 and the closure will be required between the hours of 09:30 and 15:30 for 1 day. It is anticipated that the works will take the stated duration to complete depending upon weather conditions. Access will be maintained for residents and businesses where possible, although delays are likely due to the nature of the works. The Order will have a maximum duration of 18 months.

For further information please contact Sunbelt Rentals on 03700 500792.

**Sustainable Transport Group, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge BA14 8JN02 December 2021 Wiltshire Council**

### Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

#### **Temporary Closure of: Fittleton Village Road (Part), Fittleton cum Haxton (TTRO 7664)**

Notice is hereby given that Wiltshire Council has made an Order to close temporarily to all traffic:  
**Fittleton Village Road (Part), Fittleton cum Haxton;** from its junction with Avon Valley Road for approximately 450 metres in a westerly direction.

**To enable:** Openreach to carry out access to communication equipment and associated works.

**Alternative route:** via Fittleton Village Road (unaffected length) - Everleigh Road - C32 and vice versa.

**The closure and diversion route will be clearly indicated**

### From Joe Landon

Dear Editor

Since arriving in Haxton in April this year, Joe has been welcomed heartily by one and all - including their dogs! He has asked you to thank everyone for their kindness.

The recent Halloween displays at the front of homes in Haxton, Fittleton and Netheravon were a pleasure to explore. Joe's looking forward to bonfire night.

Living through the summer and now the glorious colours of Autumn, Joe's batteries are charged and he's ready to face the onset of winter and the joy of Christmas in his own home here in this lovely village.

**With best wishes from Joe Landon, his family and his household.**

# **CHRISTMAS**

**At 'Cheerful Cuppa'**

**December opening dates:**

**Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Christmas Party 21<sup>st</sup> December**

**Carols, Raffle,**

**Best Christmas Jumper**

**Mulled Wine, Mince Pies and Christmas nibbles**

**Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> January,**

**For Buck's Fizz and Bacon Butties**

**10.00am - 12 noon**

**Phoenix Hall**

*Everyone welcome*

## **NETHERAVON PARISH COUNCIL UPDATES**

### **Netheravon 'Showcase'**

More than 50 people attended the Netheravon Showcase in November. It was a great opportunity to speak to people who organise activities in Netheravon and to talk to businesses and to get an insight into what goes on in Netheravon. It was a very enjoyable evening with Cllr. Ayling telling us about the proposed adult exercise equipment for the Millennium, Debbie Corbett, our Netheravon 1<sup>st</sup> Responder, describing what she does and demonstrating a 'Razor Chair' and Cllr. Graham Wright speaking about Community Speedwatch. We were very lucky that the PCC, Philip Wilkinson, attended the evening and talked about policing in Wiltshire. It was a very enjoyable evening and well worthwhile arranging.

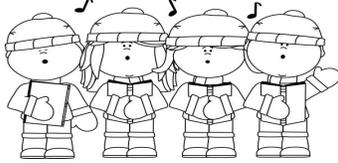
## **CHRISTMAS IN NETHERAVON**

**DUST OFF YOUR CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS  
AND DECORATE YOUR FRONT GARDEN THIS  
CHRISTMAS**

**THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL BE GIVING PRIZES TO THE  
BEST DECORATED FRONT GARDEN AND THE BEST  
ADVENT WINDOW**

# SEASON'S GREETINGS

The councillors of  
**Fittleton cum Haxton Parish Council**  
would like to wish all the residents of  
the parish a Happy Christmas and a  
healthy New Year.



Wishing all our family and friends  
in Netheravon, Haxton, Fittleton  
and beyond a very Happy Christmas  
and a Healthy New Year.

Covid continues to influence us all to some  
degree or other, but we hope that you are still  
able to enjoy this blessed season.

With every best wish,  
**Tony and Sue Mills.**

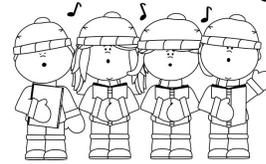
## Christmas 2021

I am unable to send cards this year but  
wish all friends in Fittleton cum Haxton,  
Netheravon and surrounding villages a  
very Happy Christmas and  
a Healthy New Year

**Best wishes,  
Anne Arnott.**

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## Warmest Greetings



Once again, I send my love and best wishes  
for Christmas and the New Year to all my  
friends in the villages.

**Brenda Skinner**



## Charity Christmas Extravaganza

**Saturday 11th December 2021  
at Durrington Village Hall**

**Doors open 1pm FREE Entrance**

**To Meet Father Christmas**

- **Many Stalls & Bargains Galore**
- **Christmas Refreshments**
- **Entertainment for Children & Adults**
- **Great Festive Fun**

**Raffle**

**Silent Auction**

**Bric A Brac**

**Games**



**£1 Stall**

**Santa's Grotto**

**All Welcome**

**Supporting Local Charities A Date to Remember**

**Tombola  
Bottle Stall**

**Toy Stall**





# PHOENIX HALL NETHERAVON

(Netheravon and Fittleton Village Hall - Charity No. 1003542)

Jointly owned by Netheravon & Fittleton cum Haxton Parish Councils

Managed by the volunteer Phoenix Hall Management Committee: Charles Coslett (Chairman), David Jaffray (Vice Chairman), Michala Mather (Treasurer), Alan Brown (Secretary), Caroline Aubrey-Fletcher, Sue Greenhow, Nigel Jackaman, Gill Murphy, Ros Ayling, Sheila Symes, Sarah Brown.

## New Job Opportunities in Your Village

The Phoenix Hall is getting busy again and the Committee are delighted that so many of our villagers are using it, thank you. If you want to book the hall please don't delay because, at time of writing, we have only 5 free dates in December!

The Committee is seeking a new **Booking Clerk** and a new **Treasurer**. These rôles have been undertaken superbly by Mrs Michala Mather for the last 7 years (as Booking Clerk), but Michala has now asked us to find replacements as she is shortly to start a new job. The rôles of Treasurer and that of Booking Clerk can be separated, and each will only take up about 2-3 hours a week. The Booking Clerk is paid, but the Treasurer role is, as are all committee officer roles, a voluntary position.

Both jobs would suit someone who lives in the village, is interested in their community and is willing to spend a couple of hours a week helping our village.

**The Committee would love to hear from you. If you are interested in knowing more about either position, please speak to any Committee member or contact either Michala Mather (670646), or Charles Coslett (07836299789) for more information.**

To book the Hall contact MICHALA MATHER (Bookings Clerk): 670646 or

Email her via [phoenixhall@live.co.uk](mailto:phoenixhall@live.co.uk)

Availability of the Phoenix Hall can be viewed at [www.phoenixhall.org](http://www.phoenixhall.org)

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There is no meeting for the **Enford Gardening Club** in December

but our very social AGM will be held on the

**13<sup>th</sup> January. Starts 7 for 7:15pm.**

All will be welcome and we will announce our exciting programme for 2022.

Many Thanks

**Steve Stringer**



# **CHRISTMAS**

AT

## **NETHERAVON W.M.C.**

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

**LIFE MEMBERS DINNER**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

**QUIZ**

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

**PRIZE BINGO**

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

**DARTS TOURNAMENT**

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

**CHRISTMAS QUIZ**

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

**CHRISTMAS DRAW**

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER  
(CHRISTMAS EVE)**

**SINGALONG**

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

**11 .....1 PM**

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER  
(BOXING DAY LUNCHTIME)**

**JACKO KARAOKE  
OPEN ALL DAY**

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER  
(NEW YEARS EVE)**

**SOUNDS EXPRESS DISCO**

*Merry Christmas*



**We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe New Year**