

VILLAGE NEWS

COVERING

HASELBURY PLUCKNETT

AND

NORTH PERROTT

APRIL 2026



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Editorial

I hope everyone enjoys their Easter celebrations.

Spring is upon us, and with that, the Fayre is back on the 9th May 2026. I am keeping everything crossed that this year we have better weather than we have had in the past two years. A lot of plans have been made; entertainment booked; stalls booked; catering booked; Beer Tent arranged, under new management this year. Raffle prizes secured; First Aiders in attendance and toilets paid for. The School will be doing their mini-funfair for the children at the bottom of the field again. So, with good weather, we should have a good event. Please see the back page and flyer for how to donate items for the various fund raising stalls.

I help to organise this event because I want to provide something for the community as well as help raise funds for local good causes. We need some more volunteers to help this happen, if you can volunteer, please contact me on 01460 391816 or email me at hpmayfayre@gmail.com. Thank you.

The crossword answers are: Across: 1) Cleat: 4) Swatch: 8) Payroll: 9) Gleam: 10) Dinner Time: 12) Loaned: 13) Sahara: 16) Sweatshirt: 19) In All: 20) In Haste: 21) Lenses: 22) Mercy. Down: 1) Capitalistic: 2) Enya: 3) Two-time: 4) Saline: 5) Augur: 6) Chemical: 7) Imperatively: 11) Namesake: 14) Abraham: 15) Choirs: 17) Tolls: 18) Isar

Ian Stewart

New Arrivals - North Perrott

If you are a new resident in North Perrott you might like a copy of the Parish Council's Village Welcome Pack.

Let us know by emailing: northperrottville@gmail.com or ring/text Helena Sturridge on 07802 964949

Haselbury Plucknett Women's Institute

Registered Charity no 227699 - Your local WI

Haselbury Plucknett W.I. meet on the first Wednesday of each month in the church of St Michael and All Angels in Haselbury at 7.30pm during the summer months from April 2026 to September 2026.

We had a very informative meeting this month with Angie Blackmore, the owner of Cottage Flowers telling us about her life as a florist whilst demonstrating various flower arrangements.

April 1st is our next meeting and we are having a social evening and recipe swap. Our members will be bringing puddings and cakes to sample while we have a chance to catch up and chat.

Our June meeting on the 3rd is an open meeting so friends and partners are welcome to join us - our speaker will be Sally Smith a journalist talking about "The women who went round the world" so should be a very interesting evening with the usual tea and cake and there will be a bar.

We will also be having a stall at the Haselbury Plucknett May Fayre 9th May if you would like to come and meet us and find out more. As you see our meetings are very varied and you are welcome to join us.

On Saturday 19th September we will be holding a fundraising bingo evening with great raffle prizes so put it in your diaries - more details to be confirmed a bit nearer the time.

Our programme will be on the North Perrott village hall website if you would like find out more of what we will be up to this year. There are some great speakers and we are a very friendly small group so think about joining us. Just turn up for tea, biscuits and a friendly chat.

You don't have to live in Haselbury to join and if you are new to the area (Haselbury, North Perrott and beyond) being a member of Haselbury Plucknett WI gives you an opportunity to enjoy yourself and make new friends. Our W.I. has a page on the North Perrott Village Hall website (www.NPVH.co.uk) where you can see our current programme of events for the rest of this year and a gallery showing what our ladies get up to. Contact Lesley Idle 07732 030279 or Gill Wood 01460 271134 with any queries.

(During the winter months October to March we will meet in the afternoons 2.30-4.30)

NORTH PERROTT & HASELBURY PLUCKNETT GARDEN CLUB

In March we had a very interesting and informative talk given by a representative from the Gold Club at Brimsmore Garden Centre.

There will not be a meeting in the village hall in April as we are on a Members only visit to Brimsmore Garden Centre.

Our next scheduled meeting in the village hall will be held in May on the care and cultivation of Cacti by Jane Ennals.

We welcome new members. We have some very interesting speakers booked throughout the year and it's a good way to pick up new ideas and tips for your garden from established gardeners.

Membership £12:00 per annum. Guests £2.50 (which will be refunded if you choose to join the club). Plus membership benefits.

Meetings are **usually held on 3rd Tuesday of the month at North Perrott Village Hall, Middle Street, North Perrott**, except in December which will be the 2nd Tuesday in December.

The hall opens at 7pm for 7:30pm start.

If you are interested in joining our club, please contact:

Ian Benfield. Chairman 01460 929027

Barbara Spence. Treasurer 01460 73847

Christine Bentley. Secretary 07788 316984

ROLL UP for a ROLL UP

South Perrott Short Mat Bowls Club is happy to welcome new members. The club meets on Mondays from 7.00 p.m. to 9.00p.m. in South Perrott village hall DT8 3HS. Each session cost is only £2 per person which includes light refreshments, free use of club bowls and initial coaching if required. For more information please contact our secretary Doreen on 01935 891431.

North Perrott Village Hall – Chairman's Report

Six Nations Rugby is over for this year with some very disappointing results but England came good at the end losing to France by only 2 points.

The village quiz is still very well attended thanks to Rob and Ester's organisation but we only had 4 people at music night. I know some people who sing and play instruments but they are reluctant to join us. If that's you don't be shy, we are a very friendly group.

The hall should be full for the Wareham Whalers concert. We are planning more events this year but if there is something you think we should put on in the Village Hall, let me know.

Pip Oxenbury

Chairman, Village Hall Committee

07778 744516

Village Fayre

Haselbury Plucknett

Saturday 9th May 2026

12:00 to 16:00

Field behind Haselbury School, access via Bramble Lane

Beer Tent; Hot & Cold Food; Ice Cream Van; Craft Stalls;

Tombola's; Children's games and activities

Entertainment

Toilets provided

Wartime in Haselbury Plucknett and North Perrott - The Globe Farm Hurricane mystery

The evening of 12th May 1941 was pitch dark with dense cloud. High over Haselbury Plucknett, Sergeant Donald Castle neared the end of a patrol in his RAF Hawker Hurricane night-fighter, seeking the Luftwaffe bombers targeting aircraft production at Westlands-Yeovil and Bristol. In an instant his cockpit erupted into a fireball as the Hurricane broke in half and fell in flames across fields by 'Globe Farm'. Donald somehow escaped the inferno, parachuting to the ground before being taken to Yeovil Hospital for his burns. The National Archive stated the cause as "enemy action".

But research has revealed the cause was not the Luftwaffe, but a mistake by future RAF Air Vice Marshall Edward Dixon Crew CB, DSO, DFC (with Bar); a Battle of Britain and night-fighting Ace and prolific destroyer of V1 flying bombs. He was airborne too, chasing the Luftwaffe in his Bristol Beaufighter fitted with detection equipment and deadly 20mm cannon loaded with high explosive and armour piercing rounds.

When he closed on an aircraft from behind and opened fire, it was Donald's Hurricane that he hit. The burning aircraft was seen to fall in a 'dropping ball of orange fire' by another decorated RAF pilot, Roland Beaumont. Roland cheered "Good show, someone has got a Hun" until returning to base to find it was one of his own Squadron.

The archives state Donald was badly burned, but investigation shows that after less than a month in hospital he was fit enough to visit to his former school, and fly for the RAF in the David Niven / Leslie Howard classic film 'First of the Few' which became the most popular movie of 1942.

Donald also acted and flew in the movie 'Signed With Their Honour', made by famous cinematographer Osmand Borradaile in 1944, but cancelled indefinitely after wartime resources ran dry. Donald kept flying, becoming a Flight Sergeant, then Flying Officer and finally Flight Lieutenant before King George VI bestowed him with a Mention In Despatches in the June 1945 Birthday Honours List. Such mentions are reserved for exceptional bravery or "gallant/meritorious action in the face of the enemy during active operations". Research continues to fully understand his service career and achievements.

Donald passed away in June 1983 in Eastbourne, Sussex. No mention of the incident was made in the memoirs or accounts of the life of Air Vice Marshall Crew.

Nick Ellins

Haselbury Plucknett – Chairs Chat

Hello All,

As the edition of the village news arrives, it will be time to wish you all a Happy Easter. The warm weather as I write this is so welcome, let's hope it stays like this for the Easter holidays.

I have a request for the dog walkers in the playpark – if your dog messes, please clear it up! Children who play in the park really don't want to tread or fall in dog mess. Next month the football practice starts again, so it applies to the whole of the park area. There is a notice asking you to keep your dog on a lead in the play park.

World events in the middle east are having severe consequences worldwide with relation to the supply of oil and gas. Many villagers are dependent on heating oil, the price of which is not capped. Two weeks ago, £1.80 a litre... this week back to £1.30 a litre up from 60p a litre. The government has announced some funds have been made available to help those most affected in rural areas – these funds are to be managed by Somerset Council. At the Local Community Network meeting this week, I have asked for our County Councillors to let us know as soon as possible how these funds can be applied for.

After Easter I will arrange for a Village Spring clean / Litter Pick. If you can spare an hour, your help would be appreciated – all equipment will be supplied.

Keep Safe...

Hugh Williams

So, I was driving in a country lane and hit a rabbit, it was out cold until this Vicar stopped and sprinkled it with a clear liquid, the rabbit got up ran off, I asked "Wow is that holy water" he replied "oh no its Hare restorer"



Haselbury Wildlife and Habitats Group

We've had a few days of blue skies and sunshine, the clocks will have leapt forward by the time you read this, bees and butterflies are busy and birds are singing lustily. It must be Spring at last!

The group has been out and about, maintaining and checking on trees, bulbs and nest boxes. We checked the dormouse boxes, looking for evidence of occupation last summer. I started the course to enable me to handle dormice but realised that I don't actually like disturbing animals in their safe place, so didn't finish. For that reason we check the boxes in late winter/ early Spring when the dormice will still be hibernating. They usually burrow beneath a hedge or tree, safe from the weather. However, having completed our survey of the boxes, where we found no evidence of dormice, one of our group was cutting back the old leaves of a potted fern when she found a sound asleep dormouse in the middle of it. She hurriedly put all the fronds back! We have realised over the years that dormice don't really like the boxes although this is the first year we have not had any used. Having said that, most are used by wood mice, blue tits, bees and wasps which is lovely. We clean them out and put them back, ready for another year. Occasionally we have found wood mice in situ, in which case we apologise and leave them alone!

The bulbs we planted in the wild flower area of the Play Park are looking beautiful at the moment but it's a shame that some dog owners are allowing their dogs to poo all over the Park which gives all dog owners a bad name. There are two dog poo bins at the entrances to the Park - please use them whoever you are.

It will soon be Easter when we think of new life beginning and we can see it all around us, be it flowers, animals, trees, birds or insects. Enjoy it all.

Alison

I was walking through a forest using my iPhone to navigate.
The satnav said 'bear left'.



I can't believe I came all this way to see the bear and he already left.

St Michael's Community Orchard update

At our last maintenance morning in March we have put signs by all the trees, telling the stories of the varieties and where they originated. There are 42 trees in the orchard, 39 of which are apple trees (there's also a pear, a cherry and a damson). If you haven't visited the orchard for a while it's a lovely time of year to go and have a look.

There are 22 different apple varieties in the orchard – most of them from the local area, within a radius of thirty miles. The variety that has come from furthest way is James Grieve, which was first grown in Scotland and recorded in 1893. The one closest to Haselbury is Cap of Liberty which was first grown in the Martock area, and recorded in the 1870s. We could also make a claim for Egremont Russet being a local apple variety – as that was first recorded and sold commercially by Scott's Nursery of Merriott in 1873.

There will be no maintenance morning in April. Look out for the date in May. The cider we made last year is ready now (it's traditionally ready when you can hear the cuckoo sing) and is available to all supporters of the orchard. If you want some more get in touch.

Finally, we need new gate posts for the orchard and are intending to get a new gate. We also need to make our usual yearly donation to the church for the use of the field. So if anyone would like to make a donation towards the cost of the new gate please get in touch or leave this at Swan House or contact one of the churchwardens (cheques can be made payable to St Michael's Orchard or bank transfer details are available).

Matthew Bryant (bryant.haselbury@gmail.com)

Welcome to Haselbury Plucknett

For many years St Michael's and All Angels Church have produced a Welcome Booklet for new Residents in Haselbury Plucknett. If you have recently moved into the village or know of anyone who has and would like a copy, please contact Margaret Rendall, [51 New Close, 01460 73949].

The Cricket Column

JOIN US AT WILLIS LANE TO BE PART OF OUR NATIONAL GAME

There are those who believe football to be our national sport with rugby a close second. But many residents in Perrott and Haselbury and beyond know the truth: cricket that's the true national sport. Most of those residents are members and supporters of North Perrott Cricket Club, one of 5750 clubs registered with the England and Wales Cricket Board. Current estimates are that some 130,000 players are registered to play with clubs in towns and villages across the country.

But we need more at Willis Lane – not only playing members but those who can support cricket on the Somerset/Dorset border by joining North Perrott CC. Most of our members also support the club by volunteering their services and would have been out in force last weekend for the Willis Lane annual wash and brush up!!

Nationally more than 75,000 volunteers keep club cricket going across the country. There's no doubt that cricket only continues - 'the romantic sound of church bells and leather against willow' – at Willis Lane thanks to the efforts of our members, supporters and volunteers. So join up and become part of your local club for little more than one pound a week!!

Women's and Girl's Cricket is also the fastest growing sport in the country and you can see this for yourself every Friday evening at Willis Lane when our three girls' softball teams resume training. This year we have Under 10s, Under 12s and 12 + Softball. Plus of course our Ladies team who are hoping to improve again this summer on last year's already impressive performances. Contact Jules on 07717436551 for details and how to join.

We are also aiming to encourage the playing of cricket in our 3 local primary schools – catch 'em young is the motto - with joint introductory coaching sessions now on offer during term time to build on last year's success by Haselbury Primary in Somerset Schools cricket.

As reported last month our Men's First XI will be competing again – under new skipper Sam Rowswell – in the Western League, a high standard indeed for a small village club. But there's room too for newcomers and beginners with an opportunity to play for our second XI in division 4 of the Somerset League with fixtures across the county – Spaxton, Glastonbury, Trull, the unusually named Bear Flat and our local derby v Crewkerne.

PS More than 400 clubs – including North Perrott CC – have entered this season's Cawston Press National Village Knockout Competition, each hoping to make it through to the final at Lords

PPS The world's oldest cricket club is reported to be Mitcham CC who have played on the Cricket Green in Mitcham, Surrey, since 1685 – cricket having been played there for 340 years! Sevenoaks Vine in Kent also stake a claim – but the evidence held at Lord's supports Mitcham!

Martin

ACROSS

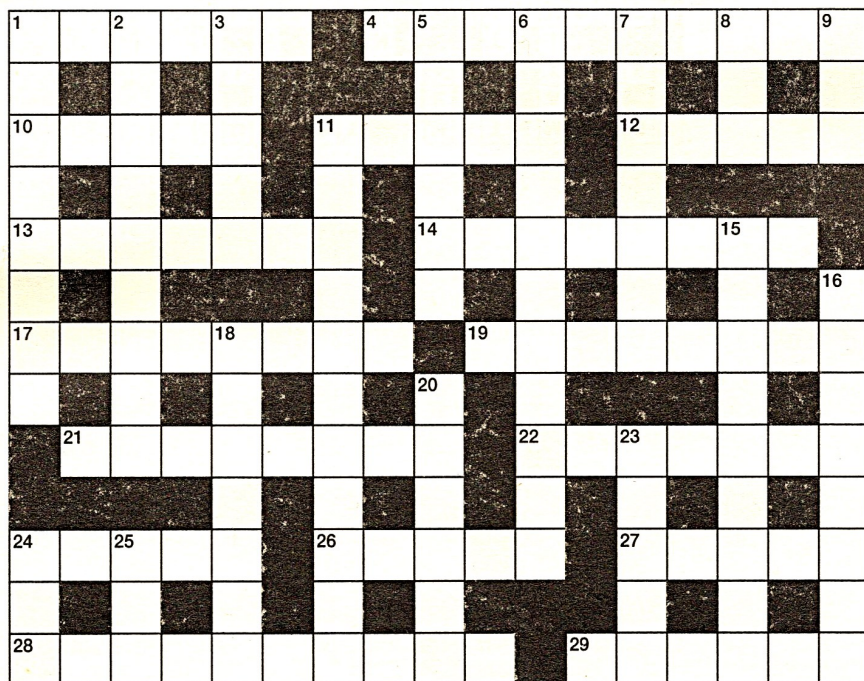
- 1 Wooded area (6)
 4 Shakespeare play (3,7)
 10 Increased (5)
 11 Russian mountains (5)
 12 Rome's river (5)
 13 African country (7)
 14 Three-sided shape (8)
 17 Stuck-up (8)
 19 Taunton's county (8)
 21 Judging standards (8)

- 22 Unlawful (7)
 24 Twig broom (5)
 26 Aids (5)
 27 Poker hand (5)
 28 Cautionary advice (10)
 29 Worldly goods (6)

DOWN

- 1 Leading (8)
 2 Artificial lake (9)
 3 Relating to sound (5)
 5 Well-being (6)
 6 Court statements (11)

- 7 Afternoon show (7)
 8 Decline (3)
 9 Rocky peak (3)
 11 Inattentive (11)
 15 Futile venture (4,5)
 16 Surgical sutures (8)
 18 Tarmac (7)
 20 Summer house (6)
 23 Elevates (5)
 24 Bleating sound (3)
 25 Muppets eagle (3)



Classified Ads:

Wanted: 2 or more usable tyres to fit early mini wheels; size 145/10 (Trailer use) - 01460 74652

If you are a resident of Haselbury Plucknett or North Perrott and would like to place a free classified ad in next months Village News, please email it to vneditor2@gmail.com. A maximum of 3 lines of script, no names or addresses, just contact details. Entries must be received by the 20th of the month to be entered in the following months village news

The Haselbury Plucknett Charities

Registered Charity No 201573

Can we help?

The Haselbury Charities are three old charities set up to support those in the parish in particular need. Although our annual income is small, we try to help wherever we can. In these times of increased costs of living you might find yourself struggling with heating/electric bills. If you live in Haselbury and find yourself in difficulty, ask us. We may be able to help.

Apply in writing to:

The Secretary to the Trustees
Haselbury Plucknett Charities
Globe Farmhouse
North Street
Haselbury Plucknett
Crewkerne
TA18 7RP

Annual Parochial Church Meetings and Electoral Roll updates 2026

Last year, 2025, was one of the six-yearly complete revisions of the Electoral Rolls for our village Parish Churches of St Martins in North Perrott and St Michael and All Angels in Haselbury Plucknett.

This year, however, is just a simple update when new applications can be received and added to the existing Rolls. The timing for the receipt of new applications, and the publication of the updated Roll both work in relation to the date that has been set for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, (APCM), in each Parish, (Sunday 3rd May for Haselbury Plucknett and Thursday 30th April for North Perrott).

The qualifying requirements are simply that you are baptised; are at least sixteen years of age; a member of the Church of England, and resident within the Parish, (or if not resident, have regularly taken part in services in the Parish for the last six months).

If you have recently moved to the area, or have become a regular attender of one of our Parishes, and would like your name to be added to the Electoral Roll so that you can take a full part in the business of the APCM, please contact the Electoral Roll Officer in your particular Parish, (details are on the notices that are now displayed on the Church Notice Boards), and complete the application form.

The Churchwardens

Postage Stamps

Please remember that franked Postage Stamps are processed by several Charities for fund-raising. Margaret Rendall is able to take these and pass them on. This can include complete stamp collections that sometimes contain hidden gems that the specialist sorters in the Charities can identify. Please deliver the stamps to Margaret 51 New Close, or leave, [in a tied plastic bag please], on the seat in the Church porch.

Thank you

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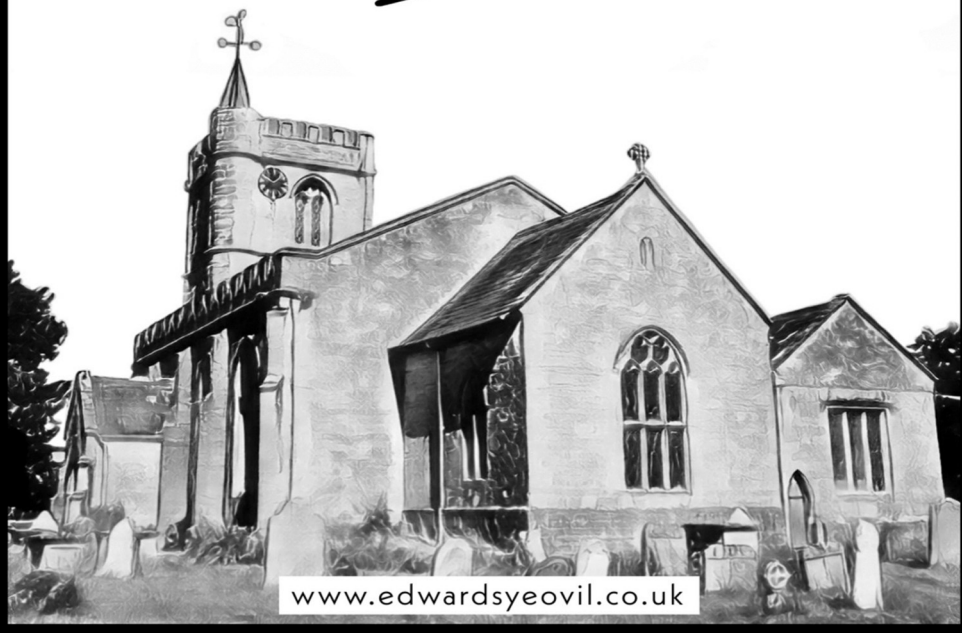
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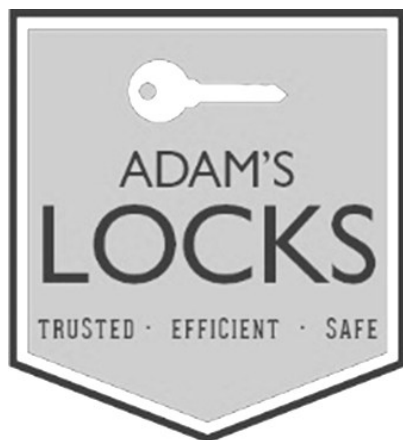
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North Perrott Parish Council - Website www.northperrott.org

Councillor Jonathan Hoskyns (Chairman)

jonathan.hoskyns@northperrottparish.gov.uk

Councillor Thomas Winder (Vice Chair)

thomas.winder@northperrottparish.gov.uk

Councillor Jason Bradley

jason.bradley@northperrottparish.gov.uk

Councillor Judith Hall

judith.hall@northperrottparish.gov.uk

Councillor Bridget Reader

bridget.reader@northperrottparish.gov.uk

Lucy Gibbons (Clerk)

clerk@northperrottparish.gov.uk

North Perrott Parish Council meets bi-monthly on the first Tuesday in Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept and November at 7.30pm in the Hoskyns Memorial Hall. Agendas and minutes are published on the website and village notice board.

Haselbury Plucknett Parish Council

Chair: Councillor Hugh Williams

hugh.williams@haselburyplucknettparish.gov.uk

Vice Chair: Councillor William Hunt

william.hunt@haselburyplucknettparish.gov.uk

Councillor Matthew Bryant

matthew.bryant@haselburyplucknettparish.gov.uk

Councillor Lucy Dear

lucy.dear@haselburyplucknettparish.gov.uk

Councillor Mike Wroe

mike.wroe@haselburyplucknettparish.gov.uk

Councillor Richard Bourne

richard.bourne@haselburyplucknettparish.gov.uk

Councillor Margaret Rendall

Councillor Jim Farrant

jim.farrant@haselburyplucknettparish.gov.uk

Councillor Alison Scott

alison.scott@haselburyplucknettparish.gov.uk

Lucy Gibbons (Clerk) clerk@haselburyplucknettparish.gov.uk

www.haselburyplucknettparish.gov.uk

North Perrott Parish Council Meeting

From the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 3rd March 2026, 7.30pm at the Hoskyns Memorial Hall, North Perrott.

Present: Cllr's J Hoskyns (Chairman), T Winder (Vice-Chair), B Reader, J Bradley, J Hall and L Gibbons (Parish Clerk). Members of the Public: Four

Highways Update: There has been much discussion about the slow sign in Willis Lane and which way it faces. This will be resolved once the Slow marker has been painted on the road. The drain at the south end of the village has been cleared. The wall cannot be replaced currently, due to the substantial costs, but a curb will be built to mark the edge of the road. The drain by the bottom of the Farm Shop, was cleared, allowing the water to disperse, but the pipe is still two thirds full of silt. The ditch was subsequently cleared to allow the silt to flow out of the pipe, but we need to wait for next year's budget for further pipe clearance to be undertaken by Somerset Council. The pipes from the sumps in Church Lane are blocked. Somerset Council have stated that they do not have the budget to undertake clearance work. We are currently investigating applying for a grant from the SRA (Somerset Rivers Authority) to do this work. Action – J Hoskyns to apply for the SRA grant, once all the necessary information is received. The state of the edges of the road was raised. It was reported that there are many areas where the edges of the road have seriously degraded.

Neighbourhood Watch: It has been reported that two Vans have been parked over night at the Cricket Club. This is being monitored.

Footpaths: Action - J Hoskyns to talk to the landowner regarding the post that has fallen on the footpath gate below the church.

Village Maintenance, including flooding and fly tipping: a) New Proposal for Village Maintenance. JB has discussed maintenance work with a local contractor, and made the following proposal for two days of maintenance a year. The main work includes the following along Middle Street (between the corner junction of Middle St & Downclose Lane and the Farm Shop): 1. Weeding & spray treatment along western & eastern pavements. 2. Clearance of leaf litter and debris along both pavements and in the road gutters. 3. Remove all waste. One in December/January to clear leaf litter, debris & trim back hedging. One at the end of March/beginning of April to have a final clear. Costs - Dec/Jan visit: 2 people x 6 hours @ £27.00 + VAT per person/hour = £388.80. Mar/Apr visit: 1 person x 4.5 hours @ £27.00 + VAT = £145.80. Councillors resolved to go ahead with this proposal.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on: Tuesday 5th May 2026, 7.00pm. This meeting will be our Annual Parish meeting and our Annual Parish Council Meeting.

Haselbury Plucknett Parish Council Meeting: Summary of the minutes of the meeting held Monday 9th March 2026, 7.00pm

Record of business of last Month 09/02/2026: Approved and were signed as a true and proper record. Matters Arising: None

LCN: The next meeting takes place on the 18th March. HW will attend.

Items for escalation to our District/County Councillors: Bin Collection - Why are we restricted on the number of bins we want emptied, when we are paying for the service? LG to escalate this enquiry to MH if SC will not agree to the additional bin collection. The new electoral boundaries were discussed. HW will discuss this with MH.

Planning: Planning Applications: 26/00221/FUL - Land Off Claycastle Lane, TA18 7PE – Proposed erection of a polytunnel and an agricultural storage building. Councillors resolved to support this application.

26/00365/REM - Land OS 6400 Part Claycastle - Reserved Matters application for the appearance, landscaping, layout and scale following outline approval 22/02628/OUT for the erection of a detached dwelling – Councillors do not wish to make any further comment on this application. Decisions received: 26/00088/HOU, East Cross House, Yeovil Rd - Detached double garage with inbuilt secure store and workshop – Application permitted with conditions.

The Park: Safety checks: The four inspection reports for the previous reporting period have been disseminated to councillors by WH. There are no significant outstanding issues. The fence was completed to an excellent standard in mid-February. It was noted that overall, with the hedgerows freshly trimmed and bulbs now flowering across the wildflower area, the park is looking exceptionally clean, well-maintained, and attractive.

Road and Footpaths: Roads and Highways: We have passed on to A Barron (SC Traffic Management) request from Rushywood Farm for supplementary “Tractor turning” warning signs at the Farm entrance as well as for the repair of road signage nearby on the A30

Footpath Working Group Update: HW has received a note saying that the footpath at the Gypsy site has been blocked again. HW will investigate this. Two footpath signs have been knocked off in Claycastle. WH will fix these. Next Meeting Date: 13/04/2026 at the Beaumont Room in the Church at 7:00pm

Palm Sunday and Easter Church Services in the Villages

This year Palm Sunday falls on the 29th March which is a 'fifth Sunday' so the six local village parishes that make up the Benefice, (our own St Michaels in Haselbury Plucknett and St Martins in North Perrott, together with All Saints in Merriott, St George in Hinton St George, St Nicholas in Dinnington and All Saints in Lopen), join together for a 'Benefice Service', which on this occasion is to be held at Hinton St George at 10.30am. (Don't forget that this is also the beginning of British Summer Time so the clocks 'spring forward' an hour!)

On Thursday 2nd May, Maundy Thursday, there is a Benefice Service of Holy Communion at All Saints Merriott starting at 7.00pm.

On Friday 3rd May, there is a 'Good Friday Story Walk' beginning and ending at All Saints Merriott with a starting time of 10.00am. In the afternoon there is a short Good Friday Service of readings, hymns and reflection at St Michael and All Angels in Haselbury Plucknett at 2.00pm.

On Sunday 5th May there are services to celebrate Easter in all of the village Churches. The service at St Martins in North Perrott begins at 9.00am and at St Michael and All Angels in Haselbury Plucknett the service starts at 10.30am.

We look forward to seeing you.

The Churchwardens

As I got out on the 11th floor, the lift operator said "Have a good day, son". "Don't call me son. You are not my dad", I replied sarcastically. As the doors closed, he looked me in the eye and said "No, but I brought you up, didn't I?"



What were Electric Eels called, before Electricity was invented?



VILLAGE SERVICES FOR APRIL

DATE	HASELBURY St Michael and All Angels	NORTH PERROTT St Martin's
3rd April <i>Good Friday</i>	Good Friday Service 2.00 pm	
5th April <i>Easter Sunday</i>	10.30 am Easter Communion	9.00 am Easter Communion
12th April <i>2nd Sunday of Easter</i>	10.30 am Holy Communion BCP	
19th April <i>3rd Sunday of Easter</i>	10.30 am Family Service	9.00 am Holy Communion BCP
26th April <i>4th Sunday of Easter</i>	10.30 am Holy Communion CW	

Contacts

Rectors: Revs. Julia and Bob Hicks, The Rectory, Church Street, Merriott: 01460 76406

How we Choose the Sunday Readings

I have recently been asked why we have chosen certain bible readings for Sunday services, so thought I would attempt to explain:

Most Anglican churches use something called ‘The Lectionary’ which identifies particular readings for every day of the year, including Sundays and Saints Days. (Methodist and Roman Catholic churches use a very similar Lectionary). It has a 3 year cycle, aiming to cover a substantial amount of the bible in those 3 years, with readings appropriate for each season. At the moment we are in Year A, which majors on readings from Matthew’s Gospel, with John’s Gospel being used in Eastertide. This Holy Week and Easter we will hear some of the beautiful Passion and Resurrection accounts from John. After Easter we tend to have a lot of readings from Acts, telling us how the first Apostles went out and shared the news of Jesus’ Resurrection.

It is our practice in this Benefice to use the Old Testament instead of the Epistles in Lent and Advent, to give variation and also to reflect the more penitential seasons. We have also gone off Lectionary in August to focus on a particular theme such as the Saints of the Nicene Creed.

The advantage of using the Lectionary is that we can’t just pick our favourite bits of the bible! Some days we are confronted by some very challenging readings, and it is up to preachers and listeners to try to interpret these for our context today. This can be very difficult, but it is important to look at the harder passages together to try to make some sense of them. And it’s great to read some of the more joyful passages as well, which we will certainly do this Easter. We can of course read on our own, but there is something significant about hearing the bible together and asking God to give us a message for our lives today.

Julia Hicks

SPLAT Kids Club



Friday nights of fun for children of School
Year groups R-4. Games, songs, stories and more
from 6:30-7:30pm, every Friday in term time. 50p entry.

FUSION Youth Café

A space to come and chill for young people from School Years 5-13, with
board games, table-top games and a tuck shop. Every Friday 8-9pm, term
time only.

(No SPLAT / Fusion on 3rd, 10th & 17th April – Easter holidays)

Contact Paula Harris for more details: 07807446106



Little Wrigglers



Our baby & toddler group is open on Mondays at 10am-11am in
term time, with great toys, a singing time and our Oasis Coffee shop. Free
entry! **(No Wrigglers on 6th & 13th April - Easter Holidays)**

Contact Paula Harris for more details: 07807446106



The Easter Story Family Lego challenge

Easter Sunday 5th April @ 10am-12 noon

Refreshments available

Toy area with space for little ones to play!



Bible Christian Centre

Haselbury Plucknett, TA18 7QX

Minister: Pastor Andrew Harris – Tel: 01935 864414

Admin: Paula Harris – Tel. 01460 73147 or 01935 864414

www.biblechristiancentre.com

Services for April 2026....

<i>Sunday 5th April</i> <i>Easter Sunday</i>	10am Family Lego Challenge, refreshments & toys 3:30pm Easter Family Celebration and worship and teaching.
<i>Sundays 12th, 19th</i> <i>& 26th April</i>	10:30am Family celebration & worship with CREA'8 children's group. Communion on: 12th & 26th April
<i>Wednesdays</i>	10:30am Morning devotion with Communion
<i>Thursdays 2nd &</i> <i>16th April</i>	7:30pm Bible Study
<i>Fridays</i>	10am - Prayer meeting
<i>Saturday 17th April</i>	7pm, Cinema night Refreshments available to buy. Free entry

For more details please visit our website: www.biblechristiancentre.com

‘For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life.’ (John 3:16)



I didn't get a part in the new play about the Weather;
I was told it was already overcast!



**HOSKYNS MEMORIAL HALL
NORTH PERROTT**

Registered Charity 1029582

FUTURE EVENTS

Friday 27th March

Shanties and Strange Stories

A concert by the Wareham Whalers

Raising money for the RNLI and PLANETS Charities

Doors open and bar available from 7.30pm Concert begins at 8pm

Tickets £12 available from North Perrott Farm Shop

and Pip Oxenbury on 01460 73308

Wednesday 8th April

Quiz

Doors and Bar Open 7.30pm Quiz starts at 8pm

Teams of up to 4 £3.50 per person

Booking recommended on the WhatsApp Village Social Page

Thursday 9th April

Music Night

7.30pm start

Saturday 18th April

Games Night

7.30 for 8pm start

Bar Open

Weekly Coffee Mornings

every Monday 10.30am – 12 noon excluding Bank Holidays

Everyone Welcome – Come in for a Chat and Coffee and Biscuits

The Village Hall is available for everyone in the two villages.
If you are looking for a venue for a party, reception or other event
please contact Lesley on 07732 030279 to make a booking
or to arrange for someone to show you around.

The Village Hall website: Northperrottvilleagehall.co.uk

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

'TRICK or TREAT' - Fakes and Forgeries in the Art Market
another popular illustrated talk
by Richard Kay . Friday 17th April 6.30 for 7pm

Hoskyns Memorial Hall, North Perrott.

Tickets from G. Hoskyns, 01460 72883
or The North Perrott Farm Shop 01460 77090 .
Tickets £12 -- 16 to 18 yrs -- £6 -- under 16 yrs free

to include cheese and a glass of wine or juice after the Talk.
Proceeds to St Martin's Church.

NORTH PERROTT FETE

Sunday 28th June from 12pm to 4pm
at the North Perrott Cricket Ground.
Further details to come!

THE ENGLISH COUNTRY GARDEN

A Floral Demonstration by
Angie Blackwell of Cottage Flowers, Ilminster.

Coffee & cake before the Demonstration
in the Hoskyns Memorial Hall, North Perrott.

Tuesday 18th August in the morning.
Further details to follow.
Enquiries to G. Hoskyns 01460 72883
www.northperrottchurch.co.uk

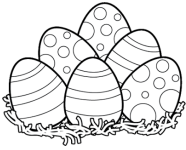
All Saints Church Merriott

Easter Egg Trail

Wednesday 8th April

Start times between 2pm and 3pm

The Trail will be around the village (held in church if wet)



Easter Treat for all the children

free entry

Children up to age 12 years welcome

(must be accompanied by an adult)

Email Lizzy (church office) merriottbenefice@gmail.com

For further information



**DRIMPTON VILLAGE HALL
FRIDAY 10TH APRIL 2026**



COUNTRY & WESTERN DANCE

(Not a line dancing event!)

FEATURING

JEFF GALLANT



7.00PM to 10.00PM DOORS OPEN 6.30PM

BAR and RAFFLE

Door Entry £8.00

Food Available (must be pre-booked)
Contact **allanhales464@gmail.com**
07549 601717



EVERYONE WELCOME

PROCEEDS TO THE VILLAGE HALL



HOLLYWOOD IN HARDINGTON
April Films showing at
Hardington Mandeville Village Hall

The Jungle Book (U) Walt Disney 1967

Thursday April 9th at 3pm

Tickets £3.00. Refreshments free

Tickets on the door or from Springfield Stores.

A family friendly film for the Easter break.

Fiddler on the Roof (PG) 1971

Thursday April 16th at 6pm

**Due to the length of this film, there will be only one showing
at 6:00pm, doors open at 5:30pm.**

Tickets £5.00 bar and refreshments available.

On the door or in advance from Springfield Stores.

Crewkerne Easter Book Hunt

Event by Little Shop of Letters - in Partnership with Usborne

This Easter, we're spreading stories across Crewkerne!
Books will be hidden around town for children and families to discover —
no clues, no maps... just keep your eyes peeled!

How It Works - Books will be hidden in safe, public spots around
Crewkerne town centre.

If you find one, you have two choices:

- 1) Find it & Keep it - Take it home and enjoy your Easter read!
- 2) Find it, Read it & Re-hide it – Share the joy by hiding it again for another family to discover. It's all about encouraging reading and sharing stories within our community

Village Fayre Donations

We would like to ask for donations for the fundraising stalls at this years Village Fayre. Without donations, some of the most profitable stalls for the good causes cannot operate, so, I would like to thank you in advance for your generosity.

Bottles and Chocolate for their respective Tombola's. Please see the flyer included with this for more details. These will be collected door to door nearer the time.

Between Monday 13th April and Thursday 7th May:

Books: please donate any books you would like to part with. These can be left in the porch at St Michael's & All Angels Church, Church Lane.

China: please donate second-hand China and tableware. These can also be left in the porch at the Church.

Toys: please donate any unwanted toys to 2 Castleton, Haselbury Plucknett, please call 01460 391816, to make arrangements, or leave them in waterproof carriers in our porch. Soft toys are welcome for the Schools Teddy Tombola.

Ian Stewart

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The deadline for submission of articles and adverts for the next edition is the
20th April 2026