

Rowde Village News

A photograph of two young birds, possibly doves, perched on a wooden picnic table in a park. The scene is set during a vibrant sunset, with the sun low on the horizon behind a playground structure. A large tree with green and yellowing leaves is on the right, and the sky is filled with orange and yellow clouds. The birds are facing each other, and the overall atmosphere is peaceful and scenic.

February/March 2025

A SPECIAL DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

ROWDEFEST
2025
SATURDAY
MAY 31st



Rowde
Small Playing Field
Next to the church
1.00pm to 7.00pm

Illustrations

by Luca Dowling,
Theo Doherty,
& Lila Ransome,
pupils at Rowde Academy



Editorial

Welcome to 2025 and another bumper edition of your Rowde Village News.

This issue there are all the usual excellent reports and articles from the village's schools, clubs, societies and other organisations of course but there are also several interesting articles in the 'Local News' pages (24 to 31). Rowde Primary Academy in particular has given us three pages to read about what they have been doing recently and what they are planning for the future. If you would like to help them establish their outdoor activity plans please see their plea for second hand items on page 12. And I might add that I do love the poster that the children have created to advertise the 2025 Rowdefest (see opposite page)!

There's a great report from the Christmas Market on pages 26 and 27, there is a comprehensive account of what is currently happening at the Mind Tree Cafe on pages 28 and 29 and on pages 30 and 31 John Dalley has given us an interesting article (with photographs) on the amazing trip he and his wife went on over the festive period. On page 21 Zöe Rucker gives us her very interesting view of how surprisingly similar we are to ants and I give you my view of a new cafe in Devizes on page 20.

Finally, in a letter on page 42, Sue Robson highlights a need for new up-to-date leaflets on the walks in and around Rowde and is asking for help to achieve this. For information that may assist you in this I have added a map showing the local rights of way in colour on the inside back cover.

Mind how you go, Ed

This magazine is brought to you thanks to Jam Print Design & Printing and all the advertisers

Notice to contributors & advertisers

This magazine is generally printed in black and white in hard copy and delivered free to every home in the parish but additionally it is hosted on the **Village website** in full colour. If anyone does not wish any particular details (photographs, names, contact details, etc) to appear on the World Wide Web then they are advised not include them in their submissions, thank you.

Contributors please also note:

The deadline for articles and any changes to advertisements is the 15th of every second month.

Inserts: Due to the extra work created by inserting leaflets into the magazine and the fact that the team is already stretched, we very much regret we are unable to accept requests of this nature except in very special circumstances, when there will be a small charge.

Views expressed in this magazine are those of its contributors. They do not necessarily represent the views of the magazine's editorial team.

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The Magazine Team

Alan Watters (Editor)

Tel: 01380 724788

Email: watters.alan@gmail.com

Suzan Jackett (Assistant Editor)

Tel: 01380 729791

Email: suzijj@rocketmail.com

Julie Baker (Advertising Manager)

Tel: 07796690413

Email: juliebaker72@yahoo.co.uk

Sue Scruse (Distribution Manager)

Tel: 01380 729488

Email: scrusefamily@aol.com

Cover Images

The super sunset photograph on the front cover was submitted by Sue Thompson and shows the chickens cleaning up after a busy day at The Rowdey Cow cafe (and guess which one looks like how I sometimes feel lol).

And the equally wonderful sunset photograph on the back cover was taken by Suzan Jackett.

MONDAY CLUB NEWS

Bromham and Rowde Day Centre for Older People

Monday Club began to celebrate Christmas in early December with a visit from St Nick's school choir, we love to see the children and hear them sing and we noticed how they have grown and changed since we saw them last year.

Our Christmas tree for the festival this year followed the theme of our 40th Anniversary, celebrated in June 2024. We included photos of all our members and the volunteers who help make Monday Club the happy, friendly and welcoming place that it is

Serena did us proud once again with a delicious Christmas lunch – turkey and all the trimmings followed by trifle or Christmas pudding – delicious! It has become a tradition to invite our trustees, drivers and other volunteers to join us for Christmas lunch to thank them for the support that they give us during the year.

We were able to meet a third time in December when all our members were given a choice of Christmas presents. We were able to do this thanks to generous donations and money raised through our coffee mornings.

We look forward to another year of friendship, fun and delicious food in 2025! Happy New Year to all.

Carol & Cathy

New members are always welcome, come along and join us. For more information contact:

Carol - 01380 850925 or Cathy - 01380 850555

ROWDE LADIES CLUB

We all enjoyed our Christmas Dinner at the Bear Hotel in Devizes on December 3rd. Thanks to Mrs Morris for arranging it. The first meeting of the New Year was held on January 15th (a week later than planned due to the forecasted bad weather) in the Village Hall when we had a social afternoon discussing ideas for our meetings this year over a 'cuppa' and cakes! The raffle winner was Mrs Hazel Imrie. The next meeting will be held on February 4th in the Village Hall when we will be 'building with Lego'!

Di Buckland

BROMHAM CARNIVAL 2025 - Save the dates!

Bromham Carnival will be held on Saturday 21st June, with Bromfest in the evening. The Teddy Bear Trail will be held over the weekend of 5th/6th July. The theme this year will be 'Cakes and Biscuits'. We plan to hold the Bingo Evening and Quiz Night in September, as part of the opening events for the new Bromham Community Hub. Dates to be confirmed nearer the time.

ROWDE BOOK CLUB

Meetings are generally held on the fourth Wednesday evening of the month. Contact Ann on 01380 724788 for further info.

BOOK REVIEW

'The Phone Box on the Edge of the World' ***by Laura Imai Messina***

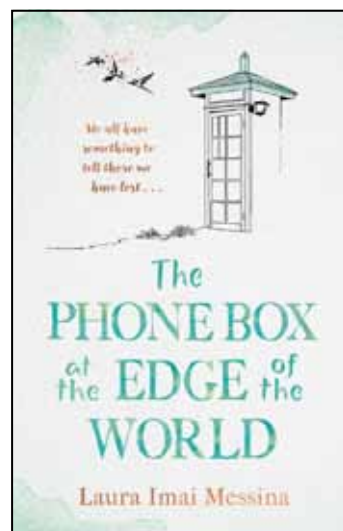
The book is a poignant and thought-provoking novel that delves into themes of grief, loss, and finding inner happiness. The story follows Yui, a widow who discovers a phone box where she can speak to the deceased. Throughout the novel, we see Yui navigate her own grief and the grief of others, ultimately coming to terms with her own feelings and finding solace in the memories of her loved ones.

Messina's description of how her daughter used to dress or the singing on the train were beautifully written. However, some members found the narrative to be somewhat disjointed, with the jumping perspectives and time lines making it a bit difficult to follow at times.

One quote a member thought of that resonated with all of us was "Inner happiness you've got to look for happiness." This sentiment runs throughout the novel, as Yui learns to find happiness within herself rather than relying on the expectations or perceptions of others. This ties into another quote from member that struck a chord with us: "Other people's happiness is not your responsibility." This serves as a powerful reminder that we are only responsible for our own happiness and should not feel burdened by the happiness of others.

Overall, our book club gave "The Phone Box on the Edge of the World" a rating of 7/10. While we found the novel to be beautifully written and offering great insight into grief, some members felt that the disjointed narrative took away from the overall impact of the story and it needed more of a plot line.

Liz Benbury



THE BEREAVEMENT HELP POINT

The Bereavement Help Point in Devizes is a community based drop-in service where all people who are bereaved are welcome. It's a space to meet and talk with others who may be experiencing similar thoughts and feelings, in an informal and supportive setting. All sessions are free of charge and there is no need to book, just come along.

Where: The Bear Hotel, Market Square, Devizes SN10 1HS

When: First and third Tuesday of the month from 10.30am to 12.30pm.

To find out more visit: dorothyhouse.org.uk or phone 0345 0310 555 or 0800 181 4118

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ROWDEY COW NEWS



As I write this we are in the middle of January and it is a quiet period for us but we are planning for our busier months. We look forward to February Half Term where we are hoping to do another half term trail to keep the children occupied and then before we know it we will be leaping into Spring and Easter!

We are happy to welcome our new chef Carl who has some great ideas and we are about to launch his new menu!

On Valentines Days we will have a special Valentines menu available for lunchtime.

Christmas seems a long time ago now but we enjoyed hosting some fabulous Christmas Parties and our Tea with Santa Event was magical. It was a joy to have the Rowde Church Crib Service held here with us on Christmas Eve.

We are back open on Mondays again this year so we are open 7 days a week 9am-4pm. We are continuing our winter deals: Every Tuesday we have our Golden Grazers Deal for over 65s where they can have 2 courses from a set menu for £10.00 and every Friday we have our Builders Brew Deal where every cooked breakfast includes a free Americano or tea.



Slip&Grip Automotive is at The Rowdey Cow.
3d · 🌐

We have had some stunning cars at our breakfast meets over the years. Head to our website to register for our Rowdey Cow Car Meets 2nd Sunday of the month May-October near Devizes Wiltshire.

#slipandgripautomotive #therowdeycowcafe
#carmeet #carsandcoffee #breakfastmeet
#petrolhead #carshow #classiccar

SLIP & GRIP
AUTOMOTIVE

ROWDEY COW NEWS

We are looking forward to having our first official Slip & Grip Automotive Car Meet here on Sunday 9th March and then every second Sunday through to October. It is a breakfast car meet where sports cars, classic cars and super cars all meet up.



Most of the animals are tucked away in the barn this time of year keeping cosy and you are welcome to come in and see them during opening hours when the gate is open.

We thank you for your continued support particularly through these quieter Winter months and we look forward to seeing you soon!



Crib Service



Heather Smith
North Wessex Therapies

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NEWS FROM SILVERWOOD SCHOOL - ROWDE CAMPUS

Building Community, Inspiring Learning

Executive Headteacher - Mr Sean McKeown



Our value for this term is Honesty

Pupils have returned from the Christmas break and are enjoying the new soft play areas and the fully equipped libraries, here's a photo of two of our older pupils reading to a new Reception student, the interaction between the mixed ages is wonderful to see.



We have lots of animals on site which the children love, including our new Guinea Pigs.



Jenni our Outdoor Learning Technician takes the smaller animals into the classroom and the children really enjoy this interaction.



The Hydro Pool is up and running and pupils are making good use of this great facility.

In time the pool will be open to the public – this is managed by <https://www.neptuneaquatics.co.uk/>

Teresa Ollerhead

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NEWS FROM ROWDE PRIMARY ACADEMY

Our bright start leads to their bright future

Firstly, although a little late, a very happy new year from us all at Rowde C of E Primary Academy! We have really enjoyed our return to school after Christmas and New Year. We planned lots of great trips and experiences in January and, as always, are prioritising the children's lessons and areas of learning. This term, we have classes learning about Amazing Animals, The Great Fire of London, Migration, Space and New York – all based on high-quality books and stories.

Citizenship Award

This year, we have launched a new reward at Rowde to encourage children to go 'beyond' the school curriculum. Our 'We Are Rowde' award supports children in understanding themselves, see themselves as global citizens and develop their independence, as well as improving and understanding their mental health and how they can help others and the environment. We already have children making their bed and tidying their room every day for a term, litter picking, joining teams outside of school and learning more about different places and cultures. We're really excited to see what the children will do next!

Learn – Grow – Love



We Are Rowde

OUR PASSPORT TO EXCELLENCE!

R	O	W	D	E	Heart
We never stop others from learning.	We believe we can be the best.	We treat mistakes as opportunities to learn.	We improve our work to make it even better.	We always try our best in school and at home.	We nurture and love each other to grow and improve.
We listen to others and value what they say.	We are helpful about our future and will take action to improve.	We recognise when we have got it wrong.	We find new ways to succeed.	We approach our learning positively.	We look after each other, the school, its equipment and our belongings.
We are Respectful	We are Optimistic	We are Wise	We are Determined	We are Enthusiastic	We are Loving

Name: _____

Date started: _____

Understanding and helping the planet -					
Grow some flowers	Volunteer your time to litter-pick	Create something out of recycled materials	Have a meat-free day every week for a term	Walk to school for a week	Learn about water use and waste
Grow and use some plants or vegetables	Learn more about climate change	Profile an endangered species	Use recycled materials for a new purpose	Use a Smart meter to try and reduce usage	Buy second-hand clothes instead of new
Plant a tree	Take part in a conservation project	Be the class eco-leader for a term	Help your family use less plastic	Learn about the impact of food waste	Help your family use less water

Understanding my place in the world -					
Find out about another country	Take part in a debate in class	Learn about a different culture	Profile an inspirational person	Learn about Fairtrade	Learn how to access the news
Take part in a global debate	A 'day in the life' for a child in a different country	Learn about an explorer	Respond to a 'big question' from Mrs Simpson!	What are human rights?	Find out about different currencies and cost of living
Travel somewhere	Trace your family tree	Where is there injustice in the world?	Find out about the government of another country	What are the protected characteristics?	Understand migration and refugees

My progress –

Your teacher will help you stay on track and will check your progress and evidence once a term.

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6	Super 6
Year 1							
Year 2							
Year 3							
Year 4							
Year 5							
Year 6							

At Rowde, we hope our citizenship awards will support you to develop your character and spirituality, as well as yourself as a global citizen. They are designed to:

- develop your spirituality – your understanding of yourself, others, beauty and beyond
- encourage you to become responsible, informed and active members of your class, school and wider community
- recognise and acknowledge the active role you play in the life of our school and the wider community
- encourage you to make positive choices which will benefit your class, school and community
- encourage you to learn about aspects of citizenship education, including topical issues, rule and law-making, democracy, human rights, diversity.

To achieve the 'We are Rowde' Award, it is important that you also consistently show our Super 6, connected to our Rowde values. Grown-ups will help you with these and let you know if you are/are not on track throughout the year at each termly check point.

Super 6

1. I am respectful and listen to others and value what they have to say.
2. I actively involve myself with paired and whole class learning.
3. I hand in my reading journal and home learning punctually and have completed it as requested.
4. I always go the extra mile with my learning – improving my work to make it even better.
5. I accept responsibility when things go wrong.
6. I show love and kindness to others and our school.

Each term, you should aim to complete one of the suggested activities and at least five across the academic year. You will need to complete the tasks below to move through the levels and it is expected that each level takes two years to complete:

- Bronze (KS1): 10 activities completed – two from each section
- Silver (LSK2): 20 activities completed – at least three from each section
- Gold (UKS2): 30 activities completed – at least five from each section

NEWS FROM ROWDE PRIMARY ACADEMY (cont'd)

Our bright start leads to their bright future

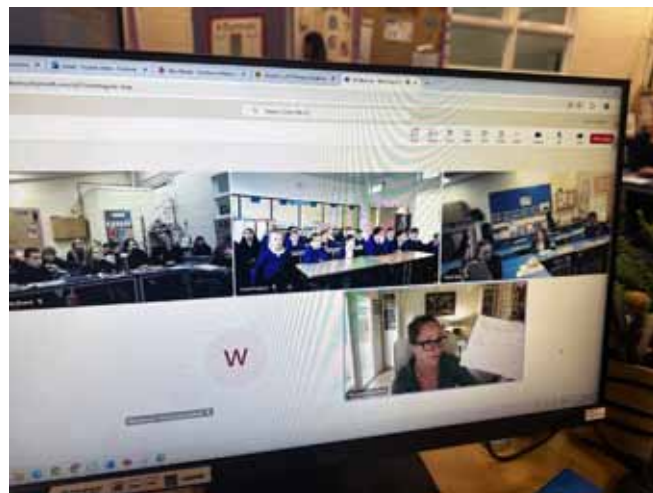
Developing myself and independence -					
Lead a class project or group	Present to the class	Share a talent	Tidy your bedroom once a week for a term	Find out about a career you're interested in	Make your bed every day for a term
Plan something for your family, class or school	Do chores at home or school consistently	Take part in a house competition	Make your own lunches for a term	Invent something	Learn a new skill
Understand budgeting - plan an event to a budget	Lead a school club	Learn a new instrument	Represent the school at an event	Learn basic first aid	Present to the whole school
Understanding and developing my mental health -					
Attend a school club	Cloud watch	Learn a new sport or active hobby	Go on a bike/scooter ride	Have a picnic	Stargaze
Cook a healthy meal	Walk somewhere new	Watch a sunrise or sunset	Join and participate in an out of school club	Make a home for wildlife	Go bird-watching
Keep a diary	Create a time capsule	Have an overnight adventure	Watch a performance	Try food from another country	Have a screen-free day once a week for a month
Understanding and helping others -					
Help another learner	Do a job consistently without reminders	Work as part of a team	Volunteer your time to help others	Take a donation to a local charity	Learn about a charity you're interested in
Write a letter of thanks to someone special	Do acts of kindness at least once a week for a term	Bake/make something for someone else	Be a lunchtime leader for 2 weeks or more	Interview someone about their job/career	Donate to a foodbank
Sponsor a child and learn about them	Interview someone about their faith/beliefs	Start a campaign for a charity	Raise money for a local cause	Be a buddy for a younger learner	Donate your words to an elderly person with Age UK



Nursery at Rowde

I'm really pleased that we'll once again have a pre-school at Rowde. We are welcoming South Hills Nurseries to run the pre-school from our site, which will initially take children from two-years old. At the point of writing, I don't have all the details to share so please keep an eye on the schools social media for more information. We're really excited about working closely with South Hills so we can continue to fulfil our vision and values with more of our community.

Author visit



Just before the Winter break, Year 5 and 6 took part in an online author visit with Maz Evans - the author of *Who Let the Gods Out* which both classes have read as part of our curriculum. They had the opportunity to hear about Maz's creative processes, how long it takes her to write a book and ask any questions they had! It was amazing to talk to such a successful author and the children loved it.

Road Safety

We are keen to enrich our curriculum with additional opportunities to teach children how to be safe. In Autumn, the whole-school did their scootability training and, in Summer, our Year 6s will complete Bikeability. However, this term, Year 1, Year 3 and Year 6 have all explored how to be safe as a



NEWS FROM ROWDE PRIMARY ACADEMY (cont'd)

Our bright start leads to their bright future



pedestrian. You can see photos of Year 1 here, practising crossing a 'road' in our school hall – they loved the traffic lights and crossing signal.



RE Development

We have made lots of improvements to the teaching and learning of religious education at Rowde. We feel passionately that it is an important subject to understand other people's values and beliefs, and how they impact the choices we make on a daily basis. We have some visitors from Swindon Synagogue and Trowbridge Mosque arranged, which will enrich our understanding of other people's world views. Last week, when learning about the Jewish Shema prayer, our Year 1 and 2 class wrote their own. Ella's perfectly summarised everything we are trying to do at Rowde, so I wanted to share it:

This is our school. We are a family. We respect our friends, we love our teachers and we try our best in all our learning every day. We don't give up at all. We love our class and respect other people's things. We show respect to everyone. Amen.

Forest School at Rowde

This academic year, we are starting to develop outdoor education and forest school at Rowde. We are investing in the necessary safety equipment, but there are some second-hand items that we could use as listed in the poster. If you think you can help, please reach out or pop up to the school.

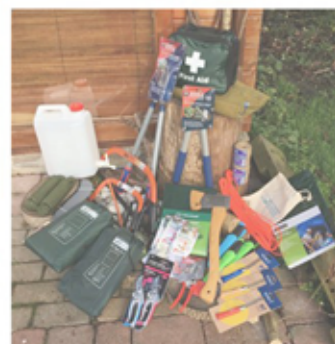
As we move into Spring, we are looking forward to more exciting learning opportunities. Life at Rowde is very busy but always focused on our Christian ethos and vision – to enable children to learn, grow and love. As always, every day at Rowde is an open day. If you would like to see us in action, or think you could help or support us in anyway, please get in touch: head@rowde.wilts.sch.uk

Alice Simpson, Head Teacher

We're in need...

As we continue to develop and establish forest school at Rowde, we're in need of lots of equipment. For all the safety gear, we're going to use the funds from the Tesco In-Store vote. However, there's plenty that we could have second-hand so please let us know if you can help!

- Water butts
- Wheel barrows
- Gardening tools for adults or children (forks, spade, hoes)
- Miscellaneous tools (hammers, screw drivers)
- Watering cans
- Tarpaulin
- Wooden cable reels
- Rope and paracord
- Guttering
- Wellies





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ROWDE VILLAGE



**Have you visited the village website yet? You will find it at www.rowdevillage.org
(Amongst many other things, you can see your Rowde Village News in glorious full colour!)**

Your Parish Council

The next Parish Council meeting will be on
Wednesday 11th December 2024

7.30pm, Rowde Village Hall

Everyone is welcome to attend

Please visit the rowdevillage.org website, the Rowde Parish Council Facebook page and the village noticeboards for a full set of minutes and confirmation of forthcoming Parish Council meetings.

If you would like to receive a hard copy of the minutes, please contact the Parish Clerk.

The Parish Clerk can be contacted by email: rowdeparishcouncil@gmail.com or on: 07752 724096

Rowde Parish Council needs more Councillors. If you can spare a few hours a month and are interested in local issues, please consider joining the team. Please contact the Clerk for more details.

Parish Council Meetings

The Parish Council met on 11th December 2024 and 15th January 2025. The full minutes from these meetings are available on the website: rowdevillage.org or upon request to the Clerk at rowdeparishcouncil@gmail.com, or 07752 724096.

Welcome...

The Parish Council welcomes Sarah Rigby to the Parish Council. The Parish Council is looking forward to working with Sarah.

Farewell...

Chris Stevens has resigned from the Parish Council. The Parish Council thanked C Stevens for his hard work and contribution to the Parish Council and to the village over the many years that Chris has served on the Parish Council.

A new Village Shop....

The owner of the Cross Keys pub attended the Parish Council meeting in December to share the news that the Cross Keys pub may become a convenience shop, with 12 parking spaces on site. The area in front of the pub has now been cleared and the fence removed. There is an intention to submit a planning application for the pub to be converted to a convenience store at the end of January 2025/beginning of February 2025. The pub area may be leased from June 2025.

There are also plans to build a house adjacent to the pub on Marsh Lane. A further house is planned for the Cross Keys car park on the opposite side of Marsh Lane.

A new Community Space!

Bromham Parish Council are looking to rehome the repurposed mobile classroom currently acting as their Clubhouse, when the new Community Hub has been constructed. Rowde Parish Council has expressed their interest in purchasing this for use at the playing field. The unit has already been fitted out with toilets, a kitchen and a heat source. It is a flexible, versatile building that is currently set up with wheelchair ramps. The cost will be around £3.5k to purchase, with an additional £2k - £2.5k needed to move the clubhouse and set up utilities in the building. Power would be provided by the village's generator. C Greenwood has notified the planning authority that the Parish Council is intending to purchase the Clubhouse.

Community events

Party in the Barn – Round 2

Save the date! The Parish Council are proposing to host another Party in the Barn on Saturday 5th July 2025, in the evening at Manor Farm, Rowde. Everyone is invited to

attend. More details to follow...

Update from Village Fete Committee

The date for the fete has changed to Saturday 31st May, due to a potential clash in the local calendar. The team are planning a fund-raising event, a Vintage Cream Tea, on Saturday 29th March in the Village Hall. There are also plans to hold an Open Gardens in the village on Saturday 28th June if residents would like to be involved.

There is now an events email: rowde.events@yahoo.com if you would like to get in contact.

Christmas past ... thank you to the Parish Councillors who put up and took down the Village Christmas tree.

The Heart of Wessex – Wiltshire Council

Central government wants every local area to have a mayor who would have strategic oversight; to drive economic growth, and improve public services, for example to oversee big strategic highway projects. The government is encouraging local county partnerships of over 1.5 million people to form {Wiltshire has 0.5 million residents}. If local partnerships are not formed, there will not be access to further government funding and the government may choose the partnerships. Wiltshire Council has submitted a letter to the Government showing their collective support for being considered as part of the Government's Devolution Priority Programme, along with Dorset Council and Somerset Council to form the 'Heart of Wessex'. The unitary councils will remain as separate councils for all day to day administration.

The first Mayoral election would be held in May 2026.

Wiltshire Council is due to hold Council elections as planned in May 2025.

Planning

Local Plan submitted to Secretary of State for examination.

Wiltshire Council submitted their draft plan to the Planning Inspector in December 2024. This is the housing plan for the whole county. The plan submitted has been based on existing targets from the previous government. Rowde has been set a target of 67 dwellings (20 have been committed).

It is anticipated that as soon as the plan is approved, Wiltshire Council will have to start working on the new plan. Wiltshire's housing target has already increased from 81% to 90%, equalling 18,506 new homes in Wiltshire.

Close Lane – Permission in Principle application

PL/2024/10900 Permission in Principle: development of 9 dwellings on Land North of High Street and Close Lane, Rowde SN10 2QQ. Deadline for comments: 12/12/2024.

This application was discussed at the Parish Council meeting in December. Residents raised some concerns about the proposal including potential water drainage problems from the proposed site and access from the highway.

The Parish Council objected to the planning application on the grounds of the site being on a dangerous corner, and concerns about drainage and flooding.

The application is being considered by Wiltshire Council.

Furlong Close – Proposed development

A representative from Gaiger Brothers attended the Parish Council meeting in January to discuss a potential development on land off Furlong Close.

The site at Furlong Close was bought by SSH in 2022. Care provision was moved away from single care provision and Agincare was brought in to care for the remaining residents. The CQC care rating has been restored to 'good'. There are no plans to expand the care capacity at the site. There are ongoing maintenance issues with the existing buildings. The Mind Tree Café has

taken occupancy of the former administration buildings and workshops.

SSH with Gaiger Brothers are looking to develop the northern field, which is just over an acre in size. The size of the overall site is around 8 acres. Capital receipt money from the development could be put back into maintaining the site. There have been no decisions made on the size, type or number of houses. Questions were asked about access, the type of housing that would be delivered and potential drainage issues from the site.

If anyone has any questions about the proposed development, they are invited to contact Nick Church, at Gaiger Brothers through: nick@gaigerbros.co.uk

Sands Lane application appeal

There is no further news on the appeal against Wiltshire Council's refusal to grant planning permission to build up to 50 houses on Land West of Sand's Lane, Rowde (PL/2023/00386). The appeal is lodged with the Planning Inspectorate.

Progress report on new development at Haymeadow Way

Progress is being made on the easement required for drainage to the site to go under the grassed area in Silverlands. Notices have appeared in the Gazette and Herald to advertise the proposed disposal of that section of land.

Wiltshire Council are due to start drainage works along the side of Silverlands Play Area at the end of January 2025. Work to cross the large, grassed play area in Silverlands will commence when the easement has been formally agreed with Wiltshire Council.

Representatives for the Parish Council met with the Project Manager of the development to discuss potential community work that can be carried out by the contractor, as offered by them.

Residents must be registered with Homes4Wiltshire to bid on one of these new properties. Please register as soon as possible if eligible as it can take up to twelve weeks to be registered on the site.

Draft Gypsies and Travellers' Development Plan

The vote by Wiltshire Council Cabinet on their Gypsies and Travellers' Development Plan has been postponed from 10th December 2024 until 4th February 2025.

Neighbourhood Plan

Devizes Town Clerk, who has been leading on the joint Devizes Area Neighbourhood Plan, has left his post. A new Town Clerk will start in February 2025.

Rowde has been asked by the planning consultants to consult with residents about site selections for inclusion in the plan. Rowde will ask for help to produce consultation material which can be shared with local residents.

A member of the audience noted that without a Neighbourhood Plan, the village is vulnerable to tilted balance and developers could build speculatively without restriction.

Flooding & Drainage

Wiltshire Council's CCTV survey team carried out work in Rowde on 6/12/24. They have inspected the drains around Devizes Road and have dug some channels into the brook to help with drainage from the A342. A drainage survey report will be made available to the Parish Council.

- There will be a CCTV drainage survey in Spring 2025 on Marsh Lane (past the bridge towards Caen Hill) to look at flooding issues in that area.

Highways & Footpaths

- Cllr Mayes referenced the poor condition of Springfield Road. This road has now been promoted to the major investment team for assessment funding.

- Cllr Mayes has requested a repair to the road surface on Devizes Road, near to the Tanis bus stop.

- Devizes Road pavement: Wiltshire Council hope to carry out a trial clearance of the grass verge, when the equipment is available. The tarmac on the pavement may deteriorate further if the vegetation is ripped out. Wiltshire Council has no funds to repair the pavement. Cllr Mayes is following up on this work.

- The Clerk continues to report the missing 30mph speed limit sign on Marsh Lane.

- There is a broken manhole cover on Cock Road, near to the entrance of the Village Hall. This has been reported to Wiltshire Council.

- The Clerk has requested a replacement street sign for Bunnies Lane again. This was first reported 6 years ago. C Greenwood spoke about the issue at the last Local Highways and Infrastructure Group (LHFIG) on Tuesday 14th January. The group have agreed to prioritise the replacement sign.

Speed Indicator Device (SID) can be moved more frequently with more volunteers in the group. If you are interested in supporting the village in managing speeding vehicles, please contact Chris Greenwood, tel: 07525 185514, email: cj_g@me.com

Community Speedwatch: The team can not come out to use the camera unless more people volunteer. If you are interested in being part of the Community Speedwatch Team, please contact Chris Greenwood on tel: 07525 185514, cj_g@me.com

Grounds Maintenance

The Parish Council has appointed a new grounds maintenance contractor for the three large grassed areas in the village: Sands Lane playing field; Tower View play area, and the grassed football area at Silverlands.

There are plans for Devizes Town Football Club to hire the playing field pitches.

Allotments

The Parish Council has made changes to the allotment tenancy agreement. Allotments will no longer be rented to tenants who live outside of Rowde. Existing tenants can retain their plots. There will be a request that no fires are held at the allotments.

A full plot will increase in cost to £50.00 per annum; a half plot will cost £25.00, a quarter plot will cost £17.50.

National Grid

If you have any questions for the VIP project team, or if residents experience any problems with heavy construction vehicles on Conscience Lane please call 0330 134 0051, or email: visualimpact@nationalgrid.com.

Finance

Precept: The Chairman outlined the Parish Council's priorities for the coming year, including the purchase of The Clubhouse (repurposed mobile classroom) from Bromham Parish Council for use at the Sports field; the creation of a footpath for Tanis, and possible legal fees relating to land ownership. The grounds maintenance contract is being renewed and the cost has increased.

The Parish Council agreed their budget and voted to increase the precept by 20% for 2025-26. The total amount of precept requested will be £48,970.88. This amounts to an increase of £16.32 per annum for a band D house.

Monthly invoices

- Monthly bank reconciliation & monthly invoices for November 2024
(total: £2,818.84)
Admin costs: £1,894.54

Ground's maintenance: £619.43

Christmas tree: £304.87

- Monthly bank reconciliation & monthly invoices for December 2024 (total: £4,232.51)

Admin costs: £1,835.68

Ground's maintenance: £555.94

Christmas: £40.89

Donation: £1,800 – to The Mind Tree Café

VACANCIES

- There are now three vacancies on the Parish Council which can be filled through co-option. If you can spare an evening a month and are interested in what happens in your village and you want to hear about it first, join the Parish Council. If anyone is interested in joining the Parish Council, please contact the Parish Clerk.

DOG OWNERS – REQUEST FOR OWNERS TO ACT RESPONSIBLY

Dog owners are reminded that dogs must be under their owner's control at all times, and they are asked to be respectful of other people.

STAY CONNECTED!

Website at rowdevillage.org

Facebook page: Check out the Parish Council's Facebook page for news and events. Managed by L Wills.

Contacts: The Parish Clerk can be contacted at rowdeparishcouncil@gmail.com, or by telephone: 07752 724096 in office hours. Parish Councillors can be contacted through the contacts page of this magazine.

MY WILTSHIRE APP

- The more reports that are logged through 'My Wiltshire', the higher the priority the issue will be given.
- It is easy to report problems like potholes, dog mess, graffiti, litter and street lighting in your area using the 'My Wiltshire' online form. Reports can be made anonymously, or you can register for free. Once you have registered, you can track the reports you have made, and receive notification once the work has been completed. The more residents report issues, the more likely we are to have them fixed.
- The 'My Wiltshire' page can be accessed through the Wiltshire Council website at: <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywiltshire-online-reporting>

CONCERNS

If you have any local concerns about footpaths, hedges, allotments, play facilities, or anything village related, we would like to hear from you. We value your input and suggestions and will try to help.

You can contact us through the Rowde Parish Council Facebook page, or by e-mail: rowdeparishcouncil@gmail.com, or by telephone: 07752 724096.

POLICE MATTERS

If you need to report a crime: Please dial 101 to report a crime and 999 in an emergency. It is possible to follow the Police on:

Twitter <https://twitter.com/wiltshirepolice>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/wiltshirepolice/>

Or sign up to Community Messaging <https://www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk/>

DATES FOR THE DIARY:

Parish Council meetings dates can be found in the village diary on page 41 of the magazine. Start time 7.30pm.

We invite all villagers to attend, to observe and to make use of the public question time in the meeting.

ROWDE PARISH COUNCIL

Lisa Wills	Chair / Social Media	rpc.lisa.wills@outlook.com	01380 730078
John Dalley	Vice Chair; Sports & Playing Fields	jdtaxisdevizes@gmail.com	07592 063789
Chris Stevens	Village Appearance	rpc.cstevens010@gmail.com	
Vacant			
Mark Somerville	Allotments, Safety	jhsgardenservices@yahoo.com	
Elaine Watt		k.e.watt@gmail.com	
Josh Wills	Playing fields; Youth Co-ordinator	rpc.joshwills@gmail.com	
Chris Greenwood	Neighbourhood Planning, Tree Officer, Roads & Transport	cj_g@me.com	07525 185514
Vacant			
Vacant			
Vacant			
Rebekah Jeffries	Clerk	rowdeparishcouncil@gmail.com	07752 724096

Wiltshire County Councillor for Rowde

Laura Mayes	Wiltshire Councillor	laura.mayes@wiltshire.gov.uk	
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WILTSHIRE COUNCIL - Useful phone numbers

Libraries:	01225 713000	or mobile/outside Wiltshire:	01225 777234
Parking:	01380 734812	School admissions:	01225 713010
Pest control:	01380 734721	School special educational needs:	01225 718095
Planning:	01380 734812	School transport:	01225 713004
Recycling boxes - Hills Waste:	0845 6032085	Social care – adults:	0300 456 0111
Registration - Births, Deaths & Marriages:	01225 713007	Social care – children:	01225 773500
Roads & pavements (Clarence) Freephone:	0800 232323	Street care and cleaning:	01380 734849

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The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust



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The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust provide a Courtesy Home Security Service for elderly, vulnerable and disadvantaged people living in Wiltshire, who have become, or are at risk of becoming victims of house crime or domestic abuse.

Our operators will carry out a full security and fire risk assessment before fitting the appropriate security devices. If you are over 60 or vulnerable due to a mental or physical disability and don't feel that you have adequate home security please contact us to arrange a visit.

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www.wiltshirebobbyvan.org.uk



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December 2024 and January 2025 Worship in Rowde, Bromham and Sandy Lane

Services in St Matthew's, Rowde are in bold

Services in Bromham and Sandy Lane are in *italic*



Date/Time	Service
FEBRUARY	
Sunday 2nd	(Presentation of Christ in the Temple)
8am	Holy Communion (BCP) Rowde
10am	Holy Communion Bromham
Sunday 9th	(2nd Sunday of Advent)
8am	Holy Communion (BCP) Sandy Lane
10am	Holy Communion Rowde
Sunday 16th	(3rd Sunday before Lent)
10am	Holy Communion Bromham
Sunday 23rd	(2nd Sunday before Lent)
8am	Morning Prayer (BCP) Sandy Lane
10am	Holy Communion Rowde
MARCH	
Sunday 2nd	(Sunday next before Lent)
8am	Holy Communion (BCP) Rowde
10am	Holy Communion Bromham
Sunday 9th	(Lent 1)
8am	Holy Communion (BCP) Sandy Lane
10am	Holy Communion Rowde
Sunday 16th	(Lent 2)
10am	Holy Communion Bromham
Sunday 23rd	(Lent 3)
8am	Morning Prayer (BCP) Sandy Lane
10am	Holy Communion Rowde
Sunday 30th	(Mothering Sunday)
10am	Holy Communion Rowde

Everyone is very welcome at all our services.
Please visit www.achurchnearyou.com for more information, check our church noticeboards or contact the Benefice Administrator at sarahbromhamandrowde@gmail.com.

Church Opening Times

Rowde Church: Mon to Sat 10am – 4pm;
Sunday 10am – 4pm or after morning service.
Bromham Church: Daily 9am – 5pm
Sandy Lane Church: Daily 9am – 5pm

A Message from Rev'd Norma Fergusson

As you know, Rev'd Heather Smith has been appointed as priest-in-charge at Christ Church in Bath. There will be a service to celebrate

her new ministry in Christ Church Julian Road Bath BA1 2RH on Tuesday 4 February 2025 at 7.00 pm; everyone is welcome but please let Michael Cornwall know if you plan to attend so they can plan for refreshments afterwards. We are very grateful to Heather for everything she has done to support us during the vacancy and, while we will miss her, of course wish her every happiness in her new role.

Meanwhile, back in Rowde, Rev'd Norma Fergusson and her husband Richard (whom some of you may remember from when they were here ten years ago) have moved back to Bromham and will be taking services in our churches again. We will also continue to have the

support of Rev'd Caroline Spindlow and the other clergy who have been helping us so we should be able to continue our normal range of services.

The next round of advertising for our new vicar will take place in the spring. Please keep the people and the process in your prayers.

The Rev'd Norma Fergusson

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Rowde Church Café Tuesday 10:45 – 12pm.

Come and join us for coffee, cake and a chat. Everyone welcome!

Craft, Coffee and Chat at St Matthew's, Rowde Friday 2pm – 4pm

Bring your own craft project or join in our jigsaw. All welcome! No entry fee. Coffee and cake available for a donation.

Souper Saturdays at St Matthew's, Rowde First Saturday of the month, 12 – 1pm

Come along and enjoy a choice of two soups (always one vegetarian choice) with a roll. Donation to St Matthew's welcome.

Growing in Faith Wednesday evening 7:30pm – 9pm on Zoom. If you are interested in joining, please contact Ruth on ruthbray@outlook.com so she can send you the links.

Flower Arranging at Rowde

Please contact Caroline Keevil on ck@carolinekeevil.co.uk or call 07860 148407.

Choir at St Matthew's

We practice from 6pm-7pm on the Fridays prior to a 10am Sunday service. Please contact **Nicola Brown** at nicola_brown@talk21.com or 01380 722406.

Bellringing at St Matthew's

Please contact Michael Cornwell at michael.cornwell@btinternet.com 07388 224129

Open the Book at Rowde

Contact Fran Hall on 07989758412

CONTACT US

Rector: Vacant

Associate Priest: (Funerals, baptisms and weddings) Revd Heather Smith on 07702 113544 or revheathersmith@gmail.com

Benefice Administrator: Sarah Leckie sarahbromhamandrowde@gmail.com

During the current vacancy, please contact Revd Heather or Sarah if you wish to enquire about a baptism, wedding or funeral.

Safeguarding Representative for Rowde: Michael Cornwell 07388 224129

Benefice Facebook page

Churches of Rowde and Bromham:
www.facebook.com/groups/439328832796693

Benefice website:

www.achurchnearyou.com/church/9690

Diocese of Salisbury:

<https://www.salisbury.anglican.org>

Nicola Brown, Michael Cornwell

Supporting children

when a parent has had a brain injury



This booklet has been written primarily for the families and carers of a child whose parent has had a brain injury. It gives information about how children of different ages are affected by a parent having a brain injury and offers suggestions of how to talk to and support the child.

To download this FREE BOOKLET go to www.headway.org.uk

To donate over the phone, please call us on 0203 735 5444. Please leave a voice message if necessary and we will call you back to take your payment.



Souper Saturday

at St Matthew's, Rowde

Saturday 1st February

Saturday 1st March

Saturday 5th April

12 noon to 1pm

Come along and enjoy a choice of two soups (always at least one vegetarian choice) with a roll



Donation in aid of St Matthew's welcomed

The editor goes 'OUT & ABOUT'

BREW & VINE

Café & Wine Bar

I was walking along the High Street in Devizes and not having been in here before, I thought I would check out this recently opened cafe.

I must say, I wasn't disappointed as it turned out to be a lovely fresh and clean space with an extensive range of artisan coffee and food. Included in the menu were mouth watering breakfast baps with smokey bacon and aged

cheese, an extensive range of light lunches including Ciabattas, Paninis and Focaccias (with Pistachio and Cream Cheese, yum yum). On top of that there is a variety of cakes and savouries on offer including Mamma Bakes freshly baked white chocolate and raspberry muffins.

And being a bit of a Coffee buff it was good to see a large range of infused coffees including French Vanilla, Sticky Toffee and Mocha.

All in all, I would recommend you give it a try!



La Belle Helene

Tickets are now available for White Horse Opera's main production to be performed in the Wharf Theatre Devizes at 7.30pm on 11th, 12th and 14th March and at 2pm on Sat 15th March.

La Belle Helene is a comic opera by Jacques Offenbach, the piece parodies the story of Helen of Troy's elopement with Paris, which set off the Trojan War.

Having been promised the most beautiful woman in the world by Venus, Paris arrives in disguise as a shepherd boy with the aim of cashing in that promise. Helene, currently married to Menelaus, wards off his advances. However, when Paris comes to her while she is sleeping she believes it all to be in her dreams so it must therefore "be all fine."

Do come and see the fireworks that ensue when Menelaus comes home early and discovers the lovers!

Fully staged, sung in English with orchestra.

Hilariously funny with beautiful music!

Tickets from Devizes Books and [hwww.ticketsource.co.uk/whitehorseopera](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whitehorseopera)



The Big Little Things In Life! Edition 6

by Zöe Rucker

We are just a species!
The surprising similarities between humans and ants.



Have you ever wondered what our typical human behaviour might look like from a giant's perspective? I openly laugh at the ridiculous images in my imagination when I think of us all rushing around like ants; in and out of shops, in and out of our homes, in and out of events and festivals.

It turns out, I was closer to the truth than I realised! I had no idea that the similarities are so remarkable. From social structure and organisation to construction and architecture, we behave like ants!

Just like our defined roles in complex social structures of hierarchies in workspaces, communities and governments, ants live in highly organised colonies. Each ant has a specific role in order to contribute to the success of the many, whether a soldier or a worker.

Their specialised roles include nurses and soldiers. Sound familiar? The latter for defence and protection. They protect themselves using soldiers, chemical defences and security systems. Some species of ants build fortifications around their nests to deter 'baddies'.

As well as foragers, these are the most important roles that meet their colony's needs. They even have these tasks assigned to match their physical abilities and age. The main difference for us is our qualification process through education and examination. Where teaching and construction are vocational needs for ants, I will concede hairdressing and cooking are not.

However, farming is! Ants forage and store their food, ensuring a steady supply and they manage surplus for future use. Some species, like leafcutter ants, cultivate fungus as a food source. And it's all divided by 'best before' dates into special chambers. Being self-sufficient negates any need for trade or industry as we have. But, evolution is a thing!

Another astonishing comparison is construction and architecture. Similar to our infrastructure networks that provide shelter, facilitate transportation and support various social activities, ants too construct intricate nests and tunnels. These are designed to regulate temperature, protect the colony and provide spaces for different activities. Their activities are less social perhaps but essential for survival, such as brood rearing and food storage. A bit like our hospitals and supermarkets.

Admittedly, problem-solving for us humans is significantly aided digitally and electronically. However, in the crisis of a power-cut over a long time, we would find ourselves with very similar methods of adaptability as our close friends, the ants. Our problem-solving abilities to find food might lead us to our local village shop rather than the out-of-town supermarket. Ants too coordinate the shortest, direct routes, avoiding obstacles, to their food source.

Both species collaborate to hinder disruption to essential elements in the smooth running of life such as movement. For example, when ants get stuck on their journey, the leader ants present the group with potential crossing routes. When we get stuck on a journey, we put leaders with hi viz in charge of re-routing us.

Where teamwork is concerned, there is little between humans and ants in their leveraging collective effort to achieve goals that individuals cannot accomplish alone. An example would be the ants' ability to build bridges to cross gaps; humans obviously can do this too. Ants cooperate in carrying large food items back to the nest; humans have evolved slightly more with vehicles, but still, Uber taxis cooperate in carrying large items back to our homes.

I think the most similar behaviour, however, is how humans and ants communicate. Obviously the former uses written symbols and technology, however, it might be surprising to learn that ants also use sounds to communicate and coordinate tasks.

More strikingly, similarities with ants lie with their use of signalling. Their tactile signals and chemical signals through pheromones are exactly the same as with humans. This pheromone signalling is used to convey information to engage kinds of desirable behaviour in both species.

Such remarkable parallels illustrate how we are just a species. While the scale might differ, both humans and ants have evolved complex behaviours and social structures to survive and thrive in our respective environments.

And they even have a Monarch!

ORIGINAL PET and PEOPLE PORTRAITS



Colour or mono portrait of a person, pet or horse by local artist Alan Watters. Original portrait, two prints and three greetings cards included in the package.

My waiting list is currently around October but a voucher can be supplied to be given as a present if required.

Call or text Alan on 07886870053 or Email watters.alan@gmail.com for more information or text/email a good photo for a quote.

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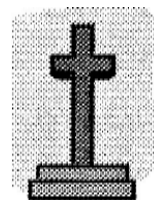
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ALLOTMENT VACANCIES



Are you a keen gardener who needs more space? If you are interested in renting an allotment, please contact:

[Rebekah Jeffries rowdeparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:Rebekah.Jeffries@rowdeparishcouncil@gmail.com)

Tel: 01380 501919 Rowde Parish Council

Craft, Coffee and Chat
at St Matthew's Church,
Rowde

Friday Afternoons

2pm – 4pm

except Friday 23rd and 30th August



Bring your own craft, or join in with
our jigsaw

No charge to enter,
coffee and cake available
for a donation

All Welcome!

Wiltshire Buildings Record, a charity that has a growing and very detailed database of the county's vernacular buildings – and which is based at Chippenham's History Centre – is seeking new members.

For further details please go to

www.wiltshirebuildingsrecord.org.uk/membership/
Organisations such as local history groups are charged £25 per annum, whilst individuals pay £14.

Please help us identify and study historic buildings throughout the county.





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Local News



L to R: Philip Hale, Christopher Wheeler, Jane Sartin, Carlo Zaccarelli, Heather Smith-Serjeant, Barbara Zaccarelli, Nicola Brown and Maureen Hiscocks

FAREWELL

We were sorry to say goodbye to Revd. Heather Smith-Sargeant, who is leaving us to become Priest in Charge at Christchurch, Bath. We're all going to miss her very much.

ROWDE COMMUNITY EVENTS

Rowdefest May 31st

This year Rowdefest will be on May 31st from 1.00pm to 7.00pm, in the small playing field as usual. Please note the date in your diary and maybe invite friends and family. We have a great team on the committee now, but we always will need more volunteers to take responsibility for stalls, cake baking, and generally helping out on the day.



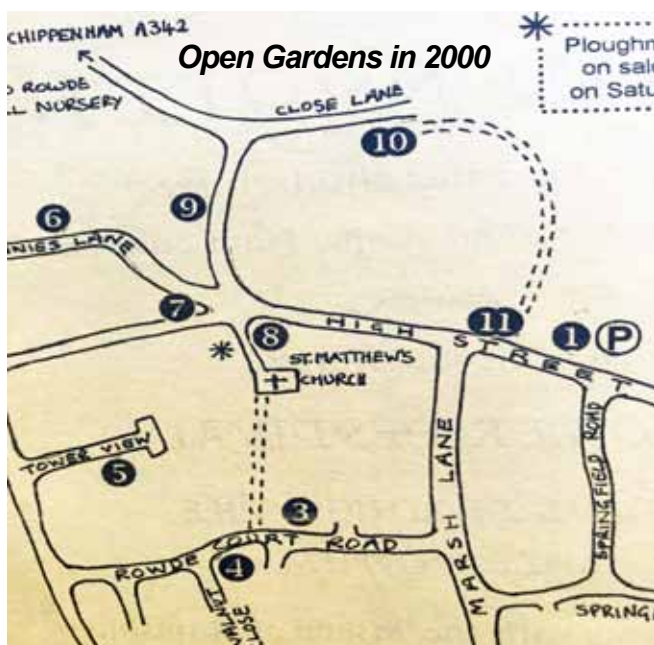


Vintage Cream Tea and Cakes March 29th

On Saturday March 29th from 2.30pm to 4.30pm there will be a special afternoon tea in the Village Hall. A cream tea with additional homemade cakes will be served with a choice of tea or coffee. The cost is £8 per person, children under 5 years free, and children 5 to 12 years £3. This could be a great opportunity to spend the afternoon with friends, or make new ones, without leaving the village. As it is the day before Mothering Sunday, why not treat your mother or grandmother to a lovely afternoon out. To book please email rowde.events@yahoo.com (see poster on inside front cover)

Open gardens 28th June

25 years ago, St Matthew's organised an open gardens weekend in Rowde to celebrate the millennium. This year we would like to rekindle this lovely tradition. This is totally dependent on our villagers' willingness to open their gardens to the public, so that others may be able to also enjoy them. Please contact us at rowde.events@yahoo.com if you would like to open your garden for this event, or for more information.



HAPPY NEW YEAR ROWDE

Hello to All in Rowde who remember me, Terry Coulthard who used to live in lovely Bunnies Lane. Since moving to Kent to be nearer to Family that family has grown. When I arrived here in Rusthall I had 6 grandchildren and now 13 years later I have 6 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.



Rusthall is a Village on the outskirts of Tunbridge Wells and between Rusthall and Tunbridge Wells is a Common of about 250 acres which has saved this village from becoming absorbed into T Wells. Anyone who remembers me will remember my whippets. I lost my last boy 3 years ago and have not had a canine companion since for various reasons but have recently responded to the RNIB call for volunteers to look after a puppy during its first year.....

I volunteer for a few local outfits the main one being our local Repair Café, as well as being great fun we save a lot of stuff going to landfill. Last Autumn I managed to fall down the stairs whilst moving some furniture but thanks to the excellent orthopaedic team at our local hospital I now have a plate and 7 screws in my wrist and a fully functioning left hand.

That is probably enough rambling from me for now, if anyone wants to catch up with me I would love to hear from you. Find me on FB or coulthardct@hotmail.com

Editor's notes: Terry lives just a five minutes walk from the famous Toad Rock and in addition to the wildlife interest, there is some fascinating archaeology on the common.



Toad Rock

FURLONG CLOSE CHRISTMAS MARKET

What joy to wake up to a beautiful frost-free morning for the 2024 Furlong Close Christmas Market, by comparison with the coldest day possible the previous year!



Once again Furlong Close became a hub of activity for this annual event, with huge support from the local community and beyond.



Along with the residents inviting us onto their home ground, the Mind Tree Café, who offer holistic therapies from their premises, opened their doors to welcome visitors to enjoy all the treats on offer there as well as those in Marsh Hall. Throughout there were goodies to tempt us all for Christmas, ranging from hand made jewellery by Fiona Gardner from FG Artisan Design and silver jewellery from Mark Gibson-Penman at the Button Tree; beautiful and unusual work from Julie Franklin at Zentangle by Design, and Hannah Fazakerley and Eleanor Fazakerley offering children's crafts.



Local artists Ann Swan and Alan Watters were present, along with artist Chris Burfoot and printmaker and artist Hannah Cantellow.

The most delicious jams, mince pies, chutneys and marmalades were available from Carolyn Mallam - who could have a Christmas Market without them? And Kirsty came along too with her special cakes and bakes.

The children were well catered for with a selection of books written and illustrated by A.J. Larcombe from Kathmanzoo Publications, along with Matt Baker from the World of Thoodles, encouraging positive mental health and creativity in children.



Ananda UK came along, promoting holistic therapies, and there was more beautiful art from Michelle Lewis.

Needless to say, Santa paid us a visit and distributed balloons to the children whilst being seasonally serenaded by Ros and her friends in Marsh Hall, and carol singers and their accompanist in the Mind Tree Café.



To top off such a selection of treats were Colin and Pauline offering crafts and works of pyrography, alongside Sam Nicol with her beautiful lamps and shades.

And of course there was an opportunity to chance your luck with the raffle, bottle stall and tombola, or find exactly the book you had been searching for at the book stall or lost treasures on the bric-a-brac stand.



After so much to see and enjoy it was now time for a much needed cup of tea or glass of mulled wine! We are very grateful for the delicious donated cakes and a huge thank you to Candy Andrew who beavered for days to offer us an even larger variety, along with hot dogs and pulled pork rolls.

Many thanks to all who supported this very happy afternoon.

Very best wishes for a joyous New Year from everyone at Furlong Close

Trish Gange

THE MIND TREE CAFÉ CIC

• Wednesday 26th February 10am - 11.30am Five Week Meditation Workshop, £50 per person or £54.88 from Eventbrite, suitable for beginners and those with some experience. Each week you will be guided through different meditations. All proceeds to The Mind Tree Café, to book email enquiries@themindtreecafe.org or <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/meditations-workshop-tickets-1142630020149> SOME SPACES AVAILABLE

• Saturday 1st March 80's Disco at Seend Community Centre 7.30pm – 11pm. DJ, bar £10 per ticket plus admin fee from Eventbrite or email clark_658@hotmail.com. This is a fundraising event to support our work, organised by The Mind Tree pals.

• Monday Evenings - Pilates, please contact Suzan via email suzijj@rocketmail.com or call 07833 976362

• Monday Evenings- PSG Choirs, please contact www.psgchoirs.co.uk or phone Will Blake on 07751 697388

• Tuesday Evenings - Yoga, please contact Ginny via email yogawithginny@gmail.com or call 07973 517029

*Please check with the instructors before attending for spaces and suitability.

• Success - The Women's Well-being seminar was a lot of fun and big success, we sold out quickly, we had a lot of positive feedback about the quality and content.



• We are talking with several facilitators to bring you more workshops this year. We hope to have Linda back for more fused glass and Michelle for willow weaving, specifically harlequin willow trees and hearts. If you would like to host a workshop, please talk to us.

Working in Partnership

We have teamed up with Wiltshire Digital Drive to offer a drop off point for unwanted laptops and technology, they recycle this to provide equipment to people in digital poverty, which is a lifeline for those who need access to computers for work or learning.

We now have a clothes recycling bank on site, this will provide an opportunity to dispose of unwanted clothes in an environmentally friendly way but also raise money to support our work.

The probation service has helped us with indoor painting this month, in addition to the work they do in the Orchard. This is such a support and allows us to maintain the site and complete work.

Thanks to the community we have apple juice for sale - £4.20 per 750ml bottle or £12 for 3 bottles. It has no added ingredients but will last for a year unopened as it's pasteurised. All proceeds to The Mind Tree Café.

The Café

Work on the community café is underway. This will be a space where you can come for a chat, access a workshop or have a drink or cake with a friend. Our focus is wellbeing, addressing isolation and providing volunteer opportunities.

With the support of the community, the Parish Council, the Area Board and some Government funding we have been able to secure the funds



for the café build and equipment. We have already purchased some equipment and are in the stages of finalising the design. The actual work will begin this month.

We are now writing funding bids for staffing. The café will mostly work with volunteers, with some paid staff to oversee operations.

For Sale

We have various office desks and pedestals for collection. We would be grateful if interested that you donate to The Mind Tree Café. Contact enquiries@themindtreecafe.org

Room Rental

We have therapy rooms to rent and a studio for hire. If you wish to run an activity or workshop or hire the space for training do contact us on enquiries@themindtreecafe.org for more information.



Our rates are very competitive.

We also have a good audio-visual system in our studio, an 85-inch screen on a trolley, if you wish to deliver training or events that require this, please contact us for information.

Low-cost counselling service

Clients have been benefiting from the low-cost counselling service. We have several therapists delivering this service, if you or anyone you know is interested then please contact us on the email below. The cost is £10 for an initial assessment and £25 for a 50-minute session. If you are able to pay more, please support us by doing so. The sessions are weekly. We can offer up to 10 sessions.

We have been talking to the GP surgeries and Wiltshire CIL who are both signposting our services.

WILTSHIRE BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION (BKVC)

In February, entries will be invited for the BKVC. Categories are Large, Medium and Small villages. There are 15 prizes of up to £200. It's a great way of getting villagers together to keep our villages looking good and to build on our community spirit. Entry is simple and must be received by CPRE Wiltshire by 17 April. Can you help our parish council with this? Details are at <https://www.cprewiltshire.org.uk/category/awards/> or call 01380 722157 and leave a message if necessary.

A342 AND A3102 SPEED LIMITS COULD BE LOWERED!

Wiltshire Council is running a consultation on a Traffic Regulation Order that, if implemented, would lower the speed limit on both the A342 Devizes Road and the A3102, in two stretches between Sandy Lane and St Ediths Marsh. They have previously been identified as problem areas, with the junction between the two A-roads one of four earmarked for further changes due to the risk of crashes. The plans under consultation would see the 50mph speed limit on the A342, between Sandy Lane and the northern A3102 junction, reduced to 40mph. The 60mph stretch of the major route, running past Bromham to St Ediths Marsh, would be lowered to 50mph, as would the A3102 from its northern junction with Devizes Road to Stockley Road.



This plan has been brought forward following concerns from councillors in the area. The order said: "These proposals are being taken forward on behalf of Bromham and Rowde Parish Councils and Devizes Local Highway and Footpath Improvement Group due to concerns within the local community. "An assessment has been undertaken in line with Wiltshire Council's adopted policy and the proposals put forward meet the required criteria for each speed limit change." We currently await the outcome.

NORTH MOBILE LIBRARY UPDATE

Please note that the mobile library visits Rowde every fourth Thursday between 9.30am and 10am, and the latest list of dates for 2025 are 6th February, 6th March, 3rd April, 1st May, 26th June, and 24th July.

The single decker bus can usually be found parked on the High Street opposite Springfield Road, or, on the odd occasion, parked just inside Springfield Road. The service is free to library members and there are no late return charges. The only fees are for borrowing audio books (CDs), and pre-ordering specific books from the online site.

If you are able to do so, then please come along and support this valuable service in Rowde. Thank you.

Sue Robson

MASS GRAVE THEORY

A retired GP has developed a theory as to where a mass grave containing the bodies of hundreds killed in a 1643 Civil War battle could be located.

Dr Norman Beale said he had used satellite imagery and older records of archaeological finds to locate the site.



Dr Norman Beale

The Battle of Roundway Down in the countryside overlooking Rowde is believed to have left hundreds dead - some estimate as many as 600. Dr Beale has previously published books on local history and his latest project has been published in an academic journal for Wiltshire.



Historic England, external has described the Battle of Roundway Down as "one of the most interesting and dramatic battles of the First Civil War". While Parliamentarians outnumbered Royalists at the battle, fighting saw them defeated.

Dr Beale said he had used satellite, aerial and LiDAR images during his research. LiDAR is Light Detection and Ranging - a technology which uses laser light to create a 3D representation of the earth's surface.

All had shown "a very long line" across a field which he said was "not just a fault of the image" and which had come up "again and again. It ignores boundaries put in place later

on by farming and woodland planted in the 1840s. My theory is that this line represents a trench. This is where the chaps planting this wood in 1840 found four skeletons."

Older records Dr Beale has researched had also shown "two accidental findings of skeletons on the down from people not interested in them", he said. Both were along the line he has spotted.

"Their significance was not seen at the time by the people who found them," he said. "They were covered over and lost again."

There is no reference to these skeletons having any clothing or items with them - something Dr Beale said was a "major clue" that they were from the battle as bodies would have been stripped, with clothing also valuable at that time.

While many bodies were buried in deeper pits after battles, Dr Beale explained that the soil on Roundway Down was shallow, so a long trench for burial would make sense.

He does not want to reveal the exact place where the line is - while there are footpaths, much of the down is private land and there is the risk of people looking illegally.



Ultimately however, Dr Beale would like to see his theory confirmed with more archaeology.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR IN BOTSWANA by John Dalley

We spent this Christmas and New Year in my wife's beautiful home country of Botswana.

I have always been told how beautiful Africa is and being married to my wife Molly, who is from BOTSWANA, we were lucky enough to visit over the festive season. After a 12 hour flight our first night stay was in Gaborone, followed by a 180 mile drive to Mmadinare.

This was to spend Christmas Eve and Christmas Day with our lovely family.

Mmadinare is a large village with bungalow-type properties spread over a vast area but with a school and village centre for shops. The children go to several village tuck shops for their sweets and this took me back to my childhood when we used to go to Mrs Nicholl's shop back in the 70s. No tarmac, just dusty desert roads.

As dawn was coming up on Christmas Eve I was attending the unveiling of Molly's late mother's and brother's tombstone unveiling. The scenery was just breathtaking! On we went, further north to Francistown on boxing day. Then an afternoon drive, 190 miles to the top of the country in Kasane. Here we went with Molly's boys Ernest and Alwin, along with granddaughter Crystal and daughter-in-law Mamakie. Entering the spectacular Chobe National Park, the experience just blew me away. Elephants, lions, Impala's, Zebras, Buffalo and Giraffes. Just amazing! Then on to a river cruise to say hello to the crocodiles. We drove on from Francistown to Kasane with Elephants, horses and Zebras grazing on the side of the A1. It was 38 degrees when we witnessed the stunning scenery

and views of the Zambezi bridge that joins Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe and with Angola just in the distance, WOW! Below are a few photos of our trip, some of which show how close we came to nature - The bridge over the Zambezi; a Crocodile waiting for his lunch; an Elephant on his way to us; overlooking Giraffes and a pride of lions that were just a bit too close for my liking! You will also see a big hippo cooling down, a group of Impalas, Zebras grazing on the side of the A1 and a stunning outlook on the river over the park. I never could imagine how beautiful this part of the world could be. And being that, I am very likely to visit again.

We know how lucky we are.

Molly & John Dalley





If you love the arts and would like to meet a group of like-minded people then we'd love to meet you. We are a very friendly group who meet ten times a year on the first Wednesday of the month in the Assembly Hall Melksham. You can join us free for your first lecture or come as a guest for only £8.00.

Our next lecture on Wednesday 5 February at 11am. recounts the colourful life of George Villiers, the Duke of Buckingham Renowned in his day as the most handsome man in Europe, Villiers was a beauty who adored beautiful things. The writer and broadcaster, Lucy Hughes-Hallett will vividly recreate his life as an adored courtier to Charles 1 and discerning patron of the arts.

Full programme details at:
www.tasnorthwilts.org.uk

Are you age 60+?

Come and join our friendly exercise class and help maintain/improve your mobility
(Exercises may be done seated or standing)

Mondays
2.30pm – 3.30pm
followed by coffee/tea and a chat
at Rowde Village Hall

Cost : £4.00

For more information contact:
Yvonne 01380 723086
yve@thegablesdevizes.co.uk

ACTIVE PLUS

SPEEDING IN ROWDE

Rowde Community Speed Watch Team & Speed Indicator Device

The Parish Council has a Speed Indicator Device in the village to warn drivers of the speed that they are travelling. This device needs to be moved every 3 months.

If you feel you could help with this task, we would love to hear from you.

Community Speed Watch is another way to tackle speeding motorists to keep our village safe.

Can you spare an hour or so a month to be part of the Community Speed Watch Team? Training will be given.

To get involved, please contact: Cllr Chris Greenwood at
cj_g@me.com or
phone 01380 722466

Lending with Heart and Mind

Wiltshire Council fund a not-for-profit loan scheme for homeowners.*

If you have lived in your home for over 5 years and:

- Are over 60; or
- Are in receipt of State Benefits; or
- Have children under 16 living with you.

You may be eligible for a home improvement loan to keep your home warm, safe, and suitable for your needs.

Lendology CIC work in partnership with Wiltshire Council to deliver the council subsidised loan scheme. Our knowledgeable team of advisers will guide you through the process of applying.

To book a no-obligation assessment, or for more information, visit www.lendology.org.uk or call 01823 461099.

Heatherton Park Studios, Bradford on Tone, Taunton, TA4 1EU

*subject to eligibility

Bus Timetable

Weekday	33	33	33	x33	33	x33	33	x33	33	33	33
Chippenham Rail Stn	06:55	-	-	10:15	11:05	12:15	13:05	14:15	16:00	16:35	17:30
Chippenham Bus Stn - Bay 8	07:00	08:35	09:35	10:21	11:11	12:21	13:11	14:21	16:08	16:45	17:37
Chippenham, Cemetery	-	08:38	09:38	10:24	11:14	12:24	13:14	14:24	16:11	16:48	17:40
Derry Hill, School	07:09	08:44	09:44	10:30	11:20	12:30	13:20	14:30	16:17	16:54	17:46
Sandy Lane	-	-	-	10:34	-	12:34	-	14:34	-	-	-
Calne, Strand	07:15	08:52	09:52	-	11:26	-	13:26	-	16:26	17:03	17:52
Bromham, Greyhound	07:27	09:06	10:06	10:40	11:40	12:40	13:40	14:40	16:40	17:17	18:02
Rowde, Cross Keys	07:34	09:13	10:13	10:47	11:47	12:47	13:47	14:47	16:47	17:24	18:09
Devizes, Market Place, Bus Island	07:40S	09:18	10:18	10:52	11:52	12:52	13:52	14:52	16:52	17:29	18:14

Weekday	33	33	x33	33	x33	33	x33	33	33	33	33
Devizes, Market Place, Pelican	07:55	09:25	10:25	11:25	12:25	13:25	14:25	15:13S	16:10	17:45	18:15
Rowde, Cross Keys	08:01	09:30	10:30	11:30	12:30	13:30	14:30	15:18R	16:15	17:50	18:20
Bromham, Greyhound	08:10	09:37	10:37	11:37	12:37	13:37	14:37	-	16:22	17:57	18:25A
Chittoe Turn	08:15	09:42	10:42	11:42	12:42	13:42	14:42	-	16:27	18:02	18:29R
Calne Strand	08:27	09:51	-	11:51	-	13:51	-	-	16:36	18:09	18:37R
Sandy Lane	-	-	10:44	-	12:44	-	14:44	-	-	-	-
Derry Hill, School	08:33x	09:57	10:48	11:57	12:48	13:57	14:48	-	16:42	18:14	18:42R
Chippenham, Cemetery	08:39	10:02	10:53	12:02	12:53	14:02	14:53	-	16:47	18:18	18:46R
Chippenham Bus Stn - Bay 3	-	10:07	10:58	12:07	12:58	14:07	14:57	-	16:51	18:21	18:49R
Chippenham Rail Stn	08:50	10:12	11:03	12:12	13:03	14:12	-	-	-	18:25R	18:52R

Key

x = Operates via A4, not Derry Hill village

S = Operates to/from Devizes School at 0743 and 1510 on schooldays

R = Request set down only

A = Operates via A342, does not enter Bromham village

No service on Public Holidays

Saturday	33	33	33	33	33	33	33
Chippenham, Rail Stn	07:20	08:40	09:40	11:25	13:25	15:25	17:10
Chippenham Bus Stn - Bay 8	07:24	08:45	09:45	11:32	13:32	15:32	17:16
London Road, Cemetery	07:27	08:48	09:48	11:35	13:35	15:35	17:19
Derry Hill, School	07:33	08:54	09:54	11:41	13:41	15:41	17:25
Calne, Strand	07:39	09:02	10:02	11:49	13:49	15:49	17:31
Bromham, Greyhound	07:51	09:16	10:16	12:03	14:03	16:03	17:43
Rowde, Cross Keys	07:58	09:23	10:23	12:10	14:10	16:10	17:49
Devizes, Market Place, Bus Island	08:03	09:28	10:28	12:15	14:15	16:15	17:54

Saturday	33	33	33	33	33	33	33
Devizes, Market Place, Pelican	08:10	09:35	10:35	12:35	14:35	16:35	17:55
Rowde, Cross Keys	08:15	09:40	10:40	12:40	14:40	16:40	18:00
Bromham, Greyhound	08:21	09:47	10:47	12:47	14:47	16:47	18:07
Calne, Strand	08:32	09:59	11:01	13:01	15:01	17:01	18:19R
Derry Hill, School	08:38	10:05	11:07	13:07	15:07	17:07	18:24R
London Road, Cemetery	08:43	10:10	11:12	13:12	15:12	17:12	18:29R
Chippenham Bus Stn - Bay 3	08:47	10:15	11:17	13:17	15:17	17:17	18:33R
Chippenham, Rail Stn	08:52R	10:20	11:22	13:22	15:22	17:22	18:38R

Sunday	x33	x33	x33	x33	x33
Chippenham, Rail Stn	09:32	11:32	13:32	15:32	17:32
Chippenham Bus Stn - Bay 8	09:37	11:37	13:37	15:37	17:37
London Road, Cemetery	09:40	11:40	13:40	15:40	17:40
Sandy Lane	09:47	11:47	13:47	15:47	17:47
Bromham, Greyhound	09:53	11:53	13:53	15:53	17:53
Rowde, Cross Keys	10:00	12:00	14:00	16:00	18:00
Devizes, Market Place, Pelican	10:05	12:05	14:05	16:05	18:05
Sunday	x33	x33	x33	x33	x33
Devizes, Market Place, Pelican	08:55	10:55	12:55	14:55	16:55
Rowde, Cross Keys	09:00	11:00	13:00	15:00	17:00
Bromham, Greyhound	09:07	11:07	13:07	15:07	17:07
Sandy Lane	09:14	11:14	13:14	15:14	17:14
London Road, Cemetery	09:21	11:21	13:21	15:21	17:21
Chippenham Bus Stn - Bay 3	09:25	11:25	13:25	15:25	17:25
Chippenham, Rail Stn	09:30	11:30	13:30	15:30	17:30

LAURA MAYES YOUR WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR FOR ROWDE



Please contact me if you have any Council issues including: Planning, Housing, Education, Highways (potholes, road schemes, speeding), Fly tipping and waste, Adult Social Care.

I am here to offer advice and support so please get in touch:

Email: laura.mayes@wiltshire.gov.uk Tel: 07855 819343

Facebook: Laura Mayes – for Bromham, Rowde and Roundway

It was great to see so many people at last night's Parish Council meeting, including some familiar faces and a few new ones. It shows how much people care about their community.

I briefed the Parish Council and the public on the Government's recent proposed changes to local government. Just before Christmas the Devolution White Paper was published proposing far reaching changes for local government across England & Wales. Wiltshire became a Unitary Authority in 2009, so the proposals are less dramatic than in Gloucestershire, for example, where the "two tier" system of Gloucestershire County Council and District Councils is still in place.

What has become clear though, is that the Government is keen to press ahead with Mayoral Combined Authorities (similar to Manchester and West Midlands) throughout the country, including in largely rural areas such as ours. If strategic authorities are to maximise the funding opportunities available, devolution deals will require a mayor, and ministers will be able to impose mayors and geographies on local councils.

The Leaders of Wiltshire, Somerset and Dorset Council are keen to get on the front foot and have therefore proposed the "Heart of Wessex Mayoral Strategic Authority". This would ensure clear, accountable leadership to drive economic growth, improve public services, and invest in vital infrastructure across the region – whilst the individual Councils would continue to be responsible for day-to-day services.

Wiltshire Council is now working closely with the Government to move the plans to the next stage and if the proposal is approved there will be Mayoral elections in May 2026.

Wiltshire Council elections will run as normal and will be on Thursday, 1st May this year. Many people now prefer to vote by post – it's easy, saves you a trip to the polling station on the day and

means you can vote even if you're away. If you would like to vote by post then please go to www.postal-vote.service.gov.uk to fill in the forms.

If you need any help with Wiltshire Council issues then please get in touch – my email address is laura.mayes@wiltshire.gov.uk

**Councillor Laura Mayes,
Wiltshire Councillor for Rowde**

Please contact me about this, or any other issues you have at laura.mayes@wiltshire.gov.uk

HERE TO TAKE THE LEAD

STRUGGLING TO WALK YOUR DOG?

If you're over 65 or terminally ill, our volunteers can help!

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CINNAMON.ORG.UK



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www.poulshotlodgefarm.co.uk

find us on Facebook & Instagram as well



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The G&D Events

The Fabulous G&D Friday Night Happy Hour

Every Friday night 6-8pm All House drinks, beer, small wine & single spirits are £3.50.

Accompanied with a weekly 'Pub Classics Menu' for £12.50

Excluding Friday 14th Feb

Booking essential! 01380 723 053

Valentines at the G&D

Treat the one you love to a delicious seafood sharing platter here at G&D £75pp includes drink on arrival. – Please look at Website for our menu.

Sunday Night Quiz

Every second Sunday is quiz night
(Feb 2nd & 16th, March 2nd & 16th) Keep an eye on Rowde all about it for any changes/updates!

Cheese plates £3.50 at half time

Bar opens at 7pm – Quiz at 8pm

Mothers Day

Sunday 30th March

3 course set menu £35pp

Two sittings 12pm & 3pm. Bookings essential

February & March Opening Hours

Mondays & Tuesdays : closed

Wednesday to Saturday : open as usual

Sunday : lunch only

Dear Rowde Villagers,

If you are new to the village please come and say hello. We would love to welcome you to our pub & restaurant. Pop in for a cheeky beer or glass of wine. Our Friday night early bird special is very popular with locals and great way to introduce yourself to the other villagers.

See you all very soon, Chippy & The G&D Team



Gentle yoga practices to promote physical and mental balance and a feeling of calm vitality.

Call: 07960 330131

cathywelchyoga@gmail.com

www.bookwhen.com/cathysyoga



Cathy's Yoga classes

at Rowdefield Farm
or online from home!

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Wiltshire Mind



Your Local Mental Health Charity

Depressed? Anxious? Stuck? Grieving?
Stressed? Not Managing?

COUNSELLING SERVICE

A safe, confidential and personal place to talk, and help you to move forward

A low cost counselling service in the community for all

Initial Assessment Free of Charge

For further information please contact:

Wiltshire Mind

24a High Street

Melksham

SN12 6LA

Email: counselling@wiltshiremind.co.uk

Phone 01225 706532

Reg Charity Number: 1113751 Reg Company Number: 5498430

Magazine Team Vacancy

The Rowde Village News would like to thank Sue Scruse for all the hard work she has put in over several years to make sure you all receive your regular free copy of the village magazine.

Sue is stepping down from her role so we are now looking for someone in the village to take over her post as Distribution Manager.

If you can spare just a few hours every two months and would like to become a member of our small friendly team please email Sue at scrusefamily@aol.com



Canal Boat Rental

From the Wharf below
Caen Hill Locks

www.foxhangers.co.uk

Choose from our fleet of 14 modern narrowboats, all built new at Foxhangers

Visit our website for complete details of our

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Midweek breaks

Weekly Breaks

More to Foxhangers than boat hire!

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All aspects of boat engineering

Chandlery

Tel: 01380 828795

4 self-catering units and a campsite

available at Lower Foxhangers

Visit www.foxhangers.com for details

WE NEED YOU!

Do you have some news to share or just have something to say about the village?

If you can contribute to the content of your Rowde Village News in any way or would like to give us feedback (good or bad) or discuss any magazine issues then please contact:

Alan Watters on 01380 724788 or by email at watters.alan@gmail.com

or **Suzan Jackett** on 01380 729791 or by email at suzijj@rocketmail.com

DISCLAIMER

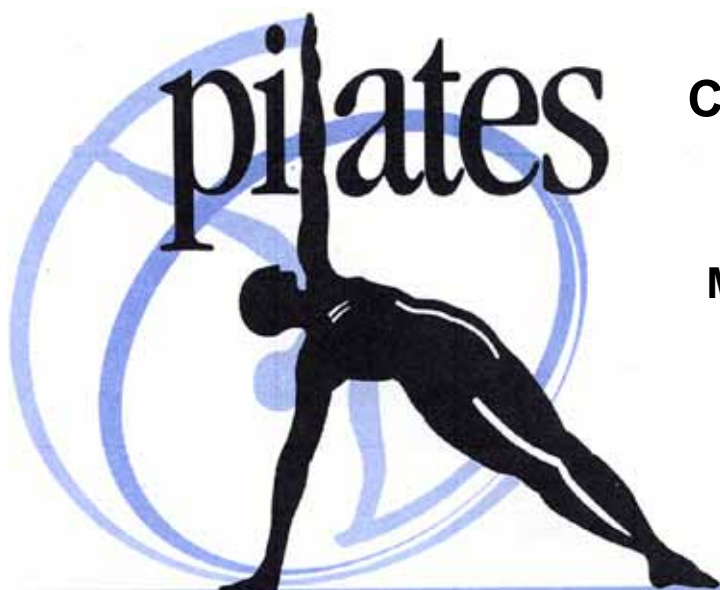
Please note that the information given and views expressed in this magazine are generally as supplied by the contributors. Our personal comments may sometimes be expressed in the editorial on page 3 and if our views are given elsewhere, they will be credited as so. In addition, much of the local news items is sourced directly from other publications and the internet. We therefore apologise for any inaccuracies published but regrettably we have no control over this possibility happening. We will however publish corrections notified to us as soon as possible.

Alan Watters, Editor

Magazine Submission Deadlines (bi-monthly)

15th January, 15th March, 15th May, 15th July, 15th September, 15th November

Move.Every.Day.



Currently running classes:

Improvers & Intermediates

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YOUR PCC PHILIP WILKINSON

I have recently launched a refreshed strategic policing approach for the county as my new Police and Crime Plan for 2025-2029 has been published following an extensive public consultation period.

This plan is a blueprint for Making Wiltshire Safer and continues to build upon the successes of my first police and crime plan, which will run up until April 2025. It is now readily available to the public to demonstrate how Wiltshire Police will continue to deliver policing across the county.

It will set out how Wiltshire Police and the OPCC's commissioned services for victims will continue to contribute to Making Wiltshire Safer, such as investment, where necessary, to improve 999 and 101 response times, increased visibility in all communities, especially rural ones, and a comprehensive package to tackle serious violence and reducing knife crime, alongside enhancing satisfaction among victims of crime.

It also includes measures to engage young people and underrepresented groups, with initiatives like more effective community policing after new operating models were introduced and the continuation of youth mentoring programmes.

The force has been making serious strides in progression since it was placed into Engage early in my tenure and the hard work paid off when it was finally lifted from this earlier this year.

While there is always more work to be done to improve how effective and efficient Wiltshire Police



can be, communities are telling me they are seeing improvements in frontline policing, in better visibility in communities and in better outcomes for victims, and revamped leadership and learning and development for all officers, staff and volunteers.

But the Plan cannot succeed without the involvement of everyone—police, community groups, and residents alike. Together, we can build stronger, safer neighbourhoods where people feel confident, safe and protected.

Wiltshire Police is dedicated to the principles of this plan, and the Chief Constable has committed to working with me, my office and our communities to address the concerns that matter most to them.

You can find out more, as well as view and download a copy of the new Police and Crime Plan on my website.

<https://www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk/>

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Email: laura.vesajoki@gmail.com

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Renelec House

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Devizes

SN10 1DS

sycamorecentre.devizes@yahoo.co.uk

www.careconfidential.com/devizes

The
SYCAMORE
Centre

07762 382913

A Pregnancy Choices Centre

VILLAGE DIARY

Parish Council Meetings 2024/2025

(All Wednesdays at 7.30pm in Village Hall unless otherwise notified)

12th February, 12th March, 2nd April, 14th May,
11th June, 9th July, 10th September, 8th October,
12th November and 10th December.

Other Events

1st February - Souper Saturday - page 19
5th February - George Villiers Lecture - page 32
14th February - Valentines at the G&D - page 36
1st March - Souper Saturday - page 19
29th March - Vintage Tea and Cakes - page 43
30th March - Mothers Day at the G&D - page 36
5th April - Souper Saturday - page 19
4th May - Rowdefest - inside front cover
Friday afternoons - Craft, Coffee and Chat - page 22
Tuesday mornings - Church Cafe - page 19

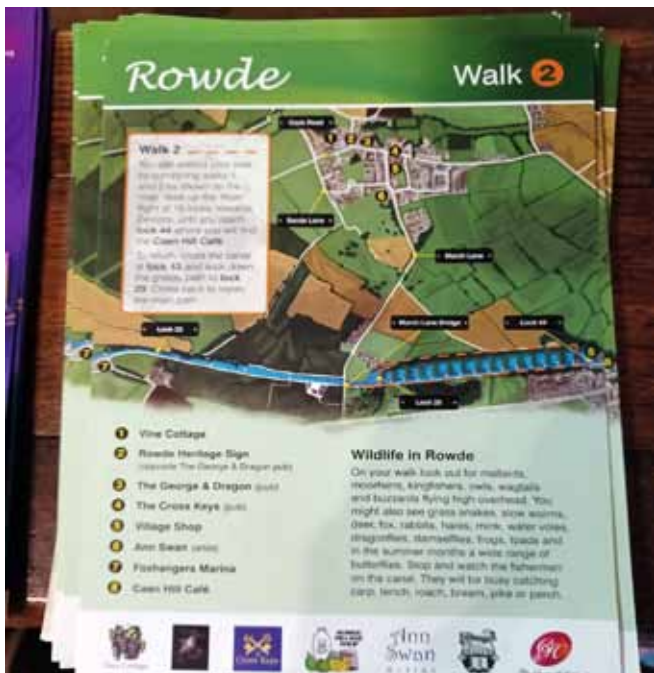
LETTERS

WALKS AROUND ROWDE

I have sent you a photo of a walk around Rowde, which is not up to date, as I thought that it might be interesting to add some walks to the magazine. I looked at Wiltshire council's map of the public rights of way around Rowde, but I think it would be hard to reproduce in the magazine as it would require a colour image to view the paths. Could we try calling out for walkers in the village to road test routes and provide feedback and photos on the sights and length of the trips?

Sue Robson

Editor's Note: see inside back cover for colour map of rights of way.



T O'ROURKE

All plastering work undertaken

No job too small

FREE ESTIMATES



Contact Troy on:

01380 698993

or 07968 634689

St Matthew's Church, Rowde Musicians wanted!

We have a lovely piano, organ and electric keyboard at St Matthew's, and as a result of advertising in this magazine, we are now lucky enough to have a pianist who plays for one service a month and an organist who plays for the other.

Now we are just looking for someone to play occasionally (perhaps once every few months) to cover holidays or when we have extra services. This would mean acting as accompanist for church services (usually on Sunday mornings) and possibly choir practices (currently on Friday evenings) at St Matthew's Church.

If you'd like to learn more, please contact:
Nicola Brown (choir leader) on 01380 722406
or at nicola_brown@talk21.com

Rough Sleepers New Years Night

a poem by Rowde's Alan Pengelly

Wood smoke lingers on the evening breeze,
A pale moon rising, could be it'll freeze
So wrap your covers tight, to ease the
cold that bites
On these cold & lonely streets tonight

Dusk becomes darkness, brings the
winter chill
Maybe I'll see tomorrow, if it be thy will
Rough sleeper seek refuge from winter's
appetite
Until day breaks on morning's cold light

First light comes with mackerel clouds
Scattered in a clear cobalt sky
With vapour trails that slowly fade and die
How I wish that I could fly -away
I wish that I could fly

You rise, stretch, cough and yawn
Roll up your gear that's tired and worn
Move on to a place where passers by
Might give a little something to get you by

Gonna load all my troubles on a
southbound train
Hope they will never pass my way again
As the New Year dawns, and last year
slips away
Maybe life will get better, who can say



Vintage Cream Tea and Homemade Cakes

2.30pm - 4.30pm

ON SATURDAY
29th March

Rowde Vllage Hall

£8.00

(£3 children 5-12)

2.30 -4.40pm

To book email

rowde.events@yahoo.com

Sudoku (medium this month)

6							4	
				2				
	7	9	4		6	8		
	9	7		1				
3	1						9	8
				4		3	5	
		8	7		5	4	6	
				6				
	4							7

Last Month's Solution

8	3	2	9	5	4	7	1	6
6	4	9	2	1	7	5	8	3
5	7	1	6	8	3	9	4	2
1	5	8	3	9	2	4	6	7
2	6	7	1	4	5	8	3	9
4	9	3	8	7	6	2	5	1
7	8	6	5	2	1	3	9	4
3	2	5	4	6	9	1	7	8
9	1	4	7	3	8	6	2	5

Mini Sudoku (easy this month)

Insert the numbers 1 to 6 in the blank boxes so that each of the six separate areas of the puzzle and each line vertically and horizontally contains each number only once.

			3		4
		6			5
				4	1
	1	5			
1	2				
5			2	1	

Last Month's Mini Sudoku Solution

6	5	2	3	1	4
4	3	1	2	6	5
3	2	6	4	5	1
1	4	5	6	2	3
2	1	4	5	3	6
5	6	3	1	4	2

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<i>And please remember to mention where you saw the advert when you contact any of our advertisers! Ed</i>	

Quick Reference Contacts and Village Guide

Listed below in alphabetical order are the various village organisations with contact names and telephone numbers

Allotments

Please contact Rowde Parish Council

Bell Ringing

Contact Michael Cornwell
on 07388 224129
michael.cornwell@btinternet.com

Charities

Silverwood School Charity Trust
silverwoodcharity@silverwood.
wilts.sch.uk
[https://www.silverwood.wilts.sch.uk/
charity-trust](https://www.silverwood.wilts.sch.uk/charity-trust)
[www.facebook.com/groups/
silverwoodchar](http://www.facebook.com/groups/silverwoodchar)

Church Coordinator

Benefice Administrator:
Sarah Leckie
sarahbromhamandrowde@gmail.com

Church Choir

Contact Nicola Brown:
nicola_brown@talk21.com
01380 722406

Church Wardens - vacant

Doctor

For list of doctors contact the
Health Commission, Pans Lane,
Devizes, Tel: 0300 111 5717

Football

John Dalley, Tel: 727094

Footpaths

Please contact Rowde Parish
Council

Garage

Slades of Devizes Tel: 727755

Hospitals

Devizes Community Hospital
Tel: 723511
Chippenham Community Hospital
Tel: 01249 447100
Trowbridge Community Hospital
Tel: 01225 711300

Ladies Club

Held in Village Hall and meet at
various dates in the month at 2.30pm.
Mrs Di Buckland, Tel: 723049

Local Councils

Wiltshire Council
Tel: 0300 4560100
Devizes Town Council 722160

Neighbourhood Police Team

Jo Newbury Rural Beat Manager
PCSO Georgina Dodd
Ring 101
Google devizes npt to contact the
team on
www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk>devizes

Parish Council

Chair - **Lisa Wills**
Tel: **01380 730078**
Clerk - Mrs Rebekah Jeffries
Tel: 07752 724096

Playing Fields

For playing field bookings
please contact the Parish
Council Clerk on 01380 501919
rowdeparishcouncil@gmail.com

Police

Devizes Police Tel: 101

Pubs/Restaurants

George & Dragon, Tel: 723053
Rowdey Cow Cafe, Tel: 829666

Rowde Book Club

Ann Swan, Tel: 01380 724788

Rifle Club

Practice Wednesdays, Matches
Thursdays in Village Hall.
Laurence Plumb, Tel: 728174

Roads/Pavements

'My Wiltshire App or 03004560100

Rowde Court Studios

Ann Swan, Tel: 01380 724788
Alan Watters, Tel: 07886870053

Rowde Village News

Alan Watters, Tel: 01380 724788 or
07886870053 watters.alan@gmail.com

Rowde Village Hall

Enquiries - Tel: 07926952631
Bookings - 722497 (after 6 pm)

Rowde C of E Primary Academy

High Street, Rowde SN10 2ND
Head teacher 723991

Silverwood School

Head Teacher
Tel: 850309

Agincare at Furlong Close

Tel: 721309

Church Flowers

Caroline Keevil
ck@carolinekeevil.co.uk
Tel: 725483
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TAXI

J Dalley 07592 063789

Toddler Group

Village Hall Thursdays 9.30-11.30

Veterinary Surgeries

Estcourt - Tel: 723687
McQueens - Tel: 728505
The Paddock - Tel: 813202

Website

www.rowdevillage.org
rowdeparishcouncil@gmail.com

Youth Club

Josh Wills
rpc.joshwills@gmail.com

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Devizes SN10 1DT

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RIGHTS OF WAY

(SEE LETTER ON PAGE 42)

