



Scene in Baydon

..a bi-monthly digest of what's going on in Baydon: **December 2019**



Visit www.baydon.org for up-to-date village news, events, and features

Hello All,

Welcome to the December issue of the Scene in Baydon. This issue marks the first anniversary of me taking over as editor. The year has flown by. I hope that I have managed to maintain the standards set by my predecessors. If anyone else would like to take this role on going forward then I would be happy to pass this over.

I would welcome any suggestions or comments on what you like or dislike here. Anything that I should or should not include. The magazine is only as good or as interesting as the articles that you submit, so keep them coming! A big thank you to everyone who contributed to this edition. Thanks, as always, to Debbie for taking care of the advertising and finances and everyone who helps by delivering around the village.

In this issue I hope that I haven't over done the remembrance theme this month. However, with the fruit trees and the work that the School produced it was necessary to cover this.

Looking forward, there are a number of events happening this month in the run up to Christmas. Just to pick a couple of these, we have the General Election on the 12th. We are due a flying visit by Danny Kruger, our next MP, on December 7th. Then we have 'Carols on the Green'. This year it is on Friday 20th December at 6:30pm. It is worth turning up if only for the mince pies and mulled wine. Maybe more people would turn out to vote if the polling stations offered wine and cookies?

So all that remains is for me to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, Peaceful and Prosperous 2020.

Alan.



Scene in Baydon - published by Alan & Debbie Moxon

For advertising rates and any other query please email
baydonscene@gmail.com

Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily the views of the Editor



Sadly we said goodbye to 'JJ' at a service on Wednesday 6th November at Baydon St Nicholas Church which was well attended by (83 adults + 1 baby) family and friends. A total of £260.48 was raised for the Church building fund.

John Frederick Johnson

23rd April 1936 - 18th October 2019



For anyone who may be interested, we are expecting a flying visit on December 7th by Danny Kruger the conservative candidate (Claire Perry has stood down) for this constituency and therefore our next MP. He is due to be in the village at about 3:00pm.



Carols on the Green

Friday 20th December
6:30pm



From the Minister...



This term's "Christian Value" in our schools is "Friendship", and it certainly seems an appropriate one in the run-up to Christmas, as we meet with friends and family, or dig out the Christmas card lists and remember far-away friends whom we may not have seen for years, but who still retain a place in our hearts and our affections. In some quarters there's a degree of cynicism about "Christmas Round Robin" letters, (which do, admittedly, sometimes turn into extended bragfests), but I rather like catching up, even if only once a year, on the doings of people who may once have played a major role in my life but now inhabit different spaces. And this is true, even in an age of constant updating and online "friends" who may just represent a fairly random tick in a box, rather than someone you might actually know (or even WANT to know!).

But true friends do matter – they go the extra mile for each other, they understand each other at a level far below the merely superficial – in fact, one of the criteria, I think, is that they are prepared to make themselves vulnerable for the sake of those they care about. I'm writing this in the run-up to Remembrance Day, when we're reminded of Jesus' saying: "There is no greater love than this—that a man should lay down his life for his friends."

There's a lovely old hymn that talks about Jesus' love for us, and that contains the lines: "And oh my friend, my friend indeed, who at my need his life did spend." And the beginning of that "spending" was to come as an utterly vulnerable baby at the first Christmas time, and then "spend" the rest of his life caring for people who needed him, even if they wouldn't admit it, to the point where his death was the final cost .

We hear a lot about "spending" over the Christmas period – I'd suggest that the kind I've been talking about is something we can't really have too much of – the generous spending of our love and care for those who need it, which may not involve pounds or pence at all...

With love and best wishes for a well-spent Christmas!

Sue Rodd

Whitton Team Vicar



St Nicholas' Church - Baydon



December/January Services

December

1 st December	10:00am	Team Holy Communion at Holy Cross, Ramsbury
8 th December	9.30am	Christingle & St Nicholas Patronal service
15 th December	4:00pm	Carol Service
22 nd December	10:00am	Team Holy Communion at St. Michael's, Aldbourne

Christmas Eve

24 th December	3:00pm 9:00pm	Crib service in St. Michael's, Aldbourne Christmas Eve Holy Communion
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Christmas Day

25 th December	9.30am	Christmas Day Family Communion
29 th December	10:00am	Team service in Ramsbury

January 2020

5th January	10:00am	Team Holy Communion in Aldbourne
12th January	9.30am	Matins
19th January	9.30am	Informal Worship for Education Sunday
26th January	9.30am	Holy Communion

All in St. Nicholas church unless otherwise stated.

Aldbourne & Baydon Aid in Sickness Fund

The fund benefits the sick or those in financial difficulty because of sickness. Small grants are offered to residents of the two parishes plus loans of medical equipment (to parishioners and visitors)

All bona fide enquiries welcome and those from friends and neighbours

Contact

Debbie Moxon (Baydon) on 540266
or Sandra Barnes 540161
or Anthony Evans 540206

St Nicholas Church Building update:

Building updates and Update on Chancel wall and North aisle – The temporary roof on the North aisle will be replaced by Christmas. There is an interim faculty from the DAC for the soil investigations of the chancel wall that will take place in the very near future. The cost of this work looks to be in the region of £1,000. There will be a Public meeting for the local community once a figure is secured for the cost of the works to secure the chancel wall and surrounding area. The building fund raising team have successfully completed 2 further events and have now have fully booked for another event in December. Many, many thanks to people across the Whitton Team for supporting our Fund raising efforts. Keep your eyes open as several new events are planned throughout 2020. Our structural engineer is looking to change scaffolding arrangements. Chilton Foliat's experience is being sought on the cost of scaffolding

As always, We are very grateful to all the generous people who have already donated to the Building Fund. A small group of people have already made plans of fund raising events for the next year and we hope that these will not only provide further funds for our parish church but will also offer a variety of activities that the village community will enjoy.

If you would like to make a donation our bank details are:

For building fund: 09-01-54 87637089

For non-building fund (running costs): 09-01-54 80637083

If possible please could you gift aid any donation by requesting a Gift aid form from: pamela.stnicholaslcc@gmail.com

The GoFundMe account is:

<https://www.gofundme.com/save-baydon-st-nicholas-church-urgent>

For more information please contact

*The United Churches Together
in the Whitton Team area
invite you
most warmly
to join us for*



*In the Aldbourne Methodist Hall, Lottage Rd
on the first Monday of every month,
from 10.30 am – 12 noon.*

NEXT SESSIONS DEC 2ND, JAN 6TH, FEB 3RD.

- **“Café-style” refreshments**
(a good cuppa, “proper” coffee, gorgeous cakes),
- in a **relaxed, friendly environment** that's
- **welcoming to all, regardless of age or gender**, with
- a brief **“thought for the day”** and
- a variety of **other activities** to choose from each month –
for example, music/singing, hobbies/crafts, memory boxes, puzzles...
- but also **plenty of time just to chat!**

There will be **no charge**, but donations will be accepted.

Transport can be provided – just call in advance to arrange.

Further information from: The Revd Karen Rizzello (07882055878).

Reflective Spaces



A Reflective Space for Epiphany

**Wednesday 22nd January,
7.00pm,
St Michael's, Aldbourne.**



A respite from a busy life
with contemporary words, quiet songs
and moments of stillness.

A short act of reflective worship based
on materials from the Iona Community,
on the 4th Wednesday of each month.

An opportunity to reflect on aspects
of Christian teaching and living
and to look at our own reflections
in the mirror of belief and intention.

*Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror;
then we shall see face to face. (1 Corinthians 13:12)*

Please come and bring a friend.

For further information please contact
Revd Karen Rizzello [07882-055878] or
Tim Marriott [01672-541734].

100 Club – St Nicholas Church, Baydon

Our 100 Club still has availability if you would like to join. It is open to anyone in or outside the village.

It is a great way to support the running costs of the church as well as having the chance to win yourself some money. The cost is £5 per month per subscription (maximum 2 per household) and 35% of the money received will be paid out in 3 prizes: 20% 1st prize, 10% 2nd Prize and 5% 3rd prize.

You can download a form from the church page of the www.baydon.org website or Contact Pamela Withers pamela.stnicholaslcc@gmail.com.

Alternatively contact a Church warden: Tina Evans 01672 540250 Donni Blackwell 01488 73025



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Dedication Ceremony of the Nine Fruit Trees Planted to Commemorate the Nine Baydon Men who lost their lives in the Great War 1914-1918.



On Sunday 10 November and immediately after the Remembrance Service held in St Nicholas' Church, Baydon, Jackie Hollander (who had taken the Service in the Church), walked down to the Playground to conduct the Dedication Ceremony of the nine fruit trees planted to commemorate the nine Baydon men who lost their lives in the Great War.

Fruit trees were chosen as they reflect the WWI period when many people felt it necessary to grow their own produce. The trees have been planted in a south facing position overlooking the playground close to where the young people of the village come with their parents and grandparents.

The nine trees are made up of five apple and four plum Minarette trees. Minarette trees are tall, slender and columnar and have been planted in a semi-circle, each one representing one of the nine Baydon men who did not return from WWI.

As part of the Dedication Ceremony Helen Knox laid a wreath against the plaque which lists the nine names of the fallen men as two of the nine, Pte Frank Gigg and Pte Harold Austin Gosling, were her Great Uncles.

Baydon Allotment Association has worked very closely with Baydon Parish Council on the choice of the fruit trees, overseeing their planting and has also kindly agreed to be responsible for their ongoing maintenance.

Colin Phillips and Jim Cunningham kindly erected the plaque in readiness for the Dedication Ceremony, which was well attended.



Heads Up!

The Autumn term has been full of learning opportunities both in and out of the classroom.



Our year 4/5 children enjoyed three days at Braeside in Devizes where they undertook a number of outdoor activities. Highlights included canoeing, an all day walk taking in 'Oliver's castle' where the children re-enacted a Civil War battle, the very steep 'nightline', a campfire and the high ropes including the 'Leap of Faith'. A wonderful opportunity for all the children to develop and grow.

Thanks to everyone who attended the Harvest Service in Church where we celebrated all that the harvest has to offer and reflected on how fortunate we all are.

The whole school split into their houses on 22nd October to enjoy a day of Global learning. The children 'visited' India where they learnt about Divali and then enjoyed making flat breads, chutney and raita. They were also inspired by the patterns of India, including rangoli patterns, to use block printing to produce a house banner.



From India, the children made their way to Ghana in Africa where they learnt about Kente cloth and made their own designs. Finally, they went to the United States of America where they made Stetsons and learnt some line dancing. Throughout the day, the children worked together, the older children often helping the younger and our year 6s being fabulous role models for all.

On Monday 11th November, the older children visited the Roman Baths in Bath and much enjoyed the trip. 'We learnt what they wore, how mosaics were made as well as what they ate. We also learnt about the actual baths and what they were used for. It was a great day!' To build on their learning, the children have used the concept of mosaics in their art using different software.

From the School



We asked the children what they enjoyed about Forest School and how they felt when they were there:

"I've learnt loads from lighting a fire to being patient; I have learnt how to carve wood, make hot chocolate, make a den and how to make bread; I will always remember to be helpful when someone needs it; I've learnt about teamwork."

"It makes me feel really happy in a place with nature surrounding it; I feel like I am free; I feel safe and relaxed; I feel free but at the same time safe; I feel safe at Forest School even though it pushes my boundaries; I feel adventurous; I always feel relaxed – it's like my time out place."



Burdette House ran a fundraising day for BBC Children in Need and raised over £230 dressing in spots or stripes and guessing the number of sweets in the jar! Well done to Billy, Burdette's House Captain.

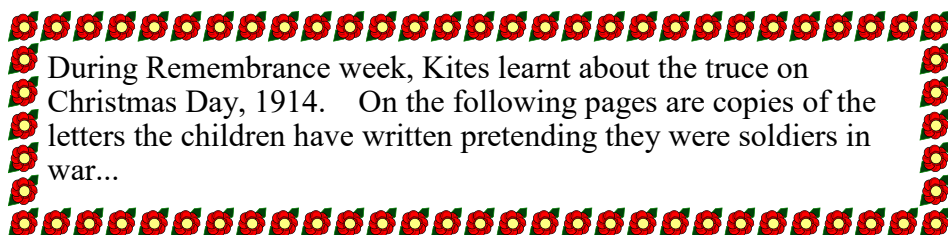
Our year 6s have passed their level 1 and 2 Bikeability training whereby they learn to ride safely both in school and then on the road. Congratulations to all the children involved.

Our new Friends of Baydon School Committee, FOBS, have run a number of very successful events including 'Popcorn nights' for both key stages and a Halloween disco. Our thanks to them for all that they do to help raise funds for school.

Our Stay 'n Play sessions continue to work well in school run by Baydon Toddlers. If anyone would like to find out more, please do give us a call.

We are always looking for volunteers to come and read with the children so, if you have an hour or so to spare once a week, we would love to hear from you. Please do drop in or give Shireen in the Office a call.

Caroline Knighton
Headteacher



During Remembrance week, Kites learnt about the truce on Christmas Day, 1914. On the following pages are copies of the letters the children have written pretending they were soldiers in war...

Dearest Rose,

Dec 24th 1918

Lots of queer and extraordinary things happened in the last few days! Me and my pals heard singing on Christmas night, everyone made friends with the Germans, we played football, exchanged stories, showed each other our loved ones. I can't believe it happened!

It all got-under-way when you, my love, sent that parcel to me, it made my heart bounce with joy. To my amazement, I heard singing in the distance; I was thunderstruck, it was the Germans singing! I felt like the Christmas spirit had filled the air! Me and my pals started to recognise the song and joined in.

I felt it had to be done, I knew it had to be done. With startled fingers I clenched the frozen ladder with fright. Would I be killed? Would I be shot? The thought haunted me. Peering over the parapet, the sight I saw nearly made me fall off the ladder!

Demolished, ruined grounds lay before my eyes. Trees turned into wooden prongs as the tips glinted in the sun-light. Once fields of breathy grass now a frozen waste-land. Bodies of my fallen

pals laying there unattended (not including the moscitors sucking it's blood). My heart sank, I had never realized what man-kind had brought to the world!

That's when it happened, his name was Otto, a peaceful German. I told him about you, my love. He said he was forced to go to war to. A game of football broke-out between everyone with people chatting away like machine guns. At the end of the game, I slipped the velvet chocolate in Otto's coat pocket. I ~~do~~ hope he enjoys it.

Swiftly, the guns started back up, bombs were thrown again and the sound of screaming filled the air. Hurridly, everyone said there final good byes and ran back to the trenches. Back in the grubby, soiled trenches, every face I saw was grim and downcast as I walked past them. I felt something in my coat pocket, it was a cracker in an iron case. I think it was from Otto. I will never forget that day.

Love

Jim

26th December 1914

Dearest Edith,

On Christmas eve, Christmas spirit blessed us all my love! In no man's land, I surrendered to the Germans and we sang and shared stories and exchanged gifts and those lads from Germany played football with us and we made a truce and, oh, how I wish you were here! I still think you're divine; I think I'm dreaming!

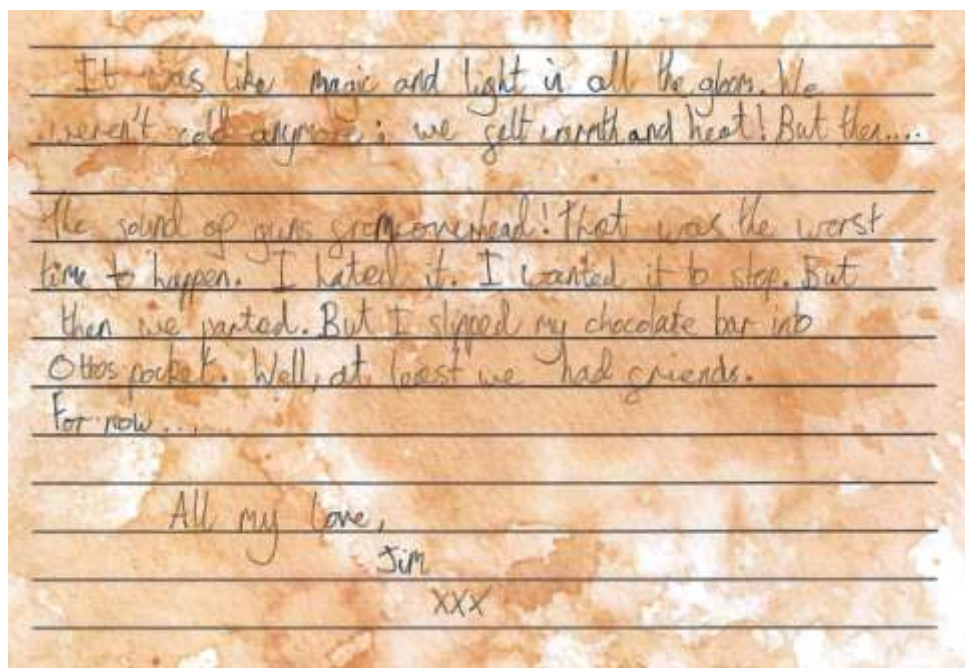
It all started when Parsons came with post. My name was called and my heart leaped for joy! I opened your letter and I thought of my non-stop love for you. You are the icing on my cake and the apple of my eye. I read your letter and my heart melted like a pound of butter. So there I was, just minding my own business, chortling with my pals... until I heard an exquisite, distant sound and - you would think this too, if you were in the war - it was the loveliest noise ever! Myself and my pals immediately knew it was German and we sang along: our voices the happiest they'd ever been since we'd been sent into the war.

I climbed my gits. I knew what had to be done, but could I? Did I have the courage? I did. I had to. I didn't care about anything; this was all that mattered. Grabbing the ladder

reluctantly, I pulled myself up. Everyone shouted my name but it all bounced back onto deaf ears. I stuck my head up above the parapet, quivering. I looked. I stared. I blinked. I was mortified...

Repugnance, war-torn land was everywhere as far as I could see. Echoes of war and destruction were swirling through the air. It was so harrowing that lads who were once my mates were now lying in this horrific dump of nothing. I smelt the horrid stench of loss and gunpowder. The food in the tins, the trees had disappeared. The mud was carpeted in blood and I felt faint.

But I didn't have time to think all this because as I stepped onto a tree stump I heard a bang! Surely this was the end of me? Surely I would never see your angle again? But when I raised my hands cautiously, someone shouted HALT! Scratching my head, I opened one eye and I wasn't dreaming. Oh, it felt glorious to be alive! The German Captain was raising his hands too! Suddenly, we were shaking hands like old pals. His name was Otto and in the picture of you, I think he said you were pretty! We were getting along like a house on fire, telling each other stories and we even played football!



Goldfinches have been learning about Ernest Shackleton's amazing adventure in the Endurance.

Below are three extracts from children pretending to be a member of the crew and writing a diary ...

'Last night, I was sleeping in my sleeping bag and suddenly I felt something moving. The boat was sinking! We had to get out quickly and get onto the ice floe. We didn't have anything to wash our spoons with so we had to lick them clean. We are sad that she has sunk. We have drifted 120 miles from the shipwreck now. We exercise the dogs in the morning. Seven times around the ice flow about nine miles in all. We had to eat the dogs and some penguins otherwise we would starve. The ship has collapsed. The crew camp on the ice floe. The dogs pull sledges. The cooks served breakfast at 8 o'clock.'

Seely – aged 7

'I've lived on this ship for ages. Our ship has sunk, it's tipped as well. The men tumbled out of the ship. Yesterday, we had penguin soup. Our tents have water in as well as our sleeping bags. It's really, really, really cold.'

Eddie – aged 6

'She's gone, oh no, what will we do? We've been living in the boat for years now what shall we do? Will we die or stay alive? I don't know. We can't crack the ice, it is too strong. We'll sort something out but we're too scared because the boat has gone. I wish we could have some clean clothes.'

Jessie – aged 6

My harvest by Barney
this year I wanted to grow
my own vegetables. My
granpy made me a growing
bed out of wooden
sleepers. I filled it with soil
and compost ready for
planting.

I planted lettuce, marrow,
sallash, beans, sprouts,
caviflower, potatoes and
cabbages.

for our family too! We
cook veg. and it
tastes amazing!

And finally from the School, some comments on the Harvest Festival

My harvest by Draigie

I was surprised to get
chickens for my birthday.

When they got big they
started climbing trees. One day I
found lots of eggs in the trees!

Every day after school I go and
collect them and feed them.

My favourite eggs are the
double yokers!

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Baydon Book Group

Have you heard about the Baydon Book Group yet? We are a newly-formed group who meet once a month to natter about a chosen book. If you love books and hearty discussions you are most welcome to come and join us. If you would like to join us, our next date and chosen book is published on the Baydon website, the Red Lion website and the Baydon Facebook page. New faces are welcome at any time.

Next meeting:

18th December 2019

Aldbourne Library

01672 540632

Opening hours

- Monday from 1:30pm till 4:30pm & from 5:00pm till 7:00pm
- Tuesday from 10:00am till 12:00noon*
- Thursday from 1:30pm till 4:30pm & from 5:00pm till 7:00pm

* *Volunteer operated session*



Mobile Library

The Mobile Library will be outside the school between 10:50 & 11:40 on the following date:

- Thursday 05 December, 2019

January date to be confirmed



Mobile Library times can be found at
<http://services.wiltshire.gov.uk/MobileLibrary/Library/Stop/78>

BAYDON BROWNIES

Baydon Brownies have had a busy time since September.

Jill and Fiona have attended training sessions and the girls have been working hard to gain their First Aid Badge, baked biscuits and made Sock Puppets and Pop-up Cards.



At the beginning of November we all went on a 2 night residential weekend at Oxenwood. We had a fab time meeting other Brownies, Guides and Rainbows. There was lots of craft, fun and games, (but precious little sleep) had by all!

We are now looking forward to our Christmas Meal at the International Buffet in Swindon!

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas! Any comments or questions to Jill and Fiona at baydonbrownies@yahoo.com



Fantastic New Village Sign

After far too long without our village sign being up on the village green, due to it being give a facelift, it is now back firmly where it belongs.

Kareen Jackson has done the most amazing job in repainting the sign - it really does look amazing. So, a huge thank you to her from us all.



We also need to thank Colin Phillips and Ken Smith for taking the old sign down and to Colin for liaising with Robbie Gribble over the measurements of a new iron mounting to hold the sign firmly in place.

Robbie did a great job with the new iron work and for this we need to say thank you. Plus we need to thank Robbie again and Jenny Gribble for putting the sign back up with some additional help from Colin.

A job extremely well done by everyone who played their part!



To the Baydon Fireworks Group for organising another great display and fun evening for the village.

Thanks for the time and effort that goes into making this such a great annual event.



mark jerome

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Baydon Notice Board

If you are a Facebook user, do you know there is a public group called the Baydon Notice Board?

A great place to see what's on, available services in the area, items for sale etc.

Also a great place to broadcast items of current interest to Baydon villagers.



Police Community Support Officer

The community beat manager for Marlborough rural, which covers areas such as Ramsbury, Aldbourne, Baydon and Chilton Foliat is

Melissa Camilleri

e-mail: CPTEastWiltshire@Wiltshire.pnn.police.uk
Post: Devizes Police Station,
New Park Street,



WILTSHIRE POLICE

101

101 is the number to call when you want to contact the police - when it's less urgent than 999.

In a **NON EMERGENCY** dial 101 if:

- you want to report a crime/issue that does not require an immediate emergency response
- you or someone else are **not** in immediate danger
- you would like to speak to your local police officer
- you want to provide information about a crime

If you are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired you can textphone 18001 101 in a **NON EMERGENCY**

999

999 is the number to call when you want to contact the police in an **EMERGENCY**.

Dial 999 if:

- you need an immediate response because a crime is in progress or you think it is
- you or someone else is injured or there is a threat to life
- a serious road traffic collision has taken place
- violence is being used or threatened

This is a guide not a definitive list

If you are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired you can text 80999 in an **EMERGENCY**

www.wiltshire.police.uk

Baydon's Cycling Club

**Fancy taking up cycling, or just love riding your bike?
We'd love to meet you.**



We're a friendly bunch of local cyclists. (we also like beer)
Our club ride departs from Baydon Village Green at 6:30pm every Thursday.

We cycle the local area of outstanding natural beauty. The scenery is stunning and you'll soon be riding with some good friends. We normally organise two groups:

The Peloton:

Our fitter faster members. They'll ride 30—35 miles and they can be quick.

The Grupetto

Our less demanding group who ride as far and fast as they want to.

Both groups

Keep together so no-one is dropped, provide mechanical support and, unless it's icy, will go whatever the weather. You'll need lights for the last part of the ride.

After the ride we meet for the all important recovery drinks in a local pub.

We organise ad hoc rides and events at other times and provide lots of free cycling help and advice. Gents and ladies over 18 are welcome.

We think it's about enjoying the bike, the ride, the countryside and the company.

So if you fancy it, get in touch or just turn up on Thursday!

Rob: 07903 830 259
baydonflyers@gmail.com
Baydon Flyers



Please tell anyone you think may be interested!

Since the last Scene *Muttley* has...

broken in a new dog sitter. We did warn the family, but you have to experience him first before you realise what you need lock down and how tall he is. Reported food crimes were:

- Stole a box of cereal off the kitchen units
- Raided the kitchen bin (now kept on top of the units when Muttley is there)
- Hot dogs (don't answer the door during dinner whilst Muttley is in residence)



Fortunately they still love him and he is welcome back any time!

So why Baydon Flyers?

Things you always wanted to know about your local cycling club! (Part one)



Back in 2014 the founding members of the Flyers were at a social event. The beer flowed, we decided to post some adverts around the village to see how many cyclists Baydon actually had. The date was set. We turned up for the first ride!

We were amazed to find half a dozen others all eagerly awaiting the promised fabulous ride. It was a very disparate group. Road and mountain bikes in all sorts of states. Some were clearly owned by people with a fetish for perfectly maintained and cleaned bikes and others had just been dragged out the shed. We set off!

The route was simple and by our current standards quite short but the amount of fun was huge. Exploring the local lanes by bike was a amazing experience to some who had only ever driven them or were even unaware they existed. We had breakdowns.

However everyone helped and as social experience it was pretty good. This was October so not the best time to start cycling but we carried on as the colours of Autumn changed to Winter chill.

We got fitter!

In the Spring we emerged butterfly like into a really good club organising regular runs and trips. We even organised our first AGM! We decided not to be the Baydon Bike Club because the initials were already taken. So we had another beer and thought some more. We became the Baydon Flyers and needed a logo and some kit. We started designing!

We thought about the Bustard on the village sign but that's really Wiltshire and we cycle in Wiltshire, Berkshire and Oxfordshire and White Horse Hill is a favourite challenge. Having decided that bit we then got into the rest of the design. It's complex. The white and green are for the chalk and grasslands, the gold bands on the shirts indicate the colours of Autumn when we started. The number of chevron points is the number of counties we regularly cycle in. After all this we could qualify in heraldry! We needed a bike ride!

So that's the first instalment. Next we have tales of intercontinental bike rides and organising the Flyers Christmas lunch. You can decide which was harder!

BAYDON TABLE TENNIS CLUB



Friday evenings

7.00 to 9.00 pm

BYPA Hall

New members are welcome

Any skill level

Contact Bernie Gribble 01672 540461

or just turn up on Friday.

The Season of Good Will

France, the Western Front, Christmas Day, 1914: two foes brave No Man's Land, treading carefully towards each other on frozen, barren ground, peppered with craters from shelling and averting their eyes from the gore that comes with war. Cautiously they studied each other before one extended his hand to the other, and men who were enemies 24-hours before, now shook hands in friendship and quietly wished each other: "A Merry Christmas!"

The scene described is a true occurrence that personifies the season. The phrase 'good will to all men' was played out among the mud and carnage of World War I during Christmas Eve and the day itself when arms were put aside to keep the day holy. They exchanged cigarettes, food (there is one tale of Germans swapping a barrel of beer for plum puddings), shared photos of loved ones from home, talked of better days, and yes, even played a game of football - *The Times* reported the Germans won 3-2 – and each side were permitted to attend to their dead. A Platoon Sergeant of the Second Battalion of Wiltshires, known as Chirpy, provoked much laughter when he emerged wearing a large skirt he had found in a deserted farmhouse.



This unofficial truce was frowned upon by the generals, fraternising with the enemy was bordering on treason, no matter what the occasion. For a time this event was hushed up, until the publications like *The London Illustrated News* reported a day of humanity in a theatre where only inhumanity existed. Moreover, the truce was sporadic, all was not silent, it didn't occur across the length of the Front, so it took on mythical status, but letters home proved beyond doubt that it did really happen.

Wilbert Spencer, Second Lieutenant of the Wiltshires, was entrenched at La Boutillerie, and wrote home on December 28: "There was no firing, so by degrees each side began to show themselves, and two of their men came halfway and called for an officer. I went out and found that they were willing to have an armistice for four-hours and to carry our dead men halfway for us to bury. This I arranged and then – can you imagine it? – both sides came out, met in the middle, shook hands, wished each other the compliments of the season and had a chat. A strange sight between two hostile lines."

During The Great War's centenary, Sainsburys recreated this occurrence in a seasonal advertisement. It was made in co-operation with the Royal British Legion and they produced a retro-style bar of chocolate from which proceeds were donated to the charity – and very nice it was too. In 2005 a movie was released titled, *Joyeux Noel*, which starred Daniel Bruhl.

It's also been celebrated in music with John McCutcheon's Christmas in the Trenches and rock band Magnum recording On Christmas Day, which contained the line: "And just for a moment, they're only men. On Christmas Day, there'll be no killing or fighting." It was, of course, a temporary peace, the guns thundered on until November 11, 1918.

This is my favourite Yuletide story, and it should appeal to anyone who has compassion in their heart – whether they're a Christian or not. And unlike many others that are mired in faith, folklore and myth, this is true and also relatively recent. Therefore it's not a tale from ancient times when it's hard to separate fact from invention – where does it say in the Bible that Jesus was born in a stable..?

Christmas in the 21st Century has become so commercial that its message, and some of its customs, has been lost among the expense and stress that comes with it – stores were stocking material as early as September. To some, it's a chore having to spend the day with people you've spent all year trying to avoid!

We need something to bring our supposedly divided society together and the men in that hostile land set an inspiring example.

However, a friend of mine recently informed me that he was breaking with custom and

dispensing with the conventional Christmas dinner and having a Brexit one instead. It was essentially the same as the traditional meal, but without Brussels! Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Brian Burford



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and Christmas cakes

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Tel: 01672 540266



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Monday – Friday	07:15	-	17:45
Saturday	08:00	-	13:30
Sunday & Public Holidays	09:00	-	12:00
Christmas Day	CLOSED		

Post Office Opening Hours

Monday, Tuesday,	0730	-	1630
Thursday & Friday	0730	-	1300
Wednesday	0800	-	1300
Saturday	0900	-	1200
Sunday & Public Holidays			

Off Licence Hours

Monday – Saturday	from 8.00am
Sunday	from 10.00am

Thank you for shopping locally.

Amenities like the Post Office, the village shop and the local pub will only survive if you support them. Without the support of the community, these businesses are not viable and will close. Once they are gone, they will not return and will be missed particularly by the more vulnerable in the village.

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NEWBURY: 2nd Thursday of each month
– Fare £4. Leaving The Square At 11.30 am and returning from Newbury at 2.30pm.

Scheduled **HUNGERFORD** Service: Friday, collecting from Aldbourne (10am The Pond), Ramsbury (10.16 am The Square) and Froxfield. Bus passes may be used.

Scheduled **MARLBOROUGH** Service : 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month , calling at Chilton 1.00 pm (booking required), Ramsbury 1.10 pm and Aldbourne at 1.25pm. Returning at 2.40 pm. Bus passes may be used.

Monday 2 December: Winchester and the Xmas Markets
Leaving the tree in Ramsbury at 9.30am: fare £15

COMMUNITY HIRE: for local village organisations and private individuals – low rates.

BOOKINGS/TO HIRE: Please ring **Janet Hunter** on **520682** or **07584 253117**, alternatively email: booking@ramsburyflyer.org



For news about Surgery transport, trips and further information visit www.ramsburyflyer.org

The Ramsbury Flyer Community Bus

If you feel able to help out with driving the 'Flyer', this would be wonderful, as we rely on our volunteer drivers. We are always looking for new people to help us. Typically our drivers do one or two duties a month. We also have another dedicated group who clean the Flyer regularly. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Caspar on 01672 520680 for more details.

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OPENING TIMES

Monday – Closed all day
Tuesday – 5pm - 7pm
Wednesday & Thursday - 5pm to 9.00pm
Friday 5pm - 11pm
Saturday – 3pm - 10.00pm
Sunday – 12 noon to 2pm / 5pm – 7pm
(Except quiz night)
Times subject to change

CHRISTMAS OPENING

Christmas Eve – 5pm to 12
Christmas Day – 12 noon to 2pm
Boxing Day – 12 noon to 2pm
Friday 27th – 5pm - 10pm
Saturday 28th – 5pm - 10.00pm
Sunday 29th – 12 noon to 2pm / 5pm – 7pm

*Monday 31st – 5pm -Seeing the New Year In!
“Fancy Dress”*

Guinness Quality Award.

We are in CAMRA's Good Beer Guide 2016, UK's Best Selling Beer & Pub Guide.

Cribb Club – Every Wednesday 8pm. If you would like to join the team or learn the game in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere contact Tanya Brown on 07986730470 for more details.

Quiz Night– First Sunday of the month at 7pm. Teams of four at £2.00 per person. Supporting local groups and charities.

Book Club – Monthly – Check website for dates

Events:

Sunday 1st December 7pm - Christmas Quiz Night– Fundraising in aid of
“The Dogs Trust”

Wednesday 18th December – 8pm Book Club

Tuesday 24th December - Christmas Eve Celebrations

Tuesday 31st December - New Year's Eve Fancy Dress Party

PLEASE NOTE WE ARE CLOSED FOR ANNUAL HOLIDAY AND GENERAL MAINTENANCE
FROM 1st JANUARY 2019 REOPENING FRIDAY 17TH JANUARY 2020

Myself and the staff of the Red Lion would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

*Julie
December 2019*

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Hire of the hall costs only £5.50 per hour Monday – Friday and £10 per hour at weekends.

Please contact bypabooking@gmail.com if you'd like to book the hall.

The BYPA Committee is a registered charity run by a group of volunteers. We are on the lookout for more volunteers to help run the hall, in particular a chairman/lady. Please contact bypabooking@gmail.com if you'd like to help.



Baydon Toddler Group
(birth to pre-school)

- ★ 9am-11am every Monday during term time
- ★ BYPA hall, Manor Lane, Baydon
- ★ Come along for a coffee and a chat
 - ★ Toys, crafts, games, songs
 - ★ All welcome
- ★ £2.50 per family first session free!

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Sheepdrove Organic Farm & Eco Conference Centre require a HOUSEKEEPER (Part-Time)

Based at the Eco Conference Centre in Lambourn, we are looking for a Housekeeper who will support our existing Team with general cleaning and laundry duties in our guest accommodation, Boathouse and Conference Centre. Ideally, you will have customer facing experience as from time to time you will be required to check guests into their accommodation and deal with any enquiries. Due to the nature of the role, you will be required to work some weekends and also split shifts.

For further details or to apply, please forward your CV along with a covering letter to:

helen.cravenjones@sheepdrove.com
Helen Craven-Jones - T: 01488 674705

NOTICE BOARD

Great South Run

The day dawned and we set off at 6.30am to drive to Portsmouth. There was Chris, my husband, Helen, my daughter and her partner Ben and myself. We got there around 8am and were able to park near to the start due to my disabled badge. Helen and I were due to start at 10.35am. We finally crossed the start line at 11am.



This gives you an idea of how many were in our section. We had so much support as we walked and were gradually overtaken by the white and green group.

At the 7-8 mile mark we were joined by volunteer cyclists and the back up van. They were so kind offering support and encouragement when needed.

We finally staggered over the finish, or rather I did and I collapsed into a wheel chair. Everyone was congratulating me even though I was last. 20,000 runners and I was 20,000th. Once in the wheel chair I began to feel better and Helen's partner Ben kindly pushed me back to the car. We had a bag of goodies which included a lovely medal and t. shirt. I had to be helped into the car as I was so weak.

The next day I had lots of rest and by Tuesday had pretty much recovered. I managed to raise just over £800 for cancer research. A big thank you to everyone who has supported me over these past 9 months and your generous donations. I am so grateful.

The next walk is the Santa fun run on 14th December. I hope you can sponsor me for this one. Best wishes, Coralie, Helen, Chris and Ben.

Calling all Baydon Residents

Can you make cakes, biscuits, scones, jams and chutneys? Maybe you weave, sew, knit, crochet or make lace or you are a keen gardener or photographer? Look out for our very own fun and exciting Baydon Craft and Produce Show next year. You might want to get the seed catalogues out ready to order your carrots, leeks, beetroot, beans, potatoes, greens, greenhouse veg, sweet peas, sunflowers and other cutting flowers. How about taking photos around the village showing off your artistic flair? Keep an eye on the scene for further updates and get planning now!



This year Baydon raised £598.50 for the poppy appeal on behalf of the Royal British Legion.

Mrs Lolita Cook of Ermin Close, Baydon, has been awarded a Diploma of Higher Education by the Open University.

71 year old Mrs Cook said:

I studied with the Open University over a period of many years, when time and other commitments permitted. My courses were; Arts Foundation Course (I already had a B.Sc. Honours Degree from the University of Exeter). 2 courses in Classical Latin, 1 course at Honours Level. I taught Classical Latin to adults in Swindon for many years.

Science and Belief from Copernicus to Darwin (a multi-disciplinary course) and Fossils and the History of Life.

Apart from the Fossils course, all the others required assignments throughout the year, with a 3-hour examination at the end of each course.

Hard work, but all very enjoyable!

PROSPECT HOSPICE

The Autumn collection raised £162.46 for Prospect Hospice. Many thanks to all the box holders for their generous support. Since 1 April 2019 the box scheme has raised £22,00.00 for the Hospice. which shows that all your small change does make a difference!!

You



could be a Baydon Parish Councillor

Baydon Parish Council needs more Councillors:

Do you have some spare time to become a Parish Councillor?
Would you like to get involved in village life and help make decisions on behalf of the people in the local parish?

As it is the authority closest to the people, Parish Councils are invariably the first place people will go with concerns or ideas. For this reason they are a vital part of any community.

By becoming a Parish Councillor you become a community leader with the power to influence decisions for the benefit of the people you serve - someone the community will look to for help, guidance and support. Seeing your community change for the better, as a result of decisions you have helped make, is something that can give you a sense of achievement and pride.

What is involved?

Parish Council meetings are held once a month in the BYPA Hall. Work is also required outside of the meetings. The amount of work will depend upon the number of councillors serving. The position is voluntary.

Want to know more?

The current Councillors would welcome talking to you about what is involved and why they have chosen to serve. Come along to our next meeting in the BYPA or email our parish clerk, Kim Lloyd for more details.

baydonparishclerk@gmail.com.



Visit www.baydon.org for up-to-date village news, events, weather and features. Parish Council minutes and agendas.

St Nicholas Church Appeal

Apple Harvest & Christmas Extravaganza



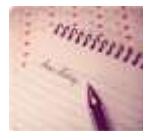
At this time of year there is nothing more satisfying than harvesting your own produce - the fruits of your labours. Due to the kindness of villagers and the donation of the apples from the orchard in Manor Farm Ramsbury, we have had two teams busy picking juicy apples over two consecutive weeks in the glorious autumn sunshine. They were delivered to My Apple Juice and were swiftly washed, pulped, pressed and bottled within a week. We are very proud of our delicious juice which is on sale for £3 a bottle. Please contact Colin email cc.y@btinternet.com or 01672540725 . The juice has a long shelf life and would make a great present. Every sale is helping to save St Nicholas Church building for future generations. Many thanks to all those who have helped make this venture happen.

The idea of putting on an early Christmas Extravaganza sounded like a good one at the time, but what we hadn't considered was the half term holiday and the rugby World Cup final. However, despite the odds, we were delighted to welcome so many villagers and supporters from other churches in the Whitton Team to help us raise £750 towards our ongoing building fund.



Along with musical entertainment from the fabulous Turner family, we were proud to be able to showcase local produce, talented artists, a wood turner, handicrafts galore and not to forget our wonderful apple juice. We are very grateful for the continued support of so many people who are passionate about saving our 12th Century Church. It would be wonderful to see this building restored for future generations, so every penny spent is helping to achieve this aim.

Forthcoming events...



Baydon Village Stores

Ermin Street Baydon SN8 2JP
Tel: 01672 540266



Christmas Opening Hours

Day	Date	Shop	Post Office
Tuesday	24 th December	07:15 – 16:30	07:30 – 16:30
Wednesday	25 th December	Closed	Closed
MERRY CHRISTMAS			
Thursday	26 th December	10:00 – 12:00	Closed
Friday	27 th December	09:00 – 16:30	09:00 – 16:30
Saturday	28 th December	09:00 – 13:30	09:00 – 13:00
Sunday	29 th December	09:00 - 1200	09:00 – 12:00
Monday	30 th December	09:00 – 1630	09:00 – 1630
Tuesday	31 st January	09:00 – 1630	09:00 – 1630
Wednesday	1 st January	10:00 – 12:00	Closed
Wishing you all a happy and prosperous 2020			
Thursday	2 nd January	09:00 – 16:30	09:00 – 16:30
Friday	3 rd January	09:00 – 16:30	09:00 – 16:30
Saturday	4 th January	08:00 – 13:00	08:00 – 13:00
Sunday	5 th January	09:00 – 12:00	09:00 - 12:00

Thanking you for your support during 2019.
PLEASE SHOP LOCAL

Christmas at Avebury

23 November – 5 January



A traditional Christmas made at Avebury

23 Nov - 5 Jan, 11am-4pm (closed 24, 25, 26 Dec)

Christmas at Avebury Manor is a calm and relaxing experience, reminiscent of times long past. Each room in the manor is furnished in the style of a different historical period, from Tudor times to the 1930s. This year the festive decorations throughout the site have been skillfully hand-made by our volunteer sewing team and are themed on traditional carols—you're invited to discover which carols and songs have been brought to life.



Make the perfect Christmas wreath at Avebury Manor

2, 3, 4, Dec, 10am-2pm, £50, booking essential

Nothing says 'Christmas is here' like putting up a home-made wreath on your front door. Florist, Sue Scott, will help you to craft your own festive wreath using natural greenery and festive decorations. You will be welcomed with a hot drink and mince pie, and a light lunch will be served half-way through the workshop. All materials and refreshments included.



Winter warmer walks Avebury prehistoric landscape

5 & 12 Dec, 10.30am-12.30pm, £16, booking essential

Why not leave the crowds behind and join National Trust archaeologist Dr Nick Snashall for a winter ramble around the stone circles? The walk will be followed by Christmas liqueur and mince pies, served in the National Trust shop where you'll have a 10% discount on all items purchased.



Music, lights and merriment at Avebury Old Farmyard

7 Dec, 4pm-6pm

Why not soak up the Christmas atmosphere at this early evening event at Avebury? There'll be Christmas carols played by the Devizes Town Band, festive food and warming drinks. The Barn Gallery of the museum will be open for free and there'll be a wide range of gift stalls for you to browse.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/Avebury

For further information, text, expert queries and photographs please contact:

Abby George, Senior Marketing and Communications Officer on 01672 538035 or abby.george@nationaltrust.org.uk

If you'd like to attend one of these events as a journalist please get in touch

The Merchant's House

Christmas Coffee Morning

Wednesday 4th December 2019 • 10am to 12pm

£5 per person • Coffee • Mince Pies • Raffle



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Ogbourne Primary

Christmas Fair

Sat 7th Dec 1-4pm

High Street, Ogbourne St George, SN8 1SU



Gifts

Raffle

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Santa's Grotto

Craft Activities

Hot Dogs & Cakes

Homemade Mince Pies

£1 entry adults. Kids free.

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- ♦ Healthcare needs
- ♦ Transport
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Please leave a text or message and your call
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Carols on the Green

Friday 20th December @ 6:30pm

As last year, the singing will be led by
our singing postman, John Milford.

Mulled Wine and Mince Pies provided by
The Parish Council

The whole family is welcome, any age
or vocal ability. The more the merrier.
In fact, the more of you that turn up the
less that it matters what you sound like!

Last year we had a good turn out and an
enjoyable evening so wrap up warm
and come along again this year.

Carer Support Wiltshire, the charity that supports the unpaid carers in our communities, is currently running an appeal to raise £30,000 to spend on carers.



They are looking for local groups and individuals who would like to help fundraise for the Time for Carers Appeal. That could be by holding an event like a raffle or auction, asking for donations at a quiz or bingo night or taking part in a sponsored run or swim. Anything you'd like to do, CSW can support you with.

There are an estimated 47,500 carers in Wiltshire. A carer is anyone who cares, unpaid, for a family member or friend who could not always manage without their support. They might look after someone with a physical disability, long-term health condition, mental health issue or a problem with substance misuse. It can be an incredibly rewarding thing to do for someone, but can take its toll as well. 40% of carers say they haven't had a day off in over a year, while 25% haven't had a day off in over five years. The effect of not getting a rest from caring is shattering, with carers describing being close to breaking point, desperate for some time to themselves, to sleep, recuperate and see friends and family.

Regular breaks have been proven to combat burnout and stress and money raised by the appeal will directly pay for breaks for carers. Last year's appeal helped over 80 carers take the time they needed to improve their health and wellbeing. It paid for respite care, theatre tickets, yoga classes, counselling sessions and much more. Claire, a carer who looks after her mother who has dementia, said: "It wasn't even about being given the money to go away - it was about being seen and valued as a carer and given the recognition and support that enabled me to carry on."

If you would like to help the appeal and get involved you can find out more by contacting the CSW fundraising team at fundraising@carersupportwiltshire.co.uk <mailto:fundraising@carersupportwiltshire.co.uk> or phoning 01380 871690. There is also a Time for Carers JustGiving page.



Carer Support Wiltshire has launched a new programme that will help unpaid carers in Wiltshire who want to return to work.

Many people give up work when a loved one becomes ill in order to care for them. It can be challenging to return to work once they are ready to go back - carers often feel their skills have become out of date and they lack confidence.

Funding was awarded to the Wiltshire charity by the government and the Returners Fund website is now live at carersbacktowork.co.uk. Carers can register on the site and will then be able to access support and various tools and resources. There are also small group training sessions and mentoring available.

CSW will also work in partnership with local employers, who will provide mentoring, advice and on-site training. In return they will have access to skilled potential new employees and CSW can help employers to support the carers in their workforces. If you're an employer who would like to find out more, please visit the site or contact the charity on 0800 181 4118.

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Marlborough Area Board

Next meeting is: Tuesday 28th January 2020
Marlborough Town Hall, High Street, Marlborough, SN8 1AA
6.30 pm for a 7pm start

The Community Engagement Manager is Alexa Davies
Alexa.davies@wiltshire.gov.uk—01249 706610

More news: The publication 'Just a Minute' is a summary of the official minutes for the Marlborough Area Board and is available in full on Baydon's Website. Parish News from the Council also available on the website.

Marlborough CAN Newsletter

Marlborough CAN helps you keep in touch with things that are happening locally.

With regular news from the Council, Police, NHS and many other local community groups and organisations, you can be the first to know what is happening. With opportunities to have a say on important issues and to take part in local events and activities, Marlborough CAN will put you in the picture.

See the latest CAN at Baydon.org or go to
<http://marlborough.ourcommunitymatters.org.uk/>

Rubbish and recycling collections

Tues 3rd Dec	Garden waste & Household waste
Tues 10th Dec	Plastic and Card + black box recycling
Tues 17th Dec	Garden waste & Household waste
Tues 24th Dec	Plastic and Card + black box recycling
Thur 2nd Jan	Garden waste & Household waste
Weds 8th Jan	Plastic and Card + black box recycling
Tues 14th Jan	Garden waste & Household waste
Tues 21st Jan	Plastic and Card + black box recycling
Tues 28th Jan	Garden waste & Household waste
Tues 4th Feb	Plastic and Card + black box recycling

Aldbourn Theatre Group	https://www.facebook.com/Aldbournlightentertainmentclub/	
Aldbourn & Baydon LINK Scheme		07767 116895
Baydon Allotment Association	Jenny Gribble	540461
Baydon Flyers	Rob Howe baydonflyers@gmail.com	07903 830259
Baydon Post Office & Stores	Debbie Moxon	540266
Baydon Social Group	Barbara Furber	540695
Baydon Village Website	John, website@baydon.org	
Brownies	Jill Jones and Fiona Smart Fiona Smart baydonbrownies@yahoo.com	
BYPA	bypa@baydon.org	
Church Wardens	Mrs Donni Blackwell Mrs Tina Evans	07973191654 540250
Clergy - Team Rector	Vacant	
Friends of Baydon School	Clare Stannard Lisa Strobe	07941 194807 07720 448021
Baydon Table Tennis Club	Bernie Gribble Ged Bambrick	540461 540765
Parish Council Chairman	Sarah Chidgey (Acting Chair)	07795288302
Parish Council Clerk	Kim Lloyd: baydonparishclerk@gmail.com	
Patient Representative	Joele McGowran	540784
Police - Local Beat Manager	Melissa Camilleri	101
Red Lion Pub	Julie	541224
St Nicholas School - Head	Caroline Knighton	540554
Wagtails	Ben Harris	07729 383237
Ramsbury Surgery		520366
Ramsbury Surgery Appointments		521234
Lambourn Surgery		01488 71715
Lambourn Surgery Appointments		01488 72299



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Please note that due to other commitments I am unable to send out reminders