

# EAST KNOYLE NEWSLETTER

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[www.east-knoyle.co.uk](http://www.east-knoyle.co.uk)

January/February 2026



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# The East Knoyle Newsletter

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A note from the Editors.....

Welcome to our first edition of 2026

We would like to thank Jo Willmott for the beautiful winter-wonderland photograph, on the front cover.

As we turn the page on another year, we have had changes to our team: We thank Karen Macey for two years of fantastic help, editing the Newsletter. We welcome on board, Hugo Middleton.

We print the whole Newsletter in colour and welcome any photographs that help us bring it to life. All seasonal snaps (including of people - with their permission!!!!) are most welcome - please send them to: [eastknoylenewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:eastknoylenewsletter@gmail.com). They will be credited in the edition.

Many thanks

The editors

*The paper this magazine is printed on is from renewable managed forest resources*

## Parish Council News

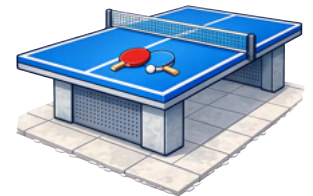
The Tree survey on the landmark oak tree in Knoyle House Grounds has been carried out. The tree surveyors identified that the tree is between 160 and 180 years old and whilst it is suffering in part from fungal infections the good news is that it only requires some remedial pruning and shaping. This work will be actioned in the coming months.



Towards the end of last year, the parish council commissioned its annual RoSPA health and safety inspection of Knoyle House Playground and its equipment. A plan has been developed and costed to remedy the identified points. PlayDale who supplied some of the equipment will be on site w/c 12<sup>th</sup> January to do some repairs and maintenance in accordance with their warranties. A separate company, Infinity Playgrounds, have been instructed to action all further points to ensure that the Playground remains in good standing. It is expected that all necessary works will be completed by the end of February. **Please note, the playground will remain open whilst these repairs are carried out.**

We have been successful in our bid with Cranborne Chase for a new, accessible picnic table for the Playground which will be located close to the swings. The new table will be sourced from a local supplier, made from recycled plastic bottles and will result in the planting of 5 new trees in a sustainable area.

The Council has identified an opportunity to submit a bid to the National Lottery for new equipment for the Playground. Such funding is currently available to small Parish Councils. The plan is to add new items relevant to both under 4's and teenagers to broaden the playgrounds appeal. In advance of any such bid, Expressions of Support are being sought from the Community. In effect we are asking the community if they support this bid. All need is for your signature, name and post code. Forms are available at Wrens Shop and from Parish Councillors.



World book day is a charity that aims to give every child and young person a book of their own. They champion reading for fun as research shows that this can transform lives. The Parish Councillors are exploring options to recognise World Book Day with a local activity on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March. All thoughts and ideas would be appreciated; Councillor Bateman or the Parish Clerk are the designated EKPC contacts.

The work of an East Knoyle Parish Councillor is both diverse and rewarding. Anyone interested in becoming a Parish Councillor should contact either the Chair, Garry Staunton or the Parish Clerk for an introductory chat - attending a Parish Council meeting is also a good way to see first-hand the work the Councillors do on behalf of the Parish.

Peter Dean

Parish Clerk

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### Did you know there is a East Knoyle village WhatsApp group?

The purpose of which is to relay important information quickly to those in the village, such as a tree blocking a road, lost dogs or cats

Please message Deb Bateman on 07713 321 530 to be added.



## Wren's Shop News

The East Knoyle Community Shop Management Committee would like to thank you for your support during 2025.

The Christmas period resulted in our best monthly takings of the year. The shop Christmas opening, complete with a visit from Santa and Carols from the Choir got us off to a great start.



I counted 120 people outside the shop for the event.

Shop sales reached new (non pandemic) heights during the year and resulted in £4,330 being returned to shoppers in the form of Loyalty Scheme discounts.

One of our goals In 2026 will be to continue to improve the range and quality of produce on offer whilst at the same time endeavour to keep our prices as keen as possible. With this in mind you may have noticed some new wines on the top shelf.

New Committee member, Carrie Ahern is now keeping an eye on wine sales and stocks and will be trying out a few new lines from our suppliers. Please try them out.

We now have fresh bread delivery's every day apart from Tuesday and Sunday. Taylors deliver Mon, Wed and Friday and Leivito deliver Sourdough bread on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

In July 2026 the Shop reaches a milestone. It will be 20 years since the shop was opened and on July 4<sup>th</sup> 2026 we will be celebrating the occasion. Please put the date in your diary.

Plans are underway for the event and more details will follow in future newsletters.

We are always looking for new volunteers and if you feel you would like to give something back to the community, meet some new people and support our Community Shop, please contact me directly. Full training given.

Happy new Year.

Kevin Stow  
East Knoyle Community Shop Committee.

[kandbstow@hotmail.com](mailto:kandbstow@hotmail.com)





**Owned & Run by the Community  
For the Community**

**Opening Hours**

Monday to Friday: 08:00 to 18:00  
Saturday: 08:00 to 16:00  
Sunday/Bank Holidays: 09:00 to 12 noon

Newspapers every day  
Fresh Fruit, Vegetables & Meat 6 days a week  
Fresh Bread delivered 3 times a week  
Croissants baked in-store daily  
Hot Drinks available

**Orders Taken**

Tel: 01747 830735

Email: [shop@wrensshop.co.uk](mailto:shop@wrensshop.co.uk)

<http://www.wrens-shop.co.uk>

Facebook: WrensShopEastKnogle



East Knogle  
Post Office

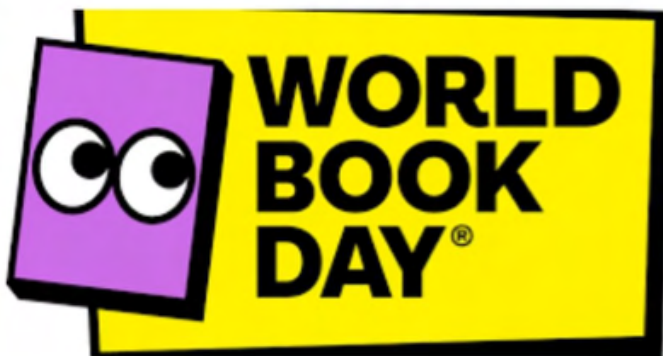
**Opening Hours**

Monday to Friday : 09:00 to 13:00  
(Closed Weekends & Bank Holidays)

**Our Services**

- Amazon Drop-off & Collections
- Banking - cash withdrawals, cheque/cash deposits
- Banking Balances
- Bill Payments & Top-up
- Drop & Go Drop-off
- Customs Forms for International Postage
- Euros on Demand, Other Currencies - to order
- ParcelForce UK & Worldwide (incl Large Parcels)
- Postal Orders
- Royal Mail Letters & Parcels (Inland/International)
- Royal Mail Redirections
- Royal Mail 24/48Hr Tracked &/or Signed For
- Savings & Investments
- Special Delivery, Tracked & Signed-for Postage
- Stamps (1st & 2nd Class & International)
- Travel Money Cards

Tel: 01747 830928

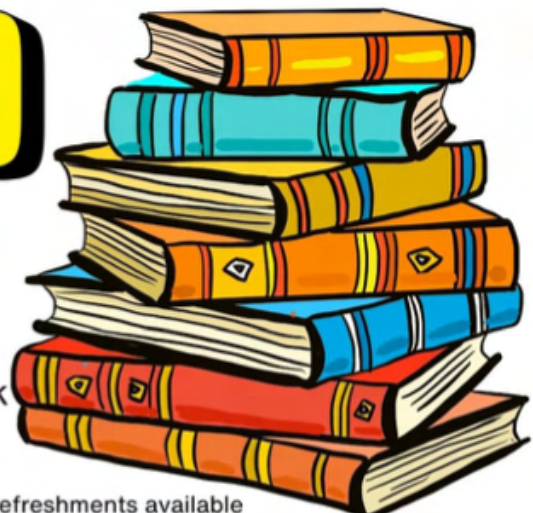


We're celebrating  
World Book Day  
at East Knogle  
Village Hall

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2026  
10.30am - 12noon**

For children aged 3-7 years old,  
accompanied by an adult

Come dressed up as your favourite book  
character and enjoy story telling and  
crafts.



Light refreshments available

## East Knoyle Village Hall

We wish to welcome Tim Hyde to the Committee as a Village Representative and look forward to his ideas.

The Quiz Night organised by Martin Brown was a great success and all our thanks go to him and his team including the team that put the Ploughman's Platter together which was much enjoyed and has been voted to be done again for the Music Quiz.

There has been a wonderful job undertaken by Paul Naish to repaint the walls in the Hall, he was presented with a big thank you at the Quiz Night.



Please continue to use the Air Ambulance clothing skip it is a very useful and convenient service.

The Music Quiz Night is soon upon us on February 7<sup>th</sup> and Paul Naish has reported that just 2 tables are left so please contact him if you wish to have a table of 6, or find out if there is a free spot available.

A selection of The Six Nations Rugby starting in February will be shown live in the Village Hall, there is a poster in the Newsletter giving the times and dates, please check the dates and come to watch the action on the big screen.

Happy New Year to all,

David Jenkins

**For Village Hall Bookings & Availability - [eastknoylevillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:eastknoylevillagehall@gmail.com)**

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### Shaftesbury Arts Centre

Real Talk Fridays are a new series of evening events by the Momentum Group, at the Shaftesbury Arts Centre, inviting interesting local people to come and share their career experiences in the informal setting of the Rutter room, followed by a Q&A. Tickets, £18-20, include a grazing board. The bar will be open.

The Spring Programme is off to a flying start,

Friday 13 February, 7 – 9pm:

**An Audience with Tony Dow,**

our very own BAFTA winning Director of Only Fools and Horses and many other successful tv series, such as Birds of a Feather, Victoria Wood, Citizen Smith, Hunderby, Stella and more. Tony is well known to us in the village, especially at the Wrens Shop Christmas Launch, but he has many stories to share from behind the scenes. Our discussion will be followed by a Q&A giving you the opportunity to ask those questions you have always thought of while watching on tv.

Future Friday evenings inc:

Friday 27 February – Ethan Davids (founder of Chickpea Group, “your favourite local boozier”) and Nat McConnell (founder of Bluestone Vineyard & wine producer)

Friday 13 March – Penny Mallory (rally driving champion, broadcaster, author)

Friday 24 April – Andy Sturgess (creator and owner of the world’s only known truly authentic Lancaster cockpit & front fuselage, which you can “fly” yourself, even a simulation of the Dambusters raid, May 1943)

Friday 1 May – Marlow Renton (expert forager, founder of Wild Food UK, author & broadcaster)

Tickets are available from:

<https://shaftesburyartscentre.org.uk/momentum-group-events/>

## East Knoyle rainfall November, December 2025

**NOVEMBER 2025.** We had 4.52" (114.7mm). Pretty much the 30 year average for November, which is 4.3" (109.14 mm).

**DECEMBER 2025.** We had total 5.1" (129.5 mm), compared to 30 year average of 3.92" (99.57 mm). So this December, rainfall was 30% above the 30 year average. (Was about the same in December 2023, 5.57".)



On a wider meteorological note – relieved now that dawn is finally getting earlier, from 1 January. Yes, only on first of January. We must not confuse 22 December, when total day length starts getting longer, with sunrise and sunset times. Sunset times actually start getting later on 16 December. Sunrise times start getting earlier only on 1 January.

Happy days!

Nat Page

## Round and About

As we suspected ahead of the last issue, there were a number of houses on the cusp of changing hands – and so we can now welcome various newcomers to East Knoyle and its hamlets.

In Milton, Colin and Cheryl Sullivan are embarking on a dream project to build their own home. They come from the Salisbury area and are looking forward to being settled in one place after a career in the RAF. If you are passing, they would be pleased if you popped in and introduced yourself.

Also in Milton is Octavia Coates. She first discovered the area a few years ago and is delighted to be here at last, with her two beagles, and her businesses nearby. She runs a PR consultancy and two summer-focused ventures: one offering camper vans for five-star exploring, and another dedicated to designing camping and picnic products. She is very much looking forward to being part of the community here and getting involved in village life. Please do say hello if you see her.

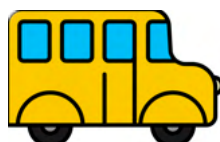
Down on The Street, Claire & Matthew Smith have moved in after what they describe as ‘a rather nomadic life’, including living in Rome. They were here just in time to celebrate Christmas in their new abode – we hope it’s the first of many they will enjoy here.

Ben Cann & Natasha Callis have decided to make East Knoyle home after a period in Brighton. They have family in Dorset so are pleased to be within easier visiting distance.

But of course, all this means that we have to say Goodbye to various previous residents. Some of us will remember with delight the VE Day Anniversary Teas which were delivered in May 2020 when it was not possible to have any kind of get-together in lockdown. Lesley Hardinge, who planned this in conjunction with the RBL and executed it as a tribute to her parents, has moved away to live nearer her sister and will be missed by friends and neighbours in Underhill.

Graham and Sue Keeling lived in the village for 30 years, but have decided to move to Netherhampton. We just hope Sue finds as many good routes for her walks as she knew round here – every afternoon she could be seen striding out along the lanes and paths.

The R&A Team are aware as, doubtless, are many of you, of residents who are not able to live in their own home at the moment. We send good wishes to all who are currently needing more help and support, and to all those who have had a spell in hospital.



## Wiltshire Connect

Wiltshire's new *On Demand* bus service came in handy for one of the editors recently when they lost their car key in Gillingham. Calling the bus was

simple and it arrived within an hour. The app can easily be downloaded for the day you find you need it.



[www.wiltshireconnect.co.uk](http://www.wiltshireconnect.co.uk)



The AGM, held on the 17th November at the Benett Arms, provided the opportunity to review what was an extremely successful 2025 across all elements of Branch activity and to elect officers for the year ahead. Following the election of officers, Nicola Burand from RBL Wiltshire County Office, provided an overview of the welfare and membership support work carried out by the RBL across the County during 2025.

At the lunch that followed the meeting we were joined by our Rector, Canon Kate McFarlane and LLP Anthony Thomas who do so much to ensure our services of Remembrance and commemoration are conducted so well. Once again we wish to thank the management and staff of the Benett Arms for their warm welcome and provision of meeting facilities following the closure of the Fox and Hounds.

For the record, Branch Officers for 2026 remain as:

Chairman: Sir Nick Wright,  
Treasurer - Andrew Knight

Vice-Chairman: Paul Naish,  
Secretary - Ron Clark,

Poppy Appeal Organiser: Ian Gurney,  
Standard Bearer - Mark Gittings.

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## Poppy Appeal

As previously reported, the 25/26 appeal had a tremendous start and at the time of writing currently stands at £12,284.80, the majority of which was raised in just two weeks of 'Remembrance fortnight'. We are currently in the process of constructing an interesting and informative programme of events/talks, which, coupled with Roy Halsall's efforts during the summer months, will hopefully help us get close to last year's record total of £17,960 by the time the appeal closes at the end of September.

## Future Events

The County Conference takes place on the 31st January at which we are hoping to replicate the success of last year when we were presented with two trophies.

## Membership

Regular readers of the EKVN will know from our updates that we are a social and active Branch recognised for our fund raising efforts on behalf of the Poppy Appeal. New members are always welcome. Membership costs £23 per year which covers the admin costs in running the RBL nationally (£3 covers Branch admin costs). The work of the Poppy Appeal is funded and administered separately solely by donations. You can be as active in the life of the Branch as you wish, just being a member is important in supporting small village Branches and the work of the RBL. Please contact me if you require more details and I will be happy to hear from you.

## FUTURE DIARY DATES:

31st January RBL Wiltshire County Conference, Trowbridge  
2nd February Branch Meeting, 1830 Benett Arms  
2nd March Branch Meeting, 1830 Benett Arms  
6th April Branch Meeting, 1830 Benett Arms

Ron Clark  
Branch Secretary

Since the last newsletter the women's branch proudly took part in the village Remembrance Services at the church and cenotaph. Whilst not all members were able to support this, there was a good turn out. One of our members and her husband were marching at the cenotaph, so we thought of them also.

December brought the annual Christmas Tea, this year started with a very welcome glass of mulled wine rustled up by our 2 favourite bar tenders, Nick Wright and Julyan Gordon. The event was very well attended, and thank you to all who produced the lovely food, ran the quiz and game, made teas and generally assisted making it an enjoyable afternoon. As always, thanks to Helen who produced wonderful decorations that made the hall look most festive.

We start the year with a meeting on January 12th to firm up our plans for 2026.

Gill Staunton  
Secretary



## The Fox and Hounds – What's Happening?

As we head rapidly towards the anniversary of the closure of our pub, it's interesting to see that the survival of pubs – and especially rural ones – is in the headlines. Maybe the government is about to do a U-turn on its recent budget announcement on business rates? Will it look at the inequitable alcohol duty regime that encourages cheap supermarket booze? Is it going to amend the driving alcohol limit?

For the Fox and Hounds, we're still plugging away though nothing is happening quickly. We've made an offer to the owners for the community to buy the freehold of the pub, based upon the valuation we commissioned, but this has been declined. The owners are going to have another go at finding a buyer or new tenant for the Fox and Hounds in the new year and we hope they'll find someone.

In the meantime, the owners are allowing us to complete our ideas by giving us free access to the property. Gary Slater, a friend of Peter Misikin, has kindly offered to produce detailed layout and elevation plans of the existing buildings which will enable us to work up some development options to refurbish and improve the premises. Elizabeth Moore and Paul Prentice, retired conservation architects who have moved into The Street, are giving us some ideas around what might be done and we'll then consult with some building and property experts in the village to get their views on what might be feasible and affordable.

Leeroy Lugg, who runs his Suspire Media business from home in the village, has kindly offered to develop a website for the community benefit society company that would own the pub if a community scheme was to happen. This website will help to promote the project and support the fund-raising that will be required. In addition, Lauren Roberts, who works at Lugmarsh Farm, has stuck her hand up to develop and run a social media presence, reaching out to those that are more remote and tech-savvy.

We're grateful for these offers of help and lucky to have such talent in the village. Matt Lloyd, who's moved into Leigh Lane with his partner, Phoebe, and kids, has joined the pub group. He brings youth, enthusiasm and commercial skills that will add to our team enormously. We continue to research pubs and what makes the good ones successful by visiting local hostelrys (!), and this includes the new community pub at Chitterne, east of Warminster.

You'll have read in the last edition of the newsletter that the Wren's Shop committee has decided to make a contribution to our fighting fund. This is much appreciated and a demonstration of one not-for-profit community business helping to set up another. Thank you!

On the legislative front, The English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill is passing through Parliament. This is important because, as it stands, it will give communities a strengthened 'Right To Buy' property that has been designated as an Asset of Community Value (which the Fox and Hounds has) and that needs protection from development. It's difficult to predict timescales, but this law could come into force in the summer.

We'll continue to keep you informed of developments regarding the pub. Once our development proposals and business plan are more worked up, we'll consider how best to communicate these to the village and this might include a public meeting in the spring. It would be good to have some feedback and opinions to add to the survey that was undertaken earlier in the year.

If you would like to be added to our email circulation list, then contact me or one of the other members of the pub group. And let us know if you'd like to help, contribute to our fighting fund, or simply wish to register your interest in retaining the pub in East Knoyle.

Happy New Year! Chris Cox chris@emailcox.com



This Photo by Unknown  
Author is licensed under CC  
BY-NC

## Moviola

Our first film of the new year on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January** is **THE ROSES (15)**. A 21<sup>st</sup> century remake of the 1989 comedy *The War of the Roses*, this take on the dark underside of the seemingly charmed life of a picture-perfect couple is altogether more rumbustious and, some would say, farcical.

Starring two of our best-loved actors, Olivia Colman and Benedict Cumberbatch, she plays a chef, he an architect. Their lovely life together begins to deteriorate, and tensions mount within the marriage when their respective careers evolve, and the latent competitive nature of their relationship is given full throttle.

I feel I should point out to those of a sensitive disposition, that some of the language is quite abrasive, particularly later on in the film!

On **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February** we have a rather more decorous outing to the manicured lawns of **DOWNTON ABBEY. THE GRAND FINALE (PG)** sees our last meeting with Lord Grantham, Ladies Mary and Edith and all the gang. This time the family is in financial distress, Mary is involved in a public scandal and social disgrace is looming on the horizon. The Crawleys must embrace change, with the next generation leading Downton Abbey into the future.

Downton fans will not be disappointed, and those more cynical amongst us may find ourselves unexpectedly moved by the final scenes.

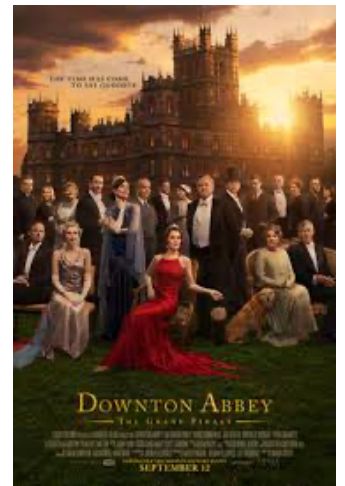
We are serving potatoes before the film as usual. There is a bar with wine, soft drinks, snacks and ice creams.

The tickets are £5 each from Wren's Shop or on the door. Please remember to bring some cash.

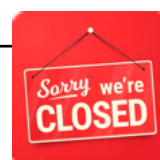
We start serving at 6.50 and the film starts at 7.30.

We very much look forward to seeing you in the Village Hall.

Sara Southerden



**Do you want to save the Fox and Hounds?**  
**Send your email address to [tomkenyon@tegk.co.uk](mailto:tomkenyon@tegk.co.uk)**



## East Knoyle Village Hall 200 Club

The Village Hall 200 Club has held its first draw of 2026 with winter looking to hold the village in its grip. The winning number is 206. The deserved prize winners are:

**JAN AND ALAN KNIGHT    £50.00**

Thanks to Jan and Alan and to all subscribers; you are helping to maintain and to improve East Knoyle Village Hall. New supporters are cordially welcome to join at any time for only £12 a year. Just ring Sara and Neil Southerden on 830594 or leave a message in the Shop. Let's look forward to even more activities in the Hall in 2026.



**The next draw is on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026.**

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## EAST KNOYLE VILLAGE MUSIC QUIZ 2026

**7pm on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> Feb  
In the Village Hall**

This quiz will be for everyone and will cover a wide range of musical styles. This year the Drunken pub singer returns and should provide extra novelty and amusement.

Teams of 6 please, £12.50 per person to enter, food included, drinks bought from the bar in the Hall .All proceeds to the Village Hall.

**BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT**

Contact Paul Naish on 832335 to pay for and reserve your table (or join the reserve list).

**If you can't get 6 for a team but would like to participate please speak to Paul or Kevin Stow .  
kandbstow@hotmail.com**

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T@3

Are you a resident or ex-resident of East Knoyle? If so, do come along to T@3 on the second Tuesday of each month.

To avoid wastage it is a real help to email [tat3ek@icloud.com](mailto:tat3ek@icloud.com) to indicate attendance. 24 hours' notice even better!

Doors open at **2.45pm**, and we need to be out of the village hall **by 4.30pm**.



# St Mary's and St John's Hindon Primary School



In this issue we are focusing on some of the specialist skills that our fantastic staff team have; enabling us to offer a range of additional outdoor learning opportunities and pupil wellbeing initiatives.

## Forest School

We know that Forest School develops the confidence, wellbeing and curiosity of our children and we provide weekly, year-round sessions for every class for this reason. In our on-site Wild Area, we provide opportunities to explore nature and for supported risk taking, like climbing trees and tool-work, in a learner-led way.

Mrs Wilson, is our qualified Level 3 Forest School Leader with experience delivering Forest School in a variety of settings. She is also trained in Therapeutic Forest School delivery, supporting every child to grow, express themselves and learn in a supportive environment, complimentary to the wellbeing support we offer. Our children love their weekly sessions in the wild area and so much child-led learning



## Mental Health & Wellbeing

The mental health and wellbeing of our pupils is really important to us. Evidence shows that children struggle to learn if their wellbeing is poor, so our whole school approach to wellbeing supports all of our children. Mrs Johnson is our qualified ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) Practitioner. ELSA sessions provides bespoke, targeted and measurable interventions that support a range of challenges that children may face, such as low self-esteem, friendship issues, bereavement, family separation & childhood trauma.



Mrs Johnson also runs weekly small group wellbeing sessions that support children who might just need space to talk, express worries and have time away from the classroom.

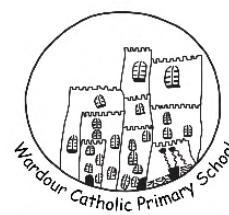
Our dedicated staff team ensure that our pupils feel supported and can thrive in the learning environment.

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## Wardour Catholic Primary School – trip to Sleeping Beauty Ballet

Last term, we took the whole school to the Mayflower Theatre in Southampton to see Tchaikovsky's classic fairy tale ballet, Sleeping Beauty, performed by the English National Ballet. The children all had a good understanding of the story and the characters from the work they had done in class beforehand. They had read and listened to the story and written their own versions of the well-known fairy tale.

They were also familiar with Tchaikovsky's score, which they had been learning about in their music lessons with Mr Gundry. They loved the sumptuous sets and costumes as well as the beautiful choreography, as the fairy tale was brought to life. It is quite a feat of organisation taking the whole school out for the day but the children were amazingly well behaved and still full of energy on the coaches on the way home!



## Courage from Failure

In December it was very special for St Mary's to again host the Clouds House Carol Service. We were privileged to hear a young man, who is in recovery from drink and drug addiction, speak of the life-changing experience of being at Clouds and his determination to live differently. His father was there alongside him to share his own perspective and to express his gratitude to the outstanding staff.

It is always humbling to hear people speak with such openness and honesty about the mistakes they have made and the harm they have caused others. Mostly we do everything in our power either to find excuses for our failings, or to hide our weaknesses, concealing those things about which we are most ashamed and presenting an image to others which is carefully edited.



At a societal or political level we also do this, refusing to acknowledge the way our own behaviour may be selfish or detrimental, and shifting blame onto others. One of the traditional prayers of confession sums it up perfectly: *'We have left undone those things that we ought to have done; and we have done those things that we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us.'* We can say those words weekly in church, while still hiding what these 'things' might be. The young speaker from Clouds bravely, and inspiringly, made his 'confession' public, offering neither excuses nor concealment, but a simple commitment to work at living his life better.

Another powerful moment in the Carol service was when the actress, Hermione Norris, movingly read the 'Manifesto of the Brave and Brokenhearted', by the American academic Brené Brown. It might be a fitting manifesto for all of us to adopt in 2026.

There is no greater threat to the critics  
and cynics and fearmongers  
than those of us who are willing to fall  
because we have learned how to rise.

With skinned knees and bruised hearts;  
we choose owning our stories of struggle,  
over hiding, over hustling, over pretending.

When we deny our stories, they define us.  
When we run from struggle, we are never free.  
So we turn toward truth and look it in the eye.

We will not be characters in our stories.  
Not villains, not victims, not even heroes.

We are the authors of our lives.  
We write our own daring endings.

We craft love from heartbreak,  
compassion from shame,  
grace from disappointment,  
courage from failure.....

Revd Kate McFarlane

**Community Coffee Morning**  
**St Mary's, East Knoyle**  
10.30 - 12.00  
4th Tuesday of every month



## Knogle Nature—Ivy

I wrote about Holly recently, so perhaps I can still be seasonal and write about Ivy, or are you sick of carols? Ivy gets a mixed press: some people think it strangles trees (mostly wrong), some think it damages walls (it can if the wall is badly maintained), but it is an important habitat for many other species. A walk in the woods in winter soon shows how important Ivy is as an evergreen plant, and it isn't hard to see how it could shelter small birds, small mammals and dormant insects, indeed many insects use the leaves or flowers for food.

Ivy flowers form in late autumn in scented clusters, and provide late nectar for bees: indeed there is one bee (a solitary bee, not colonial) that just lives on Ivy flowers and which has only recently come to live in the south of England from southern Europe. The black fruits develop in winter and are important food for many birds.



Ivy only flowers if it gets over a certain height and outgrows its support, and the branches then become bushy and change leaf shape, pointed not lobed, and no longer develop clinging aerial roots that once supported it. This change of shape is permanent, and Victorian gardeners took cuttings of it and used them to produce low-growing small evergreen shrubs (as could once be seen outside the Palm House at Kew). There is great variation in normal leaf shape and many commercial clones are sold, including particularly horrible variegated forms, (well, some silver shaded types are bearable).

Ivy bushes were once tied to poles as an advertisement for taverns—hence perhaps the origin of the term “good wine needs no bush”, and an Act of Parliament restricted the height of such poles. From even the times of the Greeks and Romans it was thought to offer protection from evil spirits (in more ways than one as the Romans thought a crown of Ivy stopped the bad effects of drink). Indeed Bacchus is depicted with a wreath of Ivy rather than vine leaves more often than not.

The leaves contain chemicals (as also in Periwinkle and Yew) that have been used in Breast Cancer treatment. To drink from a cup made of Ivy wood was said to cure whooping cough.

The Ivy plant has always been a favourite of artists and designers as can be seen on wallpaper and china, and as a prominent feature of romantic and pre-Raphaelite paintings. The china that Napoleon used on St Helena during his exile in 1815 was Wedgwood's ‘Napoleon Ivy’, and I include a picture of a plate I have that is a very early one (though you can still buy more modern ones that are not quite the same).

David Pickering



## New Vic @ Tisbury Events



Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	TNHS Balancing The Scales Film	6.00 pm,
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Jazz -Neil Maya Quartet The Brubeck project	7.30 pm
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	NLive Hamlet	7.30 pm
January 29 <sup>th</sup> to 31 <sup>st</sup>	TAG Panto Beauty and the Beast (also 2.30 on 31 <sup>st</sup> )	7.30 pm
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> February,	NEC Film Power Station	7.00 pm.
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> February,	Magic Lantern - Perfect Days (Japan 2003)	7.00pm
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> February,	RBO - Woolf Works	5pm (8+)
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> February,	Friday night Jazz Adrian Cox Trio - Club Croco Album Tour	7.30 pm
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	NLive – The Audience	5.00 pm

Thursday January 22<sup>nd</sup> TNHS **Balancing The Scales** 6 pm, Runtime 70 mins

Tisbury and District Natural History Society will be screening the Beaver Trust documentary *Balancing The Scales*, narrated by Joanna Lumley. This will be followed by an expert Q&A session organised in collaboration with Wiltshire Mammal Group. Free admission for members of the Tisbury and District Natural History Society and people under 21 years old; non-members are welcome for £4 payable on the door.

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January **Neil Maya Quartet** The Brubeck project 7.30 pm

For many people, the sound of Dave Brubeck's 'Take 5' is the sound of jazz. This popular American pianist and composer who died just a few years ago perhaps did more than anyone to bring jazz into the popular mainstream.

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January **NT Live Hamlet** 7.30 pm. Runtime 180 mins

Olivier Award-winner Hiran Abeysekera (*Life of Pi*) is Hamlet in this fearless, contemporary take on Shakespeare's famous tragedy.

Trapped between duty and doubt, surrounded by power and privilege, young Prince Hamlet dares to ask the ultimate question – you know the one.

National Theatre Deputy Artistic Director Robert Hastie (*Standing at the Sky's Edge*, *Operation Mincemeat*) directs this sharp, stylish and darkly funny reimagining.

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February, 7 pm. **NEC Film Power Station**

Working to turn a street and local schools solar, Power Station is a scalable in-your-face prototype of community led power. Channelling Withnail and I and Ealing comedy the film charts the financial and emotional trials and tribulations of making change together. From sleeping on rooftops to growing thousands of sunflowers and attempts at Christmas number one, community spirit and resilience are at the heart of this documentary. Entrance is free.

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February, 7pm **Magic Lantern – Perfect Days** (Japan 2003)

Hirayama works as a toilet cleaner in Tokyo. He seems content with his simple life. He follows a structured everyday life and dedicates his free time to his passion for music and books. Hirayama also has a fondness for trees and photographs them. More of his past is gradually revealed through a series of unexpected encounters. English subtitles.

continues

## New Vic Events cont.

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February, 5pm (8+) **RBO - Woolf Works**

2 hours and 45 minutes, including two intervals

Woolf Works' immense power as 'a ballet of ravishing feeling and radical intellectual intent' (The Guardian) lies in the potent imaginations of its artistic team.

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February, 7.30 pm Friday **Jazz Adrian Cox Trio - Club Croco Album Tour**

*"London's most charismatic reedsman"* - Time Out

*"Indisputably one of the great clarinetists of the world."* - Jamie Cullum

Internationally acclaimed clarinetist Adrian Cox is a leading authority on New Orleans music, who has dedicated his career to preserving and pushing the boundaries of early jazz. He's earned the highest praise for his masterful technique and infectious energy on stage. His unrivalled feel and virtuosity for the music he plays have led to concerts with the biggest names in jazz and Adrian is currently touring his latest album, Club Croco, throughout Scandinavia, Europe, New Zealand and Australia. We are so lucky to have found a date when he could come to us in Tisbury.

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March 5pm **NTlive - The Audience** PG3 hours including one interval.

Returning to cinemas for the first time in over a decade, Helen Mirren plays Queen Elizabeth II in the Olivier and Tony Award® -winning hit production, directed by Stephen Daldry. For 60 years, Queen Elizabeth II met with each of her 12 prime ministers in a private weekly meeting. This meeting is known as The Audience. From Winston Churchill to Margaret Thatcher and David Cameron, the Queen advised her prime ministers on matters both public and personal.

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## Water supply improvements, New Road, Milton, East Knoyle

Wessex Water is carrying out essential urgent enhancements to the supply network in East Knoyle to improve water quality, which will involve closing New Road to all through traffic. This work, an investment of £200,000, will begin on Monday 2 February 2026 and continue for up to eight weeks, finishing on Monday 30 March 2026.

New Road will be closed to through traffic between Fallowfield Cottage and Park Cottage. Access will be maintained for residents, but it may be delayed at times and our on-site team will work with customers with regard to any specific access requirements. Alternative routes will be clearly signposted and access will be provided for emergency vehicles. The current local arrangements for local supply, including main flushing and the provision of bottled water, will continue while this project is completed.



Wiltshire Council has launched **Digital Wiltshire.**



It includes a simple mobile 'not spot' reporting tool, which we strongly encourage you to use. Identifying areas with poor mobile coverage is vital for improving connectivity and ensuring reliable communication—especially during emergencies.

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywilts-online-reporting>



### Happy New Year!

And now for the bad news.....

Wiltshire Council is about to embark on the budget setting process, culminating in the full Council meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> February to set the budget. I cannot see that the new administration will set a budget at less than the maximum permitted 5% increase in Council Tax and there are likely to be service cuts to balance the budget.

At the full Council meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> January there were two items on the agenda designed to increase revenue for the Council. The first was a proposal to charge double council tax on second home owners, or occasional-use owners as they are described. I said that this would be penalising second home owners who tend to do just that; have occasional use and certainly fewer demands on council services. For the self-described Fair administration to try to charge a punitive extra local tax to raise additional revenue was unreasonable and I voted against the proposal, as did a majority of councillors in the chamber. It was a close vote: 44 for, 46 against, 1 abstention.

The second proposal was to increase charges for long term empty home owners. The administration accepted an amendment so that the double tax does not commence until after two years, but if a property is empty for 5-10 years it incurs a triple tax, and after 10 years a quadruple tax. I felt that this was using a sledgehammer to try to bring these long term empty properties back into occupation when a more helpful method to establish why they are empty and encouragement to repair them would be a better way, but I'm sorry to say that I was only one of three people to vote against the proposal.

There are exemptions, such as a resident being in long term residential care or hospital or where a resident is living elsewhere to provide personal care, or where a resident has died (up to six months after the grant of probate or letters of administration).

I wait to see what the proposal will be for increased parking charges, but it would appear that it will extend the hours for charged parking from 8am-6pm to 7am-7pm including Sundays. Having given away free parking to Blue Badge holders, the administration needs to claw back that lost revenue which helps support rural bus routes.



At the time of writing, there are about 800 signatures supporting my proposal that Wiltshire Council negotiate with Dorset Council to allow Wiltshire residents to continue to use the Shaftesbury Household Recycling Centre without the proposed £8 per visit charge via a new booking system. The cabinet member for Waste, Cllr Paul Sample, has still not replied to my email of 22<sup>nd</sup> October despite reminders. As the cabinet approved the closure of two HRCs in the north of the County, I rather suspect that the uproar there is drowning out our protest, but we battle on!

Bridget Wayman

## East Knoyle Honey Bees - Notes from the East Knoyle Apiaries – 28

It is early Jan26 – Happy New Year! The Bees are probably OK. They have lots of food and are well insulated – we may have lost 1 (of 15 colonies). Even though we are having a mild-snap, I don't want to fish around in-side the hives. It breaks the propolis seal, disturbs the cluster and generally, upsets the ladies. Some beekeepers feed their bees around Christmas time, just after the Winter Solstice. They use a sugar syrup as a honey substitute and may add pollen patties – a rich pollen feed. Christmas feeding depends on where the beekeepers are in the country, if they have left plenty of stores, or are they just bored and want to get out of the house, to see the bees.....As day-length increases in January, the queens will start to lay the first eggs of the new season. 5–6-month-old, over-wintered, Nurse Bees will eat pickled pollen stores from last year and will develop / re-grow / re-constitute their hypopharyngeal glands (in their heads) to produce brood food for the young brood.

Once it is around 10°C, forager bees will forage for pollen from Alder and Willow catkins, snowdrops and crocuses that flower around the village at this time of the year. Before these honey bees get going, you will see queen bumble bees out and about. They fly at 1-2 °C and, like hornets, over winter as single mated queens – often in old mouse holes, where they can find a warm nest. Unlike their honey bee cousins, bumble bee and hornet queens must do the initial round of mothering on their own. They leave their eggs and brood to forage for pollen. In both cases the young are extremely vulnerable. Bumble bee workers take 2-3 weeks to emerge and assume the nursing duties from their mother – the queen bumble bee.

The fertile, queen (gyne), Yellow Legged Asian Hornet (YLAH) emerges from hibernation once the temperature is consistently over 13°C. She is ravenous and feeds on sweet tree sap and flies off (up to 50 miles – though when they migrate is un-clear) to build a small primary nest. YLAH workers take over 7 weeks to emerge and assume their mother's nursing and foraging duties. Last year, the first live hornet was found in Kent on 12<sup>th</sup> April and in Jersey on 5<sup>th</sup> April – we don't have to panic! The primary nests are small up-turned egg-cups – very like young wasp nests. They are found in similar places; porches, sheds, BBQs etc. See Photo. FYI, all these and more, fascinating, YLAH factoids are on the Animal and Plant Health Agency's Bee Base [Yellow-legged Hornet » APHA - National Bee Unit - BeeBase](#). You will note that this photograph demonstrates all the key combat indicators: Yellow legs, very black especially thorax, orange face, smaller than our European Hornet and doesn't fly at night – not sure if photo taken at night!!!

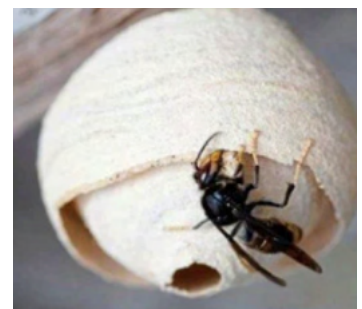
As I mentioned in the Christmas edition, 2026 is going to be a make-or-break year for us – and it is not just for the beekeepers. 50-60% of YLAH insect prey are not honey bees.

I am the Wiltshire Bee Keeping Association's YLAH Coordinator. Without getting too Thomas Hardy on you, we have formed a Wessex group. We think that the two secondary nests found and destroyed late last year in South Dorset (Ringstead on 14<sup>th</sup> Oct and Swyre on 19<sup>th</sup> Nov) may have released viable YLAH queens – in theory around 500 virgin queen hornets, per nest. They will have over wintered about 50 km to the south of East Knoyle – well within range. No doubt, the teams from the National Bee Unit will attempt to trap emerging queen hornets, this spring. Experience gleaned from our Kent Beekeeping cousins, has shown that this is a remarkably ineffective tactic. In Wiltshire, we will monitor for YLAH this spring and trap worker hornets in the late summer. We must all stay vigilant. YLAH is pretty blind and needs water to help build their nests. They use rivers, railway tracks and major roads as vectors to fly along. The folds in tarpaulins on lorries and trailers and dinghy and bicycle covers provide ideal snug locations for YLAH to hitch a lift. Holiday makers and lorries returning from the continent up the A350 are an ideal conduit and may well bring the Yellow Legged Asian Hornet to East Knoyle, in the late summer. In terms of engagement, I have spoken to the Teffont Fishing Club, the MP, The MOD, Cranbourne Chase Rural Landscape, Wessex Water, Wiltshire Wildlife – so we are rattling trees and beginning to create awareness. There are a few people who are alluding us. If any of you have contacts in / shares in; Facilities Management (FM) Companies? For example, Mitie, Amey or Serco – please get in touch? Other organisations I need a contact for are: Thames Water (to help the team in Swindon), local garden centres, haulage companies, builders' merchants and gardening clubs. Again, if any of you can help please get in touch.

We are accelerating our efforts throughout this year. This is not a Beekeeper problem – if any of you want to get involved – please get in touch? Tom Kenyon [ahat@wiltshirebeekeepers.co.uk](mailto:ahat@wiltshirebeekeepers.co.uk)

On a separate note: Please do not to buy “non-EU Honey”. Buy honey that says where it is produced.

Tom EK x 246



# Six Nations Rugby 2026

**Calling all Rugby Fans**  
**Watch The Six Nations on the**  
**BIG SCREEN**  
**in the Village Hall**



**Thurs 5th Feb 7.00 pm start France v Ireland KO 8.10 pm**

Possibly the 6 Nations decider!

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February No Rugby viewing Music Quiz Night**

**Sat 14<sup>th</sup> Feb 3.45 pm start Scotland v England KO 4.40 pm**

**Sat 21<sup>st</sup> Feb 1.00 pm start England v Ireland KO 2.10 pm**

Possible 6 Nations decider!

**Sat 7<sup>th</sup> Mar 1.00pm start Scotland v France KO 2.10 pm**

**Sat 14<sup>th</sup> Mar 1.00 pm start Ireland v Scotland KO 2.10 pm**

**7.00 pm start France v England KO 8.10 pm**

Possible 6 Nations decider!

If there is support for any of the other games please let me know.

The charge will be £5.00 per person to cover the rent of the Hall and the projectionist, please bring your own food and drink.

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or text 07973 692032

if you would like to attend.

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# Winstone's

love books, love reading

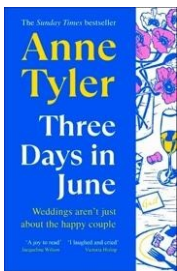
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## Free Delivery in East Knoyle

We are kicking off this year with a campaign supporting the National Year of Reading (NYR). A comprehensive study has been completed by the NYR agency showing that the UK's literacy levels have declined, time poor parents are not reading to children as much and the reading habit amongst most people has been replaced by digital devices leading to problems with conversation, vocabulary and prospects.

One of things we are doing to get us out of the reading slump is highlighting great authors for the curious and this month **We Are Currently Loving... Anne Tyler**, £2 off selected titles.



### Three Days In June NEW £9.99 (£2 OFF)

Weddings aren't just about the happy couple... A funny, touching, hopeful gem about love, marriage and second chances.

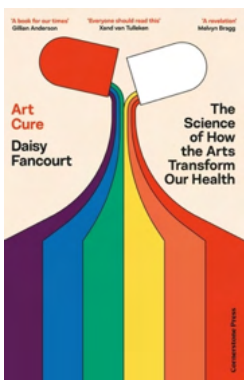
It's the day before her daughter's wedding and things are not going well for Gail Baines.

First thing, she loses her job (or quits, depending who you ask). Then her ex-husband Max turns up at her door looking for somewhere to stay. He doesn't even have a suit. Instead, he's brought memories – and a cat looking for a new home.

And £2 off the wonderful featured backlist -

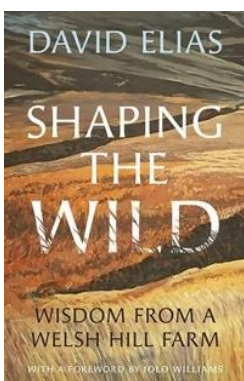


### Art Cure by Daisy Fancourt £22 hardback



Is art elitist? Is it an occasional preoccupation for people with time, money, education and self-proclaimed taste? Or is it, as this new book argues forcefully, a human necessity, with proven benefits, for all of us?

'Art', writes Daisy Fancourt, 'alongside diet, sleep, exercise and social connections, is the forgotten fifth pillar of health'. A compelling argument and read.



### Wisdom from a Welsh Hill Farm by David Elias £10.99 Paperback

This is a thoughtful, knowledgeable and loving account of upland Wales, its wildlife and its land use. Loving, but not sentimental. Whereas the author says that we will need farmers to deliver the changes that are necessary for upland farming (or any farming) to be truly sustainable

## The Cinephile

(Reviews of Some Recent Films)



**Hamnet** \*\*\*\*\* (A stunning adaptation of Maggie O'Farrel's novel of the same title, starring Paul Mescal and Jessie Buckley alongside Emily Watson and Joe Alwyn).



In very broad-brush strokes, this is the historically imagined story of William Shakespeare. It follows Will's life, from being a young man, living with his strict parents, through to fully-fledged and celebrated London play-write, producer and director. He meets and marries the fiercely independent and mysterious Agnes, who seems more at home in the magic of the woodlands, than under a roof. They have a passionate marriage, produce three children and are infectiously happy. But, as William's career progresses, and he commutes backwards and forwards between London and the family home in Stratford, the Plague arrives and so too does personal tragedy. Both are broken by the death of their beloved son Hamnet, and the marriage is further fractured by William's need to go back to London and to work. He writes and directs Hamlet and when Agnes comes to the Globe to see a production of it, she finds redemption in William's art. Any teacher wanting to bring the writing of Shakespeare alive for their students, would do well to show them this film. It could start a lifelong love affair with the bard. This is exemplary British filmmaking. (Although the two leads are Irish and director, Chloe Zhao is Chinese born.)

Paul Mescal is one of those lucky actors who seems to have struck Gold. After a solid beginning in Irish Theatre, (his first professional role playing Jay Gatsby in *The Greta Gatsby* at The Gate in Dublin), he came to the attention of British television audiences in the television series, *Normal People*. Since then he has become a star of the silver screen. Here, as William Shakespeare, his charisma oozes. Jessie Buckley, his on screen wife, Agnes, is also Irish, but had a more traditional RADA training. Buckley throws body and soul into this performance and creates an almost mythological character apparently, born out of the woods, who is a bewitching totem of feminine sensuality and strength. Emily Watson, (who was nominated for an Academy Award for her very first film role in *Breaking The Waves*, 30 years ago), is unfailingly brilliant as Will's mother and Joe Alwyn makes her a solid match as Shakespeare senior.

Polish cinematographer; Lucasz Zal creates a truly atmospheric picture, with lush Rousseau like woodland and Vermeer like candle lit interiors. The costume and set designs immerse us into the 16<sup>th</sup> century, you can almost feel the clothes on their backs and smell the differences of the pre-industrial world. The soundtrack composed by Max Richter is powerful and supports the extraordinary performance by Jessie Buckley in the ultimate scene, where she reaches that artistic pinnacle, (habitual to Shakespeare), of bringing the individual experience into the realm of the universal experience. No mean feat.



**Dreamers** \*\*\*\* (a moving human story about the processing of Asylum seekers.)

Nigerian refugee, Isio, (Ronke Adekoloujo) is ushered, by guards, into her new room in an asylum shelter. She is clearly traumatised, but gradually finds some comfort in the company of her savvy roommate, Farah, (Ann Ankinjirin). Farah is already there and has been waiting the decision on her first appeal for asylum. The tension in the story is manifested by the fact that applicants are allowed two appeals and if they are not granted the second then they are deported immediately. So, as the two main characters build a tentative but strong friendship, we with them, apprehensively watch and wait to see if this touching bond will be allowed to last a lifetime or perhaps, be shattered forever.

## **Dreamers \*\*\*\* cont.**

Writer-director Joy Gharoro-Akpojotor's script carries a poetic authority and as a first time director she has produced a deftly crafted first feature. She has evidently been fortunate to find a strong cast and to surround herself with a competent crew who have done a beautiful job. It seems a strange thing to say about a film, which is entirely based within the cold institutional walls of an asylum centre, but the photography and set design, in particular, work intelligently, next to each other, to give director and actors the space to make a beautiful, poetic, heartfelt picture.

**Goodbye June \*\*\*\***(A bit of a treat: Directorial debut from Kate Winslett, written by her son and where she shares the camera with a wonderful ensemble cast.)



As one might expect from clear minded, plain speaking Winslet, this does what it says on the Tin: June, (bravely played, with remarkable disregard to vanity by Helen Mirren), is diagnosed with terminal cancer and cunningly decides that this will be a good opportunity to bring all her adult children together and have one last go at trying to coax them into getting on with each other.

Kate Winslet is comfortable in her own skin as one of Britain's most successful and diverse actresses of a certain vintage and now a director too. This is competent filmmaking and very British. Her confidence here is in the choices; choose a heartfelt script, add a good helping of comedy, mix in a group of

Britain's finest actors, (smart to have your friends holding your hand on your first job as director), give them all strong characters with history, add a tear-jerking scene at the end have the characters resolve their issues with each other, finish. it is now, almost its' own genre and it's called The Christopher Curtis school, and started with Four Weddings.

**Goodbye June** is good solid entertainment with gentle life lessons.

**H is for Hawk\*\*\*\***(Claire Foy as a women who gets a Hawk to help her through her grief after her father dies.)

**Nouvelle Vague\*\*\*\***(fun film about Godard making A bout de Soufle.)

**It Was Just and Accident\*\*\*\*\***(Staggering good Iranian film examining the complexities of revenge.)

**Jay Kelly\*\*\*\***(rather poignant self-parodying performance from George Clooney in a story examining the complexities of fame.)

**Palestine 36\*\*\***(historical drama showing British involvement in the Israel/Palestine conflict.)

**Father, Mother, Sister, Brother.\*\*\*\***(Jim Jarmusch in great form in a triptych of stories exploring life's dilemah's. Bittersweet comedy/Drama

1st Jan 2026

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# East Knoyle Village

# Litter Pick 2026

10 am on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb

**Please meet at the Village Shop.**

**If you have a hi viz jacket please wear it, likewise gloves, litter bags and picking equipment will be provided.**

**PLEASE CONTACT Paul Naish on 832335 or [p.naish@sky.com](mailto:p.naish@sky.com)  
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## Share with your community

East Knoyle villagers love reading the newsletter. It is a great way to share information, and to stay connected. Please feel

free to send us articles, letters, recipes, reviews, photographs and anything else

## Useful contacts

Village Website [www.east-knoyle.co.uk](http://www.east-knoyle.co.uk)

Where you can also find online copies of the current and previous editions of the newsletter

Service		Number
Doctor	Hindon Surgery	01747 820222
	Tisbury Surgery	01747 870204
	Abbey View Medical Centre, Shaftesbury	01747 865700
Crime	Rural Crime Reporting Line	0800 783 0137
	PCSO Stewart Hunt	101 or 07423765925
Village Shop	Village Shop	01747 830735
	East Knoyle Post Office	01747 830928
Utilities	National Gas Helpline	0800 111 999
	National Power Cut Helpline	105
	Wessex Water	0345 600 4600
	CJM Tree Services 24/7 call out	07745 745257
East Knoyle Church	St Mary's Church	01747 830174

## Now Available on the East Knoyle website - 'Events in East Knoyle Calendar'.

The purpose of this calendar is not to advertise events as such, just to make us all aware of what might be happening during the year. It will also help organisers of additional events choose suitable dates.

It will be available on the East Knoyle website – <https://www.east-knoyle.co.uk/>

The calendar will not take the place of the excellent monthly diary already on the website. It will run alongside it, showing 'one-off events' (not regular activities, meetings, clubs, etc.). Have a look and plan your year! It is quite amazing what is happening on our doorstep.

*Please Note - It will be updated but relies on the 'calendar keeper' being informed by organisers, so always check nearer the time!*



**DEADLINE FOR  
MARCH / APRIL 2026 Newsletter  
10th MARCH 2026**

(Newsletters are normally distributed around 10 days after the copy deadline,