

Rowde Village News



December 2021 / January 2022



Covid-19 support in Rowde

The group has re-activated for our extremely vulnerable neighbours.

If you are unable to collect prescriptions yourself, or arrange to have them delivered, or need shopping urgently, please contact the support group on

01380 730078 or 01380 698567

or by email at

rpc.lisa.youth@gmail.com or patabryant@live.co.uk

Alternatively, if you are able to help others, we would love to hear from you too.

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Colour or mono portrait of a person or pet by local artist Alan Watters. Original portrait. Limited edition prints and/or personalised greetings cards packages also possible. Original supplied in a quality mount ready for framing.

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The Marie Curie Urgent Appeal

Right now, more people need us than ever before. Our nurses, hospices and Support Line have been here through it all, day and night, caring for dying people with and without coronavirus. We urgently need your donations to help continue our vital work.

To donate go to <https://mariecurie.org.uk/donate/>



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Editorial

Welcome to this edition of the Rowde Village News.

Great to see some photos included with the Monday Club News this time plus a good report from the Rowde Ladies Club (see page 4). Also great to have the Cross Keys contributing to the magazine again on a regular basis. Catch up on their latest news on page 5.

If you fancy going out to eat before Christmas, why not stay local, just walk to one of the village pubs or the Rowdey Cow and help save the planet! See the Rowdey Cow Christmas menu on page 7.

We also have a fascinating article about 'Dancing Bees' on page 9 and both schools are back with very good reports on pages 10 and 11.

And please do not miss reading the report on page 25 of the epic journey John Dalley recently made to raise a huge amount for charity. John, we salute you!

I was personally captivated by receiving a phone call then two or three emails about a recent reuniting of two ex-Rowde school chums who hadn't been in touch with each other since the late fifties and who asked me to share some of their amusing memories. Don't miss their reminiscing on pages 22, 23 and 42 and see if you recognise them and any of their other classmates in the school photo printed on page 42.

And I'm loving the new series of articles featuring the canal dwellers. Catch up on the second installment on page 12.

Other village matters to catch up on are the proposed new houses to be built off Reed Place on pages 23 and 24 and the continuing fight to save Furlong Close on pages 24 and 25.

Finally, from everyone in the magazine team, have a great festive period, keep staying safe and we will see you in 2022,

Ed

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

Notice to contributors & advertisers

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

Contributors please also note:

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

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

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

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Cover Images

"I can see my house in Rowde from here!"

The wonderful photograph on the front cover was taken recently by Kate Stephens. It's a cracker Kate!

"You lookin' at me?"

The evening shot on the back cover was taken looking west across the fields from Rowde Court by Alan Watters.

MONDAY CLUB NEWS

Bromham and Rowde Day Centre for Older People

Monday Club members continue to enjoy meeting in the cosy lounge area of Angell House, with its comfy chairs and small round tables. Since the beginning of October we have been able to go back to our usual times; arriving at 10am in time for a cup of coffee or tea and leaving at 3pm after an afternoon activity. Serena Dalby's midday meals are absolutely



delicious, and we are already looking forward to our Christmas lunch in early December. Sheila Sims gave a fascinating talk on quilting which inspired Tony to borrow a pattern book and have a go himself. Cathy Welch came along and gave us all a session of Chair Yoga. Everyone had a go, and Cathy was impressed by the efforts and fitness of our members. Last week Neil from Therapy Dogs brought along his gorgeous brown labrador Lacey, she loved being stroked and we loved stroking her. We are delighted that we now have three Trustees for Monday Club. Thank you to those who have come forward.

Please contact Carol, the Chair of Monday Club, to find out more.

Email: cmhindle@outlook.com

The Monday Club is a community day centre and lunch club for older people in Bromham and Rowde. It is grant aided through Wiltshire Council.

ROWDE LADIES CLUB

The ladies met on October 19th and enjoyed a 'Guess that Tune' quiz and listened to some old songs which brought back many memories. Raffle winner was Di Buckland.

The next meeting was on November 16th when we put our 'Creative Skills' into use by doing 3D card Making with some very attractive cards being produced. Raffle winner this month was Rose Stevens. We are pleased to welcome several new faces and some old members back and hope they will continue to enjoy an afternoon out each month.

Next meeting is December 14th at 2.30pm in the Village Hall when we will be making a Christmas floral decoration and the first meeting of the New Year will be on January 11th when we will have a demonstration of Needle Felting.

Di. Buckland

ROWDE TUESDAY AFTERNOON CLUB

Due to the small number of members it was decided that instead of a monthly meeting we would meet up now and again for a 'catch up' over a cup of tea or coffee. The first of these was on 21st September when we met for a Cream Tea at the Rowdey Cow followed again at the Rowdey Cow for Coffee on November 2nd. The Christmas Dinner will be on December 1st at, you have guessed it, the Rowdey Cow.

The Club will start again as soon as possible.

Daphne Ellis, Secretary/Treasurer 722655

HIWAY CLUB

(for the hearing impaired)

The Club will start again as soon as possible.

Di Buckland (Secretary) 723049

ROWDE VILLAGE HALL

It is hoped that the Village Hall will reopen again soon.

Barrie Barrett, Chairman 722186

CROSS KEYS NEWS

Another couple of months has flown by here at the Cross Keys. Paul; and the team would like to say thanks once again to the ever-growing number of friendly faces who make being in Rowde such a pleasure.

We have recently hosted a number of exciting events, including a fantastic second gig by the Life of Brian band, a number of first-Thursday-of-the-month Bingo Nights, and the recent 'Stewsdays'. The fortnightly Sunday quiz also continues to be great fun, for the person asking the questions at least! There are a few ideas in the pipeline (think more bands, 'Rock & Roll Bingo', and much more), so keep an eye on our Facebook page, Instagram (@crosskeysrowde) and website (www.crosskeysrowde.co.uk) for more details.



The replacement of the pub sign and the outside lights was a huge success (thanks Steve), met almost immediately by the fence at the front of the pub breaking in the wind.



Never mind – it is top of the rolling list of little touches and renovations which we are working on, and should be fixed just in time for something else to go wrong!

Sky Sports is now back at the Cross Keys, due to popular demand. Join us for the football, darts, grand prix, or whatever you fancy, and enjoy a refreshing drink to go with it. We are steadily expanding the range we have on offer: acquisitions since our last update include a new pinot rosé, Whitley Neill blood orange gin, Kraken dark rum, Thatcher's Haze on draught, and the immensely popular Spanish lager Madrí. We also serve a range of non-alcoholic beers and soft drinks, meaning that there is something for everyone to enjoy.

If you prefer live sporting action, our skittles, pool and darts teams are all going strong, keeping us busy on the first few nights of the week. Spectators are always welcome, with the slim danger that you might be called upon to settle scoring disputes...

Unfortunately, as some of you know, our wonderful chef Karen is temporarily out of action, which means a reduced food service for the next few weeks. However, we will keep serving the carvery every Sunday from 12-3pm, and we are trying our best to get the kitchen up and running full time again.



As always, if you have any questions, or if you just fancy a chat, give us a call on 739567, or ideally pop in and see us any time we're open – we look forward to serving you.

Thanks, Paul and the team

ROWDEY COW NEWS



So as we approach the end of 2021 we look hopefully towards 2022 for an easier year. This year started with the cafe being closed for the first quarter due to covid guidelines and then followed by the devastating news that over 100 cattle had to lose their lives due to TB. This month has seen the sale of the last of the cattle which were thankfully TB free and the Farm Equipment and Machinery Sale.

On a brighter note we have had some really lovely days at the cafe being much busier than previous years and we have been able to maintain the quality and traceability of our ice cream by using our neighbouring farm's milk from the Padfield family in Seend. We have a wonderful team of staff who have helped us adapt to the difficult times and improve our service and ensure we keep the cafe a safe and a friendly place to come.

As we look towards the Festive Season we have sold out of all our Breakfasts and Teas with Father Christmas. We are still taking bookings for Christmas lunches and afternoon teas. We also have some evenings and private Christmas functions booked in too. We have a couple of tables still available on the evenings of the 3rd and 15th December. We have other evenings available for private functions for 20 plus guests. Please see our Christmas Menu and give us a call if you would like to reserve a table. Our Sunday Roasts are really popular too so would recommend booking in advance although sometimes we are able to accommodate walk ins we can't guarantee it.



We will be open every day up until and including Christmas Eve when we will close at 3pm ready for the Rowde Crib Service which is to be held here this year. We are incredibly excited about this. We will be closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and Bank Holiday Monday (25th-27th) and then open as normal from Tuesday 28th December.

With the colder weather we will be looking to bring the animals in but are looking to house them in a way that cafe visitors can still go in and see them. We are launching our new Winter Warmer Menu this week and we are trialling recipes for different Festive Ice Cream Flavours too.

We hope that you all stay safe and healthy and have an enjoyable Christmas and New Year and please keep visiting us during the Winter months!

Sue x





The Rowdey Cow Christmas Menu

~ Adult 2 Course - £16.95 ~

~ Adult 3 Course - £22.75

Smaller Appetite 2 Course - £12.95 ~ Smaller Appetite 3 Course £16.95

Starters:

*Parsnip & Apple Soup with Parsnip Crisps & Sourdough Bread * ***

Caramelised Red Onion Chutney & Goats Cheese Tartlet with Mixed Leaves & Balsamic Glaze

*Homemade Breaded Brie Served with Cranberry & Port Compote **

Mains:

*Roast Butter Basted Turkey Breast, Sage, Onion & Cranberry Stuffing & Pigs in Blankets Served with Gravy (Liquid Gold) **

Beef Wellington - Fillet Steak Topped with Chicken Liver Pate & Mushroom Duxelle Encased in Puff Pastry Served with a Mushroom & Red Wine Sauce (£3.00 Supplement)

*Roast Loin of Cod with a Prawn, Herb & Citrus Crust **

*Nut Roast with a Tomato & Basil Sauce * ***

All Served with Roast Potatoes, Parsnips & Seasonal Vegetables

Desserts:

*Christmas Pudding with Brandy Cream or Custard **

Baked Orange & Chocolate Cheesecake with Stem Ginger Ice Cream

*Trio of Rowdey Cow Ice Cream or Sorbet * ***

Followed By...

*Coffee & Mince Pie * ***

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WE NEED YOU!

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

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

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

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

DISCLAIMER

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

Alan Watters, Editor

Magazine Submission Deadlines for 2021/2022 (bi-monthly)

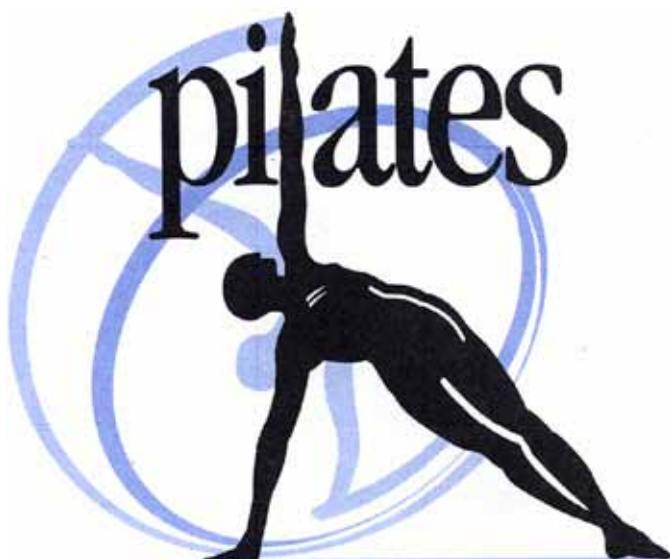
15th November 2021

15th January 2022

15th March 2022

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@ Rowdefield Farm, Rowde:

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Mondays @ 6.00 pm

Tuesdays @ 6.30 pm

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Improvers/Intermediates

Tuesdays @ 9.30 am

To book your place or for any enquiries please email suzijj@rocketmail.com or call Suzan on 01380 729791

find me on INSTAGRAM: med.pilates or FB: Move Every Day Pilates

THE BUZZ ABOUT BEES

Dancing Bees!



Bee Foraging for Pollen and Nectar

Some of you may have heard of the bees' dances. In this article I hope to explain a bit more about one of them, the waggle dance.

The waggle dance was first described by Karl von Frisch working at the university of Munich during the dark days of World War II. He won a Nobel prize for his work in 1973. No Nazi, with a Jewish grandmother and employing several Jewish scientists, he kept a low profile and didn't publish until after the war.

Bees forage for pollen and nectar and take it back to the hive as food for the colony. We have all seen the bees busily working their way around the flowers and flying straight back, on a beeline, to the hive when they can carry no more. Each of the foraging bees has learned where the hive is and how to get back. Some of the forages also act as scouts.

Scout bees find new sources of food and tend to be older foraging bees. They know the lie of the land and are also 'expendable'. This can be high risk work. Going into unknown areas, perhaps further than before – bees get lost. When the scout has found a new source of food, she returns to the colony and tells the other worker bees about it. She recruits them to work this new food source. How does she do this? This is the waggle dance.

In the dark interior of the hive, the scout bee traces out a figure of eight (see fig A and fig B) on the surface of a honeycomb. This is called the dance floor! She runs in a straight line wagging her abdomen very rapidly (the waggle-run), then circles round to the left and repeats (next time circling around to the right). The longer the waggle run, the further away the food is; the more violent the wagging the better the food is. She also tells the other bees the direction of the forage (see fig B). If waggle-runs are towards the top of the hive then the food is in the direction of the sun. Any angle away from the top of the hive in the dance is the angle away from the sun in which the other bees must fly to reach the food. They also get a taster (call it a free sample) of what they are looking for by smelling and tasting the scout bee and what she has brought



Fig A. Bee dancing the waggle dance with audience

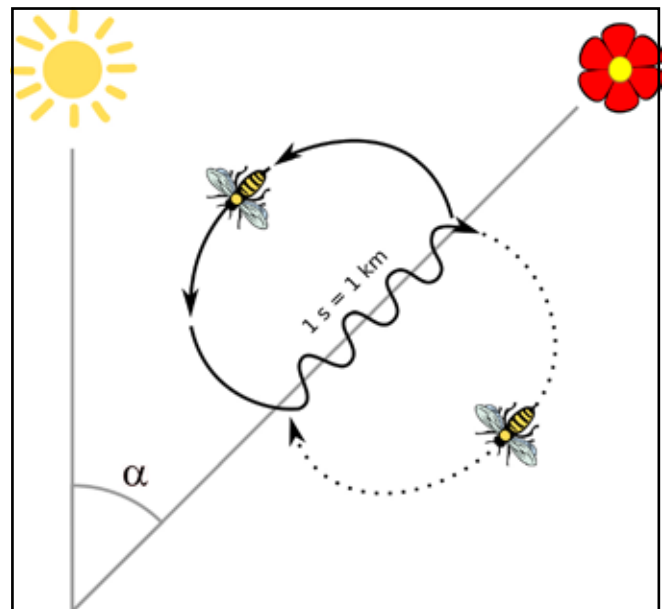


Fig B. Diagram of the waggle dance

back. Remember, all this dancing is done in the dark. The other bees sense the vibration of the dance in the comb and feel the scout with their antennae as she passes. Some of the bees recruited are other scouts and they will fly to the new food source. If they like it too, then they will return, dance the same dance and recruit more bees, so bigger food sources get more workers (think of a field of oil seed rape or perhaps a chestnut tree in flower).

The waggle dance is also used by bees to find new homes after the bees have swarmed, when the scouts are looking for suitable accommodation. This time the dance is done on the cluster of bees itself and the right decision is vital. A bad choice can lead to the failure of the swarm.

David Brown, Rowde Hall Cottage
01380 722406 davidb.rowde@gmail.com

NEWS FROM ROWDE PRIMARY ACADEMY

Our bright start leads to their bright future

I am delighted to be writing this article for the Village News. As always, my first question seems to be "Where has time flown since my last article?" Sharing what we are doing at Rowde CofE Primary is enormously rewarding especially as it involves welcoming our newest members to our family.

This year's reception started full time after only two mornings of part time. We thought about the benefits of doing this, both for our children and parents and I think we can all agree it was a great success. The children have demonstrated resilience and determination from day one and have settled enthusiastically into our learning routines. I am already hearing the children use the expression "We are Rowde".

The days are busy and we are thoroughly enjoying our new phonics scheme called Little Wandle. Our daily phonics teaching is exceptionally structured but enjoyable and the children can't wait to find out what the new sound of the day is. They are already becoming readers as a result of being able to blend sounds together. We immerse ourselves in books and different stories and it brings so much enjoyment watching children taking on my role as teacher in their free flow play. Fortunately, it is never as a grumpy Mrs. Bq.



It is fantastic being able to welcome parents back into the classroom for weekly stay and play sessions. I know your children feel a great sense of pride in sharing what they are doing. They are as excited demonstrating the playdough finger exercises as they are singing to you or sharing a phonics lesson. Last week we got our story sacks out and played with the contents. It was great seeing parents interacting and having fun.

They are truly a happy and caring group of children and one of their favourite moments in a week is when Mr. Edy-Berry comes into the class to see them. He is quickly engulfed by their enthusiasm all wanting to share what they are learning or doing. I was most impressed that he didn't shy away from their shaving foam covered hands.

We are doing what we should be doing in reception which is learning through play, developing our language and building on learning in so many different areas. Most of all we are developing a love of learning and becoming independent, understanding that we might not be able to do something yet but trying is important.

We welcome visitors to our class to see what we do and we are all very proud of how we are doing. We would love to be able to share this with you.

Thank you and take good care,

Mrs Bq and Birch Class

You can now follow us on twitter at Rowde C of E Primary@RowdeSchool or on Facebook



NEWS FROM SILVERWOOD SCHOOL - ROWDE CAMPUS

Building Community, Inspiring Learning

Executive Headteacher - Mr Sean McKeown

Silverwood Sponsored Journey

Our annual sponsored event took place at the Rowde campus in October. The Silverwood Journey this year was a Sponsored Journey of 60km (the distance between the three main Silverwood campuses). The journey was run/walked/wheeled around an obstacle/mud course with a colour run adding in for good measure. Each year group completed their allocated distance with some year groups completing almost 80km in total. It was a fantastic day where pupils showed amazing co-operation, courage and perseverance. Both pupils and staff had a great time overcoming the challenging obstacles and the deep mud on the course.

Well done everyone!!!



Wonderful news

Elder Class (Year 9 Rowde) won the Wiltshire Bee and Honey Day art competition. Their entry was called "Bee on a Flower" Congratulations to them all.

TRUE CHRISTMAS STORIES

A wish come true

My mom is a bit of a pack rat. Recently she went digging under her stairs for some holiday decorations and came across a birthday card I had sent her 30 years earlier. She called me to say my wish for her had come true.

"What wish?" I asked.

"You wished me a happy 30th birthday," Mom replied, "and hoped I'd live for another 30 years - and I have!"

Teri Beauchesne

Stocking stuffers

One Christmas my husband put an assortment of beauty products in my stocking. I tried one of the facial masks, and was about to wash it off when my eight-year-old son, Callum, walked in. I

explained to him that it was a present from his dad and it would make me beautiful. He patiently waited by my side as I rinsed and patted my face dry.

"Well, what do you think?" I asked.

"Oh, Mom, it didn't work!" Callum replied.

Lynn Thibodeau

Misheard lyrics

When my niece was a student, her class of six-year-olds sang "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" at a Christmas concert. The line "God and sinners reconciled" was a tricky one for this age group.

One little boy, with a voice that completely drowned out the rest of the choir, happily belted out, "God and sinners dressed in style!"

Jessie Robertson

AN UNEASY PARADISE - LIVING ON THE WATERWAYS



Julia

I moved onto the canal about five years ago. I'd been walking along the towpaths around here for many years before I got my boat, always thinking I would like to have one of my own one day and live on the water, and that window of opportunity came to me when my eldest child left home and my youngest was very keen to move onto the canal as well.

Living this way has simplified my life; I swim a lot in the river and live more naturally and harmoniously with nature. It makes me feel more in tune with everything and not be too separate and wrapped up in a human-dominating world where people believe they're superior to nature and that they can conquer it.

The longer I am here the more I feel a sense of belonging. The community here welcomed me, but like any community it has its ups and downs and its difficulties, it's not perfect any more than any other community or world. It's not idyllic. There's a lot of hard work, there's conflict as well as joys. I think that it reflects the truth about the state of the world and so maybe it is more honest.

This way of life has completely changed my mindset, which is perhaps the most important of all. The way I am about everything, my whole thinking, has completely altered. The moving is refreshing and stops the stagnation and now I feel I've got to a point of no return, I don't think I could live in a house-type dwelling again.

Julia

On the canal everyone comes together and everyone provides something different, we've all kind of stumbled across this and then we all add to it, we all participate. I think it's good

that our community is colourful and distinctive; I think we should celebrate our diversity and how different our lifestyle is.



Becky (and Salvador)

It's wonderful, the whole boating life. Here life is really simple. People aren't always rushing around. I feel secure. I know all of my neighbours and everyone is looking out for each other. I have this lovely community and I feel blessed I've made such good life choices. On the canal I'm never bored because I'm surrounded by beauty – I can look out my window and watch the ravens courting or the barn owl hunting. We make our own entertainment; we play music, we have fires, we forage, and it's all absolutely free. During lockdown I wanted for nothing. I didn't need to buy anything, or get anything, or change my life in any way. I've realised that everything that actually makes me truly happy are the things we've evolved with; sitting round a fire or having a swim in the river, being in a community, these make me feel satisfied in a way that money can't. I think we're very lucky, here on the canal, that so many of us feel satisfied with comparatively little.

Becky

From the series - An Uneasy Paradise : Living on the Waterways

Instagram @anuneasyparadise

And the softcover book of the same name is available on Amazon or from sebastienandlouise.com



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Your Parish Council

Please visit the rowdevillage.org website; the Rowde Parish Council Facebook page and the village noticeboards for confirmation of forthcoming Parish Council meetings.

A full set of minutes is available on the village website. If you would like to receive a hard copy of the minutes, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Parish Council Meetings

Since the last edition of the Rowde Village News, the Parish Council has met on 20th October and 10th November 2021.

Chairman of Rowde Parish Council

The Parish Council say thank you to Cllr P Bryant for her time as Chairman of Rowde Parish Council. Cllr P Brown was elected as the new Chairman of Rowde Parish Council at the meeting in October 2021.

Our Community

Update on Hft, Furlong Close – Cllr Mayes

Hft is working to improve on the recent inadequate judgement by the CQC. The Hft branded 'Furlong Close' signs have been removed from the entrance to Furlong Close to improve inclusivity in the community. New street signs have been ordered through Wiltshire Council.

Wiltshire Council undertook two tender bid processes to find an alternative provider for care, which were both unsuccessful. The friends and families of residents at Furlong Close are working with property developers to possibly purchase the site and install their own care provision.

Cllr L Mayes is regularly in touch with the families of residents at Furlong Close.

Silverwood School

Planning permission was granted for the extension to Silverwood School at the Strategic Planning Committee on Wednesday, 6th October 2021. Cllr Jane Davies, Cabinet Member for SEND, spoke in favour of the application and the Committee was unanimous in its approval. Work will start in the spring and the new facility will be ready for September 2023.

Willmott Dixon, the construction partner for the development at Silverwood School, began work with Wessex Water in the October half term to divert a water main that will clash with the proposed new classroom block. Some water pressure problems were experienced in the village.

Village matters

Planning

Neighbourhood planning

The results from the 'Visioning event' which was held jointly in Rowde (on 6/9/21), Bishops Cannings and Devizes Town have been published. The level of participation from Rowde was high. These results will help to form neighbourhood planning policies moving forward.

Reed Place

Cllr P Brown has expressed the intention for local residents to be allocated the new proposed homes at Reed Place. Wiltshire Council has advised that these homes will be advertised and allocated in accordance with the Homes4Wiltshire policy, the priority of which is local connection based, before cascading out to surrounding Parishes and beyond. Cllr Mayes stated that it is essential that Rowde residents, identified by the 2019 housing need survey and who are in need of the proposed affordable homes in Rowde, should register with Homes4Wiltshire to apply when the homes become available. *(see also article on pages 25 and 26, Ed)*

Planning Applications

PL/2021/09262: Plot 5, Ox House Farm, Rowde, Devizes, SN10 2LU (dog walking field). Variation of condition 1 (approved plans and documents) on 17/00684/FUL to allow for changes to hours of operation. Deadline for consultation: 9/11/21

The Parish Council had no objections.

21/02406/FUL Caen Hill Marina, Lower Foxhangers, Rowde, Devizes, Wilts, SN10 1SS. The installation of 10 No. Camping Pods at Caen Hill. Response date 15/11/21. The Parish Council did not have any objections.

PL/2021/09910: 33 Tower View, Rowde, Devizes, Wilts, SN10 2PR Householder planning permission Formation of new vehicular access to. Response date: 25/11/21. The Parish Council did not have any objections to the application, but they queried whether the whole area was in the ownership of the applicant. There were concerns about the loss of further general parking spaces due to the new proposed access. The Parish Council were also concerned about the access crossing over a pavement.

PL/2021/09965 Lower Farm, Devizes Road, Rowde, Devizes Wilts, SN10 2LX. Permanent stationing of a static caravan for use as a residential annex. Response date 1/12/21. The Parish Council did not object to the application provided the annex continue to be connected to the existing building and that no one lives there independently.

Highways

Cllr C Greenwood and the Clerk attended the Community Area Transport Group (CATG) meeting on 9/11/21. A substantive bid has been made by Wiltshire Council on behalf of the Parish Council for funds to create a footpath in Tanis.

The Parish Council is required to submit evidence to the Community Area Transport Group to justify installing a Speed Indicator Device (S.I.D). Wiltshire Council strongly advise identifying three to four locations for the S.I.D to be moved regularly too.

- The Parish Steward has been asked to cut back the foliage around the 30mph sign by Silverwood School.
- The Parish Council has purchased a new grit bin for Rowde Court Road, at the back entrance to St Matthew's Church. The Parish Council has requested the purchase of a further two grit bins: one for Springfield Road, in front of no. 29, a second for the entrance to the Tower View cul-de-sac.
- The Parish Council thanked Fraser Drake for cutting the grass on the Common and for clearing the ditch in the recent torrential weather.

Footpaths & Cycleways

- Jim Butler has proposed a new cycle track from Bromham to Braeside. This proposal is being discussed with the Merchant Venturers. It was noted that Cllr Tamara Reay is putting together a similar scheme for Potterne.
- M Somerville & G Raine were thanked for their work on the Hangings footpath, to trim back the overgrowth and to repair the fencing.
- The stile has been replaced at the start of footpath ROWD24. However, the stile at the other side of the field on that footpath has collapsed and needs to be repaired. The bridge across the ditch is also in a dangerous condition.
- Cllr D Pullen reported that corrugated sheets have been used along footpaths in the village (BROM76). These need to be filled with gravel, otherwise they become slippery when wet and then dangerous.

- Several people have volunteered to form a footpath working party. Cllr D Pullen has asked that a risk assessment is carried out first. The Parish Council will also need to purchase some tools.

- There has been an application to re-route footpaths (ROWD5 & ROWD2) away from Rowdefield Farm. The Parish Council supported this application.

Play areas

- The safety reports have been received and some remedial work has been recommended for the play areas. The damaged back of the grind box in the skate park has been repaired, along with the vandalised (recently replaced) wet pour in the toddlers' play area in the Tower View Play Area.

- One of the multi activity walls in the Tower View play area has been damaged. Both walls will be moved, and one will be put into storage. The other one will be re-sited to the centre of the Tower View play area.

- The Parish Council has asked for the quotations for replacement fencing to be revised with new measurements.

- The toddlers' picnic table will be replaced.

Allotments

Cllr S Green reported some concern about unworked plots but also noted that it is not the right time of year for much gardening to take place.

The Parish Council has made a donation on behalf of Jim Butler to Dorothy House for the digestate that he kindly donated to allotment holders.

If you are interested in having an allotment plot, please contact Cllr Green for more details.

National Grid

A representative from National Grid attended the Parish Council meeting on 20th October 2021 to give a presentation on the Visual Improvement Scheme (VIP) which will remove the electricity pylons across Roundway Down and place the cables underground.

Finance Update

Payment was approved for September invoices (total: £3,101.83)

Admin costs: £1,663.35

Ground's maintenance: £822.02

Village Repairs: £616.46

Payment was approved for October invoices (total: £4,192.15)

Admin costs: £1,249.37

Ground's maintenance & waste collections: £594.38

Playground repairs & RoSPA report: £2,348.40

Parish Council income for September & October 2021

09/09/2021	Precept	£18,822.46
06/09/2021	Pitch hire	£24.00
06/09/2021	Pitch hire	£529.50
09/09/2021	Interest	£0.06
30/09/2021	Interest	£0.30
09/10/2021	Interest	£0.06
31/10/2021	Interest	£0.29

My Wiltshire App

- The more reports that are logged through 'My Wiltshire', the higher the priority the issue will be given.
- It is easy to report problems like potholes, dog mess, graffiti, litter and street lighting in your area using the 'My Wiltshire' online form. Reports can be made anonymously, or you can register for free. Once you have registered, you can track the reports you have made, and receive notification

once the work has been completed. The more residents report issues, the more likely we are to have them fixed.

- The 'My Wiltshire' page can be accessed through the Wiltshire Council website at: <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywilts-online-reporting>

Concerns

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

You can contact us through the Rowde Parish Council Facebook page, or by e-mail: rowdeparishcouncil@gmail.com, or by telephone: 01380 501919.

Police Matters

If you need to report a crime:

Please dial 101 to report a crime and 999 in an emergency.

It is possible to follow the Police on:

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

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

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

Dates for the diary

Parish Council meetings dates can be found in the village diary at the back of the magazine. We invite all villagers to attend, to observe and to make use of the public question time at the Parish Council meetings.

A full set of minutes is available on the Parish notice boards and on the village website.

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ROWDE PARISH COUNCIL

Philip Brown	Chair	p208brown@btinternet.com	07554 311726
Lisa Wills	Vice-Chair	rpc.lisa.wills@gmail.com	01380 730078
John Dalley	Sports & Playing Fields	rpcjdalley@outlook.com	07592 063789
Debra Pullen	Footpaths, Bridleways	rpc.dpullen@gmail.com	
Chris Stevens	Play equipment safety; Grounds maintenance	rpc.cstevens010@gmail.com	
Wayne Cherry	Roads & transport, inc Silverwood Traffic Group	rpc.wcherry@gmail.com	07511 748954
Sally Green	Allotments; Rowde Primary School liaison	sallygreenrpc@yahoo.com	
Mandy Humphreys	Furlong Close liaison	loireuncorked@me.com	
Josh Wills	Playing fields; Youth Co-ordinator	rpc.joshwills@gmail.com	
Chris Greenwood	Neighbourhood Planning	cj_g@me.com	
Pat Bryant		rpcpatbryant@outlook.com	01380 698567
Rebekah Jeffries	Clerk	rowdeparishcouncil@gmail.com	01380 501919

Wiltshire County Councillor for Rowde

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

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



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December Worship in Rowde, Bromham and Sandy Lane

Services in St Matthew's, Rowde are in bold.. Services in Bromham and Sandy Lane are in *italic*. Please visit our website, for the latest information



on our services:

Everyone is very welcome at all our services

Date/Time	Service
Dec 1 11am <i>6.30pm</i>	Wednesday Coffee and Communion, Rowde <i>Christingle, Bromham (outside Church)</i>
Dec 5 8am <i>10am</i> <i>6pm</i>	Advent 2 Holy Communion (BCP), Rowde <i>Holy Communion, Patronal Festival, Bromham</i> <i>Darkness to Light, Bromham</i>
Dec 12 <i>8am</i> 10am <i>4pm</i>	Advent 3 <i>Holy Communion (BCP), Sandy Lane</i> Holy Communion, Rowde <i>Carol Service, Sandy Lane</i>
Dec 18 <i>6pm</i>	<i>Lessons and Carols, Bromham</i>
Dec 19 8am <i>10am</i> 6pm	Advent 4 <i>Holy Communion (BCP), Bromham</i> <i>Holy Communion, Bromham</i> Lessons and Carols, Rowde
Dec 24 3pm <i>TBC</i> <i>11.30pm</i> 11.30pm	Christmas Eve Crib Service, Rowdey Cow, Rowde <i>Crib Service, Bromham</i> <i>Midnight Communion, Bromham</i> Midnight Communion, Rowde
Dec 25 <i>8am</i> <i>10am</i> 10am	Christmas Day <i>Holy Communion, Sandy Lane</i> <i>Holy Communion, Bromham</i> Holy Communion, Rowde
Dec 26	Christmas 1 No service Here is the link to Salisbury Cathedral link for live online services. https://www.salisburycathedral.org.uk/live
Jan 2 8am <i>10am</i>	Christmas 2 Holy Communion (BCP), Rowde <i>Holy Communion, Bromham</i>

Please visit our website, for the latest information on our services: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/9690/> or check the Church notice board for further information

Or contact the Administrator:

Sarah Bowler

sarahbromhamandrowde@gmail.com

07876142112

Private Prayer

The churches within our Benefice are also open for private prayer on the following days:

Monday to Saturday - St Matthew's Rowde 10am – 4pm

Monday to Saturday - St Nicholas Bromham 10am – 4pm

Sundays - Rowde & Bromham Church open when possible

Every day - Sandy Lane 10am – 4pm

Events

Visit the Monks' Choir

Did you see the Monks' Choir in church last year? Our resident group of knitted and cardboard monks will be singing again this year from early December until after Christmas. They welcome visitors anytime. If you'd like to knit a monk, the choir is happy to add new members to their number! Email or call Revd Heather Smith for the pattern (heathersmithserjeant@aol.co.uk 07702 113544). Cardboard monks are also welcome.

Regular Activities

Rowde Church Café on Tuesdays 10.45-12:00

Come and join us for coffee, cake and time to chat. Everyone welcome, from anywhere in the benefice!

Open the Book

For more information, contact Fran Hall: 07989758412 or Sarah Bowler: 07876142112 sarahbromhamandrowde@gmail.com

Growing in Faith - Prayer

For more information please contact Caroline Culley carolineculley1@outlook.com

Mothers' Union

Please contact Carole Myer for details: 01380 850706 or ed.myer@btinternet.com

Church Cleaning

For more information contact Jane Moss on 01380 729160 jmosscaudet@gmail.com Maureen Hiscocks 01380 725406 for the brass cleaning rota.

Choir

Choir Leader: Vacant

Choir Practise Junior and Adults will return as soon as possible.

Bell Ringing

For further information please contact the Tower Captain: Richard Heath rich.p.heath@gmail.com/ or 01380 722379

Flower Arranging

Flower Guild Rota

5 & 12 December - Jane Sartin

18 December - Arranging for Christmas

2 January - tbc

9 & 16 January - Jill Myerscough

23 & 30 January - Caroline Keevil

For further information please contact: Jane Sartin j.ksartin@talktalk.net or call 01380 727446

Contact Details

Rector: Revd Ruth Schofield:

07738 858909 / 01380 850191
revrschofield@gmail.com

Associate Priest: Heather Smith

07795 822515

Lay Minister: Caroline Culley

07557 983940

Church Wardens:

Vacant

Benefice Administrator: Sarah Bowler

07876 142112

sarahbromhamandrowde@gmail.com

Website: A Church Near You

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/9690/>

Benefice Facebook page: Churches of Rowde and Bromham

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/439328832796693/>

A Message from Revd Ruth

Dear Friends,

As December approaches, we might be thinking forward to Christmas, and all that it brings. Many of us will be hoping to spending time with family and friends in ways that just weren't possible last year. And at Church too, we'll be able to welcome many more to our services again. Do come and join us for the service of Lessons and Carols on Sunday 19th at 6pm. Last year we weren't allowed to sing, so we'll be making up for it this time with everything from "Silent Night" to "O Come All Ye Faithful".

On Christmas Eve, we're holding a special nativity service at the Rowdey Cow at 3pm. Children (and adults if they wish!) are welcome to come dressed up as a character from the Christmas story – we look forward to seeing lots of Marys, sheep and angels!

On behalf of everyone at St Matthews Church, I'd like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. Here's a blessing prayer for the season:

May the joy of the angels,

The eagerness of the shepherds,

The perseverance of the wise men,

The obedience of Joseph and Mary,

And the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas,

and the blessing of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you always.

Amen

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Travel Alert
Travel restrictions may apply and
transportation services are subject to change.
Please check online or phone 01249 444444
before you travel.

FUN COLUMN

Welcome to this month's fun column, as it's Christmas time coming up here's some festive jokes:

Christmas Wish

When a father asked his little boy what he wanted for Christmas, the boy replied, "A baby sister."

As it turned out, the wife was pregnant, and delivered on Christmas Eve. On Christmas day she brought home a brand new baby sister for their son.

The next year, when the father asked his little boy what he wanted for Christmas, the boy said, "If it wouldn't make mommy too uncomfortable, I'd like a pony."

Christmas At Church

6 year old boy: "I don't want to go to church on Christmas"

Mother: "It's important to go celebrate the birth of Jesus"

6 year old boy: "But we don't even KNOW him!"

Christmas Illness

A man with a sore throat went to see his doctor. The doctor prodded and poked and finally said, "Your throat's a bit swollen. Have you eaten anything unusual lately?"

The man said, "Well I know this sounds weird, but last night I ate all my Christmas decorations."

"That's it!" said the doctor. "You've contracted tinselitis."

One Liners:

Tis the season to awkwardly walk by someone ringing a bell.

This is that exciting time of the year when I find out what I'm getting my wife for Christmas.

Do you have any jokes to tell? Send them in!

PHOTO FUN

This issue we have some more fun panda photos



Do you have any interesting or amusing photos of people, pets or anything else? Send them in!



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Local News



'CATCH A FALLING STAR' - ROWDE FRIENDS REUNITED!

This lovely story is formed from email exchanges between recently reconnected ex-Rowde residents Kenneth Bull and Richard Cross, Ed

Hi Richard, it was absolutely fantastic chatting with you on the phone the other day. What a genuine pleasure after all these years. My mind has been running wild ever since with memories of Rowde, so I hope you don't mind if I pester you at times for help in filling in some gaps!

However, I wanted you to thank Sue for her memory of us singing together. It suddenly made sense of a memory I have of Shetland. It goes as follows;



Yell in the Shetland Islands

We arrived in Shetland after leaving Rowde in 1958 and lived with my grandparents on their croft on the island of Yell. No electricity. No piped water. No roads. Very remote and basic. It's also important to remember that while most houses had a 'radio', they were monster wireless boxes with valves that ran off acid-filled accumulators that ran out of power very quickly. Also, being so far north, reception was very poor so the



A typical 'monster' radio



Yell in the Shetland Islands

wireless was used sparingly for the BBC news and nothing much else. This meant the local kids had little idea of what the latest popular songs were.

So Margaret and I started attending our local primary school where we swelled the numbers from seven to nine! Plus one teacher and one cook. We had no idea what anyone was saying as the local dialect was like a foreign language to us. Then to my horror I was later told that us school kids would be putting on a Christmas concert in the local community hall. Songs, plays, poems, jokes. Just the nine of us putting on a full-blown concert to a packed hall.

I was to sing a song with my cousin Norma. Help! I was getting really worried until I was told the name of the song. CATCH A FALLING STAR!

I knew the tune and the words so that was okay then. Poor Norma had to start learning it from scratch. And on the night we didn't just sing the song but we acted out the whole bit about catching a star, putting it in your pocket as well as, to my mortification, "Just in case you feel you wanna hold her". But we got through it and finished with a great round of applause.



And that was all thanks to us kids in Rowde singing songs together. Which is made all the more special when you said that it's something Sue can remember. So a big thank you to you and Sue for making my first Shetland school Christmas concert much, much easier than it might otherwise have been.

I'm so chuffed to be in touch again and hope I didn't spoil your bread-making!

*Take care and all the best from your old friend,
Ken.*



Ken and Richard's school photo (see more on page 46)

MAN'S BODY FOUND IN CANAL AT ROWDE

A police investigation was underway to identify a body of a man found in the Kennet & Avon Canal in Rowde on the morning of 30th October.

The body was found shortly before 9am by a member of the public close to the Caen Hill locks at Marsh Lane, Rowde. Police cordoned off the area while they investigated. Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service was also called out.



A Wiltshire Police spokesman said: "Our investigations are currently ongoing to establish the identity of the person, with a scene in place."

It is not known whether the man's death was as the result of an accident or something more suspicious.

He is described as a white man, aged between 60 and 70 years old, of slim build, approximately 5 foot 8 inches tall. He has a medium length, full white beard, with receding white hair with dark strands running through it.

He was wearing rectangular rimmed glasses, with black arms, one of which had black colour tape around it and he was wearing a navy-blue Spray Way waterproof coat, black trousers with holes in them and black, lace-up shoes.

Police are also appealing for anyone who may have seen this man on the morning of his body being discovered or the evening before and ask that anyone in the local area check their CCTV or doorbell cameras to understand his whereabouts in the lead up to his death.

Anyone who can help is asked to call 101 as a matter of urgency, quoting reference number 54210105897.

PLANS FOR 10 NEW COUNCIL HOUSES IN ROWDE

Plans for a new estate of 10 council houses and flats in Rowde have been submitted.

Wiltshire Council has confirmed its intentions to build 10 new houses on land east of Reed Place, Rowde.

According to the planning documents, the council plans to build two one-bedroom houses, two one-bedroom flats, two two-bed bungalows, three two-bedroom houses and one three-bedroom property.

Cabinet member for housing, Phil Alford said the housing is part of the council's decade long development plan to increase the number of affordable housing in Wiltshire.



In June 2017, the local authority had developed on land adjacent to the new site, and in 2019 conducted a rural housing survey which showed the need for more homes in Rowde.

Cllr Alford continued, "With the land being in Wiltshire Council ownership and the need identified by the Housing Register, we took the decision to proceed with a planning application to develop this neighbouring piece of land to meet the growing housing need. If planning permission is granted, it is intended that the site would be one of three sites that will pilot a Modern Method of Construction (off-site manufacturing) that would enable the manufacture of the units to take place at the same time as the groundworks.

This should reduce the time taken and the environmental impact of traffic on the site. It is anticipated that the planned project would potentially be completed by summer 2022, however this would be reliant on contractor availability and essential utility connections."

FURLONG CLOSE SIGN TO BE REPLACED TO DELIGHT OF FAMILY GROUP

Source - Gazette & Herald



Supporters of Furlong Close residents are celebrating the removal of Hft's sign at the entrance to the street.

The branding has been a source of upset since it was installed. A spokesman for the Families and Friends of Furlong Close said they were delighted by the removal.

The group added that since it was given an inadequate rating from the Care Quality Commission, Hft had strengthened the management and made positive steps to address the safeguarding issues at the complex. Hft has asked Wiltshire Council about a new road sign for the street in Rowde.

In a statement it said: "The CQC's guidance sets out the regulator's desire that the homes of those in the community who have disability are indistinguishable from all other homes in the locality and for this reason the CQC requests that care providers should not display any branded signage.

The removal of the sign by Hft is yet another very positive step in the collaborative approach being followed by Hft and the Families and Friends in their united desire to ensure that Furlong Close regains its Good ratings on all categories inspected by the regulator.

To that end a successful first meeting has been held between Hft management and representatives of the Families and Friends and it is intended that this monitoring group shall meet regularly to discuss care on site and in particular to discuss Hft's rapid response to concerns expressed by CQC in its most recent inspection report."

Hft regional director for the south west, Emma Bagley said: "The Hft sign at the entrance to Furlong Close was removed just over a week ago and we have contacted the local authority about a private road sign for the street."

The Families and Friends spokesman added: "These are positive moves in building a constructive relationship with Hft which will pave the way for a viable, sustainable future for Furlong Close and its current and future residents."

FURLONG CLOSE UPDATE

Back in October 2020, the families and residents were in despair at the shock news that Hft and Wiltshire Council had arrived at a joint decision to close Furlong Close down and force its vulnerable residents to move elsewhere. Little did we think then that we would now be in the advanced stages of putting in place a plan to acquire the site from Hft and modernise it, so that our relatives can remain in their homes, with their longstanding carers, under the management of a new care provider.

We have had to fight hard to get to where we now are and we could not have done it without the unstinting support of the local community in Rowde. We are now hopeful that we have the support we need from Wiltshire Council to carry our plans to fruition, but if the Council drags its feet we will let you know and ask the village to remind them that the residents of Furlong Close are very much part of our community. As the children of Rowdeford School wrote earlier this year in an open letter – "We are Rowde and so are they!"

Soon, we will be seeking to engage directly with the local community in Rowde and Devizes about our plans, so that we can hear any suggestions people might have about how we could enhance Furlong Close as an asset both for the residents and the local community and ensure an even closer engagement between the residents and the village moving forward. If your readers have any thoughts about this, we would very much welcome hearing from them by email to me at mjssc@7thfloor.com.au.

The residents and their families are incredibly grateful for the support shown to them by the people of Rowde, which has sustained them through this difficult time and has made a great contribution to getting us this far.

Mark Steele

Families and Friends of Furlong Close



JOHN'S AMAZING CHARITY BIKE RIDE

In memory of my partner Delia Harris, I decided to do a ride around Britain visiting all 92 Football League stadiums, 12 Rugby Union stadiums and all 18 first class Cricket stadiums. I then followed that by adding all first class stadiums in Scotland - in total 167 sporting venues!

This took me 14 days, completing 5377 miles!

I started off in Bristol on my trusty old Honda 250 Superdream then later changed over to a 650 Honda Deauville. Daily trips of between 3 to 400 miles up through the middle of the country to Swindon, Northampton, Leicester, Nottingham, Derby and Birmingham starting each day at about 8am and usually not stopping until gone 10pm.

Off to the south coast, up in to South London with a stop off at Herne Bay then a day riding around London which was just so hard! After a puncture in Watford I then went on a journey up to Cheltenham, Worcester, Stoke, Mansfield, Rotherham and a stop over in Sheffield. Next was Yorkshire then up to Middlesbrough, through gale force winds and horrific conditions and on to Newcastle across the A69, enduring horrendous rain to get to Annan.

Oh yes, the beautiful coast of Scotland, going up through the Ayrshire coast was just stunning ..arriving at Glasgow, Greenock and the Erskine Bridge then up through Glencoe, Fort William and a stop in Buckie. I would recommend this to anyone. It was then on to Aberdeen and down the East Coast; Montrose, Arbroath, Dundee and a night in wonderful Edinburgh.

Next day, on to Cowdenbeath, Stirling, Alloa and Perthshire then heading back down to England for a stop in Morecombe.

The Friday saw me doing 558 miles, starting at 7.30am and getting home Saturday morning at 01.45 hours, visiting Blackpool, Preston, Burnley then on to Manchester, Bolton, Wigan, Liverpool,



Crewe, Shrewsbury, Wolverhampton, Gloucester then home. I then had to go to Wales and back before heading off to Luton, Cambridge, down to Essex, Ipswich, Norwich and Peterborough, Lincoln, Hull, Doncaster and a long trip towards home and finishing with a little trip to Bath Rugby ground before ending up at Dorothy House.

I was joined by Charlie Carter and my friend Steve Bird down to Exeter and Plymouth ..popping in to Somerset Cricket.

Thank you to Wayne Fell who serviced the bike and special thanks to Gema, Taya and Liam for their fantastic love and support from start to finish. This was the hardest thing I have done! It was just so mentally draining and physically demanding but knowing what this was for just drove me on.

I have to say a big thank you from myself, Gema, Taya and Liam to the NHS and DOROTHY HOUSE for the fabulous care given to Delia and thank you everyone from the bottom of our hearts for your very kind and generous donations which helped me raise a total of £4509.36 which will be split 50/50 between both charities.

John Dalley

Devizes Almshouses



Devizes Almshouse Charity welcomes applications from people who would like to be considered for an Almshouse when a vacancy arises.

The Charity provides affordable accommodation for residents of Devizes and the surrounding area. Applicants should be over 60 and have lived in the area for a considerable length of time.

Applicants already registered with the Charity do not need to re-apply.

An application form can be downloaded at;

www.devizesalmshouses.org.uk

Or from; The Clerk to the Trustees
Devizes Almshouse Charity
Slade House, St James Gardens
Devizes. SN10 1EL

Telephone: 01380 736431

Devizes Almshouse Charity - Charity Registration Number 204453

Allotment Vacancies

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sallygreenrpc

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Rowde Parish Council



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e: heather@northwessextherapies.com

w: www.northwessextherapies.com

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4CHILDREN



What your 4Children Children's Centre offers

Groups and services that run from your local centre are designed for families with children under five. Your centre can provide you with information or advice on all aspects of family life, so drop in to visit us or call one of our staff team.



For further information or to get involved, telephone 01380 739835



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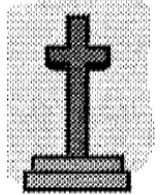
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Please contact me if you have any Council issues including:

Planning

Housing

Education

Highways – potholes, road schemes, speeding

Fly tipping and waste

Adult Social Care

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

Email: Laura.Mayes@wiltshire.gov.uk Tel: 07855 819343

Facebook: Laura Mayes – for Bromham, Rowde and Roundway

FREE CAT NEUTERING



Do you want to
neuter your
kittens
and
cats?



You know it's the right thing to do, and..

we are here to help you!

RSPCA Wiltshire Mid Branch

will pay, for a limited period, the cost of neutering and, at the same time, micro-chipping your cats and kittens if you live in **Devizes, Melksham, Westbury or Warminster** or the surrounding villages.

To apply for financial help to have your cats neutered, and, if you wish, micro-chipped at the same time, please send a blank e-mail to cnwiltson@gmail.com

We will reply with a link to the application form.

If you prefer you can telephone 07494-240622

YOU CAN APPLY FROM 25TH FEB. UNTIL 30TH APRIL 2021



Wiltshire Mid Branch
Registered charity no. 205925

Working together
to help you
and your pets



Registered charity no. 203641

CORONAVIRUS - BLOOD DONORS URGENTLY NEEDED!

And yes, you can continue to donate if you are over 70, well and have given a full donation in the last two years. There is no longer a restriction because of government guidelines.

At the moment we particularly need:

Male donors - men can donate more often than women.

Black donors - Ro blood is needed and a common type for black donors.

O negative donors - hospitals need this blood type most regularly, as it can be given to all patients.

We also urgently need people who have had coronavirus, or symptoms, to donate plasma (a special plasma appointment is required).

How to register to be a blood donor?

Check you are able to give blood. Register to be a donor online, or call 0300 123 23 23. Sign in to your online account and find an appointment – a number of appointments can be booked in advance.

You can also download the NHS Give Blood App to book or manage your appointments.



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find us on Facebook & Instagram as well



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Theodora Wildcroft



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ROWDE VILLAGE

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

Please note that our Rowde Village website manager is Rebekah Jeffries and she can be contacted at rowdeparishcouncil@gmail.com or 01380 720988.

Trevor Hale

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Is an award-winning local charity, seeking to reduce loneliness and isolation and in doing so improve health and well being for vulnerable elderly people through participation in the arts. We run weekly sessions in Pewsey, Marlborough and Devizes and are looking for friends and supporters to join us in fundraising, raise local awareness and help at our sessions.

COULD YOU PLEDGE SOME TIME AND HELP BY?

- **Businesses:** Adopting us as your 'Charity or Choice' or supporting us in other ways?
- **Individuals:** Help spread the word in your community, join our 'friends' scheme, run a fundraiser for us, help promote our work?
- **Groups:** We have plenty of ideas and resources to support groups involvement

For more info about our activities or being involved

liz.lavender@artstogether.co.uk / 07780860922

www.artstogether.co.uk Registered Charity 1109432

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Rowde Village News Pledge

The Rowde village News is independent of political parties, private interests and government. Our policy is to provide readers with a complete, fair, accurate and balanced news and information service.

Although we are a voluntary run, nonprofit making publication we still do our best to adhere to the Press Complaints Commission's Code of Practice. While we try hard to avoid mistakes, some errors can occur during the part time and hectic process of producing one of Wiltshire's largest and most regarded village magazines (apparently, from feedback received over recent years).

Our policy is to correct errors of fact as soon as possible and, where appropriate, apologise. If you find an error of concern, please contact the editor (contact details on page 3).

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Alan Watters, Editor

Wiltshire Mind



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Phone 01225 706532

Reg Charity Number: 1113751 Reg Company Number: 5498430

Are you age 60+?

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Mondays

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followed by coffee/tea and a chat at Rowde Village Hall

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For more information contact:

Yvonne 01380 723086

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The G&D Winter Events

G&D Delux Christmas Menu now available

£30 for delicious 3 course meal

(see our website for the menu)

Village Special: receive a glass of fizz on arrival from us!

St Mathews Christmas Carol Service & Village supper

Sunday 19th December from 4.30pm at The G&D

Join us at 4.30pm for complimentary mince pies and mulled wine before the Church Carol Service at 6pm. Back to G&D for a 2 Course Christmas Supper of Roast Turkey & all the trimmings & homemade Christmas pud. Adults £20/kids £10

Christmas Day

Open for drinks from 11am until 1pm

(Chippy happily accepts presents, bribes & bottles of white Burgundy!)

G&D Boxing Day Bring Me Food Menu

Come and relax here at The G&D and let us cook your Boxing Day lunch for you... 3 Course Menu where the food is served on platters and guests help themselves – so delicious!!!! Adults £45/kids £22.50

New Years Eve

After everything we've been through this year lets say goodbye & Au Revoir to 2021 and welcome in 2022! 5 course sharing menu (see website for menu). Or come join us from 10pm for some G&D nibbles, glass of fizz & make-a-wish rocket at midnight £15pp entry.(pls book your places by 30th December)

January Sale – 25% discount off the total bill

Our little present to you to welcome 2022! (Monday - Thursday)

Thank you for your continued support and as always we look forward to seeing you at the pub.

Chippy & The G&D Team 01380 723 053

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*Please call Jo at The Tranquil Moment Health and
Beauty Clinic to make an appointment*

**Call us or follow us on Facebook for up
to date offers and news**

VILLAGE DIARY

Parish Council Meetings

(All Wednesdays 7.30pm - venues to be confirmed.
Please check noticeboards and website for location)

8th December 2021

12th January 2022

Other Events

19th December - Christmas Carol Supper - [page 36](#)

25th December - Christmas Day Drinks - [page 36](#)

31st December - New Years Eve at the G&D - [page 36](#)

Every Tuesday - St Matthews Cafe - [page 19](#)

The Board Room

Reneleo House

46, New Park St,

Devizes

SN10 1DS

sycamorecentre.devizes@yahoo.co.uk

www.careconfidential.com/devizes

The
SYCAMORE
Centre

07762 382913

A Pregnancy Choices Centre

LETTERS

A COURAGEOUS BATTLE LOST!

On Wednesday the 14th of July in the early hours, just as the sun was coming up, my courageous, loving partner Delia Ann Harris lost her brave battle against this most horrible cancer. Myself and Delia spent 17 years together and were just so lucky to do so much together. I was the lucky one that got a loving family, with a daughter Gema, son Liam and granddaughter Taya Lilly.

Delia passed away peacefully with her loving family around her. I am just so proud and honoured to have been Delia's partner and so very proud of Taya, Gema and Liam. I would also like to put on record our sincere thanks and gratitude to Chris, Jane and Polly Wheeler for their loving and caring during Delia's passing, with Chris doing the service for her. What an outstanding job you all did. And many thanks for the sheer dedication and support from Dorothy House and our outstanding NHS in the care we all received.

We thank you all for the cards and lovely messages that so many of you took the time to send. Love to you all and god bless from Gema, Liam, Taya and Delia's sister Tina.

John Dalley

ALMSHOUSE CHARITY

Dear Mr Watters

I am writing from Devizes Almshouse Charity and hope you can help.

The Devizes Almshouse Charity provides affordable accommodation for residents (over 60) of Devizes and the surrounding area who are in some form of need. The charity currently has 56 properties, which are all located in the centre of Devizes and consist of one bedroom bungalows, two bedroom bungalows and one bedroom flats.. The Charity is open to new applicants who fit this criteria.

The Charity does not operate a waiting list but all applications are considered every time there is a vacancy. Applications remain valid for the period of three years after which applicants will be requested to update their application.

We would be grateful if you could put this notice in your parish magazine. (see page 26)

Kind regards, Lois McGuffog

Assistant Clerk to the Trustees

Devizes Almshouse Charity

Telephone: 01380736431 option 5

CARER CAFES BACK IN VENUES

Hi there,

I'd really appreciate if you're able to give any coverage to our carer cafes, which are back in venues after being closed for the last 15 months. They are spaces for unpaid carers to meet regularly and enjoy a hot drink and slice of cake on us.

If anyone requires any further information please call 0800 181 4118 or email admin@carersupportwiltshire.co.uk.

Kath Brice

FAKE DOOR TO DOOR SELLERS

Devizes Community Police Team intercepted a Nottingham Knocker recently in the Potterne area, following a call from a concerned resident.

Nottingham Knockers go door to door, selling household items at a usually inflated price. They show fake ID and will tell you that they are trying to get their life back together. Whilst this may be true, the practice of selling on the doorstep is illegal (Peddling without a license).

Often, the person will make note of vulnerable addresses, such as elderly residents, and pass these addresses on to unlicensed traders, with the resident possibly becoming a target which could result in them parting with a lot of money for usually sub-standard work.

There is a good chance they will continue to be in the area this week and, if you receive a visit from them, we advise you to politely decline to buy anything from them, close the door and call us on 101, giving a brief description and direction of travel. They won't have a vehicle with them as they are dropped off and collected later by a leader.

There is more information on Nottingham Knockers on the internet.

The male intercepted recently was told to leave the area and will be reported for the above offence.

Please make any elderly or vulnerable friends, neighbours or relatives aware of this advice.

Kath Symes

FRENCH LESSONS!

BROMHAM & ROWDE TWINNING ASSOCIATION

We are holding conversational French lessons every fortnight. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Janet Giles. 01380 850327 or janetmgiles10@gmail.com

Kind regards,

Janet Giles.

DOG WALKER / PET CARE SERVICES

Does your dog spend too much time home alone? Do you find it hard to fit in regular daily exercise for your dog amongst the stresses of everyday life? Let me help you! I'm a dog walker with over 10 years' experience working with dogs and other animals. I have worked for guide dogs and have been a supervisor at a busy kennels, as well as years helping at veterinary practises. My passion for animals runs very deep and their care and welfare is of up most importance to me. I am experienced, offering a professional, caring and friendly service to dogs & their owners of all Breeds I am fully insured and first aid trained.

I have a Facebook page where you can see reviews and updates of your dogs on their walks.
www.facebook.com/boopeeandfriends/

My website is www.boopee-and-friends.co.uk. Feel free to message me via website or on my Facebook page. Alternatively you can call me on 07368635866.

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Drum Kit for sale. 5-piece drum kit drum by Gear4music, blue. Suitable for beginners and experienced drummers. Comes with a stool, 5B drumsticks, drumheads, and a drum key. Cymbals included are 14" hi-hats, one 16" crash, and an 18" crash/ride. Excellent condition, some minor marking on cymbals. Price £160, offers considered. For more information, please contact Patricia on 07884962079.

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How to advertise here for FREE:

If you live locally and have an item to sell then just contact Julie on juliebaker72@yahoo.co.uk or telephone 07796690413, giving a brief description of the item, the amount you would like for it, and a contact telephone number (name optional). 'Wanted' ads also accepted. **Note - private advertisers only**

Please also let us know whether your item sells or not so that we can either remove it or keep it in for subsequent months

**PLEASE REMEMBER
to mention where you
saw the advert when
you contact any of
our advertisers!**

Sudoku (medium this month)

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

Last Month's Solution

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

Mini Sudoku (medium this month)

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

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

Last Month's Mini Sudoku Solution

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

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Logs and Kindling	28
<i>And please remember to mention where you saw the advert when you contact any of our advertisers! Ed</i>	

Quick Reference Contacts and Village Guide

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

Allotments

Sally Green

07824832424

or sallygreenrpc@yahoo.com.

Bell Ringing

Contact Richard Heath

on 01380722379

Bingo

Mondays 8 pm in Village Hall

Charities

Rowdeford Charity Trust

trustees@rowdefordcharity.org.uk

www.rowdefordcharity.org.uk

Church Coordinator

Benefice Administrator:

Sarah Bowler 07876142112

Church Choir

vacant

Church Wardens

vacant

Doctor

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

Football

John Dalley, Tel: 727094

Footpaths

Pat Bryant **01380 698567**

Garage

Slades of Devizes Tel: 727755

Hospitals

Devizes Community Hospital

Tel: 723511

Chippenham Community Hospital

Tel: 01249 447100

Trowbridge Community Hospital

Tel: 01225 711300

Ladies Club

Held in Village Hall on last Tuesday in the month at 8 pm.

Mrs Di Buckland, Tel: 723049

Local Councils

Wiltshire Council

Tel: 0300 4560100

Devizes Town Council 722160

Neighbourhood Police Team

Jo Newbury Rural Beat Manager

PCSO Georgina Dodd

Ring 101

Google devizes npt to contact the team on

www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk>devizes

Parish Council

Chair - **Pat Bryant**

Tel: **01380 698567**

Clerk - Mrs Rebekah Jeffries

Tel: 01380 501919

PC Repairs - 07833696328

ian@pcdoctor-devizes.co.uk

Playing Fields

For playing field bookings

please contact the Parish

Council Clerk on 01380 501919

rowdeparishcouncil@gmail.com

Police

Devizes Police Tel: 101

Pubs/Restaurants

Cross Keys, Tel: 078366506000

George & Dragon, Tel: 723053

Rowdey Cow Cafe, Tel: 829666

Rifle Club

Practice Wednesdays, Matches

Thursdays in Village Hall.

Laurence Plumb, Tel: 728174

Roads/Pavements

'My Wiltshire App or 03004560100

Rowde Court Studios

Ann Swan, Tel: 01380 724788

Rowde Rainbows

Meet: Tuesdays 6.15 to 7.15pm

Contact: Emma Moffat 07780756411

Email: RowdeRainbows@gmail.com

Rowde Village News

Alan Watters, Tel: 01380 724788 or

07886870053 watters.alan@gmail.com

Rowde Village Hall

Enquiries - Tel: 07926952631

Bookings - 722497 (after 6 pm)

Rowde C of E Primary Academy

High Street, Rowde SN10 2ND

Head teacher 723991

Silverwood School

Head Teacher

Tel: 850309

Hft Furlong Close (ex Self Unlimited)

Tel: 721309

St Matthew's Flower Guild

Liz Ibbetson, Tel: 720630

Flowers for all occasions,

Weddings, Funerals &

Anniversaries

TAXI

R H Reeves 725072

J Dalley 07592 063789

Toddler Group

Village Hall Thursdays 9.30-11.30

Tuesday Afternoon Club (60s+)

Held in Village Hall first Tuesday in the month at 2.30 pm.

Mrs D Ellis, Tel: 722655

Veterinary Surgeries

Estcourt - Tel: 723687

McQueens - Tel: 728505

The Paddock - Tel: 813202

Village Fete - Lisa Wills

Enquiries - Tel: 01380 730078

Website

www.rowdevillage.org

rowdeparishcouncil@gmail.com

or contact Rebekah 01380 720988

Youth Club

Iain Marr 07540017184

ROWDE MEMORIES

THE TRIKE!

This lovely story comes from a couple of emails between ex Rowde residents Kenneth Bull and Richard Cross.

Hi Richard,

I hope this little story doesn't disappoint as it's not a photo of you or from Rowde days but here goes.

A couple of years ago I was in Perth having a day out with Julia. That's Perth, Scotland, by the way, and not Perth, Australia! We were just wandering around window shopping when we happened to pass an antiques shop and there in the window was a little blue tricycle. I stopped and stared at it, and Julia said "what are you looking at?" I said "my friend Richard had a trike like that and I remember the day he fell off". I had this sudden memory as if it were yesterday of you getting a new blue tricycle and coming down a bit of a slope on the pavement from your gate and toppling off at the bottom where our gate was. And horror of horrors, there was a bad scratch on the beautiful new blue paint. You were a very unhappy wee boy and it rather spoiled our day of fun! Then I started having memories of somehow standing on the back of your trike and you pedalling like mad as we whizzed around Tower View. I took a photo of the Perth trike and came across it again the other day. From what you say, it doesn't quite look like a Gresham Flyer but it was close enough to jog my memory, especially the rear boot. Also from what you say, you did, indeed, have a little blue trike so I haven't been imagining things. What I don't

quite understand is how I could have stood on the back if it had a boot - or was I somehow standing in the boot?

Anyway, I'm delighted to know this hasn't been some figment of confused imagination and you really did have a trike. But do you remember falling off? Isn't it strange the things that stick in your mind and lie dormant for decades until something triggers it off?

I've lots of memories of Rowde and maybe over the coming months (and years hopefully!) you'll be able to tell me if they're correct or not.

Anyway, I hope you and Penny (and Sue) are all keeping well and clear of the virus. Take care and all the best from your old friend,

Kenneth

.....and the reply went like this:

I do remember having falls from the bike and being upset about a scratch which could have triggered my pride in all the cars we have had. The reason you could stand in the boot is the fact that the lid hinged down enabling you to step inside also there was a handle that folded under boot so that it could be released to allow someone to restrain the little sod riding it.

By the way that slope is still there from the gate and the little divots top and bottom were we used to play with our Dinky toys are still there, by the way I think your racing cars always reached the bottom before mine!

Lovely memories

Richard

The school photo below includes both Ken and Richard



Hi Richard,

I've not forgotten you and the splendid school photo you kindly shared! I've been looking at it almost every day trying to put names to faces but without much luck despite all of them being weirdly familiar as long-lost friends. Anyway, here's my thoughts;

Back Row: Definitely your good self in the middle at the back (circled)! And of course my less-than-good self third from the right at the back (circled).

Who's the girl between us? She's very familiar.

Ronald Knight 3rd from left. He taught me the art of climbing walls and stealing apples.

Georgina Fennell between you and Ronald.

Middle Row: Two girls 3rd from left and 3rd from right are very, very familiar but I can't remember names.

Front Row: Centre is cousin Madelene Jackson. Far right is Terry Brothers. I remember the day the Brothers' Alsatian got loose and flattened Margaret then stood

over her worrying her like a bone. There was a lot of shouting from us kids but fortunately grown-ups were soon on the scene to sort it out. Margaret loves dogs but to this day is quite wary of big dogs, especially Alsations. But who is the boy 3rd from right sitting next to Madelene? I remember he was put in charge of looking after me when I had an accident running round the corner to the outside toilets. I ran full tilt into one of the girls (which one?) and split my left eyebrow open. He sat with me while I lay on my back on the floor with a blood-soaked tea towel waiting to be taken away to hospital for stitches. Meanwhile class continued around me as if nothing had happened. The scar is quite faint but still there!

I think it's safe to say my memory has faded somewhat over the last 63 years but seeing that photo has reminded me of some very happy times. Thanks very much Richard.

All the best, Kenneth (can anyone fill in the gaps? Ed)

mander duffill


— Est 1947 —


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