

# Limpley Stoke

## news

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## Hop Pole Christmas fair

The Hop Pole team will host a **CHRISTMAS FAIR** on **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1** from 4pm–9pm outside the pub (front and back), with a bar, barbecue, bottle tombola, mulled wine and mince pies, carol singers and, of course, Santa's Grotto.

Local crafts people will be manning a variety of stalls selling hand-made jewellery, artisan soaps and candles, hand-made textiles, artwork and greetings cards, funky children's clothes, soft toys, peg dolls and hand-crafted glass. More details on all these traders at website address below.

The event is in aid of the Hop Pole renovation so you're advised to take small denomination notes and coins to buy food, drink and gifts and don't forget a bag to carry all your purchases.

**Can you help?** Around 40 volunteers are needed to help the event run smoothly and efficiently, so email [limpleystokecbs@gmail.com](mailto:limpleystokecbs@gmail.com) if you're able to lend a hand.

**Bottle donations** for the tombola – wine, fizz, craft ale, spirits – would be very welcome. If you have a bottle to donate, please deliver to Weir House on Lower Stoke or email [volunteerslscbs@gmail.com](mailto:volunteerslscbs@gmail.com) to arrange collection.

More details from <https://www.limpleystokecbs.org/news>



### Get your Christmas goodies here!

The Galleries shop and café is calling for the community's continued support in these difficult economic times (*see page 2*). There is a huge variety of products at competitive prices and, by shopping locally, you save fuel costs and lower your carbon footprint.

With Christmas fast approaching, the shop is well-stocked with festive items, including wine, chocolates, soaps, candles, panettone, cards and wrapping paper.



**More shop and café volunteers are needed.** It's a great way to contribute to your local community and meet people. No catering experience necessary as full training is provided. Contact **Aliya** on **07413 515153** or email [aliyamdaris@gmail.com](mailto:aliyamdaris@gmail.com).

# Galleries: 'use it or lose it' is the message

**W**e have an amazing community shop and café which is the envy of many villages. During the pandemic, the Galleries was the rock that helped us all get through the crisis but, in the last two years, turnover is down 10 per cent while inflation is driving up costs. The management committee run a tight ship but last year the business broke even and this year we are forecasting a loss. With energy costs rising fourfold, the Galleries future is at risk and, to survive, needs YOUR support.

## What can you do to help?

- If you don't have an account at the Galleries, please set one up. It only takes a few minutes and our volunteers can help you.

- If you already have an account, please increase your monthly payment by 20 per cent or more.
- Change your shopping patterns to include the Galleries in your weekly shop.
- Tell your friends and neighbours about the great range of products and food.
- Join our friendly family of volunteers by emailing Nanneke Kingston at [manager@galleriesshop.co.uk](mailto:manager@galleriesshop.co.uk)

## ▪ Use the Galleries shop and café more often

It would also be a great help if you could click on Google maps and give us a 5\* review.

## Did you know?

- Experts claim a community shop adds 5 per cent to the value of houses in the area.
- Galleries is 100 per cent owned by FLiSCA, a local community charity, and its profits fund the £70,000 of grants that FLiSCA has awarded to local community groups and associations.
- Galleries stocks a wide range of locally-sourced artisan foods at prices comparable to other local shops and cafés.
- Our café's coffee and cheese scones are rated best in the area.

If you have any suggestions about how we can encourage people to use the Galleries more, contact me on 07966 027 637 or email me on [simonhjcoombe@hotmail.com](mailto:simonhjcoombe@hotmail.com).



Wiltshire Music Centre (WMC) in Bradford on Avon, which attracts world-renowned performers from all musical genres, has been awarded more than

£300K by Arts Council England, to be spread over the next three years.

James Slater, WMC's Chief Executive, said: "This award demonstrates the value that is placed on our work, that we are delivering the very highest quality cultural experiences for our community, and that we have the ambition and determination to reach new audiences."

Culture Secretary and Chippenham MP, Michelle Donelan, who has long supported and campaigned for additional funding, said: "... the Wiltshire Music Centre really is a unique, world-renowned hub for education, with over 800 musicians rehearsing there every single week".

The grant will enable the award-winning concert venue to continue to present over 150 live concerts and events a year, as well as its Creative Learning Programme for over 5,000 children throughout the region.

In total, seven organisations in Wiltshire will receive a share of more than £2.2m a year, ensuring more people can find fulfilling art and culture on their doorsteps.

## Limpley Stoke boundary change proposal

The Boundary Commission for England (BCE) is currently carrying out a boundary review to re-balance the number of electors represented by each MP.

It is proposed that **Limpley Stoke** be moved out of the Chippenham Constituency – currently held by Michelle Donelan, MP – into that serving Melksham and Devizes.

Residents are invited to give their views on the proposed change by visiting the website at <https://www.bcereviews.org.uk/>, entering your postcode to go to the 'Your proposed constituency' page, and clicking the 'Make a comment' tab.

**Deadline for comments:  
Monday, December 5, 2022.**



# Wiltshire's Chief Constable to retire

Wiltshire's Chief Constable, Kier Pritchard, has announced his intention to retire in June 2023 after 30 years' service.

Mr Pritchard, who has been Chief Constable since March 2018, said: "I have served with Wiltshire Police for my entire career. The opportunity to lead this force as chief has been the greatest privilege of my professional career.

"It really has been an honour serving the communities of Wiltshire. This county is very close to my heart – it is my home, it is where my family have grown up, and it is also where I followed in the footsteps of my late father in joining Wiltshire Police at the age of 19 in 1993. Taken together, we have provided over 60 years of continued public service."

As one of the longest-serving chief constables in the force's recent history, Mr Pritchard started in post just as a major incident was declared in Salisbury following the Novichok nerve agent attack, the largest major incident the force and local partners had experienced, which dominated global news for many months.



## Electric bus service for BoA?

People in and around Bradford on Avon are being asked for their views on a sustainable, solar-powered electric bus service. Wiltshire Council's Area Board, Bradford on Avon Town Council and The Big Lemon community bus company are exploring the potential for such a service in and around the town.



If you'd like this service to come to our area, visit <https://www.thebiglemon.com/bradfordonavon/> to complete a survey. Paper copies are available from the Town Council offices in Kingston Road, BA15 1AA.

**Deadline for responses: Sunday, January 8, 2023.**

## Crowe Hill closure

Part of Crowe Hill will be closed to all traffic on **Monday, December 5**, from outside Sylvan Lodge for approximately 200m in a north-westerly direction, to enable Wessex Water to carry out an urgent reconnection to maintain supply.

The work is expected to take three days. Access will be maintained for residents and businesses where possible, although delays are likely due to the nature of the works.

For further information regarding these works, contact Wessex Water on 03456 004 600 or visit the roadworks website at <https://one.network/?tm=131322900>

### CHRISTMAS CHURCH SERVICES

ST MARY'S CHURCH, LIMPLEY STOKE

December 11	5.00 pm	Carol service
Christmas Day	9.30 am	Communion

ST PETER'S CHURCH, FRESHFORD

December 18	6.00 pm	Carol service
Christmas Day	11.00 am	Morning service



Wishing you  
all a happy  
Christmas and  
peaceful  
New Year



# What's On in Dec

## Film Night

**Thursday, December 15**

Limpley Stoke Village Hall  
Doors open 6.45pm / film starts 7.15pm

### **The Dead** by John Huston, 1987

Don't be put off by the title! This last film by John Huston, famous for his collaborations with Humphrey Bogart, is an adaptation of a James Joyce short story and described as "an exquisite and beautifully-crafted meditation on love and transience".

Why not sign up for the season? For details on how to join the club, email [limpleycreative@gmail.com](mailto:limpleycreative@gmail.com)



Horticultural Society talk

### **Organic gardening: Happy plants, happy minds by Nicola Hope**

**Wednesday, December 7**

7.30pm

Freshford Memorial Hall

A talk with a festive feel, as Nicola Hope, a self-



employed consultant organic horticulturalist, planting designer and writer based in Malmesbury, takes us through a calendar year in an organic garden.

Talk will be followed by wine and nibbles.

**Members free    Visitors £3**  
Everyone welcome.

### **Pop-up pub: 'The Top Pole'**

**Friday, Dec 16**

**6.30–10pm**

**Limpley Stoke  
Village Hall**

Keeping it social until the Hop Pole re-opens!

'The Top Pole' is a pop-up pub held monthly at Limpley Stoke Village Hall in Middle Stoke.

Drinks, snacks, music and lots of Friday night cheer.

Bring cash or card. Profits go towards maintaining the village hall.

Please come and join the fun.



**Mobile library monthly visits:**

**Thursday, December 22  
10.00–10.25am**

**Uplands Close, Midford Lane**

### **BIN COLLECTIONS**

**Blue-lidded bin**

**Black box**

**Green waste**  
(chargeable)



**Wednesday, December 14**

**Thursday, December 29**  
**(NOT GREEN BIN)**

**Green waste collections  
resume WEDNESDAY,  
JANUARY 11**

