

The Littleton Link



May 2026

Editor's letter

Dear All

Welcome to the May edition of The Littleton Link.

Did you follow all the media coverage of the recent Artemis mission to go around the dark side of the Moon? That side that we never see from Earth. In the month of May 2026 we will get an extra full moon – one on 1st May and another on 31st May. That makes May 2026 the month of the Blue Moon.

Also in the month of May Venus is at its most impressive and setting as late as midnight, it is well and truly the 'Evening Star'. If we get clear skies at the end of the month, during half-term, this might be an opportunity to get out and do some star gazing.

Within the pages this month, there are updates from our regular contributors and plenty of dates for your diary. Hopefully you'll find something to interest you and to get involved in.

Kind regards,
Mary

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Day & Date	Event	Time	Location
Wed 6 May	Wednesday Club	1:30 to 4pm	Village Hall
Tues 12 May	Littletons WI	7 for 7:30 pm	Village Hall
Fri 15 May	Gordon Giltrap Concert	7pm	St Nicholas Church
Sat 16 May	Quiz night	7pm	Littletons 1st School
Wed 20 May	N&M Parish Council meeting	7 pm	Village Hall
Thur 21 May	South Parish Council Annual meeting	6:30 pm	Littleton Bowls Club
Thur 21 May	South Parish Council meeting	7:30 pm	Littleton Bowls Club
Tues 26 May	Mobile Library	10:40 to 11:15	various
Wed 3 Jun	Wednesday Club	2 to 4pm	Village Hall
Sun 14 June	North & Middle Littleton Summer Trail	11am - 3pm	St Nicholas Church & North & Middle Littleton

The Littleton Link is also available online at:

<https://www.southlittleton.org.uk/> &
https://www.northandmiddlelittleton-pc.gov.uk/Littleton_Link.aspx

Deadline for entries for June edition is Fri-22-May



THE **IVY** INN
NORTH LITTLETON

BINGO NIGHT

May 3

THE IVY INN
North Littleton
Wr11 8ef

Sunday : 7:00pm

Book ur table:07487566236/07477560848
Email:theyellowinn@yahoo.com

PIZZA

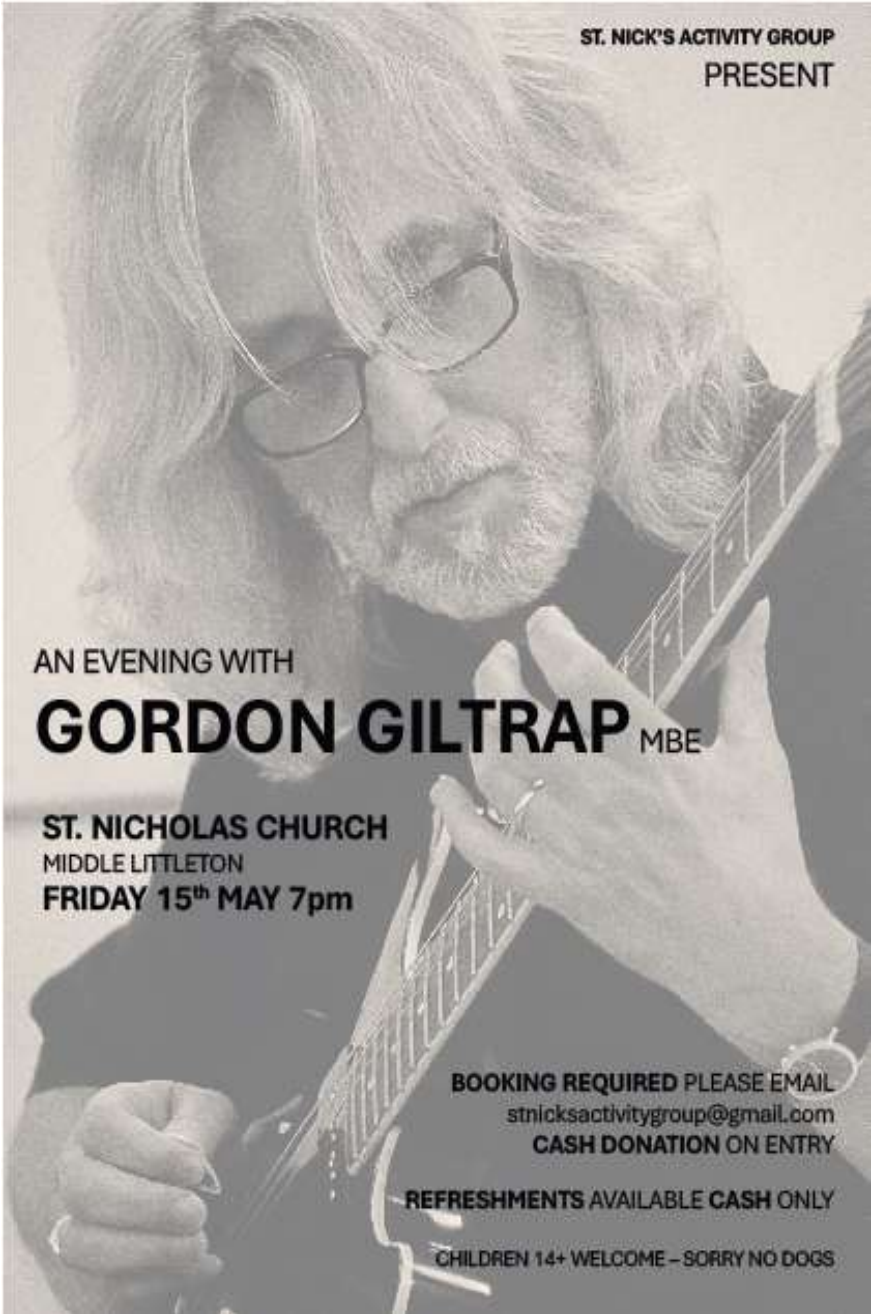
POP-UP

Saturday 9th May



Pre-orders open 5 days before event: www.plushpizza.co.uk

Littleton Scout Hut - 5:30 to 8:30pm



**ST. NICK'S ACTIVITY GROUP
PRESENT**

AN EVENING WITH

GORDON GILTRAP MBE

**ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH
MIDDLE LITTLETON
FRIDAY 15th MAY 7pm**

**BOOKING REQUIRED PLEASE EMAIL
stnicksactivitygroup@gmail.com
CASH DONATION ON ENTRY**

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE CASH ONLY

CHILDREN 14+ WELCOME - SORRY NO DOGS

QUIZ!

Saturday 16th May 26
at 7pm

At: Littleton's 1st School,
South Littleton, Farm Lane Entry

All welcome
Bring your friends and your own bites and
drinks

£5 per team member

All funds raised will go to
St Michaels Church,
South Littleton



SOUTH LITTLETON PARISH COUNCIL

As we head into May, we'd like to wish everyone a warm welcome to what we hope will be a brighter, more settled month. It's already shaping up to be a busy time in the village, with the tennis courts being resurfaced, the Bowls club in full swing, and plenty of families making the most of the playgrounds over the Easter break. You may also have spotted the daffodils we planted last year starting to come through, which is lovely to see.

SOUTH LITTLETON RESIDENTS SURVEY

Whether you've lived here for years or are new to the village, your voice matters. Help us shape the future of South Littleton by sharing your thoughts, ideas, and priorities.

Please take a few minutes to complete our survey:



Scan me!

Need a helping hand?

If you're struggling to complete the survey or would prefer to do it over the phone, please email clerk@southlitleton.org.uk and we'll be happy to help.

Every response helps guide decisions on local services, facilities, and community projects.

Please take part – it's so important!

And don't forget to share with your neighbours.

OAK TREES – Thank you

A huge thank you to G Stewart from Aldington who kindly donated 5 lovely Oak trees to our village. These are being kept in the safe hands of Cllr Quigley-York until the autumn as they are in bud. We will keep you updated as to when and where we will be planting them.

COMMUNITY BUILDER

The council is currently exploring the introduction of a **Community Builder** role, aimed at strengthening connections across the village and supporting residents of all ages.

Working in a flexible and responsive way, this paid, part-time role would focus on bringing people together, supporting local activities, and helping to reduce isolation. This could include informal support for residents, helping to organise small community gatherings such as coffee mornings, and improving communication across the parish.

The role would also look to encourage volunteering, identify local skills and community assets, and support ideas or initiatives that help enhance village life. By working closely with residents and local groups, the aim is to build a stronger, more connected and inclusive community.

This is intended as a pilot approach, giving the Parish Council an opportunity to explore how best to support community wellbeing in a practical and sustainable way, with potential to develop the role further in the future.

If you are interested in hearing more about this, please email clerk@southlittleton.org.uk.

ANNUAL MEETING – 21 May 2026

We will be holding our Annual Parish Meeting on **Thursday 21 May at 18:30 at Littleton's Bowls Club**. This is an opportunity for residents and local organisations to come together to reflect on the past year, hear updates from the Parish Council and community groups, and look ahead to plans and ideas for the village.

The meeting is informal and will include short updates from a number of local organisations, as well as an opportunity for open discussion. It's also a great chance to meet your councillors and representatives from across the community.

Please do come along. Refreshments and snacks will be provided.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will follow the Annual Meeting at 19:30.


Wishing everyone a wonderful month ahead.

South Littleton Parish Council


Chair: Shannon Cawood

Clerk: Sean Arble – clerk@southlittleton.org.uk

Councillors: Sally Ashwin, Shannon Cawood, Debbie Jones, Roger Jones, Hannah Robson, Helen Quigley-York, Victoria Sevier, Tim Ward



SOUTH LITTLETON RESIDENTS SURVEY



We want
to hear
from you!

Whether you've lived here for years or are new to the village, your voice matters.

Help us shape the future of South Littleton by sharing your thoughts, ideas, and priorities.

SCAN ME!



PLEASE CAN YOU LEND A HAND?

At Scouts 1st Littletons, we really need some extra help at Cubs to join the team who bring all the great activities, games and skills for life to young people.



cubs


Scouts
1st Littletons

If you have a young person who'd like to come along too, then they'd be made very welcome

Cubs are aged 8 to 10 ½ and meet on Tuesday's at 6:30 to 8 pm at The Scout HQ, Long Hyde Road, South Littleton, WR11 8TH.

Please get in touch to find out more about how you can help. We'd love to hear from you. Call us on 07774 667074 or email us at: heretohelp@scoutshw.org.uk

Take a look on our website for more information:
<https://www.scoutshw.org.uk/>



THE **IVY** INN
NORTH LITTLETON

Sunday 24 th may

at 7:00 start

THE IVY INN

Simon's

**QUIZ
NIGHT**

**ARROW LANE, NORTH LITTLETON
WR11 8EF**

MAXIMUM TEAMS OF 6 (£3 PER PERSON)

BOOK YOUR TABLE

**Cont. 07487566236, 07477560848
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NORTH & MIDDLE LITTLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Items discussed at the April meeting

Neighbourhood Plan: This is being progressed.

VA Signs: The second look at data recorded were similar to the disturbing figures previously shown. On Cleeve Road leaving the village a speed was recorded at 83pmph and entering the village 80mph. Speeds recorded on Blakes Hill were over 60mph and 70mph when entering and leaving the village. Please watch your speed.

Parking in School Lane: There is a continuing problem with vehicles being parked on the roadside. Vehicle drivers are requested not to pull on to private driveways when using School Lane.

Littleton Link: A new volunteer has offered to distribute the Littleton Link. Thank you to the volunteer who has carried out this task for a number of years.

Citizens Advice Bureau: Following a request from the charity for financial help councillors agreed a grant of £250.

Telephone Kiosk – Middle Littleton: It has been established that this has been adopted by the charity Community Heartbeat Trust. Discussions are taking place regarding the refurbishment of the kiosk.

Street Lighting: As the parish is now part of the Worcestershire County Council lighting initiative, any street lighting issues can be reported direct to them. Either telephone 01905 763763 or the fault can be reported online via the county council website. The other alternative is

to contact the clerk with the details of the fault and position of lamp.

Clerk: Marion Brighton clerknmlpc@outlook.com

Parish website: <https://www.northandmiddlelitleton-pc.gov.uk/>

Parish Councillors: James Haywood, Martin Burge, Ian Jones, Sandra Jackson, John Taylor, Marsha Wilkins and Paul Fernandez.

Next meeting scheduled for **Wednesday 20 May 2026 at 7pm in the Village Hall.**

INTERESTED IN GROWING YOUR OWN?

There are a few half plots now available on the South Littleton allotments. The rent is a modest fee of approx £30 per half plot, per year, plus insurance and water. Although located in South Littleton the



allotments are open to residents of North & Middle Littleton too and newcomers will be very welcome to this friendly and healthy pastime which our village is fortunate enough to rent from Wychavon under the Parish Council.

We are a happy bunch of diggers enjoying exercise, company and healthy fruit, vegetables and flowers.

For more information or to take a look please contact Roy or Di Wilson (Secretary, South Littleton Allotment & Garden Association) on 01386 830159 or 07946 474757 or email: dilesleywilson@me.com

Hedgehog
AWARENESS WEEK
03-09 May 2026

© Photo Credit: Chris Morgan

BHPS
THE HEDGEHOG
CONSERVATION CHARITY

Donate to the 2026
#HEDGEHOGWEEK appeal:
justgiving.com/campaign/HAW26

The British Hedgehog Preservation Society, Hedgehog House, Dhustone, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 3PL
Tel: 01584 890601 E-mail: info@britishhedgehogs.org.uk www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk
@thehedgehogsociety @hedgehogsociety British Hedgehog Preservation Society
reg charity No. 1144442

Get involved with helping Hedgehogs

We know hedgehogs are in trouble. **We've lost a third of all our hedgehogs since the millennium.**

Hedgehogs love gardens, and fortunately there are around half a million hectares of garden in the UK. We know what hedgehogs need to survive in gardens.

Hedgehogs need access to lots of gardens to survive, so we are encouraging everyone to cooperate.

Starting with this Hedgehog Awareness week you can map your sightings of our prickly friends by visiting this website:

<https://bighedgehogmap.org/>

The BIG Hedgehog map helps us to understand where hedgehogs are in the UK and where they are missing from. There is no need to log multiple hedgehogs in your garden, or to do so every night, but please continue to log each month/year if it's the same location so that we can see if they are still coming back.

The Slater Cup at Blackminster Middle School

Rugby fans old and new will probably be aware of the Slater Cup. This is the trophy awarded to the winner of the rugby match between Gloucester Rugby and Leicester Tigers in Premiership Rugby. The cup is named after Ed Slater, who was captain of both clubs in the 2010s. Ed was forced to retire in July 2022 after being diagnosed with motor neurone disease (MND), and the matches are used to raise money for his charity 4Ed. This charity funds research that we hope will one day find a cure.

Blackminster Middle School students were privileged to hear about Ed and the Slater Cup (and to see it up close!) when Gloucester players Will Trenholm and Kirill Gotovtsev visited school back in February. We were also incredibly proud that several of our students carried the flag onto the pitch for Gloucester Rugby at the game at Villa Park on March 28th.



The students involved were a credit to themselves, their families and our school, and a perfect illustration of our school values of Community, Aspiration, Respect and Excellence.



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LITTLETON WEDNESDAY CLUB

For our April meeting we welcomed back Dave Smith and his bingo machine for our Easter Bingo. There were prizes aplenty to be had, thanks to all our members who'd previously brought donations of all things chocolate along to give to Marion to make up the prizes. We had enough that we played for 1 line, 2 lines and a full house for a total of 7 times. It was a fun afternoon full of chat and play, followed by tea and cake.

Future meetings:

May 6 Fish & Chip Lunch (sitting down to eat at 1:30pm)

June 3 A talk by Vale Landscape Heritage Trust

We're here for just 2 hours per month, on the first Wednesday, in the Village Hall from 2 to 4pm. We're here for anyone seeking a bit of company and a chat with someone different. We have no age restrictions on attendees and welcome both men and women to come in and take a look and join in. The 2pm start is emphasised to enable organised activities to be on time and we finish by 4pm so we can get home in the daylight and enjoy any evening activities.

We would like to express our thanks to the Parent & Toddler group who meet on a Wednesday morning for generously putting tables and chairs in place for us. It is really appreciated.

If you would like any further information, please contact us:

Mary or Graham 01386 830273 or Marion Brighton 01905 909125

HELP U3A CELEBRATE THEIR 25TH ANNIVERSARY IN EVESHAM

LEARNING TOGETHER

Help us celebrate the founding of Evesham u3a in 2001

u3a Evesham & District
25th Anniversary

evesham.u3asite.uk/25-years/

25TH ANNIVERSARY

Were you or someone you know a member of Evesham & District u3a in the early years?

2026 is the Silver Jubilee year of u3a Evesham & District.

The very first groups began in November 2001 and we have now grown to over 1250 members with over 90 interest groups, from French, Italian and Latin to Music Appreciation, Dance, Computing, Painting, Needlecraft to Walking and all sorts of other physical activities. A real achievement and worth celebrating!

Were you or someone you know a member of Evesham u3a in the early years? If yes, please get in touch with Lorna Slaughter via <https://evesham.u3asite.uk/25-years/>.

The u3a is open to all who are no longer in full-time employment. Look us up on Facebook or our website: <https://evesham.u3asite.uk/> Our annual membership starts at £13 for individuals or £25 for joint members.

If you're a member of any Cotswold u3a you're welcome to join u3a groups in Evesham.

JCS Motor Engineer

John: 07977333719

jcsmotors@gmail.com

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Honeybourne Village Hall

May Film Night





Saturday 23rd May
Doors open 7pm
Tickets £5.00 pp
Refreshments and Raffle on the night
Tickets available on the night or online at
www.honeybournevillagehall.org

Based on the New York Times best-selling novel, Academy Award®-winning director Chloé Zhao (Nomadland) directs a powerful story of love and loss. William Shakespeare (Paul Mescal) falls for the free-spirited Agnes (Jessie Buckley). Their whirlwind romance leads to marriage and three children, but as Will's theatrical ambitions draw him to London, Agnes remains behind to manage the household. When tragedy strikes, their bond is deeply tested—but through grief and resilience, their journey inspires the creation of Shakespeare's timeless masterpiece, Hamlet.

12A

LITTLETONS WI

We had a real treat in April! Mariusz Luczakowski from ChoColours gave us a talk on chocolate. He informed us that, as chocolate is grown from a fruit, it can count as one of our five a day!

On a more serious note, we learnt that good quality chocolate should contain no more than four or five ingredients, unlike the more commercial brands. Look at the contents on the back of most supermarket types of chocolate.

We did not just listen to Mariusz. He provided us with lots of samples to taste and we were all able to contrast high quality chocolate with poorer quality, dark chocolate and milk chocolate and chocolate with added fruit flavour.



Then we were set to work! We donned aprons and used gloves or bare hands to handle melted chocolate with which to coat pre-prepared truffles and decorate with a choice of raspberry, cocoa powder or biscotti. What a delightful, chocolatey mess we got into, but we all took home

six beautiful truffles and a bit more knowledge about chocolate.

Find the ChoColours advert in previous editions of The Littleton Link and sample for yourselves.



Our next meeting is on **May 12th** and will be a talk on CPR. It will include information on how to use the defibrillators.

We meet in the village hall on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 for 7:30pm. For more information about The Littletons WI please visit our website at: <https://thelittletonswi.wixsite.com/home>



LITTLETON FOOTBALL CLUB

FIXTURES FOR MAY 2026

Hummel Herefordshire Midland Football League Premier Division

Saturday May 2, 2026 is the final league game of the season for Littleton. The game is to be played at Littleton with opponents Clee Hill kick off 14:30.

Youth teams are also playing this season under the umbrella of Littleton FC. Their home fixtures will be played at Blackminster Middle School on Saturday mornings.

We'd like to extend a plea for volunteers to join the team who carry out the essential everyday tasks of the club to proceed in competitive football. These tasks are not onerous but to enable the club to flourish they are an important part of the structure of the club.

If you'd like to support the club in a financial way you can sponsor the team in many ways. This can be done by sponsors for match day balls, home games, players, pitch side advertisements. Your name/company would be promoted on a sponsor board.

For any information regarding volunteering or sponsorship please contact Marion Brighton on 01905 909125 or email littletonfc@outlook.com who will be pleased to help.

Spring Open Weekend: Saturday 9 & Sunday 10 May

From 10am until 4pm



This marks our first event of 2026, so make sure to join us! Come and check out what's new, explore our latest arrivals, and meet the animals we've rescued since we last opened in 2025.

Join us for a relaxed weekend at the sanctuary, with food, local stalls, family activities and the chance to meet our 600+ rescued residents.

Local vendors will be serving hot food and sweet treats throughout the day, alongside a selection of stalls offering handmade goods and unique finds.

There will be activities for younger visitors, and plenty of time to explore the sanctuary at your own pace. Our team will be around to introduce you to the animals and share their stories.

You're welcome to stay for a few hours or the whole day

Support the sanctuary

Every ticket helps us continue caring for the animals who call this place home. It's a wonderful way to spend time outdoors with family and friends, while supporting a cause that makes a real difference.

We look forward to welcoming you.

Visit our website to book tickets, walk-ins also welcome

www.thefarmanimalsanctuary.co.uk

Who are your local Neighbourhood Officers for the 'Rural North' area?



Your Local Team

The team is known as the Evesham and Pershore Rural Safer Neighbourhood Team. The team have 2 Facebook pages, 'Evesham Police' and 'Persnore Police'. Please follow these to keep up to date with our activities and to see when our local drop in/engagement sessions are.

Your local Neighbourhood Police Officers are PC Alex Prentice and PC Shaquille Lakin. Your local Police Community Support Officers are, PCSO Jasmine Hill, PCSO Lee Stirling, PCSO Kyle Westwood and PCSO Karen Kempton. The email addresses for each of them are first.surname@westmercia.police.uk. Karen will be leaving the team shortly as she'll be taking up a new role within West Mercia.

Drop-In Sessions and Neighbourhood Matters

Drop-in sessions are held weekly around the patch. If you have anything you wish to discuss, please pop along to one of these sessions. These sessions are advertised on the Evesham and Pershore Facebook page as well as Neighbourhood Matters. Neighbourhood Matters is a free service which allows you to receive updates regarding crime in your area and also allows you to message your local officer. Take a look at the website for further information: <https://neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk/>.

Please feel free to come to any session you see advertised, you do not have to live in the village to attend. If you know people who do not have access to the internet, please feel free to share the information. The more people who know about these drop-ins, the better!

Tool marking session we will be conducting a Tool Marking Event at TFM Farm and Country Superstore on **Thursday 7th May 2026 at 12pm**

Reporting Incidents

Please remember to report crime and any incidents via 999, 101 or on the West Mercia website. Please do not email/ring/text individual officers if a crime has happened, this needs to be reported officially through the correct channels.

Lambing Season – Important Notice to Dog Owners



We've been visiting farmers and rural businesses across the area, putting up new signage to raise awareness around **livestock worrying** and to help keep our farming communities safe. Now we're in lambing season, we are reminding **all dog owners** of their responsibility to help protect our rural communities. Sheep worrying remains a significant and recurring issue in our area, leading to serious injury, the loss of livestock, and considerable emotional and financial impact on local farmers. To prevent further incidents, we ask all dog walkers to strictly follow the guidance below:

- **Keep your dog on a lead when walking near livestock.** Even well-trained dogs can act unpredictably when their instincts take over.
- **Remain on marked footpaths and stay vigilant.** Sheep may be present in fields even when not immediately visible.
- **Ensure gardens are secure if you live near farmland.** Dogs escaping, particularly overnight, can cause extensive harm before being discovered.

Sheep worrying is a criminal offence. We will take positive and proportionate action against dog owners whose animals are found to have chased, harassed or attacked livestock.

For livestock owners:

Please report all incidents of sheep worrying to us at the earliest opportunity. Prompt reporting allows us to gather evidence, identify animals involved, and take the necessary enforcement action.





THE LITTLETONS VILLAGE HALL

School Lane, Middle Littleton, WR11 8LJ

Current regular bookings for the hall include:

- Monday: Table Tennis
Tuesday: Table Tennis / U3a Quilters on 2nd & 4th
Wednesday: Parents & Toddlers (term-time only) / Craft (evening)
Thursday: Craft / Table Tennis
Friday: Available for booking up to 5:30pm / Pilates from 5:50pm
Weekends: Available for booking

A venue for social, educational and sporting activities. We have a fully equipped kitchen/cooking facilities and are an ideal venue for weddings and all family celebrations.



Please contact our Bookings Secretary on 07577 416681 for availability and costs.

LOCAL HONEY



A member of Evesham & British Beekeeper associations' we are offering local, pure, natural honey directly from our bees. Local delivery available.



1.2kg - £15
454g - £6

650g - £8
Propolis drops (30ml) - £8

Contact: ivomasica@gmail.com or call Ivan on 07859 078093

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BENEFICE OF EAST VALE AND AVON VILLAGES

The parishes of North & Middle Littleton and South Littleton are both members of the United Benefice of East Vale and Avon Villages. The Priest in Charge of the Benefice (Badsey, Bretforton, Offenham, The Littletons & Cleeve Prior) is the Revd Joanna Fielding who can be contacted on 07561 823135 (WhatsApp & phone) or 01386 339669. Please get in touch with Jo directly for any enquiries about weddings, baptisms, funerals across our group of parishes. Alternatively, you can contact our administrator, Faith, on eastvaleavon.churches@gmail.com For more details visit the Benefice website: www.eastvaleavon.com where you will also find all the services available.

Information from St Nicholas Church at North & Middle

St Nicholas Church is available for Weddings, Funerals and Baptisms. Before all bookings a dedicated team of volunteers make a thorough clean of the facilities.



Information from St Michaels Church at South

For general enquires relating to St Michaels Church, please contact the Churchwardens Robert Johnson 01386 831504 or Sue Jinks 01386 831553. For more information on St Michael's please visit our web site: www.southlitletonchurch.co.uk





East Vale and Avon Benefice

Services for May 2026

	9.30am Service	11.00am Service	Other Services
3rd May 5th Sunday of Easter	Badsey Morning Praise	Offenham Eucharist Cleeve Prior Eucharist	
10th May 6th Sunday of Easter Rogation Sunday		Cleeve Prior Field Barn Benefice Eucharist for Rogation Sunday with The Venerable Mark Badger, Archdeacon of Worcester	7pm Bretforton Taizé
Thursday 14th May Ascension Day			7pm South Littleton Eucharist
17th May 7th Sunday of Easter (Bell Sunday)	Offenham Eucharist	Badsey Eucharist (followed by APCM) Cleeve Prior Eucharist	
24th May Pentecost		Bretforton Benefice Eucharist for Pentecost	
31st May Trinity Sunday		South Littleton Benefice Eucharist	Asparagus Blessing and Auction 7pm (<i>Fleece Inn</i>)

From the Parish Registers – March 2026

Baptisms	
Bretforton	Eden Smith
South Littleton	Coraline Enstone Styles
Funerals or committal of ashes	
Badsey	Douglas Bott
Offenham	Hilda Southwell Pauline Brotherton

MOBILE LIBRARY

The mobile library service normally visits the Littletons on the **4th Tuesday** of the month. The next scheduled visit will be on **26 May** at the following times:

- 10:40 to 10:55 – North Littleton, The Ivy
- 11:00 to 11:15 – Middle Littleton, Village Hall
- No longer visiting South Littleton due to lack of use



Enquiries about this service should be made by contacting: TEL: 01905 822722 or emailing mobilelibraries@worcestershire.gov.uk

Dear Friends

May is a busy month as we get out and about, enjoying what we hope will be warmer weather and sunnier days in early summer. The **May Bank Holiday** starts off in style with maypole dancing and celebrations in Offenham and sets the tone for lots more summer events over the next few weeks, including weddings at several of our beautiful old churches in the Vale over the season.

How do you feel about hearing church bells ringing? For some (especially those who live very close to a church) they are an unwelcome interruption to a peaceful rest in the garden! For others, the sound of bells floating on the air tells us of a wedding celebration or reminds us that a service is happening. Did you know there is a special day for church bells? You might hear church bells pealing out over the Bank Holiday weekend as visiting bell ringers come to try out their skills on our bells - (although all 6 of our churches have bells, St Michael's South Littleton has only 3, and the tower at St Nicholas in North & Middle Littleton is now too unsafe to allow its bells to be rung). **Sunday 17th May** is Bell Sunday - remembering St Dunstan, an early forger of bells. It's the day when our focus falls on our bells, but also our chance to say a big thank you to our ringers who turn up each week to practise, and who ring the bells before our Sunday services, or for a wedding, or who toll for a funeral. For the years before social media or watches, bells and church clocks linked to a chiming bell were often the only way that ordinary people in villages or towns could know what the time was, or when something special was going on in the community. If you like the sound of the bells, and would be interested in having a go, our 4 active bell towers always welcome newcomers, so please do get in touch or just turn up on a practice night in your local village.

What else is going on this month? The **10th of May sees our annual Rogation service** – taking place at the Heritage Trust orchard and barn at Cleeve Prior at 11am. Come along and meet Archdeacon Mark who will be with me; the first part is held in the gorgeous and peaceful community orchard. Rogation services go back a long way - but the service remains a really important one for us as a rural community, as we gather together to think about where our food comes from, to be thankful for all the people who take care of the land, and to ask for God's blessing on our farmers/food producers, on the land, and on our community. On the **24th May we join at Bretforton** church to celebrate the Church's birthday - the startling arrival of the Holy Spirit at **Pentecost**, breathing life, confidence and God's peace into believers from that day to this. Definitely something worth celebrating!

Most of our congregations are holding their Annual Meetings (APCMs) during May - a time when we elect church officers/PCC members who work to ensure the smooth running of our churches and care for your church buildings/churchyard throughout the year. I am so thankful to all those who help keep the doors open, the bills paid, and the warm welcome given to everyone who walks in on a Sunday morning at our churches – and if you would like to find out more about what is going on in your local church, please do come along to your APCM.

But even if you are not a regular church goer, please be assured that your church and your vicar are here for you whenever you need us. We offer support, a friendly face at any of our community events, and you can talk to us if you want to ask about a special service like a funeral, wedding or christening. Your church really is here for you.

Jo Fielding

Revjo.eastvale@gmail.com

Tel 07561 823135



LITTLETON SCOUT HUT

Long Hyde Road, South Littleton

Current regular activities include

Monday: **Scouts** 6:30 to 8 pm

Tuesday: **Cubs** 6:30 to 8 pm

Wednesday: **Beavers** 6 to 7:15 pm

If you're looking for a local venue with
kitchen facilities please email



littletonscoutenquiries@yahoo.com for availability and costs

The Boobage Support Group

Location: The Fleece, Bretforton, WR11 7JE
Date: The first Friday of every month
Time: 11am to 12:30pm
Group Leaders: Victoria & Penny
Email: vickylyndon60@gmail.com
pennyanne69@gmail.com

ST. JAMES CHURCH, BADSEY
EVERY MONDAY TERM TIME

8:45am - 11am

DROP IN



FREE CUPPA

TOYS ~ MUSIC ~ **BABY
CHANGING
FACILITIES**

North and Middle Littleton - Neighbourhood Plan

At its January 2026 meeting the Parish Council (PC) decided to proceed with producing a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish. Creating the plan will involve a significant amount of work on behalf of the PC. The plan will have to comply with the *South Worcestershire Development Plan Review* and other statutory requirements.

One area that is key to the success of the project is community engagement. In order to achieve this the PC needs to gain the views of its parishioners. To this end a questionnaire will be sent to all households in North and Middle Littleton. This questionnaire will be included with the June edition of *The Littleton Link* magazine and provided separately to those who do not receive *The Littleton Link*. This questionnaire will be your opportunity to let the PC know how you see the parish at present and how it should evolve in the future.

Once the plan has been completed (scheduled for the Spring of 2028) it will have far greater importance than other local documents, such as our *2013 Parish Plan*. Local planning authorities and planning inspectors must make their decisions in accordance with the plan, unless material considerations dictate otherwise.

LET'S TALK ABOUT WASTE

Portioning the right amount of food for your meals is one of the easiest ways to avoid food waste. Leftover ingredients or meals can always find a happy home in another dish. We would always recommend making double and freezing half to make your food and money go further.

A quick guide to meal planning:

- plan 3 to 4 days ahead
- check your fridge and cupboards to see what needs eating up
- choose what you want to eat, we are lucky to live in a world full of recipes
- choose dishes that have some common ingredients
- eating seasonally will keep costs down
- use a simple meal planner to help track your food, map out which meals you will have when
- make a list of what you need for the meals, crossing off what you already have at home
- where possible, cook double and eat half later in the week (or freeze it)

For more ideas and information visit:

<https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/lets-waste-less/foodsavvy/portion-pro>



 worcestershire
county council

NORTH & MIDDLE LITTLETON

SUMMER TRAIL

Sunday 14th June
11am - 3pm

ENJOY A SELF GUIDED TOUR AROUND BEAUTIFUL
GARDENS AND BUILDINGS WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY
WHILE ANSWERING QUESTIONS AND COLLECTING CLUES

£5 PER TRAIL MAP

BUY YOUR TRAIL MAP FROM ST NICHOLAS CHURCH AND RETURN
WITH YOUR CORRECT ANSWERS TO COLLECT YOUR PRIZE!

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE ON SALE AT THE
CHURCH, ALONG WITH STALLS, INCLUDING:

TOMBOLA
PLANT SALES
LUCKY DIP

CASH
ONLY

For more information, email: stnicksactivitygroup@gmail.com

A gardener's guide to Bird Nesting Season



Surrey
Wildlife Trust



Season runs from March-August, but
some birds nest earlier or later



Avoid cutting your shrubs, hedges
and trees during this time



All wild birds are protected by law,
including gulls, pigeons and crows



Birds may nest in trees, shrubs,
hedges, ivy, roofs and eaves

This notice is reproduced with the kind permission of
Surrey Wildlife Trust as this message applies to the whole
of the UK.

Editor information

Entries and enquiries for the next Link should be sent to Mary Keeling at:

littletonlinkeditor@gmail.com

Deadline for June entries is Friday 22 May

- All entries **should be spell checked beforehand**, I do not accept responsibility for any incorrect information or spelling errors.
- When emailing information please use **Word A5 format (not PDF)** or paste information directly into the email.
- Any pictures for front cover need to be **A5 Portrait .jpg**
- **The editor reserves the right to amend contents of articles for length.**
- Content of articles and advertisements are the responsibility of their authors, not the Editor or Parish Councils, so care should be taken to see that all information is legal and correct before posting to the editor. It should be noted that adverts are not endorsed by either the Editor or Parish Councils and no liability will be accepted by either.

For information regarding advertising please contact the editor for details.

Printed copies of The Littleton Link are available from The Littletons Village Hall, St Nicholas Church (in the parish of North & Middle Littleton) and the shop in South Littleton for those parishioners who do not get a copy delivered through their door.