



Parish Report October 2026

Wine Tasting 9th October

Sarah Philip from Magnum's Wineshop was on excellent form, we sold 42 tickets and took £1098, although this figure is to be checked by Zoe. I spoke to Brian Saunders who was happy to split this amount so that we could donate £150 of the proceeds to the Prospect Hospice, £100 to The Roxi Foundation, and the rest to us to put towards brighter lighting, or to fix the next hole in the roof.

The aim of the evening was not to make money, but to arrange something fun and grown up that our residents could enjoy and be able to walk home afterwards. Also to entice the sort of residents who wouldn't usually visit the library, may not know where it is, and are not members.

We had two ticket prices, £26 for members and £28 for non-members, as an incentive to join. It seemed to work well, and I was pleased with the number of new faces.

Five people joined the library on the night, and Paula also issued books, which was pretty amazing as it was quite loud in there. We want the library to be seen as a place that's not just for children, where you can have grown up fun, which we certainly did.

It took a lot of organisation as we couldn't use the kitchen, and I was extremely glad I had Paula and Zoe there who both volunteered- as that just made everything go so smoothly that residents assumed we were used to this kind of thing!

Some feedback:

"Great evening, Sarah was so knowledgeable and engaging. Loved it! Wine was good too."

"Excellent event! A great way of engaging with the community and raising funds"

"Thank you an enjoyable evening more wine please"

"Lovely, convivial informal evening"

Also; "Well done" "Please repeat" "Would do it again" "Fabulous, entertaining, thoughtful"

Only one slight criticism was a request that "Withdrawn Book Lucky Dip" didn't contain so many Mills and Boons.

Wilts & Berks Canal Trust

This Thursday coming we have the Wilts and Berks Canal Trust at 7pm. Not so many tickets sold and far more prep required as we have to move the book shelves and get out the sound system and microphone, but still worth it to get people to come.

Printing Workshop

On Saturday 17th I have asked Phyllida Richards to do some block printing as a workshop, however, there have been very few takers for this so far. It was originally intended for adults only, but as it is accessible to children I have been in touch with all the local schools, but it's hard to know whether it has appeared in any school newsletters. I will put a video on Facebook this week.

Christmas Procession

This year we are making white "Doves of Peace" with wings that flap by way of a stick and a straw. I've had three bookings already before it has hit the newsstands, which is great.

Our first making session is Saturday 24th, with another three planned and a last one as a just in case. We are aiming for around 35 children plus one parent each, (although there is some flexibility for extras) simply because any more people make it difficult to line up along the corridor before the procession.

Please note that Zoe has volunteered to come from Wootton Bassett to help me with at every session on her day off, unpaid.

See you all at the Strategy Meeting.

Hannah Dosanjh, Library Supervisor