

Abbey Together

The newsletter of Amesbury Abbey Group

January 2026



A Brilliant Start

As we step into 2026, January has already delivered a wonderful mix of atmosphere, celebration and memorable moments across our homes. From misty mornings and snowy scenes to music, milestones and outings. What a fantastic start to the New Year.



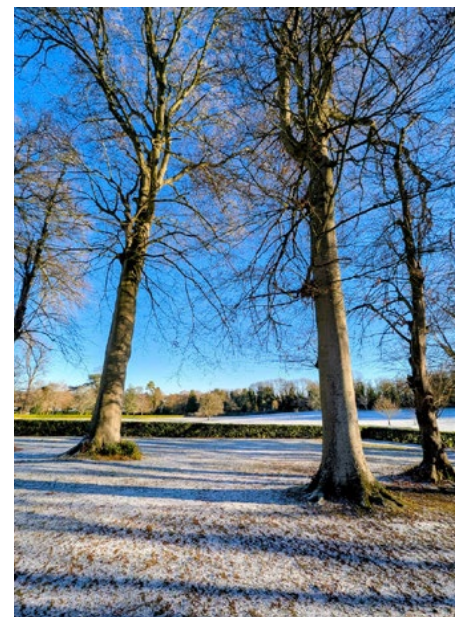
Naam



Misty, Snowy Mornings

We've been having all the weather, haven't we?

Misty mornings at the Abbey on New Year's Eve brought maximum atmosphere for the run-up to 2026, followed by stunning scenes in the snow at both Sutton and Amesbury.





Sing it Loud, Sing it Proud

Sutton Manor's January got off to a great start with the first of our live performers. Fresh from charming the residents of Amesbury Abbey in the run-up to Christmas, Ryan Bishop sang his heart out and told wonderful stories about his 15 years working and directing cruise ship entertainments across the world. All the residents could resonate either with the music or his travels. Some of the residents even had a go at singing! A really wonderful afternoon with a highly recommended performer. Thanks Ryan!



A Century of Smiles

It's not every day you turn 100, and we spent a very special afternoon celebrating an exceptional woman. So many dear friends and family had made huge efforts to attend, and by the time the speeches and slideshow were finished, there wasn't a dry eye in the house. Miss Bruell, you are one in a million and we look forward to many more years with the privilege of sharing your company and caring for you.



Come Rain or Shine

The weather in mid-January might be terrible, but we've been using any gaps in the downpours to get out in the fresh air. At least our views will always be of the highest quality!



NEWS



New Year, New Moves

Like most of us, the Abbey residents have all vowed to keep fit in 2026, and we've been hosting classes as often as possible. Everyone's been absolutely going for it!





A Trip Down Memory Lane

Another fantastic afternoon out reminiscing at one of our favourite local haunts, the Basingstoke Milestones Museum. We were delighted, the sweet shop was in action, the pub was open and the ivories were being tinkled; what more could we ask for? Delicious hot chocolates all round topped off a great trip.





Hampshire Hawk Walks

Residents at Sutton Manor enjoyed an absolutely wonderful close-up experience in the Drawing Room with Hampshire Hawk Walks' beautiful birds. We met and learned about a variety of birds of prey, including a Harris Hawk, Kestrel, Red Tailed Hawk and last but certainly not least, Wilfred the Barn Owl, who stole everyone's hearts.

Anita the handler, was amazing with the birds, who all clearly had an incredibly close bond with her. There were some brilliant questions asked and many of the audience went a step further and wore the gauntlet and were able to handle the birds themselves. A super interesting and very memorable afternoon. We are looking forward to welcoming Anita back in the Spring for a flying display already!





A Toast to the Scottish Bard

Both Amesbury Abbey and Abbey Mews held terrific tributes honouring Scotland's national poet, Robert Burns, on Burns Night this month. Mouth-watering menus, a fabulous piper, readings, speeches and metres of tartan!

The residents made a huge effort dressing up for the occasion and were so appreciative of all the special touches the team laid on. First up, Abbey Mews...





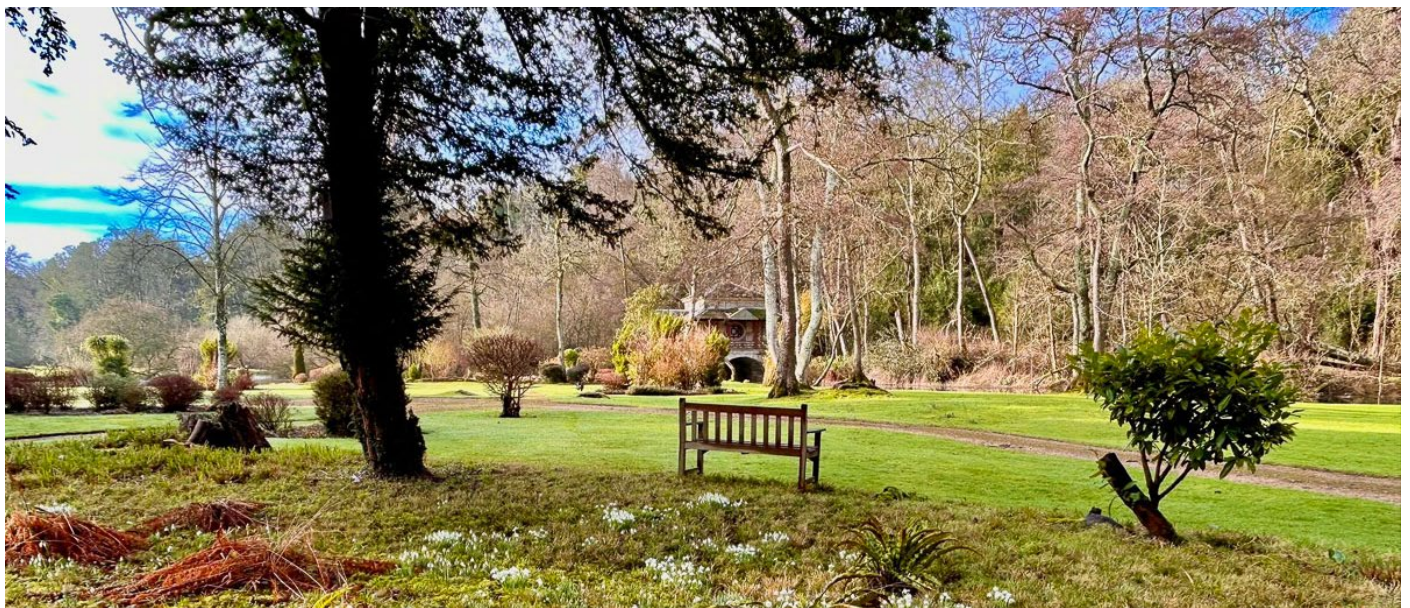
Addressing the Haggis

Running in tandem with the event in The Mews, The Abbey's Burns spectacular did not disappoint. All credit to the staff for another fantastic soiree; it's something that the residents look forward to and thoroughly enjoy every year.



Snowdrops & Raindrops

It's been all burst banks and snowdrops at the Abbey this week. No more rain, please!



Abbey Mews Quiz Master Quiz

Mews residents got their thinking caps on again this month for another of their hugely successful Quiz Master nights. The host and creator of the questions is current resident, Vivi Mallock's son, Toby, who always puts our little grey cells to the test.

Why not give a few of the rounds a go yourself!



1. 50 Round



1. Which significant war started in 1950 and continued until 1953?
2. The "Furious Fifties" are strong winds found in what part of the world?
3. The 50th anniversary of the first Moon landing (Apollo 11) was celebrated in what year?
4. About 50% of Earth's oxygen comes from tiny ocean organisms. What are these organisms called?
5. Which state became the 50th state in the USA in 1959?
6. A 50/50 chance means what probability as a decimal?
7. The famous painting "50 Marilyns" was created by which artist?
8. Who wrote the novel 50 Shades of Grey?
9. The Roman numeral for 50 is what letter?



Answers on page 14

2. World Flags

Can you identify the country by its flag?



1.

2.



3.



4.



Flags of the World

5.



6.



7.



8.



Answers on page 14

3. Landmarks

Can you name the famous landmarks from their close-up?



1.



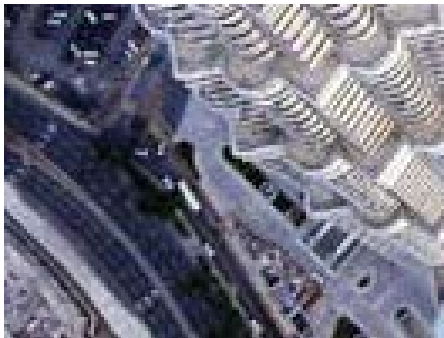
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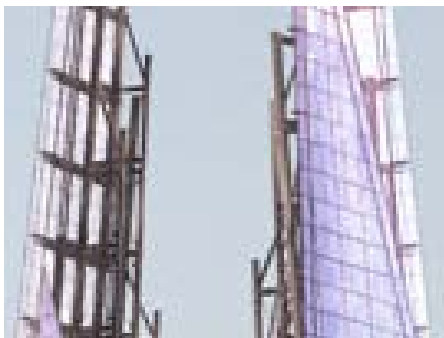
4.



5.



6.



7.



8.

Landmarks

Answers on page 14

Quiz Answers:

1. 50 Round

1. Korean War
2. Southern Ocean
3. 2019
4. Phytoplankton
5. Hawaii
6. 0.5
7. Andy Warhol
8. E. L. James
9. L

2. World Flags

1. Mexico
2. Syria
3. Cook Islands
4. Ireland
5. Poland
6. Vietnam
7. Iceland
8. Bahrain

3. Landmarks

1. Sydney Harbour Bridge
2. Sacré-Cœur
3. Aiguille du Midi
4. Lenin's Tomb
5. Petronas Towers
6. Angkor Wat
7. The Shard
8. Blackpool Tower



1.

Sydney Harbour Bridge



2.

Sacre Coeur



3.

Aguille de Midi



4.

Lenin's Tomb



5.

Petronus Towers



6.

Angkor Wat



7.

The Shard



8.

Blackpool Tower

Landmarks