

DONYATT DESPATCH

Donyatt's Own Newspaper - January 2026

This Month's Sponsor - The George Inn

DON YATT DESPATCH CELEBRATES A MILESTONE BIRTHDAY!!!

In January 2006, the very first edition of Donyatt's 'newspaper' was published and distributed to residents. From its inception, the Despatch was intended to inform villagers of upcoming events and things of local interest, with items submitted by our readers and village organisations. That 1st edition is published here as a supplement to this month's edition, by way of celebrating our 20th birthday.

Prior to the publication of Donyatt Despatch, there had been an A5 newsletter, self published and funded by a philanthropic resident – Margaret Morton. At the point she decided to step back, the decision was taken to create a more 'official' publication for Donyatt and which was originally funded by the Village Steering Committee Project. We have since established Sponsorship and Friends of Donyatt Despatch schemes, to raise funds to keep our publication in print.

The Donyatt Despatch was initially edited by three villagers – Anne Hine, Brian Harper and Paula Willis. Once the Despatch was established, two other editors were recruited in 2010 – Donna Grabham and Bez Toop, who remain as the sole editors today. We continue to seek input from our readers and support from our Friends and Sponsors, to keep our publication running for many years to come, so if you have ideas for us, or would like to be involved with the Despatch in some way, please contact us - contact details on reverse page.

We are especially keen to hear from those seeking to take sponsorship in 2026, as we currently have plenty of slots available. The fee for one month's promotion is still just £20 and is a great way to let local residents know what you offer, so don't delay, get your slot booked now!

THANK YOU TO OUR READERS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

Our next Friends of Donyatt Despatch Get Together will take place on Thurs 5th March, at 7pm in The George, Donyatt. Please come and join us to celebrate the Despatch achieving 20 years in print.

St MARY'S CHURCH, DONYATT

Christmas bazaar success:

St Mary's Church would like to thank everyone who supported our Christmas bazaar and those who helped on the day and donated items which made our afternoon very successful. We are happy to say we raised £500 towards the ongoing cost of running the Church.

St Mary's Church PCC, Churchwarden and Rev'd Philip hope you had a Merry Christmas really hope you have a very good time with your family and friends and wish you all a happy new year.

St Mary's would like to wish you all a very happy new year.

100 CLUB WINNERS

1st - Bez Toop

2nd - Lynn Mortimer

3rd - Julia Hayman

Our Sponsor This Month

The George Inn, Donyatt

Thank you to everyone who has supported us this year. We hope you all had a lovely Christmas and wish you all a happy new year.

The George Inn will be closed from 19th January and will reopen on 4th February.

Keep your eyes peeled for Valentine's updates very soon.

**Emma and Steve Poppy
01460 497096**



Photo: David Dagnell, of Yeovil Blood Bikes, collecting a cheque from whist organisers Anne Hine and John Grabham.

Donyatt Social Club Charity Cheque Presentation

Donyatt Social Club have recently donated the profits from their fortnightly Whist Drives to Yeovil Blood Bikes. Local volunteer, David Dagnell, came to receive a cheque for £1200 on the charity's behalf. The social club's charity for 2026 is Guide Dogs for the Blind. The fortnightly Whist Drives start again on Tuesday 6th January 2026 at 7:30pm at Donyatt Village Hall. All welcome.

NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATIONS AROUND THE WORLD

Here are some of the ways people in other countries welcome in the New year

BRAZIL - wear white for prosperity, luck and to ward off evil spirits

COLOMBIA - carry an empty suitcase to attract financial security and travel in the coming year

SPAIN - consume 12 grapes, one at each toll of midnight to draw good luck in each month of the year ahead

NETHERLANDS - burn Christmas trees to get rid of the old and welcome in the new

ECUADOR - burn effigies to symbolise burning the old year

DENMARK - smash old plates and dishes to ward off evil spirits

SWITZERLAND - drop ice cream on the floor at midnight to attract good luck, abundance and wealth



**DONYATT
SOCIAL CLUB
WHIST Donyatt
Village Hall TUES 6
JAN and TUES 20
JAN 7.30pm**



CLOSING DATE: Tuesday 20 January, for the February edition
Please email your contributions to **BOTH EDITORS** LISTED BELOW, Thank you
Donna: Tel 52129 - donnagrabham@hotmail.co.uk
Bez: Tel 258745 - toopb28@yahoo.co.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thu 1 Jan - New Year's Day
Tue 6 Jan - Whist Drive - DVH - 7.30pm
Wed 7 Jan - Skittles - Lower v Park - IBTC - 7.45pm
Sun 11 Jan - Gemini Big Breakfast - DVH - 9am
Wed 14 Jan - Skittles - Pound v Upper - IBTC - 7.45pm
Tue 20 Jan - Whist Drive - DVH - 7.30pm
Tue 20 Jan - Donyatt Despatch Copy Deadline
Wed 21 Jan - Skittles - George Inn v Park - IBTC - 7.45pm
Thu 22 Jan - Skittles - Lower v Peasmarsh - Hay - 7.45pm
Wed 28 Jan - Skittles - Sea Follies v Sea Boys - IBTC - 7.45pm

St. Mary's Church, Donyatt

Cleaning and flower rota:

Sandra Gould
Sue Gardener

Secretary and treasurer:

St Mary's Church are still looking for someone to volunteer and take on the duties of the two above positions. Please contact Trish or Rev'd Philip if you are able to help. There will be guidance for these positions along the way.

Donyatt Social Club Skittles League Table Correct on 18-12-25

TEAM	PLAYED	WON	DRAWN	LOST	POINTS
George Inn	4	3	1	0	7
Park	3	3	0	0	6
Pound	3	2	1	0	5
Upper	4	2	0	1	4
Peasmarsh	4	1	0	3	2
Sea Boys	4	1	0	3	2
Sea Follies	4	1	0	3	2
Lower	3	0	0	3	0

**The Editors of
Donyatt Despatch
wish all our Friends,
Sponsors and Readers
a healthy and
prosperous new year,
and plenty of good
things throughout
2026.**