

The Villager

May 2021 Volume 50 No 4

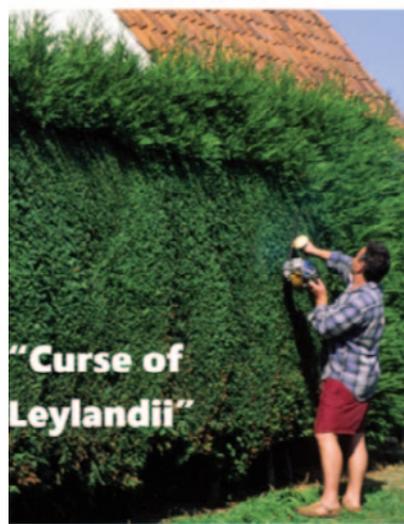
The community newsletter for Mapledurwell,
Up Nately, Nately Scures and Newnham

BOUNDARY HEDGES BETWEEN NEIGHBOURS

When I was in the army, I once had to answer an exam question entitled "What are the Causes of War?" I remember that I wrote a long list involving political, economic and technical reasons. Perhaps I should have included Leylandii and the many turf-wars that rage over it.

Native to the wilds of north-west America, Leyland Cypress was introduced to UK in 1888. It grows up to 1 metre per year making it a great choice for screening from motorway noise and for privacy. It does not require much attention; it is tough and resists pests and disease. It makes an excellent wind break and the birds rather like it for the shelter it gives.

Its disadvantage of course is the loss of light and its tendency to dominate neighbouring properties. The Local Council would clearly prefer not to have to deal with such problems as it means adjudicating on terms set out in Part 8 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003. Unsurprisingly the Council's initial response will be to sort it without its own involvement in time, effort and costs to the tax payers. There are guidance sheets on how to do this (Guidance: High Hedges – Complaining to the Council dated 18 Aug 2018). £600 is then usually requested for proceeding with a formal complaint.



Perhaps if we have any 'Leylandii Issues' brewing, I could recommend the publication Hedge Height and Light Loss from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, October 2005 and easily found on the internet. It describes simple mathematical calculations of hedge heights and loss of light taking into account garden sizes, windows, angles and slopes. It is then left to Euclid and Pythagoras to resolve the problem!

John Maclean, Tree Warden
for Mapledurwell & Up Nately Parish Council



Odiham Open Gardens

Odiham Open Gardens, Saturday
29th May 2021 2-5pm in aid of
the upkeep of our beautiful churchyard.

This event is going ahead as planned
and there will be 13 gardens to visit!
You can make this part of your daily
walk perhaps and there will be a plant
sale and home-made teas and
refreshments available.

Please note due to Covid measures
there may be queues at some of the
smaller gardens.

A suggested donation of £7.50 is
payable at any participating garden
and you will be given a map of all the
gardens to help you on your way.
Please bring plenty of small change for
entry and teas and we look forward to
seeing you there!

Pauline Dudgeon, Caro Seabrook &
Malcolm Douglas, Organisers

more+

North Hampshire Downs Churches are Recruiting

The North Hampshire Downs group of
Churches comprises eight parishes and
12 churches in Odiham and the
surrounding villages.

We are a dynamic family of churches
who seek to live out our faith in loving
and serving our local communities and
through sharing the good news of Jesus.

With 12 busy churches across eight
parishes we rely on an efficient
administrative structure to support our
ministry. With this in mind we are
recruiting two posts to work in our team.
Working for the benefice office in
Odiham, the posts are:

10 hrs per week – PA to the Rector of
the Benefice, and Parish Administrator
for the Village Churches.

15 hrs per week – PA to the Associate
Rector and Vicar of Odiham, and Parish
Administrator for All Saints' Odiham.

For full details including job descriptions
and rate of pay, please contact Revd
Linda Scard:

linda@moretolife.church
01256 703 791

or see www.moretolife.church

PROTECTING NESTING BIRDS The 'Bird Nesting Season' is officially
from February until August (Natural England) and it is recommended
that vegetation works (tree or hedge cutting) should be done outside
of the nesting season. The busiest time for nesting birds is from 1st
March to 31st July and of course varies according to species, season etc.

Mapledurwell & Up Nately

UP NATELY NEWS

A very warm welcome to Matthew and Laura Haystaff, Eadie 12, Florence 8, Ivy 1, and Maggie the Schnoodle, who have moved into Beaumont House. It is good to have more children in the village!

Easter Hunt Many children enjoyed the Easter Scavenger Egg Hunt, thank you Charlotte Stevenson for setting it up!



Up Nately Litter Pick Thank you to those wonderful villagers in Up Nately for your tremendous efforts picking up rubbish everywhere, even drink cans from the canal, your help is hugely appreciated!

OBITUARY

Jayne Norman It is with sadness that we have to inform you that Jayne Norman has recently passed away. Jayne has been the caretaker of the Village Hall for some 20 plus years and many villagers would have chatted with her over these years while making arrangements for parties and meetings at the hall. She (and Dave) have given real service to the hall and she will be greatly missed. We send our thanks and condolences to Dave, her children and grandchildren.

Jane Komrower

The Parish Council Chairman sent a message of condolence, with thanks on behalf of the Parish for all the work both Dave and Jayne have done for the village hall over the last 20 or so years.



Unfortunately bags full of asbestos waste have been fly tipped in Heather Row Lane.

Dog Fouling Several residents in Up Nately are becoming fed up having to clear dog poo from their verges almost daily, a handful of dog owners apparently seem to think it does not matter. Not clearing up after your dog

is illegal, if caught you will be fined or prosecuted. Please clear it up, also if in the middle of footpaths, don't just leave it there, or in poo bags we have found on the towpath and hanging on bushes. Remember some homes have hidden CCTV cameras!

MAPLEDURWELL

Allotments The community payback team have finished work at the allotments for the time being. As they weren't able to return in January due to Covid lockdown, they'll be able to carry on with clearing the stream channels this coming winter. Over the last couple of weeks they've made a good job of constructing compost bays and given the allotment shed some TLC. They have moved on to help prepare the land by Up Nately pond.

Gamekeepers BDBC Planning Enforcement has advised that a retrospective application will be submitted for the additional works. The application will be consulted on.

REMOTE PARISH ASSEMBLY

The Mapledurwell & Up Nately Parish Assembly will be held on **Wednesday 5th May at 7pm**. For a link to join the Assembly please email hugocubitt@gmail.com

Updates from PC Reid, Ward Cllr, Village Hall.
Suggested discussion topics – Local Plan Update – Watercress beds – Allotments
Up Nately Lands – Ponds – Villager – Tennis courts.

Next Parish Council Meetings

1. Brief Parish Council meeting to follow the Assembly (via Zoom).
2. AGM Wednesday 19th May 7pm (scheduled a 'real' meeting).

NOTICE OF UNCONTESTED ELECTION

Basingstoke & Deane

Election of Parish Councillors for Mapledurwell and Up Nately on Thursday 6 May 2021

I, Rebecca Emmett being the Returning Officer at the above election, report that the persons whose names appear below were duly elected Parish Councillors for Mapledurwell and Up Nately.

Name of Candidate	Home Address
CUBITT Hugo John	Kolkinnon House, Up Nately, RG27 9PD
HORSEY Tom	(address in Basingstoke and Deane)
RAFFERTY Kevin Michael	Lumarden, Tunworth Road, Mapledurwell, Hants, RG25 2LT
ROBERTSON Colin James	Brook Cottage, Frog Lane, Mapledurwell, Basingstoke, Hants, RG25 2LJ
STENT Alison Louise	Mapledurwell Bungalow, Tunworth Road, Mapledurwell, RG25 2LT

PARISH PLANNING APPLICATIONS

21/01103/FUL (Validated 25 Mar)
Southville, Greywell Road, Mapledurwell
RG24 7NH. Demolition of existing
bungalow and construction of new three
bedroom chalet bungalow.

21/00827/FUL (Validated 20 April) Land
Opposite Hillside, Heather Lane, Up
Nately. Change of use of land to form
secure dog walking area and off road
parking area for 2-3 cars. Erection of gate
and 1.8m fence around perimeter of site.
Replacement of existing shed

21/00839/HSE (Validated 29 March)
Wyvol, Heather Lane, Up Nately.
Conversion of 2 bed bungalow to 4 bed
chalet bungalow with extensions and
alterations to the roof including dormer
windows to the north and east elevations.

21/00854/HSE (Validated 09 March)
Little Common Cottage, Frog Lane.
Erection of rear ground floor extension.

21/00718/HSE (Granted 21 April) The
Farm, Tunworth Road. Single storey
orangery extension .

21/00552/HSE and 21/00553/LBC
(Granted 16th April) Rose Cottage
Tunworth Road. Demolition of kitchen
extension (1978) and erection of a single
storey oak-framed side/rear extension.

21/00427/FUL (pending 22 Feb) Land to
north of Nunnery House, Tunworth Road.
Erection of 1 no. 4 bed dwelling,
detached garage, vehicular and pedestrian
access, servicing and landscaping.

21/00107/PIP (pending 25 Jan) The Farm,
Tunworth Road. Permission in Principle
for residential development for a
maximum of nine dwellings.

20/03328/FUL (pending 27 Nov)
Waterside, Frog Lane. Redevelopment of
redundant offices (and light industrial
unit) to create two family dwellings.

20/02087/GPDOFF (pending 07 August)
Riverview House, London Road. Change
of use from Class B1(a) office to Class
C3 residential, for of 8 x one-bed flats.
(Revised Flood Assessment Jan 2021.)

20/02124/FUL (pending 05 August)
The Egg Yard, Greywell Road. Two x 3-
bedroomed chalet bungalows.

20/01723/FUL (pending 29 June)
Brockwell (Paddock and Stable) Andwell
Lane. Eight dwellings with service road.

20/00009/PIP (pending 03 Jan 2020)
Nunnery House, Tunworth Road.
Permission in Principle for conversion of
an agricultural building to one dwelling.

PARISH TREE APPLICATIONS

T/00608/20/TCA (Approved 25th March)
Willow Bank, Tunworth Road.
Eucalyptus: reduce branches as per
annotated photos.

T/00107/21/TCA (Approved 14th April,
Validated 8 March) Ambrunnen Tunworth
Road. Removal of conifer hedge.



POLICE UPDATE

Dear Residents

I am pleased to report that although we have had several crimes reported, none have been of any threat or likely harm to residents or their property. Several involved incidents where we have attended and taken action against people who were present at the scene.

I also wish to make residents aware of an increase in burglary and theft from outbuildings in the north east of the county along with Hook and Old Basing areas, while not in our area we do need to be aware as criminals do travel.

Please keep sheds etc secure with good locks and alarms if possible.

We have also had the theft of a catalytic converter in the Dummer area, this type of crime is on the increase across the region as the price of scrap metal goes up.

While not in the area of this magazine, it is not too far away... on Thursday April 8th, at 1.18 pm, a silver Ford Focus was seen in Upton Grey on the Weston Road. A resident was working in his garden when a woman described as Eastern European, 5 ft 5" tall, medium build with black hair, wearing a dark coloured coat and blue facemask, approached him. While talking to him she grabbed his wrist more than once, finally she gave the appearance of falling grabbing the wrist again. A short time later, the resident became aware that his watch had been stolen from his wrist. This crime is extremely rare in our area, in fact, it is the first in my 17 years here. I am making enquiries with other police areas in and out of Hampshire to see if this is a pattern, but at this time it appears to be a 'one off'. That said please be aware if approached.

Sincere wishes as always and thank you for your continued support.

Andrew Reid, Local Constable

01256 389 050 07768 776844 andrew.reid@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

CONSULTATION

LOCAL AUTHORITY REMOTE MEETINGS - CALL FOR EVIDENCE



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Consultation to 17th June 2021

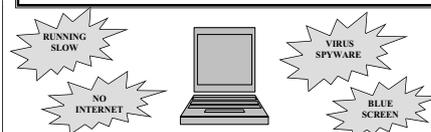
Covid Regulations allowing Parish Council meetings to be held remotely, expire on 7th May 2021

<https://consult.communities.gov.uk/local-government-stewardship/local-authority-remote-meetings-call-for-evidence/>

This call for evidence seeks to understand the experience of local authorities in the whole of the UK regarding remote meetings.

This is an open call for evidence. We particularly seek the views of individual members of the public; prospective and current local authority members / representatives; officers / leaders of local authorities who have been meeting remotely; and those bodies that represent the interests of local members / representatives at all levels.

CONFUSED BY YOUR COMPUTER? TROUBLED BY YOUR TELEVISION SET?



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Prices from
£45 on site
Covers the first
Hour

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Virus / Spyware removal
Problems with Email, Printer, Internet access (fixed)

Regular maintenance keeps your computer clean and fast

On site visits for
TV, Audio & Video Repair

Prices from
£45 + Parts
1st Hour

TV Tuning and Setup
Supply and Install Freeview receivers
Advice and Support.

Prices from
£35



01256 701480

07719738897

imcs@hotmail.co.uk

Newnham & Nately Scures

Newnham, Nately Scures and Water End held its Parish Assembly, remotely via Zoom on Wednesday 27th April. With thanks to all who attended and reports submitted. Further updates next month.



ST NICHOLAS' NEWNHAM 2021 REPORT FOR PARISH ASSEMBLY



Church fabric

In the Summer of 2020 severe damage to many of the tiles on the north side of the chancel roof was discovered. Investigation revealed that this was due to frost damage as a result of faulty tile manufacture. They were installed in 2006 and a warranty

claim was made on the manufacturer. After some discussion the manufacturer agreed to free issue a replacement set of tiles. An Archdeacon's certificate was obtained for the work which was carried out in April 2021.

Services and events

1. As with all churches, activities in 2020/2021 services were severely affected by the Covid-19 restrictions which resulted in the closure of the church for much of the time. On-line services have been provided by the benefice.
2. The church was closed at Easter 2020 but services with restricted attendance numbers were held for Harvest Festival and Christmas Day. Following the 2021 lockdown the church re-opened in time for an Easter service.
3. A well attended open air Carol Service was held in December 2020 in the adjacent Manor Farm farmyard courtesy of Geoff and Sarah Hawkes.
4. Regular monthly gift aided donations for which we are very grateful are received by the Friends from a number of villagers. In addition a 100 club was launched in December 2021. There is a monthly draw with three prizes each month. This provides further income and our thanks go to Carolyn Peck for running this.

CLUBROOM PARISH ASSEMBLY UPDATE

Despite the major backdrop to 2020 being the COVID pandemic we did complete the building and finishing work for the storage area extension in April. This added a further 18m² of floorspace, following on from which we took the opportunity to re-decorate the interior of the hall.

The Clubroom went into lockdown from 23rd March along with the rest of the country. However in April we were approached by two volunteers who, backed by a larger project team, requested to make use of the hall to assemble constituent parts of plastic face shields for use by the NHS, carers and others.

As lockdown eased in early Summer some users were allowed back. To allow this to happen safely we undertook a risk assessment and then published our protocol for its use. Appropriate signage was implemented with the provision of hand sanitisers and cleaning products. The QR code was also displayed to assist with track & trace.

During this easement we also formulated a proposal, a cost benefit analysis, and obtained estimates for, the installation of Solar Panels and a battery for storing generated electricity. The 5kW system was implemented on 8th September 2020. We are now looking forward to coming out of the second lockdown on May 17th.

On a personal note, Peter Brown our long standing Treasurer and driving force for many a year has decided to step down from this role. This has been a catalyst for a few changes in the 'management team' of the Clubroom with Alastair Jeffries as the new Treasurer and Chris Alliston as Chairman and Secretary.

NEWNHAM COMMUNITY'S



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE 100 CLUB WINNERS

April

- 1- Sam Horton £100
- 2- Richard Wilson £50
- 3- Carolyn Bell and Edward £25.

The draw was done by Carolyn Bell and I promise... !! Amazing how people keep picking own tickets!

March

- 1- Christopher Symons wins £100
- 2- Linda Dixon wins £50
- 3- Chloe Morris wins £25.

Charlie and Kit Morris picked the names out of the bag - no fix I promise, I did witness the draw!

Thank you all very much for supporting the 100 Club, your help is very much appreciated.

From the Newnham 100Club Committee

The pond throughout the year: **APRIL**



The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Amphibian and Reptile Group visited the pond on Sunday evening 11th April to survey for Great Crested Newts and eggs - from after dark to just after 9pm - a cold night! They reported.... Sightings were low, almost definitely due to the cold as the few we caught were very lethargic. We found loads of eggs and had a few sightings in the other two ponds as well:

Newnham Green Pond North: GCN: eggs = numerous, Male = 6, female = 2; Smooth newt male = 1

Newnham Green Pond South: GCN male = 1, Smooth newt male = 1, palmate newt male = 1; unidentified small newt species = 2

Newnham Green Pond East: GCN Male = 1

Invertebrates we spotted included: Backswimmer *Notonecta sp.*, water beetle *Colymbetes fusca*, Otter spider, *Pirata sp.*



FRIENDS OF ST SWITHUN'S

Thanks to James Malmesbury for hosting a fundraiser at Greywell Hill on behalf of the Friends.

Of note at present is the mermaid carving to the left of the door. (The original mermaid was moved inside the church some years ago and at some stage whitewashed over.) The replacement has sustained damage to its nose... (perpetrators unknown!) and the Friends are trying to commission a replacement. This is a complicated process as it has been agreed at Diocesan level... but will happen sometime the Friends hope.



FOOTPATHS IN THE PARISH – ASSEMBLY REPORT

In summary, activity during 2020 has been curtailed by the pandemic, however...

One project requested by HCC Countryside Services (CS) was to survey and review the bridges that are along our paths. I have inspected all bar two (Byway 6 Crown Lane to Water End, and FP2 off Lone Barn Lane) and they have all been photographed and deemed sound.

There have been two sites of excessive flooding along Church Path FP3, one near the Green between Naishes Farm and Tithe Barn and one where the path meets the Strings. These are due to be inspected by CS. The access to FP7 (A30 to St Swithun's) is blocked by overgrown hedging and will be addressed later in the year.

Finally, plaques dedicating the boardwalk across the Strings (FP3) to the memory of Nigel Downes, prior Footpath Warden for many years, have been installed.

PARISH PLANNING APPLICATIONS

21/00332/HSE (11 Mar) The Pink House, Newnham Lane. Open porch to west elevation.

21/00025/FUL (25th Jan) Nately Place, Scures Hill. Replacement detached dwelling and detached ancillary accommodation building, following demolition of existing house and garage.

Acoustic fencing to front/road-side boundary and retaining bank inbound of south boundary to facilitate leveling rear garden.

21/00038/FUL (Refused 17 Mar) Land at Blackstocks Lane. Erection of 1 no. dwelling. (Replacement for 20/01666/FUL withdrawn 7th Dec.)

16/03282/RET (pending 15th Sep 2016) Manor Farm, Blackstocks Lane. 'Change of use from solely agricultural to mixed agricultural use to include the diversification of farm open days for no more than 100 days in a year, with ancillary tea room, associated car parking.'

TREE APPLICATIONS

T/00106/21/TCA (08 Mar) Cromwells, The Barracks. T1-Oak, crown raise to 5m. T2-Pine, Fell – heavily ivy clad and suppressed. T3-Apple, reduce beyond previous pruning points to give future branch structure for fruit production and management. T4-Ash, cut back to boundary, extensive signs of ash dieback.

T5-Ash, cut back to boundary, possible historic root heave or suppression as now situated into large neighbouring macrocarpa. T6-Ash, fell. Previous root heave and leaning heavily towards listed property. T7-cypress, reduce to suitable height below rubbing of T6 between 7-10m.

T/00500/20/TPO (Approved 11 Mar) 3 Kingsbridge Copse. 2 Oak and 1 Ash tree: Crown raise to no higher than 10m above ground level to clear ornamental conifers.

Our temporary opening times are

From 12th April

Mon & Tues close
Wed to Sat 12 to 8pm
Sunday 12 to 4pm-ish

From 17th May

Monday closed
Tues to Sat 12 to 3pm
5.30pm to 10pm
Sunday 12 to 5pm

01256 761 896 www.oldhousenewnham.uk/

NOTICE OF UNCONTESTED ELECTION

Basingstoke & Deane

Election of Parish Councillors for Newnham on Thursday 6 May 2021

I, Rebecca Emmett being the Returning Officer at the above election, report that the persons whose names appear below were duly elected Parish Councillors for Newnham.

Name of Candidate	Home Address
ALLISTON Chris	5 St Johns Cottages, Newnham Road, Hook, Hants, RG27 9NQ
ASHWORTH John Spencer	Oakfield Farmhouse, Nately Scures, Hook, RG27 9JR
GASKELL Paul	Rose Cottage, The Barracks, Newnham, Hook, Hants, RG27 9NW
HEDGES Pauline Mary	52 Water End Park, Old Basing, Basingstoke, Hants, RG24 7BB
JAMES June	Hawkridge, Tynley Lane, Newnham, RG27 9AJ
WILSON Gareth David	6 Kingsbridge End, Newnham, Hook, Hampshire, RG27 9QQ

REMOTE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

From 4th April last year, it has been legal to hold Parish Council meetings remotely as per temporary regulations:

'The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.'

These Regulations expire on 7th May 2021. In response to a legal challenge by the Local Government Association, the High Court ruled on 27th April that remote meetings cannot to continue after 6th May.

'Primary legislation would be required to allow local authority "meetings" under the 1972 Local Government Act to take place remotely. In our view, once the Flexibility Regulations cease to apply, such meetings must take place at a single, specified geographical location; attending a meeting at such a location means physically going to it; and being "present" at such a meeting involves physical presence at that location.'

For consultation details see M&N page.

Church Notices

'Journeying together, we worship God and serve the community'
www.united-parish.org.uk

From the Parish Registers

Funerals 2021

29th March, Mrs Joan Keen
Mapledurwell

1st April, Mrs Sheena Mellon-Grant
Newnham

12th April, Mrs Ann Mills
Newnham

May they rest in peace

FROM THE BENEFACE CLERGY



'For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.'

These well known words are taken from the start of the third chapter

of the Old Testament book of Ecclesiastes, and are the first line of a poem which is thought to have been written by King Solomon during the last years of his life. In the book Solomon muses as he relates his life experiences and draws lessons from them, often quite self-critically.

We're creatures of time, aren't we? We measure time and how much we can squeeze into 24 hours; we marvel at how quickly each week passes and how they seem to fly by faster and faster the older we become; we count the months until our next holiday, or for small children maybe that's until the next birthday or Christmas; the months we measure into seasons of the year. And then we measure the years and mark the major milestones of our lives.

But perhaps time should be measured in more than hours, days, weeks, months or years, or even the significant events in our lives. Perhaps our time is best measured by the relationships we have with others.

St Paul wrote: 'Faith, hope and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.' Some of us have faith, some of us find that faith brings us hope in this life and what we understand about the next. Paul stresses that above all it is love that sustains relationships and it is those relationships that sustain life.

During three periods of lockdown, sustaining relationships has, for many



Helen Chatfield
Youth Pastor
North Hampshire Downs Benefice

KIDZONE

Kidzone

Hi Everyone!

I'm so excited! Do you want to know why? In the last few days, we have made the decision to run Holiday Club this year!!

For those of you who haven't been before, it's a week of fun

and games on the field opposite Upton Grey Church. We have hilarious acting, crafts, messy games and stories all about something from The Bible. This summer, as so many of us have missed out on going on holiday, the theme will be the seaside, and we're even hoping to all go on a day trip to the beach on one of the days! So, save the dates: 2nd to the 6th of August.

The person we'll be learning about at Seaside Rock is one of Jesus' disciples – a man called Peter. You might remember him as the disciple who denied Jesus three times before the cockerel crowed on the night before Jesus died, or maybe as the one who tried to walk on water with Jesus, or even the disciple who is known as the father of the church. If you're not sure who I mean, scan this QR code with your phone or tablet for a short cartoon of his life.



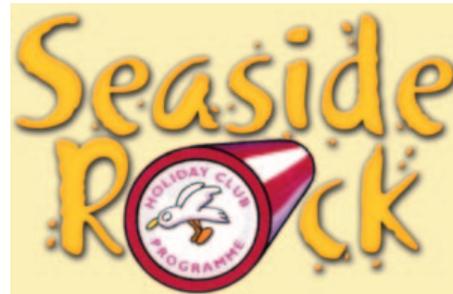
The reason I like him so much, is he reminds me a lot of myself. Although I try so hard to do the right thing, I often make mistakes – just like Peter did when he let Jesus down just before He died. Jesus really needed a friend, but Peter was too scared. In the Bible, it says that just as the cockerel crowed, Jesus looked sadly right into Peter's eyes. Imagine how that must felt! Jesus was chained up and

in pain and He watched as His best friend abandoned Him. Peter knew he'd let his best friend down really badly, and ran away in tears. That must have been the worst feeling in the world... But then, just a few days later, Jesus looked at him again – but this time with love and forgiveness in His eyes. Even though Peter had hurt Him to the core, abandoned Him when He was in need, Jesus forgave him and even gave him the nickname 'The Rock', because He knew He could rely on Him.

I wonder if you've ever felt like you've let God down with something you've said or done – or maybe even something you've not done? Remember Peter and what terrible mistakes he made. Jesus still forgave him and gave him a really important job to do. Don't beat yourself up and keep on remembering what went wrong – remember God has given you a brand new page to write today's story on.

I really hope I'll see you at Seaside Rock this year, but in the meantime God bless and see you next month!

Helen



of us, been a time to learn new skills as we've stayed in touch with family and friends via Zoom, WhatsApp and other social media. No substitute for the real thing, of course, but a great help. For many lockdown has also been a time to walk with nature and appreciate the changing seasons in our wonderful countryside. It's also been a time to enjoy longer stretches of time with those in our households, giving us the time to muse as Solomon did on our experiences of life and our hopes for the future.

It has been an enormous privilege to be part of the ministry team in various guises since the formation of the North Hampshire Downs Benefice in 2008. As Solomon said, 'for everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven', or in more modern parlance, everything has its time.

The time has now come for me to retire, to redress the balance in the years ahead more in favour of my (very large!) family. Of course, a calling to ordained ministry doesn't retire, so I prefer to call this a time to refocus on my calling, and I look forward to being alongside you for many years to come, just in a new and different way. I wait with excited anticipation to see where this may lead.

Revd Linda Scard

CLERGY CHANGES

A new Associate Rector and Vicar of Odiham

The Revd Chris Dudgeon formally comes to the end of his Curacy in June of this year. The completion of Curacy marks the end of Chris's three-year initial ministerial post.

As you may know, Chris has taken on the role of Acting Vicar of Odiham since the retirement of The Revd Alison Brown. I'm delighted now to announce that on May 16th he will be licensed as Assistant Rector in the North Hampshire Downs Benefice and the permanent Vicar of Odiham. He will continue to offer three Sundays per month plus four days per week, and his ministry will be focused around Odiham while sharing in the leadership of the wider benefice with me. I'm delighted to be able to appoint Chris to this role, with the backing of the Odiham Churchwardens and PCC. Chris is a highly effective and gifted church leader and priest and a deeply loved and appreciated colleague.

A new Curate

In addition, I am also pleased to announce that our new Curate will be ordained Deacon at Winchester Cathedral in July. She will serve a three to four year Curacy in the benefice, and 30% of her time will be spent focused in Odiham, with the remaining 70% spent in the wider benefice. A full announcement will follow shortly to ensure it is co-ordinated with the Diocese and Training College.

Retirement of Linda Scard

In this edition of the *Villager* you will have seen the Revd Canon Linda Scard's announcement of her retirement from her current roles, but I am immensely pleased that she will be staying in North Warnborough and continuing her association with these churches. We owe an enormous debt of gratitude to Linda for her many and varied talents and steadfast dedication – not least during periods when clergy here have been rather thin on the ground! Her installation as an Honorary Canon at Winchester Cathedral last year was a fitting tribute to her hard work, kindness, professionalism and outstanding achievements.

With love and prayers

Revd Simon Butler

Rector of the North Hampshire Downs Network of Churches



North Hampshire Downs Mother's Union

Our branch will meet again on May 19th, and we will take part in prayer for 'Thy Kingdom Come'.

'Thy Kingdom Come' is a prayer initiative of the Archbishop of Canterbury which started in 2016 to encourage people to pray during the nine days between Ascension Day and Pentecost (13th May to 23rd May).

Our meeting will probably be on Zoom, but we will also make plans for meeting together face-to-face as the weather improves and the restrictions for Coronavirus are eased.

On the back page of this magazine you will find an article about one of our local projects, the Sunflower Café for those with dementia and their carers.

If you want to find out more about Mothers' Union or our branch, please contact Sue Murphy on sue@the-murphys.me.uk or 01252 845 011.

CHURCH SERVICES IN THE UNITED PARISH IN MAY

DATE	9:00AM	11:00 am	5:00 pm	7.30PM
02-May		Mapledurwell CW HC Michael Chatfield		
09-May	Greywell MS Helen Chatfield			
13-May				Ascension Day Live-streamed
16-May	Up Nately CW HC HOS	Odiham Revd Chris Dudgeon Licensing Bishop David	Nately Scures ES Mark Ruffell / Stephen Knights	
23-May	Mapledurwell MS Alan Hoar	Greywell CW HC SB		
30-May	Benefice CW HC at Odiham CD	Benefice Informal service at Odiham CD & HC		

THE SUNFLOWER CAFÉ

The Sunflower Café which, in ordinary times, meets once a week on a Wednesday afternoon, is run jointly by The Vine Church and the North Hampshire Downs branch of the Mothers' Union. Volunteers for the café come from both the Vine Church and churches throughout the North Hampshire Downs Benefice.

The café provides much needed services (with no charge) for people with dementia and other forms of memory loss, through social interaction and stimuli such as table top games (dominoes is a favourite), music/singing sessions, chair-based exercise classes, together with tea and cakes. In addition, it offers carers some much needed respite for an hour or two and we occasionally have talks from representatives from organisations such as the Alzheimer's Society, the dementia service at the local hospital and similar. We welcome people from all around north Hampshire and south Surrey, with some people presently coming from Basingstoke and beyond, so please do contact us if you know anyone who might like to come to the café – we do require carers to also come along to the café as we are unable to provide care ourselves.

We have not been able to open the café for over a year now and, being aware how vital it is for many of our visitors and, in particular, carers, in November we started inviting them to join a Zoom session each Wednesday afternoon. Paul, who provides the Memory Lane music and singing sessions, joins the Zoom session every other week to provide an opportunity to continue with this important activity and we thank him for providing this at no cost during lockdown.

One other way we have been keeping in touch with our visitors and carers is by sending them gifts at significant times during the year.

We distributed over 60 individual packaged cream teas to the visitors, carers and volunteers to celebrate the café birthday in September and followed this up with 40 gift bags of Christmas goodies in December.



WELCOME TO
THE SUNFLOWER CAFÉ ZOOM CLUB
Every WEDNESDAY at 2pm

For people living with dementia & memory loss and Carers.

On 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month "Memory Lane" Singing
then on 2nd, 4th (& 5th) Wednesday Chatting together.

Can't think of anything to talk about Zoom Club Chat week?

Here are some suggestions as you share your news:

Something you've been grateful for

Something that has inspired you

Something you've learnt during this time

We are glad you joined with us. Please join us again soon.

Contact coordinatorsunflowercafe@yahoo.com for information.



To celebrate Easter we distributed Fairtrade chocolate eggs and buckets containing compost and either sunflower or sweet pea seeds to all our visitors and their carers.

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We are shortly going to start making tentative plans to open again later in the summer, with a celebratory party at the beginning of September to welcome people back and commemorate the fifth anniversary of the café opening.

For more details, contact the café by e-mailing coordinatorsunflowercafe@yahoo.com

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