

The Villager

December 2023, January 2024 Volume 52 No 11

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



Season's Greetings

Special thanks to Villager contributors and distributors and wishing all a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Although various supermarkets beat us to it by displaying advent calendars and tinsel from early September (what were they thinking?!) your churches are also well under way with preparation for Christmas.

Across our benefice we have services and events for all ages through the month of December. If you prefer something traditional then try our Advent Carols at Odiham, Herriard or Long Sutton, or the Carol Services in all our villages. If family fun is your thing, then there is lots of all-age provision including several Christingle services and a Nativity service at St Stephen's Up Nately.

We have a wonderful late-night communion service on Christmas Eve at St Swithun's Nately Scures, then a Christmas morning service in all the other villages. Whether you are a regular churchgoer or an occasional visitor, we would love to see you to share some Christmas cheer. If you're new to any of our villages then please join us, meet some fellow residents and get stuck in to our joyful Christmas traditions!

Rev Simon Butler



CAROL SERVICES

Sunday 10 December, 11am
St Swithun's Nately Scures;

Saturday 16 December
4pm St Nicholas' Newnham

Saturday 16 December
5pm St Stephen's Up Nately

Friday 22 December, 5pm
St Mary's Mapledurwell

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

11pm St Swithun's Nately
Scures, BCP Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY

Family Service 9am
St Mary's Mapledurwell

Morning Worship 9am
St Stephen's Up Nately

Family Service 11am
St Nicholas' Newnham

THE FRIENDS OF ST MICHAEL'S HOSPICE CAROL SERVICE

12 December, All Saints' Odiham
6.30 for 7pm start. Canapes and
wine will be served, then mince pies
at the end of the service.

This year we have Schola Cantorum
of Oxford (they are undergraduate
choral scholars from Oxford
University Colleges) and by popular
request holding a Carol Service
rather than a Christmas concert.

Clare Balding OBE will take a read-
ing. The tickets are again £30 from
Katherine Jane, Odiham High St, or
from St Michaels Hospice website

www.stmichaelshospice.org.uk/events

To pay by BACs please email
henriettamogg@hotmail.com

GLOBAL WARMING

Did you watch any of this year's Cenotaph Service on TV? Did you notice the trees still cloaked in leaves? 50 years ago there would not have been a leaf in sight. The climate is changing; mild autumn weather makes itself visible. What is so surprising is that despite storms Babet, Ciarán and Debbie the local trees have retained so many leaves. The poplars' went long since, closely followed by ash and lime trees and maples. These and others provided a colourful landscape last month; December should see the oaks finally yielding the last of their seemingly endless leaves so that gardeners can put away brooms and blowers.

Looking back at storm Ciarán: did you check your barometer on the 2nd November? Here, at 310 feet above sea level, the aneroid barometer stood at 27.98 inches early in the day; it is the lowest reading I have knowingly seen. Normally anything in the low 28 inch range is rather exceptional; usually the barometer is somewhere around 29 inches. Even the hurricane on 16th October 1987, only caused our barometer to fall to 28.49 inches.

Now's the time to watch the temperatures on the Continent, eg Helsinki, Moscow, Warsaw, Berlin, Amsterdam. As these places chill, we often see increasing numbers of wood pigeons, because our birds are supplemented by visitors from over the North Sea. In former years, large flocks of wood pigeons would already have been seen feeding on newly planted corn and oilseed rape. NB

THE REAL NATIVITY

Rev Simon Butler

I find it fascinating how stories are shaped and grow over time. A core remains, but each successive generation reads and re-tells its stories with a particular slant and for particular reasons.

The Nativity story makes for an interesting example. At the heart of the nativity enacted in almost every school up and down the land stands a kernel of the biblical account, but one which over many years has acquired new aspects and details. The story that we tell is not wrong but there is some value in going back to the source material to see if there is new meaning and insight to discover. For example, in our re-telling of the nativity we see Mary and Joseph turned away from various guest houses and directed to a stable where Jesus is born, on the margins and away from everyone else.

continued next page



CONTEMPLATIVE ADVENT

- Your chance to escape from the busyness of the Christmas season
- an opportunity to reflect, meditate and be still or do some craft
- find out about the ancient, mystical 'O' antiphons
- refreshments



Saturday 23rd December 2.30-4.30pm
Newnham Clubroom

For more information email
debbie@moretolife.church

more+

continued from front page

A more accurate re-telling of the story, which takes into account some knowledge of first Century life and a closer interpretation of the text, shows us that Mary and Joseph were told there was no space in the guest room. (A more accurate translation of the word we translate as 'Inn'... Most first century houses in the area had a small room on top of the space shared by the family and animals.)

So the couple were invited into the main living area. Stables as we know them today were simply not present and animals lived on a lower floor in the main family house with a manger cut into the rock ledge that separated humans and animals. Hence we see Jesus placed in a manger.

Does this matter? Well in some ways yes. Instead of Jesus being born on the margins, unloved, away from human contact and out in the cold, we see a story in which Mary and Joseph are welcomed into the home of one of Joseph's relatives (he was from Bethlehem after all), surrounded by love and care, and with family gathered, with the noise and energy of the household buzzing around him. Jesus is born. Not on the margins, but in the heart of the home.

The invitation at Christmas is not to keep Christ on the periphery, at arms' length, in the stable at the bottom of the garden as it were, but instead to invite him in to the heart of our homes and the centre of our lives. Much as he was some 2000 or so years ago.

Do join us at one of our Nativity Services....

Sunday 24 December
4.30pm, St Stephen's Up Nately.

CAROL SERVICES

Rev Simon Butler

We all no doubt enjoy a range of Christmas traditions, many of which will have been handed down through family and some of which we may have begun ourselves.

Christmas is after all a season of traditions, and in the life of the church some of these are very ancient indeed. Some traditions are a little more recent but feel as though they have been around forever.

One tradition which falls into the 'more recent than you may think' category is Nine Lessons & Carols. We might be forgiven for thinking that its origins are very ancient indeed but in fact it was begun as recently(ish) as 1880 in the Diocese of Truro. It became famous when the service was first broadcast to the nation in 1918 from Kings College Cambridge.

The service of Nine Lessons & Carols charts the Christian story and the

Mapledurwell & Up Nately



For Village Hall contact and bookings please go to
www.mapledurwellvillagehall.co.uk

NOTES FROM THE NOVEMBER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Local Plan Update presentation

from BDBC Cllrs Paul Harvey (Council Leader) and Andy Konieczko (Portfolio Holder for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure).

'Manydown is done' almost... all on track to exchange in December.

Development will be 'infrastructure first', the first 'reserved matters' housing applications likely for end 2024 early 2025. Now appointing developers for 3,520 houses which is good news to have for the Local Plan examining Inspector.

The Draft Plan will be published for consultation in January, and include development sites as the Draft put on hold last year. Makes sense to build on work done before. Need to move forward now, to have Local Plan Update approved by Summer 2025.

The present lack of five year housing land supply means Officers and Development Control have reduced scope to refuse development deemed unsuitable, and developers are putting forward schemes which would not normally be considered for approval. Moving forward with the Local Plan Update is the most efficient means of regaining a five year land supply.

At present Local Planning Authorities have no ability, as confirmed by legal advice, to do other than use the Standard Method for calculating

action of God in his world. From the creation poems of *Genesis*, through the fall of humanity, to the longing of the Old Testament prophets, until eventually the long awaited Christ, God incarnate, is revealed.

We host a number of services of lessons and carols around the benefice, with traditional readings and hymns and mostly candle-lit.

Do join us for this wonderful Christmas tradition and allow the ancient words and oft sung lyrics to speak to you afresh.

Sunday 10th December
11am, St Swithun's Nately Scures

Saturday 16th December
4pm, St Nicholas Newnham
5pm, St Stephen's Up Nately

Sunday 17th December
5.30pm, St Mary's Greywell

Friday 22nd December
5pm, St Mary's Mapledurwell

housing numbers. While all parties wish to reduce the housing from 850dpa (dwellings per annum), there is no means of achieving this that would be accepted by an Inspector.

A stepped approach to annual delivery – reducing numbers to 693pa for the first five years – will give more time for major sites infrastructure and to negotiate with water companies and the EA to improve water quality.

The issue of water quality, supply and treatment, has been raised by many Councillors and community groups. There are major challenges for chalk streams each side of the borough.

Local Plan Update Policies seek to improve water quality, and also to require the highest standard of build and energy efficiency for domestic and commercial buildings. For these Policies to be approved by the Inspector, high levels of public support will be vital to counter certain claims of unviability by developers.

When the consultation is published, it is for everyone to consider its Policies and respond to give your views.

PARISH PLANNING APPLICATIONS

23/02753/HSE & 23/02812/LBC
(Validated 15 Nov) Rye Cottage Tunworth Rd. Replace wood burner and install flue.

23/02728/LDEU (Validated 31 Oct) The Old School House, Greywell Road, Up Nately. Certificate of lawfulness for existing residential use of agricultural land.

23/02653/FUL (Validated 23 Oct) The Farm, Tunworth Road. Erection of 1no four-bed house with associated garage, car parking driveway and stable building.

23/02589/HSE (Validated 17 Oct) Old Church Cottage, St Mary's Church Road. Demolition of a chimney; a replacement dormer window on the East elevation, erection of dormer window on the West elevation, replacement ground floor window and bi-folding doors; proposed juliet balcony on South elevation.

23/02518/LBC (Validated 09 Oct) WAT Stacy and Partners, Priory Farm. Consent following unauthorised demolition of listed building due to fire damage.

23/02103/FUL (Validated 18 August) Land Adjacent To Twine Rose Cottage, Heather Lane. Demolition of outbuilding and erection of dwelling & garage.

23/01951/HSE (Validated 02 August) Arlings, Tunworth Road. Erection of replacement garage outbuilding (including workshop and storage space).

23/01236/FUL (Pending 15 May) Brockwell (Paddock and Stable), Andwell Lane. Three new dwellings & landscaping.

23/01042/FUL (Pending 18 May) WAT Stacy and Partners. Priory Farm, Andwell. Demolition of two storage buildings/ structures, erection of two new barns.

23/00962/TDC (Pending 10 May) Nunnery House, Tunworth Rd. Technical Details Consent relating to design, access, landscape, services & scale of the barn in accordance with 20/00009/PIP conversion of agricultural building to 1no dwelling.

22/02210/RET (Pending 05 August 2022) Priory Farmhouse. Variation of Condition 2 of 15/04301/FUL to allow continued use as Class E children's nursery to 2032.

PLANNING APPEALS

APP/H1705/W/23/3321916 APPEAL in progress. Land Adj to Blaegrove House. Permission in Principle for one dwelling.

23/00055/REF APPEAL Lodged. The Gamekeepers. Hardstanding for access to the cesspit, for deliveries and for additional parking; plus lighting.

23/00045/REF & 46/REF APPEALS lodged. Blaegrove Cottage. Single storey rear extension including excavation works to rear garden and erection of a new retaining wall.

PARISH TREE APPLICATIONS

T/00525/23/TCA (Validated 17 Nov) The Old School House, Greywell Road, Up Nately. Ash tree. Removal of the dead branches overhanging Blaegrove Lane and any other part of the tree which is identified as unsafe.

NEWS FROM UP NATELY

Children in the village enjoyed a Halloween Trail again, finding sweets on the way, Thank you Charlotte for organising this again!

Next Coffee & Chat gathering will be on Friday 5th January at Queens Lace, 10-12, call Claire for more information 01256 760554.

Care with candles One young resident had a nasty accident with a candle that set light to her hair, luckily her mother had the common sense to douse the flames with a pan of water, dialled 999, a quick trip to A&E and thank goodness not too many burns! We all need to be extra careful with candles!

We wish everyone a very happy Christmas and New Year

SCAVENGER ROUTE MAP

CAN YOU COMPLETE THIS HALLOWEEN TRAIL? FOLLOW THE MAP AND TICK OFF EACH SPOOKY ITEM YOU MEET ON YOUR WAY, BUT KEEP YOUR WITS ABOUT YOU AS THEY CAN BE FOUND **IN ANY ORDER!** MAKE IT TO THE END AND HELP YOURSELF TO A TREAT

Up Nately Pond
Footpath sign, St Stephen's church
Heather Lane
Under Slades Bridge and turn left (towards Eastrop bridge)
Canal Towpath
6 St Stephens close
Heather Lane
Up hill to Heather Lane footpath sign on left
Up to Eastrop Bridge, turn left towards Heather Lane.

UP NATELY HALLOWEEN SCAVENGER HUNT



Flutter, flutter little bat, How I wonder where you're at?  <input type="checkbox"/>	 Witch's hat so straight and high, look up for it in the sky. <input type="checkbox"/>	I'm an orange spider, can you look for me? I'm hiding somewhere high, maybe in a tree.  <input type="checkbox"/>	 Little black cat, little black cat. Have a look around and see where i'm sat. <input type="checkbox"/>	A pumpkin is sitting on a wall, watch out carefully in case it falls!  <input type="checkbox"/>	 We use our webs to make a nest, if you're brave enough to touch us be our guest! <input type="checkbox"/>
Look out for a goblet shaped like a skull, with yucky sludge it's really full!  <input type="checkbox"/>	I'm a skeleton, boney and white. Don't come too close I might give you a fright!  <input type="checkbox"/>	Look for a candle on this track, look down low as it is short and black.  <input type="checkbox"/>	A creepy pumpkin ghost with boney fingers, tick this one off quickly and don't dare linger!  <input type="checkbox"/>	At before you head back, Spot a bird of black.  <input type="checkbox"/>	A pumpkin of a new design, a purple one is near a sign.  <input type="checkbox"/>



The spooky characters from A Nightmare Before Christmas are waiting at the end, Did you make it through all the twists and bends? If you did you'll find something sweet to eat, Help yourself and then you're complete!



Newnham & Nately Scures



ST SWITHUN'S NATELY SCURES CHRISTMAS SERVICES *Do join us!*

Carol Service
Sunday 10th December
at 11am
Followed by mulled wine &
mince pies

Christmas Eve
Midnight Mass
BCP Holy Communion
Sunday 24th December
at 11pm

ST NICHOLAS' NEWNHAM

Christmas Carol Service
Saturday 16 December
at 4pm
Followed by mulled ale &
mince pies.



Sara Margaret Allenby died peacefully on 14th October after a short illness. Wonderful wife of the late Michael, loving mother of Henry and grandmother of Harry and Charles. Private cremation. Service of Thanksgiving on 22nd November, 2.30pm at All Saints' Odiham. Sara offered friendship to all around her, she was much loved, and Newnham will so greatly miss her.



PHOTO: Woodland Trust

BIRD WATCHING

If you have a bird feeder in the garden, please make sure it is kept washed and cleaned regularly before filling it with more nuts or seeds or fat balls. This is to reduce the risk of Trichomonosis being passed to healthy birds from infected ones. This is a horrid disease, which affects birds' ability to feed and ultimately kills them. It is a bacterial disease, not to be confused with avian flu, a virus.

Birdwatching when one has feeders is always fun; look out for the only two birds which often feed upside down, the nuthatch, which looks like a bandit with his eye mask and the much more slender siskin. The more common visitors are great - blue- and cole tits, chaffinches, greenfinches (badly affected by Trichomonosis), starlings and great spotted woodpeckers. But there are lots of others.

If you enjoy birdwatching, have you thought of going to Farlington Marsh or Titchfield Haven? Both in Hampshire. In both places during the winter there are always plenty of visiting ducks, geese and waders, and much else besides, with uncommon visitors appearing from time to time. If you go, you must take binoculars - you will need them. NB

OLD HOUSE AT HOME *Newnham Green* Celebrate Christmas 2023

VEGETABLE SOUP
CHICKEN LIVER PATE,
HOMEMADE CHUTNEY & TOASTED BREAD
HOME-CURED TROUT GRAVADLAX,
TARRAGON MAYONNAISE & TOASTED BREAD
WILD MUSHROOM & TARRAGON RISOTTO
WITH PINE NUTS, PESTO & PARMESAN
OOOO

TRADITIONAL TURKEY & CHESTNUT STUFFING,
PIGS IN BLANKETS, SPROUTS, ROASTED POTATOES & GRAVY
PAN FRIED SEA BASS,

SAUTÉ NEW POTATOES, GREEN BEANS & A SAFFRON SAUCE

OLD HOUSE'S 'PHEASANT WELLINGTON',
DAUPHINOISE, SPINACH & A RED WINE JUS
RATATOUILLE & AUBERGINE STACK
TOPPED WITH GOATS CHEESE, ON A ROSTI POTATO,
SPINACH & A TOMATO SAUCE
OOOO

BAILEYS CRÈME BRULÉ & SHORTBREAD
CHOCOLATE BROWNIE & ICE CREAM
CHRISTMAS PUDDING & BRANDY SAUCE
OOOO

SELECTION OF TWO BRITISH CHEESES & CRACKERS
DORSET BLUE & CHEDDAR

2 COURSES £28 PER PERSON
3 COURSES £34 PER PERSON
4 COURSES £40 PER PERSON

CLUBROOM HIRE

For availability please see
<https://newnhamclubroom.org.uk/>
To book tel 07802 972722 or email
bookings@newnhamclubroom.org.uk
Wifi available.

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Monday 04 December, 7pm, Clubroom.
Everyone welcome

LOCAL POLICING

Good news that Newnham and Mapledurwell & Up Nately are to be taken back into the Basingstoke Rural South policing area. As pointed out by PCSO Andy Jones, 'that is good news for local residents though it will add to my area of responsibilities; but we are looking at reshuffling what comes under my remit'. Hopefully the promised additional officers and resources will help.

NEWNHAM COMMUNITY'S



November winners are
£100 - Beth and Richard Wilson (40)
£50 - Colette Wiggin (36)
£25 - Joanna Bell (4)

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to the Revd Debz for making the draw. Carolyn Bell

See back page for Planning applications



NEWNHAM GREEN POND

With thanks as always to the Hants & Isle of Wight Amphibian & Reptile Group (HIWARG) they had a volunteer working group at the pond in September, and then a follow-up day end of October which started off bright and sunny but then torrential rain stopped play.

Managing the invasive *Crassula* is an ongoing struggle but the team reports positively on habitat and biodiversity. If anyone would like to help with next year's working parties please contact Pete West at amphibians@hiwarg.org.uk or su.newnham@btinternet.com



25th November

'We are delighted to present our new menu which is already available as of this weekend. You may note the addition of some truly special South African delicacies and favourite dishes, some of which are incorporated into a fuller evening menu along with our popular burgers.

'In addition to this regular menu which is available Wed to Sunday, we will have weekly evening specials from 5pm on Wednesday to Saturday:

Wed – Prego Steak Rolls & Fries; Thurs – Vetkoek & Curried Mince

Fri – Oxtail Stew & Rice; Sat – Durban Mutton Curry Bunny Chow.

'Bookings for evening meals are strongly recommended, especially for any of our weekly specials, as this enables us to plan more accurately and ensure availability. Please call us on 01256 765158 to reserve a table or takeaway.'

DINNER MENU

MAIN COURSES

NACHOS CON CARNE tortilla chips, chilli mince, jalapenos guacamole, salsa, sour cream	£8.95
RIBS & CHIPS 1/2 kg bbq smoked meaty ribs with fries	£12.95
OXTAIL STEW with long grained rice	£13.95
BOBOTIE with yellow rice & Mrs. Ball's original chutney	£14.95
8OZ RUMP STEAK with biltong and cheese sauce, fries and beer battered onion rings	£16.95

DESSERT MENU

PEPPERMINT CRISP TART	£4.95
MALVA PUDDING & CUSTARD	£5.95
MILKTART SLICE	£6.95
CHOCOLATE BROWNIE SUNDAE	£5.95
YORVALE ICE CREAM - 2 scoops	£3.95
- 3 scoops	£5.45
Bourbon Vanilla Double Chocolate Chip Jamaican Rum & Raisin	

LIGHT MEALS

SOUP OF THE DAY served with a toasted baguette	£6.95
PERI-PERI CHICKEN LIVERS served with a special sauce and a prego roll	£9.95

Onion Rings	£4.45
Fries	£4.45
Sweet Chilli Fries	£4.95
Mac & Cheese Bites	£4.95
Jalapeno Poppers	£4.95
Cheesy Fries	£5.45
Halloumi Fries	£7.45
Salt & Pepper Squid	£7.95

CHICKEN WINGS

Hot 'n Kickin' or Mesquite	£7.95
----------------------------------	-------

BURGERS

ALL OF THE BELOW ARE SERVED WITH FRIES AND ONION RINGS

VEGGIE HEAVEN (V) roasted vegetable patty, smashed avocado, mushrooms	£10.45
CHAKALAKA HEAVEN 6oz beef patty with a house special curried vegetable topping	£10.95
CHICK 'N LICKIN' southern fried chicken fillet and Chef's own chakalaka sauce	£11.95
THE ROADHOUSE 6oz beef patty and burger sauce	£11.95
MONTEREY BBQ 6oz beef patty, monterey jack cheese and maple & bourbon bbq sauce	£12.95
BILTONG BONANZA 6oz beef patty topped with biltong slices and Chef's special biltong & cheese sauce	£13.95
ADD EXTRA TOPPINGS - £1 ea bacon, cheese, jalapenos, mushrooms	
All burgers are prepared with mayo, lettuce, tomato, fried onions, gherkins	

THE CODFATHER breaded cod fillet with tartare sauce in a bun	£10.45
SPRINGBOK ROLL grilled Boerewors, fried onions, Mrs. Ball's original chutney on a long bread roll	£11.45

IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS OR QUESTIONS REGARDING ALLERGENS PLEASE SPEAK TO A MEMBER OF THE STAFF

VILLAGER CONTACT DETAILS Editor Susan Turner 07515 777060 su.newnham@btinternet.com
Distribution & Mapledurwell News Lorna Cuthill 354651 **Up Nately News** Liz Preece 762059 **Church Benefice**
www.moretolife.church/ **PLEASE SEND STORIES, ARTICLES, PHOTOS OF LOCAL INTEREST TO THE VILLAGER**

Church Notices

'Journeying together, we worship God and serve the community'

www.united-parish.org.uk

<https://www.moretolife.church>

From the Parish Registers

Interment of Ashes

Nicola Franks at St Mary's Mapledurwell on 30 November, followed by Memorial Service at St Mary's Upton Grey



From the Ministry Team

Born in 1909, Simone Weil was a French philosopher and mystic and a prolific writer. Her work didn't really attract much

attention until after her death in 1943, since when it has been the subject of significant scholarly interest.

I was reading a book this week which quoted a passage from Weil's writings about the relationship between the past, present and future:

She wrote: 'The future brings us nothing, gives us nothing; it is we who in order to build it have to give it everything, our very life. But to be able to give, one has to possess; and we possess no other life, no other living sap, than the treasures stored up from the past and digested, assimilated and created afresh by us. Of all the human soul's needs, none is more vital than this one of the past.'

It is a dense and rich paragraph with a great deal of meaning to be unpacked, but as I prepare for the unrelenting business of the fast approaching Christmas season, I was particularly struck by Weil's reflection on the importance of the past as we shape a future.

In a society that is geared towards looking forwards with an almost pathological intensity her words are sobering. 'The future brings us nothing, gives us nothing...' simply because the future is not yet a reality; it may at its best be full of promise, but in the present it is nothing, and by the time it is something it will no longer be the future.

I have found myself reflecting a lot recently on the notion of rootedness or the lack thereof that seems to characterise much of our society. That sense of belonging which when present brings such joy and when absent leaves us cut adrift. Rootedness is linked to how we in

CHURCH SERVICES DECEMBER INTO FEBRUARY

Sunday 03 December	9am St Mary's Mapledurwell, CW Holy Communion 11am St Mary's Greywell, CW Holy Communion
Sunday 10 December	9am St Stephen's Up Nately, BCP Holy Communion (said) 10am St Nicholas' Newnham, 1662 Morning Prayer 11am St Swithun's Nately Scures, Carol Service
Saturday 16 December	4pm St Nicholas' Newnham, Carol Service 5pm St Stephen's Up Nately, Carol Service
Sunday 17 December	5.30pm St Mary's Greywell, Carol Service
Friday 22 December	5pm St Mary's Mapledurwell, Carol Service
Christmas Eve	11pm St Swithun's Nately Scures, BCP Holy Communion
Christmas Day	9am St Mary's Mapledurwell, Family Service 9am St Stephen's Up Nately, Morning Worship 10.45am St Mary's Greywell, Family Service 11am St Nicholas' Newnham, Family Service
Sunday 31 December	10.30am St Nicholas' Newnham Benefice BCP Holy Communion
Sunday 7 January	9am St Mary's Mapledurwell, CW Holy Communion 11am St Mary's Greywell, Morning Worship
Sunday 14 January	9am St Stephen's Up Nately, BCP Holy Communion (said) 10am St Nicholas' Newnham, 1662 Morning Prayer
Sunday 21 January	9am St Mary's Greywell, CW Holy Communion 11am St Mary's Mapledurwell, Informal Service 11am St Swithun's Nately Scures, 1662 Matins
Sunday 28 January	10am St Nicholas' Newnham, BCP Holy Communion 11am St Stephen's Up Nately, Morning Worship
Sunday 04 February	9am St Mary's Mapledurwell, CW Holy Communion 11am St Mary's Greywell, Morning Worship

the present relate to our past, both individual and communal.

Rootedness is I think vital to the task of shaping the future and turning nothing into something. If we are to have a future worth giving ourselves to and for, then we need the confidence that comes from being rooted in a tradition and having something upon which to depend. During Advent and Christmas we engage deeply with the past as we re-tell a story that has shaped us and our culture for many generations. We tell the story using the ancient words of scripture and we sing it through carols. We enact it through the liturgy of worship and we commemorate it as we decorate our houses and share gifts.

We do this not just because it is tradition, or because it makes us feel warm inside, but because this shared past nourishes our souls and helps to give us a sense of who we are. It is only with that sense of who we are, this treasure from the past, that we can turn the nothing of the future into something.

So may I invite you afresh this Christmas to join us as we tell again an ancient story of life changing and culture shaping importance, a story that roots us in the outworking of God's plans of salvation made flesh and blood in our history. A story which we possess, like living sap, a treasure

stored up from the past, that we might build a future.

Rev Simon Butler

EXILE, TRUTH, AND THE LONGING FOR HOME.

A Lent Course based on the film *The Man Who Knew Infinity*

Join us over four weeks of Lent as we explore some significant Christian themes raised by the acclaimed film by Matt Brown which explores the contrasting lives of two Cambridge mathematicians GH Hardy and Srinivasa Ramanujan.

Using the film as our base we will explore Biblical themes of faith and exile, friendship with God, the longing for home and the nature of truth.

All Saints' Odiham. 7.30pm - 9pm
Feb 27, Film Night

The Man Who Knew Infinity

Mar 05, Life in a foreign land

Mar 12 - What is truth?

Mar 19th - Bridging the gap and homeward bound

To book a place please email sam@moretolife.church or joanna@moretolife.church or call the benefice office on 01256 703791



Helen Chatfield
 Youth Pastor, More to Life network of Churches
 North Hampshire Downs Benefice

KIDZONE

IT'S CHRISTMAS!!

I wonder what picture you have in your head when you think of The Christmas Story? For most of us, I expect it is the traditional Nativity scene. Mary and Joseph surrounded by shepherds and kings in a stable, with baby Jesus at the centre and a bright star above... we find it on Christmas cards, at church, even at the local shopping centre! But do you know where it comes from?

Tradition has it that Saint Francis of Assisi created the first crèche in 1223 when he mounted a living nativity scene as part of a Christmas Eve Mass he organized while visiting the mountain town of Greccio. He set up an empty manger inside a cave, and even included a live ox and donkey beside the manger, just as it was believed to have happened on that first Christmas night. With these visual aids, he wanted to show everyone how Jesus came into the world in poverty and simplicity.

There have been so many versions of this original scene through the years and around the world. A couple of my favourites are santons (little saints) from Provence in France, which are tiny clay figurines made by hand. Some areas make extras of well known people to add, to show Jesus is with us today, and some even include a famous person sitting on a toilet, to show that Jesus comes to us in our everyday life, whatever we are doing.

The *Guinness Book of World Records* cites a crèche created by Tomáš Krýza (1838-1918) as the world's largest of its type. A stocking weaver who lived in Jindrichuv Hradec in what is now the Czech Republic, Krýza spent 60 years on the elaborate display, which features 1389 figures of humans and animals.

But none of these quite compare with the Nativity Trails that you can be part of from 16 December around our villages. There will be four trails to choose from, one for The United Parish, and Odiham,



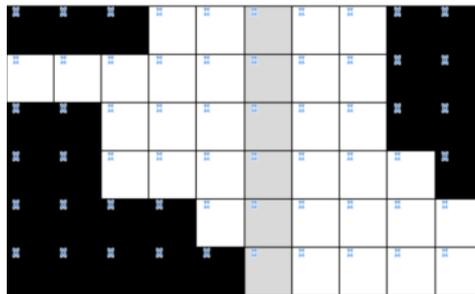
Long Sutton/South Warnborough, and Upton Grey. Look out for information locally, in churches and on posters in the villages.

Below is a grid you can fill out using clues and questions you find on the trail. The shaded boxes will give you a word which describes what Christmas is all about!

Have a great Christmas, and I look forward to seeing you at one of our events over the holidays.

Helen

Helen Chatfield
 youth@moretolife.church



Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

In November we heard from Revd Debbie Veel about her visit to Malaysia as part of a Red Cross group in 1997. Because of the number of injuries caused to children by rubbish (for example sometimes children would injure themselves on bits of rusty metal from old bedsteads), the Red Cross organised a conference to encourage the local population to reduce waste by recycling or by repairing items. As well as hearing talks about recycling, the group had a chance to see the countryside, and become involved in community activities such as planting trees. It was fascinating to hear about the visit and we had a good discussion about recycling in this country.

In December we will enjoy a social time together and meet for coffee and mince pies. In January we look forward to our Wave of Prayer. Mothers' Union is based firmly on prayer for our work locally, and also for members in other parts of the world. Mothers' Union divides the year into three-day periods when we pray for the members and projects of a particular group of dioceses.

Winchester diocese has its turn between 12th and 14th January along with Mauritius, Nandyal (South India), Kericho (Kenya), Katsina (Nigeria) and Kumasi (Ghana). We plan to hold a Wave of Prayer service a little early on Monday 8th January at the RAF Chaplaincy Centre. We are very grateful to the RAF for allowing us to use their hall for our meetings.

To find out more about Mothers' Union or our branch please contact Sue Murphy on 01252 845011 or suemurphymubbranch@outlook.com

Kevin Curtis
 Carpenter & Joiner 

**ALL TYPES OF
 CARPENTRY
 AND JOINERY WORK**

**FREE ESTIMATES
 PROMPT PROFESSIONAL
 ADVICE & RELIABLE SERVICE**

**Evenings 01256 762 094
 Mobile 07900 691 605**

hellohookcarpentry@btinternet.com
 Checkatrade membership number 230871

Greywell Hill Estate
LOGS

SEASONED HARDWOOD LOGS (ALL SOURCED FROM ESTATE TIMBER)
 Cut when dry in the summer and stored in a barn

Delivered in a farm trailer
 3 cu m (106 cu ft)
 and tipped - £400, or

Tractor bucketful 1cu m (35 cu ft)
 delivered in a smaller trailer
 and tipped - £150

Tel: Office 07434 924810
 or Nigel 07973 715361
 or Tom 07515 371681
 or Joe 07956 055071

NEWNHAM PARISH PLANNING APPLICATIONS

23/02807/HSE (Validated 13 November) Bridleway, Tylney Lane. Removal of existing dilapidated timber framed conservatory and replacement with Oak framed conservatory with a cedar shingle roof matching the original dimensions.

23/02765/ROC (Validated 03 November) Oakfield Farmhouse, Scures Hill. Variation of Conditions 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14 and 15 of 21/02135/RES. The application is for the consideration of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale only pursuant to the outstanding matters reserved by condition 1 of the approved outline permission 16/00097/OUT allowed at appeal – to enable the phasing of three permitted dwellings, to be constructed and occupied as self-build dwellings.

23/02722/FUL (Validated 02 Nov) Land East Of Keepers, London Road Nately Scures. The erection of 3no. detached dwellinghouses together with associated new access, car parking, drainage and hard and soft landscaping.

23/02220/FUL (Validated 22 Sept) Access Road, The Barracks. Resurfacing gravelled section of the existing access road.

23/02203/TDC (Validated 26 September) Land At The Barracks. Application for Technical Details Consent for the erection of four new homes in accordance with Permission in Principle 23/00347/PIP.

23/01983/HSE (Validated 14 August) Chapel House, Newnham Road. New garage; refurbishment and internal alterations to the existing chapel building, and associated landscaping.

23/00835/FUL (Granted 20 Nov) Land adjacent to Mulberry House, Scures Hill. A two-storey detached house with integral garage and loft rooms. New access gates from existing shared private road with new driveway, fencing and landscaping.

22/02097/FUL (Pending 09 Sept 2022) Nately Scures House, Scures Hill. New detached house, garage and access.

ROTHERWICK APPLICATION

23/01904/FUL (Unvalidated and removed from website) Beehive Farm, Tylney Lane. Demolition of existing dwelling and associated buildings and erection of a detached dwelling with associated works.

LODGE FARM PREAPP (ODIHAM)

23/02242/PREAPP (Validated 09 October) Lodge Farm, Hook Road, North Warnborough. For circa 105,000 sqm GIA of commercial logistics floorspace (Use Class B2/B8) with ancillary office accommodation, associated car parking, plus landscaping and highway works.

(This second pre-application enquiry seeks to address issues raised by Hart officers in response to the first.)

But it seems like only yesterday ...

when we were putting away the Christmas decorations and wishing everyone a Happy New Year! However, here we are again...



Looking back on this term, despite occasional heavy rain, our groups have been out and about:

- **Our Nordic Walking group has enjoyed some lovely walks plus the all-important socialising afterwards**

The Wine groups visited Penn Croft Winery for a tour, plenty of sampling of wine and a delicious lunch

The Garden Appreciation Group discovered a gem of a garden near Kingsley.



Meanwhile, some of the MOTO (Members On Their Own) group ventured much further afield and soaked up the sun in Andalusia.

To bring in the festive season we welcomed back Tony Harris for our December meeting. His first appearance as Henry VIII only whetted our appetite for his return presentation: *Pantomime History and Backstage Antics*. And following our usual tradition we had mince pies with our coffee plus a free raffle for a Surprise Christmas Gift.



Have a Merry Christmas and make a New Year's resolution to try a taster session with one of our groups – nearly 60 to choose from. We'd love to hear from you!

Contact: membership@odihamu3a.org.uk
Our website: <https://u3asites.org.uk/odiham/home>



Why is leaf litter so important for wildlife?

PHOTO from the Wildlife Trust website

FALLEN LEAVES – The epitome of autumn – carpets of colour underfoot and maybe the prelude for hours spent raking and clearing. If left to itself leaf litter provides warm, safe places to shelter from the elements, supporting a whole range of species, as diverse as butterflies, toads, maybe frogs – and hedgehogs – through the winter.

Hedgehogs use leaf litter to build their nests. They will spend the winter hibernating, surviving off their fat reserves. A few quiet spots in the garden for leaves and log piles can help nature support itself. Birds such as robins and sparrows will be encouraged to visit to forage for worms and bugs in the leaf layer. The RSPB says that 'where you put the

logs and leaves will affect the wildlife that uses it. Try different spots in your garden, with different sized and shaped piles.'

On hedgehog boxes, the Wildlife Trust says they 'can help increase suitable nesting spaces, but natural is best' and 'research shows that hedgehogs prefer homemade boxes to shop bought ones' and 'if you do have a hedgehog box, ensure you provide suitable bedding, ideally fallen leaves'.

CLEARING FALLEN LEAVES

By Common Law, fallen leaves belong to whoever owns the land upon which they fall. It is unlawful to 'return' fallen leaves to someone else's land without their permission, including Highway land. It is unlawful to blow leaves from private land onto the Highway.