

# **The Ampfield Messenger**

**Spring is in the air!**



***The Parish Magazine of  
St. Mark Ampfield***

**March 2023**

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# **The Parish Church of St Mark, Ampfield**

*Our vision: To be channels of God's love in the world*

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## **DEADLINE: The third Friday of each calendar month.**

Contributions to this magazine are always welcome, however it may be necessary to edit or shorten articles. Note that the views and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the editor or the Parochial Church Council. Advertisements in this publication do not carry the endorsement of the editor or the Parochial Church Council.

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***Cover photograph and these photos are by  
Charlie Allen.***

## *Letter from Vanessa*

### *Dear Friends*

We have begun Lent in earnest – our Lent Lunches are underway, and Lent courses begin next week. You are welcome to come and join us! (There is great coffee available!) Have you joined in with our Lent prayer stations outside the church yet – do post your photos on Facebook if you do! Lent is a journey towards Easter and there is something truly hopeful about this time of year, as the bulbs begin to grow and the crocus bloom. It is a period of transformation.

Last week, Ampfield school held their Lent service in St Mark's Church. Acorn Class told us all about Lent, and showed us some of their work. I was really struck by the butterflies they had made, and



it made me think what a great image a butterfly is for Lent. Lent is an opportunity for transformation, for growth and change. Over the long winter months, all has been dormant, rather like the caterpillar in the chrysalis, and as the weather warms up, nature bursts into new life and the butterfly emerges. Perhaps it can be rather like that for us too? Lent is an opportunity for self-reflection, to consider where we are on our journey of faith and to give up something as a reminder to ourselves to focus more on

God. If that resonates with you, do get in touch.

Wherever you are on your journey this Lent, I hope you feel transformed by the beauty of God's creation all around us in Ampfield.

*Vanessa*



# Weekly service pattern

## Sunday Services

	All Saints	St Mark	St Denys	St John
1st Sunday	11:00 Messy Church	09:30 Tidy Church	09:30 BCP Matins or Communion	11:00 Communion or Morning Prayer
2nd Sunday	11:00 Communion	09:30 Communion		
3rd Sunday	11:00 Communion	09:30 Communion or Morning prayer	09:30 BCP Matins or Communion	
4th Sunday	11:00 Communion	09:30 Communion		
5th Sunday	11:00 Communion	09:30 Communion		

## Midweek Services

When	Where	What
Tuesday, 10:30	St Mark, Ampfield	Small group Communion in St Mark's room, followed by coffee
Wednesday, 19:00	All Saints, North Baddesley	Communion in a peaceful candle lit space in the midst of your busy week



©Charlie Allen

# Benefice News

## Ampfield Market – St. Mark's Stall

The next market is on Saturday 4th March and we will have an end of season sale of clothes, accessories and gifts. If you have any items to donate, we would love to have them for the stall please, particularly summer clothes.

**Contact Chris on 01794 367104, [cl.kerr@hotmail.com](mailto:cl.kerr@hotmail.com) or Kate on 01794524026, [kathleen.mccallum@icloud.com](mailto:kathleen.mccallum@icloud.com) to arrange delivery or collection.**

## Volunteer Needed

Do you sell on Ebay or other sites? We are looking for someone to sell online the clothes with posh labels that haven't sold at the market. (All other unsold clothes go to local charity shops). Please contact Chris or Kate if you are interested.



## Friends for Lunch Wednesday 22nd March

**12.15 for 12.30.**

Please contact Kate to book a place for March's meal. The cost is £8 and includes a two course meal, a glass of wine and tea or coffee and chocs. Please bring a small prize for the raffle. Sadly, we lost several members over lockdown, so if you know anyone who might like to join us for a delicious home-cooked meal please get in touch.

## Lent Discussions

On Tuesdays during Lent there will be discussion groups, 11am at St. Mark's when we will be using the Rhythm of Lent Course 2023, or 7.30pm at All Saints as we think about Celtic Spirituality. For more details of all that is happening during Lent and Easter please read [here](#).



## Lent Lunches

Our first Lent Lunch was a great success and £85.50 was donated to the Turkey/Syria Earthquake relief fund. Rob's Mercimek Corbasi (a Turkish Soup) and Nancy's Cheese and Potato went down a treat. You are most welcome to come along on Friday 3rd March and every Friday in Lent to St. Mark's room, any time between 12noon and 2pm for homemade soup, bread, cheese and fruit. Future donations to Romsey Foodbank and The Winchester Beacon (Night Shelter).

# Benefice News

## Sunshine Saints

Sunshine Saints is a toddler and baby group which meets every Friday in term time from 10:00am to 11:30am in All Saints Church. It is an opportunity for the children to have fun playing together. There are snacks for the children and tea and coffee for those who accompany them. Thank you to Beth and all the other helpers who come along and make this such a joyous morning as we welcome young children into the church.

*Suggested donation: £2*

## Welcome to our warm hub at All Saint's Church

We are delighted to offer a welcoming warm space to all who would like a friendly and inclusive welcome this winter.

It will be open every Wednesday morning 9.30-12 noon alongside the Community Library. During the morning there will be an opportunity to have a go at some crafts, play board games, relax with a book or sit and chat. For those that would like to learn a little more about the internet we have tablets available. There will be hot drinks and biscuits and we are planning to offer soup. This warm space is for everyone - young and old and all those in-between! We are grateful to Test Valley Borough Council for the Cost of Living Grant which is enabling this warm hub.

## Welcome Café at All Saints Church now every Thursday

The Welcome Café is for any and everyone in the community to come and meet friends for a catch-up and enjoy great coffee. We are now open every Thursday. There is no charge for coffee but donations are welcome. We particularly welcome those who find themselves lonely or who have been bereaved. There are trained 'listeners' who will be happy to talk, befriend and empathise with you and if appropriate signpost to other helpful organisations, all in complete confidence.

**10am – 12 noon on Thursdays**

## Benefice News



# LUNCHEES AT ST MARK'S AMPFIELD

## *Fridays*

	3 <sup>rd</sup> March	10 <sup>th</sup> March
17 <sup>th</sup> March	24 <sup>th</sup> March	31 <sup>st</sup> March

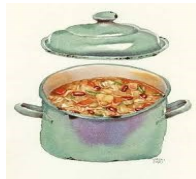
*Join us for a light lunch of home-made soup,  
bread & cheese and fruit*

*Come any time between 12noon and 2pm*

*St. Mark's Room*

*Donations will go to Romsey Foodbank and*

*The Winchester Beacon (Night Shelter)*





# Village News

**What happens in the Village Hall every month? More than you think!**

**Why not join in one of these activities?**

## **AMPFIELD BRIDGE CLUB**

This very popular and friendly club meets every Tuesday evening (except at Xmas time) from 7pm to 10pm. Experienced players and beginners welcome.

## **1<sup>st</sup> AMPFIELD BROWNIES**

Every Wed. evening during term time. 6pm to 7.30pm Tel. Sue Moore 01794 523947

## **ROMSEY MODELLERS**

Build model kits? Want to get more from your hobby? Join this club on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Wed. of each month 8pm to 10pm.. [www.romseymodellers.co.uk](http://www.romseymodellers.co.uk)

## **AMPFIELD ART GROUP**

Thursday afternoons during term time 2pm to 4pm. Friendly atmosphere. Beginners and those wishing to develop their skills welcome. Very friendly. Contact Julie on 023 8025 4587

## **YOGA ON THURSDAY MORNINGS with Diana Craven**

E-mail: [diana\\_craven@hotmail.com](mailto:diana_craven@hotmail.com) for details

## **YOGA FRIDAY MORNINGS with YogaByGaynor**

(9.30-10.30) with Second class afterwards

Facebook: 'yogabygaynor' Email: [yogabygaynor.com](mailto:yogabygaynor.com)

## **CRAFT CLASSES**

A range of crafts taught, meets monthly, normally on the second Saturday. of each month from 10am to 4pm. A very relaxed day and delicious coffee provided. Details from Vanessa 01794 515490 Or 07765 198088.

## **VILLAGE MARKET (Established 2000)**

This takes place on the first Saturday of every month 10-12noon (except Jan, Feb, Jul and Aug.). Entry free. Interested in renting a table? Ring Julie on 02380 254587.

## **ROMDAG – Romsey Dementia Action Group**

Meet for tea, coffee and cakes, etc. and a general restful break for members and carers on the Second Tuesday of the month 11am to 2pm

Details of this and other supportive activities from [admin@romdag.co.uk](mailto:admin@romdag.co.uk)

**MONDAY MORNINGS PRE-SCHOOL DANCE – Arriving soon!** -phone Martin below for latest information

**General enquiries and hall bookings tel. Martin Hatley 07970 501050 / 02380 254040**

**E mail:** [martin.hatley@btconnect.com](mailto:martin.hatley@btconnect.com)

## Ron and Stella's Quiz Night

1. How many elements are in the periodic table?
2. Who discovered that the earth revolves around the sun?
3. What country has won the most world cups?
4. How many bones do we have in an ear?
5. What European country experienced the highest rate of population decline from 2015 to 2020?
6. What is a group of crows called?
7. What is acrophobia a fear of?
8. What phone company produced the 3310?
9. What country has the most islands?
10. How many dots appear on a pair of dice?



*Answers on p. 17*

**The  
Ampfield Market  
(Established in 2000, now in its 23<sup>rd</sup> year !)**

**will take place  
on**

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2023  
From 10am to 12noon  
in Ampfield Village Hall  
(SO51 9BJ)**

Our Market has a great reputation, we regularly sell:-  
Fresh fruit and veg, bread, jams, chutneys and pickles, cakes,  
biscuits and scones, plants and fresh flowers, cards and  
wrapping paper, books, antiques, unusual crafts, jewellery,  
clothes, toys, honey, puzzles, seasonal surprises, bric a brac  
and much much more !

**Fresh coffee and a wonderful selection of cakes  
will be served all morning  
in the Garden Room**

**Parking and admission are always FREE.**

All proceeds support the Village Hall. Registered charity no.  
1057353  
Contact Julie on 023 80254587 for table bookings and  
information.

**Next date. Saturday  
April 1<sup>st</sup> 2023**

## Ampfield Art Class Gallery



Fox in the Moonlight  
Alison, watercolour

Chaffinch  
Frank, watercolour



Home  
Andy, watercolour



Alex  
David, pencil

Julie Trotter's Art Class takes  
place on Thursday afternoons  
from 2-4pm at the Village hall.



## Ampfield Art Class Gallery



Cornflowers  
Barbara, watercolour

Hydrangea  
Pete,  
watercolour



The Hamlet in Winter  
Nick, watercolour



Chastity  
Karen, acrylics

## Labours of the Months by Liz Hallett

**I**n medieval times the population as a whole was largely rural and lived on the land, their lives governed by the seasons. This is wonderfully illustrated among the many and varied carvings in medieval churches, where it is not uncommon to find representations of the 'Labours of the Months', typical illustrations of the regular occupations which took place month by month in the community.

The choice of subject does vary from place to place, since more than one agricultural occupation takes place each month. (Fascinatingly, these depictions in churches of southern Europe show work on the land taking place a month ahead of here in Britain, where the climate is colder). A typical set to look for might include January: feasting (what else can you do in January?),

Sometimes also a Janus figure looking two ways: to the year past



and to the year ahead; February: sitting by a warm fire since the ground is too cold to cultivate (though just for a change, St Mary, Ripple's misericord shows men hedging and

Ripple October, acorns for pigs      ditching in February); March: pruning the vines or digging; April: planting, or carrying flowers;

Cont. ...

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**M**ay: a man hawking, or maybe courtly love; June: hay harvesting; July: the wheat harvest; August: threshing the wheat with flails; September: the grape harvest; October: ploughing or sowing winter wheat; November: gathering acorns to feed the pigs; December: killing the pig. Some churches are lucky enough to have a complete set: others have only some.



Carlisle: Grape Harvest

In Romsey, the Abbey has two of the series. Look in the retrochoir on the capital between the chapels of St Mary and St. Ethelflaeda (using a torch may be helpful). You will see February, a man



warming himself by a good fire, and on the other angle of the same capital is a man carrying either a load of cut wheat (July or August) or, more likely perhaps, as in Reims Cathedral, and since the bundle is on his back, gathering firewood in November. It is difficult to be sure when most of the set is missing.

Romsey Labours of the month man  
by fire

Cont. ...



...Cont.



Burnham July  
mowing

be seen on misericords at Ripple, Worcestershire, wonderfully preserved and displayed. Carlisle Cathedral's capitals are carved with the Labours, including a Janus figure. This is another fascinating feature to look out for as you visit old churches.

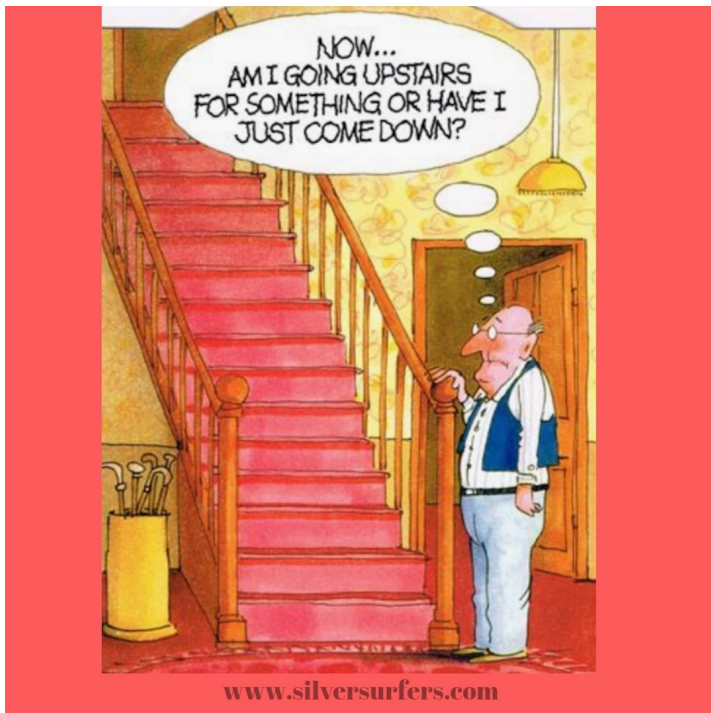
**Liz Hallett**



Carlisle, Janus figure January







With thanks to Silver Surfers for allowing us to share their cartoons.

### Answers to Ron & Stella's Quiz Night

- 1) 118
- 2) Nicolaus Copernicus
- 3) Brazil
- 4) 3
- 5) Lithuania
- 6) A murder
- 7) Flying
- 8) Nokia
- 9) Sweden (270,000)
- 10) 42

## A WEEKEND AWAY by Alan Edwards

**I**t has been a forbidding winter: a particularly unpleasant flu outbreak, a continuation of the prevalence of Covid, heavy rainfall which swelled the levels of Hampshire's rivers quite substantially, hard frost in the first two months of the year, two unacceptable interruptions to water supplies in the village and nearby localities and ongoing discharge of sewage into the rivers and the Solent.

However, the evenings are becoming lighter and thoughts inevitably turn to Spring. There is much to look forward to. The Coronation of our new King, Charles III and accompanying celebrations, will lift spirits. Holiday plans will be made. We were treated to a weekend away in Norfolk in early January. It demonstrated just what can be achieved and enjoyed in the dog days of winter in this country. We were fortunate with the weather. Apart from a wet Saturday morning, the rest of the weekend was dry and sunny.

We watched two family members participate in an early morning Park Run on the sylvan Holkham Estate in driving wind and rain, before enjoying our cooked breakfast beside a log fire. The Park Run organisation is extremely well organised, and sophisticated. The Holkham managers recorded their times, which flashed up on the Winchester Park Run website a matter of hours after they completed their run.

We then walked on the vast sandy beach which was miles in length and extremely broad in width. We beachcombed and discovered an abundance of different shells, particularly colourful, frail, razor shells. The beach was so clean and completely clear of any seaweed. On our way back, we visited a bird reserve. There was an extensive café with picture windows. Cont ...

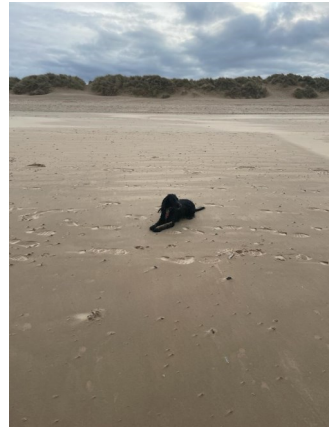


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**S**helves were located along the internal perimeter upon which were placed pukka telescope/binoculars from which we were able to view a wide range of waterfowl at close quarters. Such enlightenment. In a nearby one-street village we found a deli specialising in Tuscan food, with appetising Italian lunchtime meals, and soup. You will know that Joules and Jack Wills have disappeared from many high streets but these stores were located there. Our bank accounts were quickly denuded.

The journey to Norfolk is, of course, a long one, especially in the latter stages where there are no motorways. Nevertheless, the experience of the two days was heart-warming, left us with treasured memories, and an intention to return and stay longer. Norfolk and equally rural neighbours Suffolk and Cambridgeshire have been favourites for years. The landscape may be flat but there are remote villages, old churches as well as historic buildings to cherish.

We were accompanied by our daughter and son-in-law, his mother – a delightful companion - and their dog, a working Cocker Spaniel called Shackleton. Yes, he is quite an excitable fellow! He loved the whole experience and was beside himself on such a beach, and even popped into the sea for a quick swim! All our families bought dogs over lockdown. We have never owned one, but are rather enjoying their company. They have enriched our lives. Instead of childminding, we now find ourselves increasingly dog-sitting. The dogs don't seem to mind; neither do we. Mostly!



**Alan Edwards**

# Friends of Chapel Wood

After one of the worst runs for adverse weather falling on the days earmarked for the woodland working parties that we can remember, it was really good to be able to

hold a work party on the second Saturday of the month in February. Even then, we had an unplanned hiccough when the writer was laid low with a flu' virus. Thankfully, most of the other Friends remained fit and the day could go ahead as planned.



The most important job of the morning was to move the piles of arisings created as we gradually cleared out the areas in the lower woodland, in order to improve the view from the western end of St. Mark's down towards the pond. These arisings had been temporarily left along the path at the bottom of the slope. Our plan is to burn the unwanted material on the bonfire in either March or April, but to do that it needed to be moved up to the bonfire area.



We have identified several possible landscaping firms from which the final selection might be made but, as this goes to print, no decision has been taken. We also still await permission from the local planning authority. Chapel

Wood lies in the centre of a conservation area so we cannot construct a footpath without permission.

...Cont.

Another area of work that will need to be undertaken in the woodland over the next few months involves the burial ground. Since its creation in the 1990's, the north-western boundary of the burial ground has always included a strip of land that was never consecrated by the church. This is important in today's world. We have had the whole burial ground surveyed and marked. We now need to clear years of accumulated undergrowth and replace the marks. We will then consider planting a countryside hedge to delineate the physical boundary of the burial ground in this direction.

We also have plans for one final change to be introduced this summer. Walkers along our north-eastern boundary, where our land meets the Hursley Estate, will be only too aware of the poor state of the boundary fence. The Friends seem to spend a lot of time over the course of the year, trying to keep this fence in a good state of repair, but much of it for little beneficial value. We are now considering replacing the old fence posts with new ones, but we will not join them up with wire. The only real benefit the fence serves is to mark out the boundary and the posts can fulfil that task perfectly adequately.

The Friends of Chapel Wood is a group of keen volunteers who look after Chapel Wood, the Ampfield community wood that surrounds St. Mark's church. New recruits are always welcomed, so if you fancy the idea of joining some like-minded neighbours for a few hours once a month, just turn up in the St. Mark's car park at 09:45 on the second Saturday of every month.



**Graham Roads**



## From the Messenger Archives

The Sunday School and the Family Service:  
As I explained in the February Family Service we are trying the experiment of limiting the Family Services to the 2nd Sunday in the month. We are doing this in the interest of the children. They are now provided with an excellent Activity Book and we want to keep to the minimum the break in the sequence of lessons. On two occasions the Family Service will have to be on the 4th Sunday - September 24th (Harvest) and December 24th (Carols). I shall remind you of these dates.

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The Women's Institute invite EVERYONE to a Free Film Show on March 29th. The Union-Castle Shipping Company are kindly lending a full length film of "A Voyage to Africa" and "African Wild Life". Doors open 7 p.m. Commence 7.30. Refreshments provided. (Silver Collection).

Freewill Offering Scheme  
Mr. A.N. Clifton is the new secretary and we are most grateful that he has volunteered to do this work. Mr. R. Colebourn is still kindly looking after the Beechwood end of the parish. If you are interested in the Scheme and would like more information about Covenants etc., or require a fresh supply of envelopes, please contact Mr. Clifton at "Chedworth", Straight Mile, Ampfield. Tel: Romsey 2198.

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Our best wishes go to Miss Euston and Mrs. Morgan who (as I write) are in Romsey Hospital, and to Mrs. Kitcher and Mrs. Stone who are in St. Paul's, Winchester. Mrs. Mortimer I am glad to say has come home from hospital and is progressing well. Although so far the winter has been surprisingly mild there has been a lot of sickness in the parish and the

children in particular have been victims of various complaints. We hope that all who have been unwell will soon be fit again.

### W.I. Report

The Christmas Whist Drive and Draw realised £26.7.6d. and Miss Cornwell warmly thanked the prize givers and all who had helped to make it such a success. The Millinery classes were to commence in February and the Flower Arrangement classes later when the flowers were more plentiful. Mr. Geddes, B.A. of Southampton University gave a very interesting talk on Ampfield and Hursley going back 100 years. He asked how many had been born in Ampfield and of the members present Mrs. Jean Rose was the only one. Mrs. Hatley expressed the members' thanks to Mr. Geddes. There were no entries for the Bowl of Hyacinths competition, Mrs. Metcalfe won the Mystery Parcel. Teas and singing The Queen, ended the meeting.

Miss Cornwell welcomed Mrs. Neil as a new member. Messrs. Cadbury kindly arranged a Demonstration of Savory supper dishes made from their new product. Mrs. Bardell thanked Miss J. Turner and Miss P. Logan for explaining the new method and allowing the finished dishes to be drawn for. Mrs. Percy won the Mystery Parcel.

(A. St. G.)

## *Thought for the Month*

*“I think that I shall never see a poem lovely as a tree”*

Of the many things that make England our ‘green and pleasant land’ and which spurred Browning to pen the lines: “Oh, to be in England now that April’s there,” perhaps the most outstanding are the woods and trees which grace our beautiful countryside. Of course there are the wild flowers that grow along the roadside and in the fields and the wild life too. But these things, enchanting though they are, have a more ephemeral and transient quality. Whereas the awe-inspiring majesty of the oak, the elm, the plane and the beech tree, seem to convey a spiritual quality of constancy and peace - a sense of aristocratic grandeur - of lasting permanence and protection. The lady-like silver birch has a charm all its own, while the lazy weeping willow shadows the amusing antics of Ratty and the Mole. The stately poplars and firs seem to add to the company a quality of uprightness and virtue - all conspiring together in a gentle compliance of gentle beauty.

But, even in other parts of our world, trees clothe the earth with gifts of beauty, continuance and usefulness. The towering giants of the Congolese and Amazonian jungles offer shelter for a myriad species of wildlife in their treetop haunts. While the carefully cultivated eucalyptus of Southern Africa, the United States and Australia provide visual relief from the barren scrub and sun-bleached plains. The sparsely-leafed acacia of the African high veldt offers the panting buck a refuge of shade and for the drowsing lion a canopy for his slumbers. Possibly the joker in the pack is the ridiculous baobab. This comedian appears like an enormous turnip which has been uprooted and thrust back head first into the ground with its roots waving frantically in the air. But the big daddy (or perhaps the big granddaddy) of them all must surely be the Canadian redwood which often lives for well over 2000 years and stands like a huge colossus soaring as much 115 meters into the air with a girth at its base of around 25 meters.

Cont. ...



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**T**rees fulfill numerous functions in the world of nature - a lookout post for the raptors, a haven of peace and security for many animals and birds, sometimes a place of rest for the big cats, as well as providing a bounteous larder for countless species of animal, avian and insect life. And for our feathered friends the tree may oft “in summer wear, a nest of robins in her hair.”

And, after the brilliant fashion show of colour and couture displayed in the summer our trees, even in late autumn, present a patterned network of sculptured beauty; while in winter they conjure up a stately lacework of patterned branches. Or, on entering a forest after a fall of snow, one is confronted by a winter wonderland of dazzling white - a crystal palace of delicate and silent beauty. The effect of the snow is to create a reverential stillness similar to the sensation one has on entering a place of worship - a cathedralesque feeling of stepping onto holy ground. And the fine tracery of intricately latticed patterns on ice-bound twigs and billowing pillows of white on snow-laden branches create a scenic magic no artist could ever hope to capture. Throughout the whole year our trees present a kaleidoscope of changing colour and form, creating a tapestry of arboreal splendour. And if we stop for but one moment to contemplate this wondrous gift of nature we realise at once the obvious truth that, though: “Poems are made by fools like me, ... only God can make a tree.”

**R.E.B.**



## LENT

**L**ent may originally have followed Epiphany, just as Jesus' sojourn in the wilderness followed immediately on his baptism, but it soon became firmly attached to Easter, as the principal occasion for baptism and for the reconciliation of those who had been excluded from the Church's fellowship for apostasy or serious faults. This history explains the characteristic notes of Lent – self-examination, penitence, self-denial, study, and preparation for Easter, to which almsgiving has traditionally been added.

Now is the healing time decreed  
for sins of heart and word and deed,  
when we in humble fear record  
the wrong that we have done the Lord.  
*(Latin, before 12th century)*

As the candidates for baptism were instructed in Christian faith, and as penitents prepared themselves, through fasting and penance, to be readmitted to communion, the whole Christian community was invited to join them in the process of study and repentance, the extension of which over forty days would remind them of the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness, being tested by Satan.

Ashes are an ancient sign of penitence; from the middle ages it became the custom to begin Lent by being marked in ash with the sign of the cross. The calculation of the forty days has varied considerably in Christian history. It is now usual in the West to count them continuously to the end of Holy Week (not including Sundays), so beginning Lent on the sixth Wednesday before Easter, Ash Wednesday. Liturgical dress is the simplest possible. Churches are kept bare of flowers and decoration. *Gloria in excelsis* is not used. The Fourth Sunday of Lent (*Laetareor* Refreshment Sunday) was allowed as a day of relief from the rigour of Lent, and the Feast of the Annunciation almost always falls in Lent; these breaks from austerity are the background to the modern observance of Mothering Sunday on the Fourth Sunday of Lent.

Cont. ...

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As Holy Week approaches, the atmosphere of the season darkens; the readings begin to anticipate the story of Christ's suffering and death, and the reading of the Passion Narrative gave to the Fifth Sunday its name of Passion Sunday. There are many devotional exercises which may be used in Lent and Holy Week outside the set liturgy. The Stations of the Cross, made popular in the West by the Franciscans after they were granted custody of the Christian sites in the Holy Land, are the best known.

*Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,  
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:  
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your  
Spirit;  
and, as you know our weakness,  
so may we know your power to save;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen*



*From the Church of England website: [www.churchofengland.org](http://www.churchofengland.org)*

## DOGS

***Collie + Lhasa Apso*** = Collapso, a dog that folds up for easy transport.

***Pointer + Setter*** = Poinsetta, a traditional Christmas pet

***Great Pyrenees + Dachshund*** = Pyradachs, a puzzling breed

***Pekingnese + Lhasa Apso*** = Peekasso, an abstract dog

***Irish Water Spaniel + English Springer Spaniel*** = Irish Springer, a dog fresh and clean as a whistle

***Labrador Retriever + Curly Coated Retriever*** = Lab Coat Retriever, the choice of research scientists

***Newfoundland + Bassett Hound*** = Newfound Asset Hound, a dog for financial advisers

***Terrier + Bulldog*** = Terribull, a dog that makes awful mistakes

***Bloodhound + Labrador*** = Blabado, a dog that barks incessantly

***Malamute + Pointer*** = Moot Point, owned by oh, well, it doesn't matter

***Collie + Malamute*** = Commute, a dog that travels to work

***Deerhound + Terrier Derriere***, a dog that's true to the end

***Bull Terrier + Shitzu*** Oh, never mind ...

**With thanks to Liz Hallett**

## Local Information

**Nextdoor.co.uk**

Neighbourhood hub for connecting with local services.

### *Online Facebook groups:*

**Romsey News and Information Group**

The original Facebook Group for Romsey.

**Romsey Garden, Nursery & Plants, Info. Sharing etc.**

Good source of local plant delivery and availability, seeds and growing information.

**Hampshire Coronavirus Helpline - 0333 370 4000**

**Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults - 0300 555 1386**

**Romsey Community Pantry - 01794 522106**

**Romsey Foodbank - [www.romsey.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.romsey.foodbank.org.uk)**

**Frontline Debt Advice - 02380 552866**

**Southampton Basics Bank -**

**[www.southamptoncitymission.co.uk/basics-banks](http://www.southamptoncitymission.co.uk/basics-banks)**

### *Local Representatives*

Member of Parliament: Caroline Nokes; Phone: 01794 521155

County Councillor: Alan Dowden; Phone 02380 266458

TVBC Councillor: Martin Hatley; Phone: 02380 254040

Ampfield Parish Council: Chair Bryan Nanson; Phone: 02380 267760

\*\*\*\*

## Rotas for St. Mark's in March

Date	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Intercessions	Sides	Coffee	Music
Sun 5 Mar 9.30	TIDY CHURCH					
Sun 12 Mar 9.30	Exodus 17: 1-7 Heather C	Romans 5: 1-11 Doreen	Ron	Diane Sally C	Heather C	Organist
Sun 19 Mar 9.30 *	1 Samuel 1: 20-end Mark B	2 Corinthians 1: 3-7 Chris	Jean	Phil Heather C	Stella	Nick
Sun 26 Mar 9.30	Ezekial 37:1-14 Jennie E	Romans 8: 6-11 Robyn	Sally	Ron Mark B	Jean	Organist

**\* Sunday 19th March is Mothering Sunday**

**Flowers:** No flowers in Lent.

Extra flowers will be welcome over Easter, details next month.

**Coffee after Communion:**

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