

# The Villager



**June 2023** Volume 52 No 5

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



The Friends of St Michael's Hospice invite you to the world-renowned

## GERTRUDE JEKYLL GARDEN

The Manor House, Upton Grey, on Sunday 11 June from 11.30 to 2pm by kind permission of Mr and Mrs John Wallinger. Drinks and canapes served. To join the event, please go on the Hospice website to purchase your tickets at [www.stmichaelsospice.org.uk](http://www.stmichaelsospice.org.uk). (£25 per person. Otherwise please contact Jane Lyons at [janelyons@talktalk.net](mailto:janelyons@talktalk.net).

If you are unable to join the event but would like to donate, again please go to our website. Donations by cheque should be payable to St Michael's Hospice.

## ODIHAM OPEN GARDENS SATURDAY 10 JUNE 2-5PM

Approx 13 gardens open. Tickets £7.50, accompanied under 16s FOC. Home made teas.

Passport/tickets available on the day from participating gardens. Clear signs are displayed and these will be easy to find in the High Street. Contact the organisers 01256 703791 [joanna@moretolife.church](mailto:joanna@moretolife.church)

All proceeds to All Saints Odiham to help to maintain the churchyard.

## MAY LOCAL ELECTIONS

THANK YOU...

from Ward Councillor Onnalee Cubitt  
Dear all, I would like to say how honoured I am to have been re-elected by the people of our Ward. I shall continue to fight for the interests of our residents and for the betterment of Basingstoke. I am always available to parishioners. Please contact me – or my fellow Ward Councillors Sven Godesen or Kate Tuck – with any issues relating to the Borough. We are all independent councillors and work extremely closely as a team.

## NEW BOROUGH COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION

Following the May elections (and the three Basing & Upton Grey Ward Councillors becoming independent) Conservatives have lost their overall majority in Basingstoke & Deane.

The political composition of the Borough Council's 54 seats is:

Conservative	23
Independent Forum	12
(eight B&D Independents, one Green and three independent councillors)	
Labour	10
Liberal Democrat	9.

A new coalition administration was voted in at 18 May Full Council meeting, of Independents and Liberal Democrats, supported by Labour.

Cllr Paul Harvey (Basingstoke Independents) is now Council Leader; with Gavin James (Liberal) as Deputy.

### The New Cabinet comprises

Climate and Ecological Emergency  
Chris Tomblin (Lib Dem)  
Communities, Partnerships and Inclusion – John Mackay (Lib Dem)  
Finance, Business and Property  
Gavin James (Lib Dem)  
Major Projects and Regeneration  
Onnalee Cubitt (Independent)  
Residents' Services and Housing  
Laura James (Independent)  
Sports, Leisure and Culture  
Kerry Morrow (Lib Dem)  
Strategic Planning and Infrastructure  
Andy Konieczko (Lib Dem).

LIVE THEATRE AT  
Mapledurwell & Up  
Nately Village Hall

**Sunday 24th  
September 6.30pm**

£20 including a  
welcome drink.

Tickets please email  
[suesmart2001@yahoo.com](mailto:suesmart2001@yahoo.com)

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# Mapledurwell & Up Nately



[www.mapledurwellvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.mapledurwellvillagehall.co.uk)

## CORONATION QUIZ THANK YOUS

Villagers took part in another successful Quiz Night which was full of challenging questions, good food and drink. Everyone threw themselves into the spirit of the event with the usual competitiveness and good cheer! All members of the committee helped to create a wonderful night with a particular mention for the excellent Quiz Master, Steve Chapman who was nobly assisted by his daughter Phoebe. Thank you to all who supported the event.



Live theatre at the Village Hall  
**Sunday 24th September 6.30pm**

See notice front page

£20 including a welcome drink  
Tickets please email  
[suesmart2001@yahoo.com](mailto:suesmart2001@yahoo.com)

## NOTES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MAY AGM

No Parish Council elections for Mapledurwell & Up Nately this year, Hugo Cubitt re-elected chairman.

**Footpaths and tree warden** (non-councillor roles) Thanks to Martin Carfrae who continues as Footpaths Warden. The Chairman recorded the Parish Council's thanks to John Maclean for his many years as Tree Warden, and thanks to Colin Robertson for taking up the role.

**Playground** Thanks to Kevin Rafferty for continuing the monthly playground inspection, the annual (May) RoSPA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) safety inspection is due.

**Accounts and audit 2022/23**, forms agreed and signed, to be published on Parish Council website.

**Community Infrastructure Levy** (CIL) funding received over the past two years provided for – in equal measure for Mapledurwell and Up Nately – tree works at the Village Hall and allotments; replacing fence and ditch crossing at Mapledurwell pond; a 20-year lease for the Frog Lane chalk stream; improving drainage and verge restoration by the allotment gates – clearing and fencing the Up Nately Green. Additional funding received this year will enable a water connection (standpipe) to the new allotment plot.

**Parish & Town Council investment fund** Congratulations to Tim Lewis and Village Hall Committee for achieving this Government funding – paid via County to the Parish Council – for energy efficiency improvements.

## UP NATELY NEWS

Huge (belated) congratulations to Suzie Horsey, who despite a very sore back, ran the London marathon raising money for the NSPCC.

## Hymns & Pimms Sunday 25th June

**5:30pm**

**St Stephens Church,  
Up Nately**

Join us to  
celebrate  
summer with  
joyful hymns,  
Everyone  
Welcome.



A small leaved lime *Tilia Cordata* will be planted in the Autumn in the Village Hall grounds as a Coronation Tree



## PARISH PLANNING APPLICATIONS

23/01271/HSE (Validated 17 May)  
2 Blaegrove Cottages, Blaegrove Lane.  
Proposed extension to garage.

23/01236/FUL (Validated 15 May) Brockwell (Paddock and Stable) Andwell Lane. Erection of three dwellings and landscaping.

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

23/00962/TDC (Validated 10 May) Nunnery House, Tunworth Road. Application for Technical Details Consent relating to the design, access, landscape, services and scale of the barn in accordance with Permission in Principal ref 20/00009/PIP for conversion of agricultural building to 1 no. dwelling.

23/00833/FUL (Validated 11 April) Addisons Farm House, Tunworth Road. Replace broken front gates, gate posts, and wooden fencing to widen vehicle access and provide separate access; repair and replacement stock fencing and wooden gates (part retrospective).

23/00725/FUL (Pending 21 March) Swan Hill Nursery, Greywell Road, Mapledurwell. Conversion of two storey tractor shed and storage building to residential annex to main house. Addition of a stairwell on the side of the existing building for access to upper floor.

22/03417/FUL (Pending 28 Dec) The Egg Yard, Greywell Rd, Mapledurwell. Erection of three dwellings with associated parking using approved access.

22/03317/HSE (Refuse 30 May) Arlings, Tunworth Road. Replacement outbuilding / garage (incl home office, arts & crafts room).

22/03307/HSE and 22/03308/LBC (Scheduled for DC Committee 07 June) Blaegrove Cottage, Blaegrove Lane, Up Nately. Single storey rear extension.

22/02416/FUL (Pending, 26 Aug) Riverview House, London Road. Extensions including an additional floor and a three storey rear extension to provide nine additional one-bedroom flats. [Total 17 x one-bed flats.]

22/02210/RET (Pending, 05 Aug) Priory Farmhouse. Variation of Condition 2 of 15/04301/FUL to allow continued use as Class E children's nursery to 31/08/2032.

21/01777/RET (Refuse 03 May) Gamekeepers. Hardstanding plus seven downlighters (retrospective).

21/00827/FUL (Pending 20 April 2021) Land opposite Hillside, Heather Lane. Change of use to dog walking area and off road parking; gate, fence and shed.

## PARISH TREE APPLICATIONS

T/00178/23/TCA (Validated 10 May) Yew Tree Cottage, Tunworth Road. Beech tree: reduce crown back from the fabric of the property to leave no more than a 2-3m gap while maintaining shape.

T/00168/23/TCA (Validated 04 May) Mapledurwell House, Tunworth Road. T1 Laburnum: Fell dead tree adjacent to road.

T/00167/23/TCA (Validated 04 May) Lumarden, Tunworth Road. T1 & T2: Walnuts – Crown lift to 2.5-3m above ground level. T2 Reduce back from building to allow clearance of 1.5-2m. T3: Beech – Remove deadwood. Reduce one large low bough by approximately 5m overhanging neighbours property back to previously reduced point.

T/00144/23/TCA (Approved 23 May) Hillcrest, Tunworth Road. Fell four Ash trees showing preliminary signs of Ash dieback, two of the trees with wounds at the base.



## PARISH ASSEMBLY

Thanks to everyone who attended a sociable evening, unfortunately with apologies from the Canal Society. The Chairman gave special thanks to John MacLean for his work as Tree Warden for the Parish over more years than can be remembered.

The Chairman also thanked his fellow Parish Councillors, Footpaths Warden Martin Carfrae, Colin Robertson as new Tree Warden, and the clerk, for their team effort for the community.

**Crime figures** In the absence of a Police representative, an online search reveals reported crime for the Parish in the 12 months to March 2023: Up Nately 1; Penny Bridge 1; Blackstocks Lane 1; The Hatch 9; Andwell 3. Showing Mapledurwell as the safest place to live in the parish!

### Notes from the past year...

Following a mapping exercise for the roadside grips, the Parish Lengthsman managed to clear a good number of them on Tunworth and Greywell Roads, work to be continued as the LM scheme will continue this year.

An interesting year re planning. A significant application that did not get through was for six houses in the paddock at the north west end of Tunworth Road. Its dismissal by the Planning Inspector could be important for the protection of Mapledurwell.

Thanks to the Village Hall Committee for its many events, particularly the fantastic Jubilee party (sponsored by the Friends of St Mary's), and the recent Coronation Big Help Out 'Rubbish Event' which managed to collect over 40 bags of rubbish.

The Bonfire & Firework party was cancelled this year; to look for an alternative community event.

**Village Hall** Chairman Tim Lewis gave a brief update. As most know, the 'P&TC Investment fund' via HCC paid for insulation, an air con system, replacement lighting, all which should give huge energy savings. Will also look to get the kitchen changed and outside painted. Thanks to Ward Councillor grant for an LED projector.

**May elections** Congratulations to Onnalee Cubitt on her re-election as Ward Councillor. Onnalee is now portfolio holder for Major Projects and Regeneration, her message that it is crucial to progress with Manydown.

### Issues raised by the public

Speeding – a minority of drivers across the spectrum, irrespective of destination or age. Need a civil conversation about treating county lanes and all road users with respect. Also industrial scale burning at Little Tunnel Bridge. There is a waste licence in place to bring in material to burn. Advice for all to report on BDBC website re environmental health.

*Parish Councillor reports, next Villager.*

# TALES FROM THE CHALKSTREAM

I have two new sightings to report this month. New for me at least.

First up, we had a pair of Common Whitethroats visit our garden regularly for a few days during May. Sparrow sized, the male has a grey tufted forehead, trademark white throat and chestnut coloured wings, while the female lacks the grey head and has a less bright throat. While they are a member of the usually-melodious warbler family (chiffchaff, blackcap, etc), their song is described as scratchy with a scolding tone.



These small birds are migratory and spend their winters in Africa, Arabia and Pakistan. Their preferred habitat is open, cultivated countryside, nesting in bushes and brambles – so we have plenty of all that. While I have seen them before in the open countryside this is the first time I have seen them in the garden. That said they do belong to the LBJ category (Little Brown Job), so they can be confused at a distance for the more commonly seen dunnocks, sparrows, and the like.

Second up, I had to do a bit of research as I am no dragonfly expert, but on several occasions recently I have seen a male Beautiful Demoiselle patrol its territory over the watercourse that runs through the allotments. This is a species of damselfly which are very closely related to dragonflies; the main differences are that damselflies hold their wings closed, rather than wide open, when at rest, and their eyes sit at each side of the head rather than more centrally.

About 4-5cm long, the male Beautiful Demoiselle is metallic blue-green with striking azure blue-black wings – a truly beautiful sight. The female's wings are iridescent brown. I haven't seen her yet, but hopefully his efforts aren't in vain – they are all only just emerging from their larval stage around mid-late May.

These insects are a strong indicator of water quality. They prefer slower flowing, partially shaded, undisturbed channels which are not nutrient rich; clean pebbles or sand, no sludge or fertilisers. All of which ensures that the oxygen absorption is higher and provides ideal conditions for the female to lay her eggs on vegetation such as water mint and burr-reed, at or below water level.



colin.robertson21@btinternet.com

## BDBC Strengthening Communities Grant scheme

Open to 18 June – [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/funding](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/funding)

Applications up to £15,000 for projects to be delivered over 12 months.

**CRITERIA** This scheme does not fund capital costs. It is a revenue-only scheme. Expenditure such as physical improvements or changes to premises and facilities is not eligible under this scheme.

Funding can however be applied for to retain an existing staff member, recruit a new member of staff or increase working hours of existing staff where their activities are directed towards building the organisation's sustainability and/or enhancing services. Likewise, should an organisation decide to start the delivery of new services aimed at increasing income generation while addressing community needs, funding can be applied for to kick start delivery.



# Newnham & Nately Scures

## WATER END'S CORONATION PARTY



The event team with Mayor Cllr Paul Miller and Mrs Sandra Miller Mayoress PHOTOS: FOUR SIXES PHOTOGRAPHIC

### NOTES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MAY AGM

The Chairman June James welcomed everyone to the meeting, but then confirmed her intention to resign from the Parish Council which will be with immediate effect. June has been a Parish Councillor for 11 years and Chairman for seven. Noting she has also been a member of the Clubroom Committee (when Michael Allenby was Chairman) and then on the VCC (and managing the Oppé garden), and so has played a part in all the Parish institutions. Her message is to recognise the role of the Parish Council in giving the Parish a voice.

Paul Gaskell was elected Chairman for 2023/24 and thanked June on behalf of the Parish Council for the lead role she had played and for all she has done for the Parish, with accord and thanks from all present.

A Notice of Parish Councillor Vacancy will be submitted to BDBC. If you are interested in taking up the role, please contact any Parish Councillor or the clerk on [su.newnham@btinternet.com](mailto:su.newnham@btinternet.com)

Accounts and audit 2022/23, forms agreed and signed, to be published on Parish Council website. Internal audit will be held week of 12 June.

Congratulations and thanks to Pauline Hedges for all her hard work organising the Water End Coronation party, and to the Iron Bull for hosting. Thanks also to the Clubroom for the loan of the tables and chairs.

The drainage work undertaken by HCC at Water End in February was noted, along with the support and additional ditching work carried out by the Parish Lengthsman. HCC has a scheme lodged for long term drainage improvement but no date yet for implementing. It was agreed and put on record that any drainage scheme should include sedimentation devices for surface water runoff to the Lyde.

Footpath warden's report on Hook sections of Church Path and the connecting Hook footpath to Kingsbridge. HCC are responsible for footpath surfacing, but as per email from their Countryside Services team: 'Due to the land owner removing some of the hedgerow in order to

On Monday May 8th residents, relatives and local friends of Water End held a party, very kindly hosted by The Iron Bull Roadhouse, to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III. The event was sponsored by the Iron Bull, Premier Grounds Garden Maintenance and Newnham Parish Council with a grant from BDBC King's Coronation Fund.

Monday's weather meant all had to be brought under cover which fortunately was achievable though unfortunately no scope for picnics. Over 80 guests enjoyed live music from Cove Brass Band and home-made cakes. There was a free raffle with a prize for everyone and The Iron Bull provided traditional food and drink.

Dame Maria Miller MP; Cllr Paul Miller, Mayor & Mrs Sandra Miller, Mayoress; Ward Cllr Kate Tuck, and June James, Chairman of Newnham Parish Council visited during the afternoon.

Towards the day's end we managed to remove all the flags and bunting just before the first clap of thunder!

### IRON BULL COFFEE MORNING

Following conversations at the Coronation party, we are planning a monthly Coffee Morning for all Water End residents.

First Wednesday of the month 10.30 to midday in the Iron Bull.

### NEWNHAM GREEN

Thanks to Manor Farm for their ongoing support in mowing the Green. Plus particular thanks for collecting grass in some sections and strimming lengths of the verge. Hampshire Amphibian and Reptile group (HIWARG) have been monitoring the Newnham Green ponds every couple of weeks since January and will provide a report for the next *Villager*.

A native Crab Apple (*Malus sylvestris*) has been provisionally chosen as a Coronation tree for the triangle area between Newnham and Tylney Lanes.



fence off the path, this surface issue is something the land owner has created (with the hedgerow stumps and debris); therefore, we will be getting in touch to ask them to rectify. Please leave this for the team to deal with, we are taking appropriate steps.'

With great sadness the Parish Council recorded the death of Nancy Bell. The thoughts of all are with her family.



# NEWNHAM VCC CORONATION LUNCH

Held in Manor Farm barn with kind permission of Sarah and Geoff Hawkes  
Thanks to all who worked so hard to make it a success



PHOTOS: ALAN RICHMOND, CAROLYN PECK



## 'NEWNHAM NOVELS'

### NEXT BOOK SALE

on Saturday 10 June at  
2 o'clock in the Clubroom.

Donate the books you have read  
and buy another for 50p.  
Hundreds to choose from.

Refreshments available

Proceeds towards Clubroom maintenance

### NEWNHAM COMMUNITY'S



May winners are  
£100 - Kirsten Knell  
£50 - Chloe Morris  
£25 - Sarah Hawkes

Congratulations to the winners and  
thanks to Fiona Fouracre for making  
the draw. Carolyn Bell

### PARISH PLANNING APPLICATIONS

23/01161/HSE and 23/01162/LBC  
(Validated 12 May) Nightingale Cottage,  
Heather Row, Nately Scures. Demolition  
of south entrance porch, changes to  
fenestrations, new porch with access ramp  
in revised position. Alterations to  
conservatory and replace glass roof with  
tiled roof. Internal and external alterations.

23/00992/HSE (Validated 18 April)  
Elm Cottage, Ridge Lane, Newnham. Oak  
Framed Orangery to rear of dwelling

23/00835/FUL (Validated 31 March) Land  
adjacent to Mulberry House, Scures Hill.  
One x two-storey detached house with  
integral garage and loft rooms. New access  
gates off existing shared private road with  
new driveway, fencing and landscaping.

23/00347/PIP Land at the Barracks.  
Permission in principle for a minimum of  
one and max of four residential dwellings.  
Scheduled for Development Control  
Committee of 12 July.

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

### TREE APPLICATIONS

T/00181/23/TCA (Validated 15 May)  
Railway Cottage, Newnham Road. Four x  
Oaks (T1, T2, T3 and T4) on the western  
side of driveway/shared access; reduce  
limbs by up to four metres to clear the  
driveway, and raise canopy over the  
driveway. For T1 and T2, to remove the  
lowest two limbs on the eastern side of the  
trees, and to prevent encroachment onto  
the utility lines. For Oak T6, to remove the  
bottom-most limbs on the eastern side. To  
reduce limbs away from the property by  
up to three metres and deadwooding. No  
works to Oak T5.

T/00112/23/TCA (Validated 15 March)  
New House, Church Path, Newnham. T3  
Silver Birch close to the house. Fell.



# Church Notices

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

[www.united-parish.org.uk](http://www.united-parish.org.uk)  
<https://www.moretolife.church>

## From the Parish Registers

Funeral: Esme Crow at Basingstoke Crematorium on April 28th

Interment of ashes:  
Ann Smythe at St Mary's Greywell on May 10th

## From the Ministry Team



By the time you read this, the Coronation will probably feel like a 1,000 years ago, but as I write I can still feel the dull ache in my legs from 14 hours straight on my feet two days ago, as I had the once in a lifetime opportunity to attend the Coronation Concert in Windsor in recognition of my work with Ukrainian refugees. What an honour!

The whole weekend had lots of 'stand out' moments for me: Listening to opera singers fill the venue with their body-shaking voices; meeting other people who do such inspirational things in the community; enjoying Katy Perry live...

But, especially as the youth pastor, I think the one that possibly means the most to me was right at the beginning of the service on the Saturday, when a 14-year-old boy addressed the King: 'Your Majesty, as children of the kingdom of God we welcome you in the name of the King of kings.'

The BBC experts who were sifting through every word after the event have suggested that, in modern parlance, this might be compared to him saying 'Hi! Welcome to our home,

but what are you doing here?' Charles' response was clear and to the point:

*'In his name and after his example I come not to service but to serve.'*

This sentiment was then re-emphasised in both William's speech at the concert and Justin Welby's sermon in The Abbey. '

*We are here to crown a king, and we crown a king to serve.'*

From the very beginning of his reign (and in fact, for the 50 or so years before it) Charles has recognised one of the key truths of being a good leader – understanding that your role is not to sit on a throne and receive adoration, but to kneel down, take the towel from around your waist and wash the feet of those you are called upon to lead. You will of course recognise the reference to Jesus at the last supper, and quite possibly we may never see Charles break out the warm soapy suds near our toes, but you get the idea!

Charles promised to follow Jesus' example and continue to live a life dedicated to the people who live in the UK and beyond: putting our needs before his own and speaking out against injustice against individuals, nations and even the natural world – showing a radical kind of love. To proclaim good news to the poor, to proclaim freedom for the prisoner and recovery of sight for the blind and to set the oppressed free.

Recognise those words? They're taken from one of the readings in The Coronation – Luke 4: 18 – and were read by Jesus in the synagogue at the very beginning of his ministry. Just like Charles, right at the beginning of his work, Jesus sets out his policy statement. We are to stand up for those who are weak and speak for those who have no voice. Jesus came for everyone but especially for society's rejected people, the poor, prisoners, the oppressed.

Right from the start, he stated that he wasn't going to fit in with the cultural norms. All through his ministry He went against the grain and radically

loved those that didn't deserve it. He didn't choose to associate much with the people that society would have back in the day!

Nobody ever came to Jesus and went away feeling that he had marginalised or snubbed them. He encouraged children; he was friends with tax collectors and sinners; women were among his followers; Romans were greeted; the woman taken in adultery was treated with dignity.

We too are called to take on this mantle of social concern and justice. We can't claim to follow Jesus and treat anyone with contempt. As James said, 'I will show you my faith through my works' (James 2:18).

But that's easier said than done, here in the beauty and relative affluence of the North Hampshire Downs, isn't it? I wonder who exactly we would see as the marginalised and oppressed as we walk down Odiham high street, who are those in our community who feel like outcasts and unloved as we walk across the fields in our villages?

I leave the job of thinking about that up to you, but I am convinced that they are there, and that to make a difference to our world we need to learn to love them more like Jesus would, and if that means going against the grain in who we display love to, then so be it! We need to be aware of those who may feel left out and ignored, we need to show them radical love like Jesus would and Charles has promised to.

Helen Chatfield, Youth Pastor



## CHURCH SERVICES JUNE INTO JULY

<b>Sunday 04 June</b>	<b>9am St Mary's Mapledurwell, CW Holy Communion</b> <b>11am St Mary's Greywell, Songs of Praise</b>
<b>Sunday 11th June</b>	<b>9am St Stephen's Up Nately, BCP Holy Communion (said)</b> <b>10am St Nicholas' Newnham, 1662 Morning Prayer</b>
<b>Sunday 18th June</b>	<b>9am St Mary's Greywell, CW Holy Communion</b> <b>11am St Mary's Mapledurwell, Informal Service</b> <b>5pm St Swithun's Nately Scures Evensong</b>
<b>Sunday 25th June</b>	<b>10am St Nicholas' Newnham, BCP Holy Communion</b> <b>5.30pm St Stephen's Up Nately, 'Hymns &amp; Pimns'</b>
<b>Sunday 2nd July</b>	<b>9am St Mary's Mapledurwell, CW Holy Communion</b> <b>11 St Mary's Greywell, Morning Worship</b>



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

# KIDZONE



for who you are? Scared to stand up for someone who is being treated? Scared to 'rock the boat' and say you don't agree with something, just in case you get into trouble or your friends and family don't agree with you.

There are loads of places in the Bible which talk about how we should be brave and stand up for what is right. At the bottom of the page is one of them – in fact, it was the reading at the Coronation. Crack the code to find out what Jesus said...

Hi everyone!

How did you guys celebrate The King's Coronation? Did you watch it on TV? Maybe you actually went up to London? Ate cucumber sandwiches at a street party? Watched the concert?

I was incredibly honoured to be invited to go to the actual concert as a 'thank you' for my work with Ukrainian families. It was certainly a day I'll never forget! Early start, and then in the queue before midday. Glorious weather and loads of chats with random strangers in the queue (you know me!) and we finally made it to the stage. We were so close, I could literally almost reach out to touch the performers!

This is me listening to Scott Mills from Radio 2!

I wonder if you had a stand out moment during the performance? There were so many I could choose from, but I think it has to be Prince William's words about his dad (if you want to hear me ramble on about that, read my editorial opposite) and Katy Perry's

performance of *Roar*. If you want to watch it back, just scan the QR code for the BBC coverage of her act. Part of the reason I like Katy Perry is her lyrics. I wonder if you have ever really listened to the lyrics of *Roar*? Have a read of this little extract:

*'I used to bite my tongue and hold my breath... Scared to rock the boat and make a mess. So I sat quietly, agreed politely...'*



I wonder how many times you have just been scared to stand up

Jesus said these words just after he came out of the wilderness. Right at the beginning of the three years he spent teaching and healing. It was all brand new for him. He was probably a bit overwhelmed by what he was expected to do. A bit scared of 'rocking the boat' and getting into trouble – let's face it, he actually did get into quite a lot of trouble with the authorities! But he believed that God would be with him and would give him the strength to do what was right, even if it wasn't easy. I wonder if we can have that confidence? This month, let me challenge you to do exactly what Katy Perry (and Jesus!) tell us to do: Roar like a tiger, be a champion and stand up for what is right!

God Bless and see you next time!  
 Helen C

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
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## North Hampshire Downs MU

As I write this I am preparing to attend the Provincial Conference for Mothers' Union in Canterbury Province. We will have time to worship together, and to hear about fantastic work undertaken by Mothers' Union around the country.

One of our local projects is the Child Contact Centre in Popley in Basingstoke which runs on two Saturday afternoons each month. This centre allows estranged parents to meet their children in a safe and welcoming environment, and to build loving relationships with them. A relationship with both parents is very important to the long-term mental health and well-being of these children. If you can spare the occasional afternoon to help these families, then please contact me.

Mothers' Union in this diocese will be holding their Festival Service in St Lawrence' Winchester on Tuesday 20 June at 11am, and everyone is welcome to join us. To find out more about Mothers' Union or our branch, please contact Sue Murphy 01252 845011 or [sue@the-murphys.me.uk](mailto:sue@the-murphys.me.uk)

## The Southern Fellowship of Woodworkers

... brings together those with a passion for woodwork, whether enthusiastic hobbyist or skilled professional.

We meet from September to May at the Cross Barn in Odiham, and during the summer months arrange visits to workshops and other locations of interest to woodworkers.

Some members have long experience as amateur woodworkers and others are making their careers in woodworking. Many others have just started and are developing their skills. You are sure to find someone who knows enough to help you, and others who will be interested in your woodworking journey, even if you are right at the beginning.

<http://www.sfwwo.org.uk/>

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Our activity groups are all run by their members for their members and thus have their own way of doing things. However, once a year the group leaders meet up to share ideas and experiences and to look ahead.

This May, over 60 of them met at the Cricket Club to discuss how to keep our u3a fresh, relevant and provide opportunities for members. We will be showcasing their hard work at our Open Day, in the afternoon of 10 August at the Elizabeth Hall in Hook, where all the groups will have a display area.

In the meantime, its business as usual with lots going on!

- Our Local Theatre group has added even more shows to an already busy calendar including visits to '42nd Street' and 'Noises Off'.
- Fleet Air Arm Museum was the destination for our Wings and Wheels group where they enjoyed a guided tour.
- Both our Nordic Walking and Walking for Pleasure groups have not only been exercising their bodies but also enjoying each other's company over refreshments – a reward at the end of their session.
- And our Table Tennis groups have a similar reward system, a nice cup of coffee/tea and biscuits in the Hartletts Café after all their efforts.

Moving indoors, our Drawing and Painting Group has moved to The Cricket Club, enjoying the light from the large windows. By contrast, our Backgammon group stays snug, in the Snug, at the Bel and the Dragon.

If you would like to find out more about us, please visit our website [www.odihamu3a.org.uk](http://www.odihamu3a.org.uk)

## REPORTS FROM HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**Pot holes** and other road defects are a big issue locally so why so many and what is being done about them. The freeze-thaw action of water when it gets into cracks can rapidly weaken and break open road surfaces, and then the hydraulic effect of vehicle tyres constantly going over standing water in cracks and other small surface defects. This is why, even though we are moving into summer, potholes are continuing to develop and why some of the temporary fixes are beginning to break down. HCC Highways team took the decision to carry out more emergency temporary infill repairs to keep roads safe and serviceable. In the region of four to seven temporary infills can be completed for one permanent repair and so 40,000 of these potholes were filled in December to February.

**Please continue to report** The more you report, the more we know about! [www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/potholes](http://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/potholes)

**The Big Fix – Repair Cafe Network** Residents are encouraged to give old items, gathering dust or potentially destined for the bin, a new lease of life by visiting their local Repair Café. The Big Fix is a national campaign to promote the growing number of Repair Cafés across the UK, run by volunteers who teach residents how to fix items at home so that fewer end up as waste. There are 17 members of the County Council's Hampshire Repair Café network which offers training and general advice. Since May last year, the network has collectively run over 90 events restoring over 1,000 items to usable order. These include electronics, garden equipment, clothing, jewellery, and much more. The initiative is supported through HCC's waste prevention community grant programme.

To find a local event, search for 'Hampshire Repair Café Network, or visit: [therestartproject.org/networks/hampshire/](http://therestartproject.org/networks/hampshire/)

**Beware ticks** Ticks can cause serious illnesses such as Lyme Disease. Hampshire County Council Countryside Service advises residents to be 'tick aware' when spending time outdoors as the summer approaches. Advice includes to avoid areas of tall grass, reduce the amount of exposed skin, check yourself, your children and your pets for ticks and use insect repellent. They advise that you should remove any ticks as quickly as possible with fine-tipped tweezers or a tick removal tool, clean the area, and for several weeks monitor the bitten area for any rashes that may appear. Contact your doctor immediately if you begin to feel unwell with flu-like symptoms or develop a spreading circular red rash.