



The Parish Magazine for

£1

**STOCKBRIDGE  
LONGSTOCK  
& LECKFORD**

November 2022



# The Parishes of Stockbridge, Longstock and Leckford in the Mid-Test Benefice

**Rector:** The Rev'd Philip Bowden

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**All Enquiries, including enquiries about Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals:**

Please contact our Rector (see details above)

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New Secretary to be advised

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## ***From the Rector***

### **Commissioning for Ministry**

In the past month I spent a very pleasant Saturday morning at Winchester cathedral attending a service for the commissioning and licensing of lay ministers in our diocese. From our own MidTest benefice there were two individuals in particular, Patrick Melville and David Stone who were receiving a commission from the bishop. During the past year Georgie Bateman has also undertaken training, for a similar commission, both as a work leader and children and youth worker, and will be commissioned herself in due course. It was a very joyful occasion and while Patrick and David were supported by friends and family the event as a whole was a celebration of the ministry of lay people in our churches.

Of course, the involvement of the laity in our church life is not only theologically essential, reflecting the idea that we are all called through our baptisms to live lives of Christian service, it is also essential from a practical point of view in a benefice with 8 churches, that a single priest can not possibly hope to serve alone.

As I have worked with lay people who have received a commission to fulfil a formal ministry, I have often used a model that helps outline some of the features of such a ministry – that it should be Overseen, Authorised, Representative and Accountable.

**Overseen** because none of us should seek to engage in ministry without an understanding that what we are doing fits into the wider work of the Church's participation in the Mission of God.

**Authorised** because in ministry we exercise the Church's authority and our calling is discerned by others and not just ourselves.

**Representative** because it is important that ministers are seen to be working on behalf of the wider Church, rather than following an agenda of their own.

**Accountable** because all ministers should be open to feedback, challenge and the possibility of improvement.

These principals can be applied from the humblest church cleaners and coffee makers, through to the bishops and archdeacons.

I am extremely grateful to the lay people who work so hard in our benefice, serving God, assisting the people in our parishes and being a great help to me personally as part of the ministry team in this place.

**The Rev'd Philip Bowden**

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*Some welcome and some dread the arrival of November and the return of the dark nights. This month's Footers remind us that darkness can also be an inspiration to many.*

## From the Editorial Team

We are witnessing very turbulent times affecting many areas of our lives. For many people, this brings worry, distress and hardship, especially when they have little power to improve their situation. Yet we know that it is at just such challenging times that humankind can perform at its best - when individuals join together as communities to support the weakest, maximise beneficial use of limited resources and nurture a sense of shared initiative, endeavour and resilience. The content of our Parish Magazine is always testament to the interweaving of activity - charitable, educational, faith-based, civic, commercial, social, cultural, health-promoting et al - which generates a multi-faceted community to provide for the safety, security and wellbeing of its members. And we are grateful for it.

*'We are all in this together' but we are 'more than the sum of the parts' - clichés yes, but nonetheless of serious relevance when we consider both offering and accepting support.*

*As the nights draw in and the weather gets colder, life will get more difficult for some. When times are uncertain and troubled, it is heartening to know we can trust in the solidarity and responsiveness of our community.*

*Frances Candler, Jennifer Kidd and Thea Taylor*



**Stockbridge  
Community  
Cinema**



**GOOD LUCK TO YOU, LEO GRANDE (15)**  
**Friday 11 November**  
**7.30pm (1hr 37min)**

Nancy, a 55-year-old widow in search of sexual fulfilment, meets with a male escort but comes across something so much more.

**BENEDICTION (12A)**  
**Wednesday 16 November**  
**4.30pm and 7.30pm (2hrs 17min)**

Exploring the turbulent life of WWI poet Siegfried Sassoon. The writer and soldier was a complex man who survived the horrors of fighting in the First World War and was decorated for bravery but who became a vocal critic of the government's continuation of the war when he returned from service. His poetry was inspired by his experiences on the Western Front, and he became one of the leading war poets of the era.

**Tickets £6.00** (£5.50 + £0.50 booking fee)  
available online via our website  
**stockbridgecinema.org.uk** or via the  
Ticketsource telephone booking service  
**0333 666 3366** (additional £1.80 fee per booking)  
Refreshments on sale

### Reminder:

The next issue of the magazine will be a joint December/January edition. We should be grateful for details of events and information covering both months - our copy date will be 15 November.

## Wherwell History Group

**Friday 18 November**  
**at 8.00pm**



### Body Overboard

**The murder of actress Gay Gibson in 1947**

**Paul Stickler**

*Retired Chief Superintendent, Hampshire*

A Zoom Presentation

Please book in advance by checking our website  
at <https://www.wherwellhistory.com>



## The Royal British Legion Houghton and District Branch

Contact David Williams (Chairman)

01264 811072

Social evenings are held on the first Tuesday  
of most months in The Greyhound.



## Houghton WI

Monday 21 November at 10am  
Houghton Village Hall

**Beatrix Potter:**  
**dispelling the myths and misconceptions**

**David Stocks**

Visitors welcome

Further information from  
Jane Anderton 01264 810928

## Stockbridge Town Hall Events



### Weekly

Mon am	Pilates with Paula
Mon am	Pilates Unlimited with Clare
Tues am	Michelle Buhl-Nielsen Art Class
Weds am	Yoga with Dionne
Thurs am	Iyengar Yoga with Melissa
Thurs am	Stockbridge Community Market
Thurs am	Su Joy Art Class
Thurs pm	Joga
Fri am	Moo Music

### This Month

Nov 1-2	Wild Bazaar
Nov 1	Test Valley Friends of the Earth
Nov 4	Sand & Ashes
Nov 5	Antique Fair
Nov 6	Hants Assoc of Cricket Officials
Nov 7-9	Wild Bazaar
Nov 9	U3A
Nov 11	Stockbridge Community Cinema
Nov 12	South Central Makers
Nov 15-16	Capital Cashmere
Nov 15	Little Dean Court Mgt Committee
Nov 16	Stockbridge Community Cinema
Nov 17-18	Katy Botanicals
Nov 17	U3A
Nov 17	Stockbridge Parish Council
Nov 19-20	Antiques & Curios
Nov 19-20	Hawkmoor Books
Nov 22	Infinito
Nov 22	Longstock & Leckford WI
Nov 23	Claudia Bradby Ltd
Nov 25	Horatio's Garden Hospice
Nov 26-30	Wild Bazaar



## Stockbridge Community Market

**Every Thursday morning  
9.30 - 11.45am  
in Stockbridge Town Hall**

Selling the very best local and home-made produce

Pies, cakes, breads, soups, eggs and vegetables.  
Handmade crafts, toys, books, plants & bric-a-brac.

Please come along and browse



## LONGSTOCK & LECKFORD WI

**Tuesday 22 November at 6.15pm  
in Stockbridge Town Hall**

### Becky Chadd of Becky's Beezz

*Visitors very welcome but please phone  
President Sue Hill on 811779  
as numbers of guests may be limited.*



**Test Villages U3A  
Thursday 3 November  
2.00pm**

### Chilbolton Village Hall

This month our speaker is

### Nigel Palmer

### Tallhats and tall tales

'After thirty years of experience as a police officer, then ten years as a life coach, I have plenty of stories to share with you.'

For further information please see  
[u3asites.org.uk/test-villages/home](http://u3asites.org.uk/test-villages/home)

To join Test Villages U3A please email  
[tvu3amembership@gmail.com](mailto:tvu3amembership@gmail.com)



## Longstock Garden Club

**Tuesday November 8th at 7.00 pm**

**Longstock Village Hall**

### Foliage for Colour

**Kelvin Mason**

*For details go to  
[www.longstockgardenclub.com](http://www.longstockgardenclub.com)*

*The friendly garden club for the Test Valley area  
founded in 1980 for experienced and  
inexperienced gardeners.*

## Copy for Magazine

Copy date for the December/January Magazine:  
**15 November 2022**

**Please send emails to:**

[editorsstockmag@gmail.com](mailto:editorsstockmag@gmail.com)

or phone Frances on 01264 811776

Jennifer on 01264 811179 or Thea on 07730 964481

## It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas



Yes, there is a lot of the year to go and many celebrations to be had before Christmas but plans for Stockbridge Christmas 2022 are forging ahead and we thought it was time to share them with you.

You will see the lights installed in trees and on railings from November but the Switch On event will take place on Saturday 3rd December so save that date.

As usual, we are working with Stockbridge Business Association, our schools and churches to make this a day of celebration for everyone in Stockbridge. Some of the performers are yet to be confirmed but we hope will include choirs, bands, a lantern parade and a fancy dress dog show.



We do know that last year's hit Treasure Hunt will be repeated this year, our Primary School will be selling



Christmas trees and there will be carols outside and inside St Peter's with refreshments and socialising to follow, and the lights will be switched on featuring the famous

countdown and plunger – though the celebrity assistant has yet to be announced.

Nearer the time there will be posters in the village and details on the Parish Council website but for now mark the date. Be ready to wrap up warm and join the fun on the street culminating at St Peter's Church at 5.30pm with carols and the lighting ceremony at 6pm followed by the Treasure Hunt prize-giving



and mulled wine and mince pies in the church.

We look forward to seeing you there



*Stockbridge Christmas Committee*

*Photo credits for these images from 2021's event go to our much-missed Herry Lawford.*



Stockbridge Music

Patron: Professor David Owen Norris MA (Oxon) FSA FRAM FRCO

## "Christmastide" Harriet Adie, Harp



As part of the national tour of her new programme, "Christmastide", we are delighted to welcome renowned harpist and composer Harriet Adie.

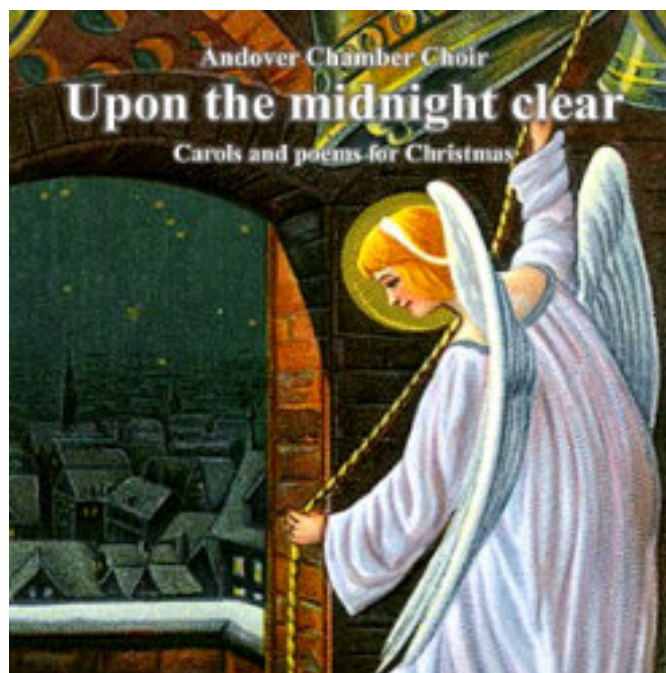
**Wednesday 14 December 2022, 7.30pm**

**Stockbridge Town Hall, SO20 6HE**

**Adults £15, children £7.50**

For programme details and tickets:

[www.stockbridgemusic.uk](http://www.stockbridgemusic.uk)



**7:00 p.m. Saturday 17th December 2022**

**St Mary's Church, Andover**

Tickets £12 (incl. refreshments) on the door  
or £10 in advance from The Lights, Newbury Building Society, Andover,  
or from choir members. Under 16s free.



In aid of Andover Foodbank  
[www.andoverchamberchoir.org.uk](http://www.andoverchamberchoir.org.uk)





For further information about the play,  
please see page 11

## Remembrance Commemorations in Stockbridge

### Armistice Day, Friday 11th November

A short service of commemoration, led by the Rev'd Philip Bowden, will take place at the war memorial starting at 10.55am. and concluding with the Act of Remembrance. Stockbridge Primary School will participate and lay a wreath.

### Remembrance Sunday, 13th November

Remembrance Sunday will be observed with the traditional church service in St Peter's starting at 9.45am. and led by our Rector, the Rev'd Philip Bowden. Following the service the congregation, led by the Royal British Legion Standard and the Scouts, Cubs, Brownies and Beavers, will proceed down the High Street, marshalled by the Police, to the war memorial. Leading up to 11 o'clock a short ceremony – like thousands of others throughout the British Commonwealth – will take place. The names of those who fell in the two World Wars and whose names are engraved on the memorial will be read out during the service as will the names of the airmen, commemorated on the plaque in the wall of Old St Peter's Church, who are buried in the nearby cemetery. Traffic will be halted during the Act of Remembrance. The start of the two-minute silence

will be signalled by the sounding on the Cornet of the Last Post, the end by Reveille.

Wreaths will be laid after the act of remembrance during which, weather-permitting, the Army Air Corps' historic flight from Middle Wallop will fly over the war memorial.

David Williams



### PEAT SPADE PUB CAROLS

**THURSDAY 8th DECEMBER 6.15pm**



After the success last year, it's on again! Mulled wine, mince pies and lots of singing - get in the festive spirit and help raise a few pennies for St Mary's.

Locals of various talent will be joined by the Longstock bell ringers for what

we hope will be a fantastic evening of festive Longstocking fun. Bring friends and family - everyone is welcome.

If you would like to be involved singing/playing (more than just raising the pub roof on the night!) or have any questions, please contact Lois Opperman - [loisopperman@gmail.com](mailto:loisopperman@gmail.com) or 07900 927913



### Remembrance 2022

As usual, poppies will be available in shops and pubs from 29 October - 13 November.

The band of poppy sellers will be at the Co-op and beside Garden Inn on 29 October and 4, 5, 11 and 12 November and in the Orvis area 29 October, 5 and 12 November.

We have a wonderful team of poppy sellers but we would be very pleased to welcome anyone to join us. If you would like to help, please phone Angela McMeekin on 01264 810236.

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## Upper Clatford Lecture Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Alan Lovell – Chairman of the  
Environment Agency

We are privileged to live in the Test Valley, which includes 85% of the world's unique chalk streams, rightly described as "national treasures". Yet, according to The Rivers Trust 2021 report on 'The State of our Rivers', only 14% are in good ecological health, and none meet the chemical pollution standards. There are many reasons for this state of affairs. As we heard in last year's lecture, 'Re-shaping the Future of UK Farming' by Alison Field, agriculture is a significant factor, along with water treatment failures, abstraction and habitat destruction.



**Alan Lovell DL**

From 2015 to 2019, Alan was Chair of the Consumer Council for Water which represents the views of customers to government, the regulators and water companies, and handles complaints about water companies. In September 2022, he became Chair of the Environment Agency.

Alan grew up in Pear Tree Cottage in Upper Clatford. He trained as an Accountant with PwC and had a range of senior executive positions across UK industry, including CEO at Costain, Jarvis, Dunlop Slazenger and Infinis. He was High Sheriff of Hampshire in 2010/11. He was Chairman of the Mary Rose Trust between 2015 and 2021 and Chairman of the Board of Governors of University of Winchester from 2016 to 2021. He has chaired the Hampshire Cultural Trust since its formation in 2014 and is a Lay Canon of Winchester Cathedral.

**Tickets** - £12.00 per person.

Please scan the QR code to reserve and pay for tickets.

You can also buy tickets at Clatford Village Store & Post Office, Greenfield Farm Shop or Abbotts Ann Village Store.

Please make cheques out to "All Saints Winter Lectures".

All funds raised will go to charity.

**Time & Venue** - Doors open at 7pm and the lecture starts at **8pm at the King Edward VII Memorial Hall, Upper Clatford, SP11 7QL.**

A cash bar will be open before the lecture starts. Parking is available behind the hall.

(Rivers Trust report and further information <https://theriverstrust.org/key-issues/state-of-our-rivers>)



Concert given by

## The David Owen Norris Piano Trio

Friday 23 September 2022 in  
St Peter's Church, Stockbridge

The Stockbridge Music faithful eagerly awaited the approaching climax concert of the season: the appearance of our distinguished patron, Professor David Owen Norris. This concert could stand comparison with that from any top concert hall in the world.

The Professor never disappoints whether as composer, broadcaster or concert pianist. This year he was supported by Caroline Balding, the acclaimed international violinist, and Sarah McMahon, principal cellist with the Academy of Ancient Music and Professor of Historical Cello at the Royal Academy of Music. Together, this all-star line-up gave us two back-to-back piano trios: Beethoven's *Archduke (Op. 97)* and one of Schubert's two piano trios written in the last year of his short life, 1828. It made for an interesting comparison with the Beethoven trio, the Schubert, with its four movements, having a more lyrical approach than characteristically-forthright Beethoven.

Professor Owen Norris performed both trios on a modern replica of an 1802 Schantz pianoforte which, to modern ears, made an interesting sound midway between a harpsichord and a slightly unsophisticated piano. The 1802 instrument provides a notable milestone in the development of the pianoforte during the eighteenth century as it came gradually to take the place of keyboard instruments where the strings are plucked (as in the harpsichord), not struck with hammers as in the pianoforte. We learnt that, for that reason, the piano allows the performer greater power of expression depending on the force with which s/he strikes the note on the keyboard. Musical interpretation on the harpsichord is influenced little by the degree of force with which the key is struck.

In its tenth year, Stockbridge Music has made great strides under the (former) leadership of Tim Lowden and is very much here to stay.

*Guy Boney*

### Scottish Dancing

Scottish Dancing has started again for the winter term in Broughton Village Hall on Monday evenings, 6.00pm – 7.30pm and we are always delighted to welcome new faces. We are beginners and you don't need to bring a partner – although men are very warmly welcomed! Your first session is free, after that it costs £8 per session payable at the end of the term. Do come and join us – it's excellent exercise and great fun!

Georgie Bateman 01794 301260 / 07754 790546

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## Kindertransport in Rehearsal

Stockbridge Amateur Dramatic Society's (SADS) next production will be *Kindertransport* by Diane Samuels.

This is a play about a young German Jewish girl (Eva Schlesinger) coming to England on the Kindertransport to escape the



holocaust and her struggle to come to terms with it when she has grown up, given herself an English name (Evelyn), and has a daughter of her own. It is sometimes described as part of the holocaust literature but this can be misleading. It is not about the horrors of Nazi Germany. Most of the play is set in England, and half of it in the 1990's. It is the story of one person's experience of being sent by her parents to grow up



in a foreign land, how she tries to deal with it, and the effect on the people around her, including her own daughter.

It is a moving and thought-provoking drama but there is also humour and warmth.

It is theatrically fascinating. Eva in the 1940's is played by one actress, and Evelyn in the 1990's by a different actress. The scenes are interspersed in the same space and characters from the two time periods are on stage at the same time. This is a very effective way of bringing out the links between the two periods as Evelyn gradually reveals to her daughter what happened to her forty years earlier (with an unexpected twist). We are performing 'in the round' which is especially appropriate for such a fluid and intimate play.



Performances are on the 24th, 25th and 26th November at 7.30pm in Stockbridge Town Hall. You can buy tickets on-line at [www.stockbridgeamdrams.org.uk](http://www.stockbridgeamdrams.org.uk) or by leaving a message on 0560 364 6791 (note that your telephone provider may charge for calling 0560 numbers). If you simply want to know more about it then you are welcome to give me a call on 0773 887 4040

Mark Frank (SADS Chair)



### "Oh Yes They Are"

The Crawley Players are back! Don't miss this year's fun-filled musical pantomime 'The Wizard of Oz.'

When a tornado rips through the village of Crawley, Dorothy and her dog, Toto, are whisked away to the magical Land of Oz. Protected by a pair of enchanted ruby slippers, she befriends a scarecrow without a brain, a tin man with no heart and a cowardly lion, who help her on her quest to reach the Emerald City, meet the Wizard, and learn how to return home in time for Christmas.

Click your heels and join Dorothy this December as she journeys over the rainbow, meeting a myriad of marvellous munchkins, the funniest of friends & the wickedest of witches.

Enjoy multi-sensory special effects, spectacular scenery, popular songs, dances, and creative costumes, along with plenty of traditional pantomime mayhem, laughter, and chances for you to join in the fun!

For the weekend of 2nd – 4th December, Crawley village hall & bar will transform into a wondrous land where dreams really do come true! Performances are on Friday Evening, Saturday Matinee and Evening, and Sunday Matinee.

**TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE** Online at : <https://www.theatreroyalwinchester.co.uk/alsoselling> and Box Office 01962 840440, 10am - 1pm, tues - sat. (please leave message if you reach answerphone).

For further information & any help please email : [thecrawleyplayers@gmail.com](mailto:thecrawleyplayers@gmail.com)

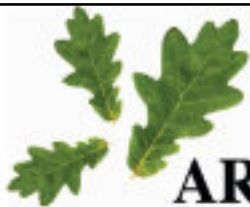


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## Local Motorcycle Legends Remembered



*Trevor Nation and Steve Spray*

### Colin Stokes writes:

Probably my favourite race of all time - I attended a motorcycle race meeting at Thruxton Circuit back in the day, watching these two JPS Andover Norton team mates, Trevor Nation, a former Longstock resident who later migrated to Shipton Bellinger, and team mate Steve Spray, swapping positions at the front of the pack more times than I have had hot dinners throughout the 12 or 15 lap race. They both finished miles ahead of the rest of the pack. (The picture of them above, which I found on Facebook, may have been taken during an Isle of Man TT race in the late 80s or early 90s).

My late much-loved father, John Stokes, and I watched countless televised British Superbike races on a Saturday afternoon featuring these two warriors battling it out between themselves, as well as another favourite, Jamie Whitham, plus many more motor cycle legends of that era.

Back then, we worked at the then Parkers Garage (now Thyme and Tides). Looking back on it, I wish we had put a closed sign up for half-an-hour to watch the races undisturbed, as they were the only times I ever cussed when a customer turned up for petrol. Apologies to anyone who arrived during a British Superbike race on a Saturday afternoon, but I'm sure I found a smile to put on so it wasn't too obvious. We really did appreciate everybody's custom throughout the 40 years that Mum and Dad ran the Garage.

However, watching these two Barbarian Warriors on the short circuits as well as the Isle of Man TT, the North West 200, and many other road races, kick-started my interest in motorcycle racing. My wife, Kelly Jane Stokes, and I have had the pleasure of witnessing some local racers, firstly Longstock resident Leon Morris. Leon carried on the family tradition of life in the fast lane from his Dad, another local legend, Colin Morris. Leon won two Ducati Tri Options Championships (a support championship of the British Superbike series), plus a few runner-up and other decent Championship finishes over the years. Leon has hung up his leathers in recent years to spare his family the worry of his picking up a bad injury, one of the big

risks which unfortunately comes with a sport of this nature. Leon is still very active in Motor Sport but has swapped two wheels for four, working for Nine W Engineering on classic racing cars. The company is based in a workshop at the entrance lane to the Spitfire Shoot facility near Houghton Down Farm. Leon gets to travel to circuits all over the country as well as across the pond to tracks such as Spa and Monaco as part of the race team support crew for the cars that they work on.



*Leon Morris and father, Colin*

Another local flag of talented motor cycle riders still flies as Andover Racer, Jake Archer, races in a British Superbike support Series, and is currently enjoying a successful season with regular podium finishes in his races, which consists of two classes. Jake won the HEL Performance Motostar Championship (another support race series from the British Superbike category) three or four years ago after finishing runner-up in the two previous seasons. Jake and the team, which includes his dad, Richard Archie Archer who is Jake's Pit Board man. Also, a big 'shout-out' to Jake's mum and family who attend most of Jake's meetings. They also serve the tea and refreshments which Kelly and I have had the privilege of tasting at past meetings.



*Jake with his father and the team with their haul of trophies. The photo was taken by one of the team following the end-of-season meeting at Brands Hatch in October.*

Unfortunately, Kelly and I haven't been to so many Motor Cycle meetings this year as I'm now working every other Sunday and Kelly works every other weekend. Not sure what next year will bring but who knows? I might be on course for having all weekends free once again, but that's one which will unfold in due course.

You can see more by clicking on both the Nine W Facebook page and the Jake Archer Facebook page.

*Colin Stokes*

# The Restoration of Stockbridge Town Hall

Following last month's article describing the recent re-painting of the Town Hall, we asked Hugh Saxton to give us his account of the original restoration when he was Chairman of the Town Hall Committee.

## 'Best put a match to it'

This was one half-joking suggestion as to what to do with the Town Hall twenty years ago. Certainly the hall had many problems. Built in 1790 by Joseph Foster Barham and George Porter as an inducement to the voters of Stockbridge - then a 'Rotten' Borough - it had started life as an open market. A clock was added in 1794 and it was enclosed in 1810 - hence the date on the front. From the start, the hall became an icon of the town and was much used. An upper floor with a stage was added between 1910 and 1913 when there was a grand opening (see *A Glimpse of Stockbridge Past* by Geoff Merritt). By this point, an adjacent cottage had been incorporated into the hall to provide stairs to the upper level and toilets at the lower level.

Ninety years later, with few repairs and no new development, the hall was in a depressing state.



This is the hall in 2005. The cottage on the left provides stairs and toilets. The blanked-out windows add to the run-down impression.

Inside the hall, access to stairs and toilets was up two steps so the hall was not welcoming to the disabled. Indeed, without adequate toilets and a lift, we were in breach of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.



The emergency stairs at the back were in the open, which could cause problems in the dark or wet.

The décor everywhere was tired.



It felt sad and using the stairs in the old cottage you wondered if they were entirely safe.

Yet the hall was still much used by the community for meetings and markets and plays.

So 'a match' was not the answer - least of all for a Grade II\* listed building. We clearly needed a modern hall. The first thought for funding was the Heritage Lottery Fund. But when my predecessor, George McMeekin, approached them he found that they regarded Stockbridge as in a prosperous area so, unsurprisingly, they would not support us. By 2005, when I became chairman, it was obvious that we must raise the money ourselves. Within the wedge-shaped space between the main hall and Little Wyke, we had to provide better stairs and a lift, with toilets, including disabled toilets, on both floors. After that we needed a better kitchen, better insulation, better stage facilities, better escape stairs and so on. In future instalments, I will discuss the raising of funds and the problems encountered during building. I can only say I was very fortunate in the team I had. Likewise we were very fortunate in the help we were given.

Hugh Saxton

## What sort of job is that for a grown man?

by Naylor (a.k.a. Jim Gubb)



Many of you will know that, sadly, Jim died in August this year. Jim's wife, Sonia, was going through some of his papers and found the script she shares with us now. She tells us, 'This was probably written in the mid-to-late-eighties when Jim was building up his cartoon business. We lived in a Victorian semi in London and had five children. Jim had originally taught P.E. and then retrained as a Maths teacher. In 1988 - much to his delight - the borough was going through a big reorganisation and he was given early retirement. He had taught for 32 years and was delighted to go!!'.

Somewhere in the depths of the brain an idea sparks. Days, weeks or even years later, thousands, perhaps millions, of people smile in recognition of a humorous situation encapsulated within a simple drawing with perhaps a brief caption below it. The bridge between these two events constitutes my work and my pleasure; the funny thing is that, to date, over 120 editors have actually paid me good money to indulge myself in this pastime.

Exchanging one piece of paper (with a funny drawing on it) for a different piece of paper (called a cheque) has a great appeal. It was the cartoonist Phil May, I think, who refined the system to cut out the middlemen. Instructions were left at the

front desk of the 'Punch' office that cash was to be handed over to the artist whenever he handed in a drawing - any drawing. This lucky artist used the magazine as his own personal bank!



Cartoonists work in isolation and never see the readers' reactions to their work. Apart from an occasional (and treasured) fan letter, it is only at exhibitions that s/he - why are there so few lady cartoonists? - can eavesdrop on comments on their work. Fortunately, cartoonists are faceless people who can mingle unrecognised at such gatherings.



To paraphrase the Good Book, 'a prophet is without honour in his own house' and all of us who work from home surely know this to be true. In my case, it's impossible to convince my family that I'm *working* when they hear me

giggling away so obviously enjoying myself in the dining room (sorry, Studio!). Anyone who doesn't get dressed and set off to a 'proper job' each day is fair game:

'I can see that you're not busy darling, can you give me a hand?' - my wife from the kitchen.  
'Dad, what is the capital of Morocco?'  
'Can you drive me to gymnastics, Dad?'  
'Dad, about this modern maths homework...?'

Everyone gets in on the act. When I mutter darkly that 'Rembrandt never had to put down his paintbrush to pop down to Sainsbury's for his wife...', it just invites guffaws. My family remains positively under-awed by my protestations (wasn't it James Thurber who claimed the most difficult thing about being a writer/cartoonist was convincing his wife, when he was gazing out of the window, that he was in fact *working*?). Knee-deep in rejection slips, earning a living chained to a drawing board is not for the faint-hearted. Every cartoonist gives up trying to fathom why one editor turns down a cartoon which a second editor buys the very next day - you only have your own judgement to fall back on. On the credit side, however, no formal qualification is needed to do the job - when a batch of drawings lands on an editor's desk, s/he has no way of determining the age, social standing, educational background or even the sex of the artist.

Probably each cartoonist in the UK arrived at the 'inkface' via a different route. In my case, right from the time I was a small boy lying in front of the fire re-reading a comic album and copying my favourite characters with a stub of a pencil, I've remained fascinated at the shorthand methods

which are used to depict movement, water, an explosion, a thought occurring to someone, etc. Recently while I was rummaging in my attic, I uncovered my faded school exercise books, festooned in caricature portraits of my teachers. While friends were complimentary about my scribbles, it wasn't until some of them actually offered money for them that I twigged that maybe, just maybe, I had something of value which I could gainfully communicate to others.

Eventually, I plucked up the cheek to send a batch of cartoons to a magazine which bought seven of them. A cheque arrived (in guineas - remember them?) and, in due course, I saw my work IN PRINT! My career was launched. I became resident cartoonist on the local newspaper, wrote some scripts for IPC kids comics and had three books published by Hamlyn. In magazines, the odd filler gag led to regular panel features, multi-frame strips, illustrations, caricatures, logos, advertising work and full magazine covers - all sent via Her Majesty's Mail (only one package lost in 20 years - well done all you fine people!).

Bearing in mind the solitary nature of my work, it was inevitable that sooner or later I would track down The Cartoonists' Club of Great Britain at which I met fellow madmen who insist on drawing people with big heads and small bodies, who live in a world where burglars wear striped shirts and teachers still wear mortarboards. Our HQ was the Cartoonist pub in Shoe Lane, off Fleet Street. Through the club, I have met many of my idols and entered many international competitions - a Japanese one resulted in a huge medal and scroll in Japanese! The club clinched a deal with The Royal Lancaster Hotel whereby a member can 'sing for his supper' by drawing a cartoon at a table in the Pavement Café and hand it over in exchange for a meal. Come to think of it, we trumped Phil May's method - a direct barter of a cartoon for food and drink without involving even the money!



The craft of cartooning, like any creative act, is demanding but it is enormously satisfying to come across one of your illustrations in print; a drawing uniquely yours which simply would not have existed had it not been for that initial brain-spark. I never have the fear that the ideas might, one day, dry up. In fact I feel one coming on now, so, swivelling my chair away from the drawing board towards the typewriter, I flex my fingers and begin, 'What Sort of Job is that for a Grown Man?' . . .





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# Potting Shed Cuttings for November



## Gardening Events for November:

Photography event 'Glow' - RHS Wisley;

Craft in focus - RHS Wisley;

An Evening with Adam Frost - Yeovil;

Hand Knitted Crafts - RHS Rosemoor, Torrington

## General Maintenance

This month, work continues on preparing the garden for winter. Provided bean sticks are still sturdy, they can be preserved for future use by standing the end in a bucket of wood preservative for a few days. Tie them together and store upright in a shed or garage. It's sensible to protect outside taps this month; turn off the water supply and lag the taps and pipes with bubblewrap, newspaper or purpose-made lagging material. Complete cleaning of the greenhouse or cold frames so that tender perennials or bulbs can safely survive the winter months. Leave dirty pots outside and allow the rainfall to clean them for you over the winter months. Make as much leaf compost as you can, in strong black bin liners if you have no room for a designated spot, but try to leave a few piles for the birds to find insects and worms over the coming months. Beech, oak and hornbeam break down fairly easily; sycamore and chestnut should be shredded before composting. Holly and laurel should be shredded and added to the general compost heap. If you have pine needles, compost these separately and use them to mulch acid-loving plants.

## The Flower Garden

Mice have a talent for finding newly-planted tulip or lily bulbs; a layer of holly clippings or small holed chicken wire should deter them from being dug up and eaten. Complete planting the remaining spring bedding; pansies, wallflowers, primulas, forget-me-nots and hyacinths can all go in this month. Now is the time to move containers with permanent plantings of tall perennials into more sheltered spots and to ensure planters with spring bedding are not left in places where dripping gutters or puddles can damage the plants. Lift dahlias and gladioli and protect or lift salvias, such as 'Amistad', and agapanthus varieties, which are borderline hardy or if the soil is heavy or prone to dampness. Make sure any fallen rose leaves with blackspot are collected and disposed of to prevent the disease being reintroduced next year. As the dormant period approaches, why not try root cuttings of any favourite verbascum, oriental poppies, phlox, Japanese anemone, geranium or acanthus plants? Simply clear soil away from part of the roots and, for thick-rooted plants such as verbascum, oriental poppies and acanthus, take short sections of root about 5mm thick and plant vertically in modules or seed trays. Make sure you know which was the top and which the bottom! For geraniums, phlox and thin-rooted plants, take cuttings a couple of inches long and plant these horizontally, covering them with horticultural grit. Water well with a fine rose;

they should start to develop roots within a month or so.

## The Fruit and Vegetable Garden

Garlic, shallots and onions can all be planted in free-draining soil or raised beds this month. Pruning is a priority for fruit bushes such as gooseberries, blackcurrants, redcurrants and white currants once the period of dormancy has begun. Hardwood cuttings from these prunings can be used to propagate new plants. Autumn raspberries can be pruned between now and February. Protection of winter crops should also be on your check lists of jobs; cloche cover for salad crops and winter peas and beans is essential but allow air movement by leaving the ends open. Avoid pigeon damage to brassicas with netting and remove yellowing leaves. Stake Brussels sprouts to prevent wind damage.

## The Lawn

Try to avoid walking across muddy lawns along the same pathway as soil compaction can become a problem over the winter. Lay turves this month and prepare the ground for any spring sowing. If the mild weather continues, lawns may need cutting once a fortnight provided the grass is dry enough; raise the blades on your mower and pick up and shred leaves at the same time.

## Christmas is coming!

Plant 'Paperwhite' narcissi bulbs by the middle of the month, for Christmas flowering; keep them somewhere cool (less than 10°C) and damp, but not wet. Move them onto a cool windowsill when they are about 3cm/1¼" high.

Micki Nadal

## Not exactly a letter . . .

*but the Editors would like to pass on to the rest of the magazine team this phone message from Mo Crossman:*

'I would just like to extend a big thank-you to everyone who is involved in the compiling and delivering the parish magazine. I do appreciate all your hard work!'

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. . . They simply mean there is some light nearby. (Dr. Seuss)



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# A Reflection on the Life of David Lloyd Roberts

7.7.1945 – 6.7.2022



*David Lloyd Roberts may have been a Stockbridge resident for a comparatively short time, but he quickly became known to many as an active supporter of a number of local causes. Several readers will have attended a fascinating lecture on 'The Laws of War' given by David in Stockbridge Town Hall in February 2022.*

*The following is an abridged extract from a very full obituary printed in the Daily Telegraph on the 8<sup>th</sup> July 2022. We would like to thank David's wife Charlie for giving her permission for its inclusion in the magazine.*

David Lloyd Roberts, who died in July aged 76, carved out successful and action-packed careers with the Army and the International Committee of the Red Cross; he served in Aden and Northern Ireland, including Bloody Sunday, and he later escaped from captivity in Angola as well as evading a sniper's bullets in Palestine.

David was born at the Royal Naval Hospital in Malta on July 7 1945, where his father was serving as a naval diver clearing sunken wartime wrecks. Later, when the family was posted to Ceylon, he spent much of his time outdoors, becoming an expert swimmer and scuba diver at a young age and also having a chance meeting with the author Arthur C Clarke, who lived on the island. Clarke was also a scuba diver, and young David appeared in photographs in his acclaimed 1958 book *Boy Beneath the Sea*, including on the cover photo.

When the family returned to Plymouth, David Roberts attended Sutton Grammar School, where he became an accomplished athlete who would run for hours on the Southwest Coast Path. This stood him in good stead when, in 1964, he attended the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, where he broke a number of track records.

In 1966, he was commissioned into The Parachute Regiment and the following year saw his first action, when the 1st Battalion (1 Para) was posted to Aden as a part of the force covering the British withdrawal.

Two years later the Troubles in Northern Ireland erupted and 1 Para was sent to assist the RUC in Operation Banner, holding the line between the warring factions. For more than two years 1 Para was involved in almost daily public-order duties and action, and David was twice mentioned in Despatches and appointed MBE (military) with Oak Leaves for Gallantry.

David later attended the Australian Staff College and subsequently worked in staff appointments in the Ministry of Defence. To his intense frustration, he missed being with a Para battalion in the Falklands campaign, Operation Corporate, but he

was able to contribute as a member of the staff in the Directorate of Military Operations. In 1983, he engineered an early escape by volunteering to command the small British contingent to the four-nation multi-national force in Lebanon (Operation Hyperion). BRITFORLEB, as they were known, was charged with helping the Lebanese government to re-assert control in the aftermath of the conflict between the PLO and Israel. He then commanded Depot, The Parachute Regiment and Airborne Forces in Aldershot, before moving to Zimbabwe in 1987 as a senior member of the directing staff at their War College.

Subsequently posted to Fortress Gibraltar as Chief of Staff, he again arranged an early escape to become involved in the first Gulf War as a member of the staff of General Sir Peter de la Billière, the overall Commander-in-Chief of British Forces involved in that campaign.

David retired from the Army in 1993 and joined the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), first as its operational security adviser and then in the department for the Dissemination of International Humanitarian Law to armed forces. This entailed teaching the law of armed conflict to senior officers of the armed forces and police.

In 1999, David completed a Master of Laws degree in International Human Rights Law at Essex University, specialising in the laws of armed conflict. He was a regular lecturer at several universities and the United States Naval War College.

His publications included *Staying Alive – Safety and Security Guidelines for Humanitarian Volunteers in Conflict Areas* and *The Law of Armed Conflict*, a training manual for armed forces now translated into several languages, including Arabic, Chinese and Amharic, as well as numerous papers and book contributions.

David retired from the ICRC in 2003 but continued to work for them as a consultant and also for UN agencies and the British and foreign governments. He lectured, ran courses, advised on security issues and conducted investigations in numerous hotspots including Georgia and South Ossetia, Pakistan, Lebanon, Iraq and South Sudan.

In Libya, in 2011, he led the first humanitarian relief and assessment mission from Benghazi by sea across the Gulf of Sirte. During the recent lockdown, he set up a Covid buddy system to make sure local residents stayed safe.

David Lloyd Roberts was a man of many parts, a first-rate Airborne officer and an ardent humanitarian and advocate of the laws of armed conflict. A strong family man, he was also passionate about his hobbies which included fly fishing, gardening, cooking, shooting, gun-dog training and the Welsh rugby team. He was a Freeman of the City of London.

He is survived by his wife, Charlie, a daughter and a son.

## A potted history and local business in the making (Part 2)

*by Stockbridge resident, Lauren Leigh*

Having finally found an expert potter who understood what we were looking to do, we were able to develop our inaugural product design known as our Signature Souvenir (or 'spotty pots'). A big part of our design ethos is that Stockbridge Pottery should not only be beautifully artisan and vintage in style, but also functional for today's home and table.

Our potter, Huw, has been running potteries and manufacturing ceramics for the past 15 years working closely with product designers to develop high-end batch produced wares. He was exactly who we needed to bring on board and he introduced us to the world of 'slip casting'.



Put simply, 'slip casting' is the process of pouring liquid clay (called casting slip) into a plaster mould in order to create a clay object (the 'casting' bit). The mould absorbs the water from the liquid clay which then dries and stiffens, forming a skin around the walls of the mould. It's how most

ceramics are manufactured today as it allows for mass production. Our process differs in that it's all done by hand and in small batches.

Moreover, the hand skills we employ are considered 'critically endangered' and a heritage craft.

According to the Heritage Crafts Association, outsourcing and new technologies have displaced many traditional crafts practised in the industry – to the point where such skills are at risk of no longer being practised here in the UK (the reason we found it so hard to find someone who could help us).

As a British brand, the provenance of the materials we use is also important to us. With Huw's expert guidance, we opted for a stoneware clay sourced in Worcester. Lots of studios often mix their clay to their own 'secret recipe' such as the famous Leach Pottery, but we've chosen to keep ours pure and we fire it high for a high-quality finish.

We also came up with an inventive way of hand decorating the spots.

Instead of painting them on, akin to the European style, we use a popular artisan 'wax resist' technique where you apply wax emulsion, to repel the glaze, and old wine corks to dot it



on to create our iconic 'wonky spots' pattern. (The spots aren't wonky because we're drunk, by the way, it's just how the wax evaporates on firing.)

With the spots in place each pot is then dipped in glaze by hand before its final firing. We glaze our pots inside and out, in colours inspired by the local area like our sludgy 'Stockbridge grey' (which gives a nod to the spotted trout), 'Houghton turquoise' (celebrating the locally spotted kingfisher) and 'Leckford green' (as seen painted on properties owned by neighbouring Leckford Estate). And we've lots more colours to come.



Stockbridge Grey Pot



Our confidence boosted by steady sales, and as a proud member of Heritage Crafts (whose President is our new King), we're excited to announce that we're now able to bring production home to Stockbridge two years ahead of our initial planning. Our hope is

to expand the luxury pottery range with lots of new product designs and create jobs locally by offering apprenticeships to those eager to learn new skills in a heritage craft.



### Can you help?

We're looking to rent a small workshop in, or as close to, Stockbridge as possible. The unit doesn't need to be smart (Bernard Leach, founder of Leach Pottery, began his studio in an old cow shed). The space only needs to be around 400 sq ft, but it does need to have three-phase electricity available (to power the kiln) and connection to mains water supply. If you know of anywhere locally, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact me at [lauren@stockbridgepottery.com](mailto:lauren@stockbridgepottery.com) or call 07840 898 270.

And if you'd like to follow us on our journey into retail, subscribe to our newsletter at [stockbridgepottery.com](http://stockbridgepottery.com) for our latest studio news, or follow us on Instagram [@stockbridgepottery](https://www.instagram.com/stockbridgepottery)

STOCKBRIDGE  
— POTTERY —

## Over the Hedge - The Longstock Rally

Back in September, in a field near Longstock, a dedicated team of people put on the Longstock Rally - and what a show it was!



There were little steam engines and bigger steam engines. How fantastic they were - the steam, the smoke, the smell, the sound.



Classic cars and motorbikes, lovingly cared for by their owners - the sight and sounds of those memorable engines.



A fantastic display of all things military, talking to the people who had brought their collection of vehicles and equipment for everyone to see up close and to share their knowledge.



And a huge mix of tractors - Ford, John Deere, Massey Ferguson and others. The ring was full of vintage tractors ... hold on a minute, I used to work on them - does that make me vintage?

A very impressive row of fire engines and their kit with the opportunity to watch how firemen release trapped people from a car.



There were fields for ploughing and working machinery demonstrations and even lawn-mower racing - something to offer everyone.



And reminders of a bygone age - milk in bottles and delivered to your doorstep, the foil caps that the Blue Tits used to break open with their beaks, the little bottle of milk we had everyday at school. So many memories of everyday things that have gone.

My thanks to everyone involved in organising and putting together a really fantastic show. *Ryan Bundy*

*... but if you follow them, they will lead you to your destiny. (Dalai Lama)*

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## Stockbridge Primary and Pre-School News

### A cracking, crunching, conker-ing autumn!

Gosh, the autumn mornings and early evenings are just my favourite time of year. I have a beautiful drive to work across Danebury and down into Stockbridge, crossing Wiltshire and Hampshire countryside, and, even after 15 years, it never tires. In school, we are delighted that our annual conker competition is back in full swing. The Bronze Ambassadors, children who have been especially chosen to foster sport and competition in school, are overseeing it with military precision! The tournament table is up with 100 children choosing to play. They've been out searching for conkers, and some are HUGE! We are almost at quarter-final stages and a brand new medal awaits the winner!

As well as getting into the swing of things with conkers, we are well into our learning journey in English, Maths and topics. Lower school has been learning about rainforests - comparing them with forests here - and we enjoyed a superb visit to Farley Mount which was just about autumnal. Children compared life in the rainforest to life in our forest when they visited the Living Rainforest just north of Newbury. Much to their delight, a lot of the animals they'd read about in the books we've used to complement the topic were there and we were regaled with fascinating facts and titbits of information from spellbound children on their return.

Upper school children haven't missed out though, making the most of the beautiful days we've had already this autumn. Our topic of Explorers has encompassed 'in person' visits, inspirational reads and a trip to Portsmouth Harbour to see the HMS Victory and Mary Rose. Although in this topic we have focused on the achievements of the Tudor explorers, we've not neglected our modern day explorers. Year 5 has been fascinated by the story of Aron Halston, subject of the film 127 Hours which chronicles the tale of the tough decisions he had to make in order to survive.

It is this inspiration which we seek to achieve for all of our children and very often, this is only done through those all-important visits to museums or exhibitions. As the autumn draws on and the energy and inflationary rates make life for families a struggle, we are negotiating hard with centres to lower prices and borrowing minibuses from other schools in order to keep travel costs as cheap as possible. We believe it's critical that EVERY child, regardless of their family's financial situation, has the opportunity to experience the cultural richness we are lucky to have on our doorstep. We are very grateful to the Longstock Parish Council for access to the Henry Smith fund, historically for families that live in Longstock, and we're also able to draw on an old trust fund, Tillaid, to support families with

access to residential and funding for school uniform. However, as we move forward, we know that this will not be sufficient to support our families.

If you're wondering how you can help, we'd love any donations for our 'bags2schools' collection coming up in November. This is where you can empty laundry cupboards and wardrobes for free and we can earn money per kg donated. You could also buy a Christmas tree from FOSS this winter - pre-orders need to be made before 14<sup>th</sup> November - see page 25 for further details. If neither of those 'float your boat' as you have an artificial tree or don't have any textiles to get rid of, you can always donate directly to school. We can ensure that any funds donated go to families who really would appreciate the support. SO many of you did this during the pandemic which paid for food parcels at a time that was really difficult for families. Donations are carefully tracked by our Governors and finance team and full traceability can be provided with the exception, for data protection purposes, of disclosing directly who it has benefitted.

Enjoy these beautiful sunny autumn mornings - the frost makes it even prettier!

*Emma Jefferies, Headteacher*

	<p><b>Bag2School</b></p> <p>Stockbridge Primary and Pre-School will be running another BAG2SCHOOL initiative in November - just in time for a pre-Christmas declutter!</p> <p>The money raised from the last collection went towards the super wooden Trim Trail that is now so well used on the school playing field. This kind of fundraising is so important to enable children to access extra opportunities and resources, which will enrich their lives.</p> <p>So, please bring your unwanted clothes, bags, jewellery, belts, shoes, soft toys, household linen or curtains, bagged up, to Stockbridge Primary School main reception on Sunday 20th November between 10-12am, or Monday 21st November at any time during the school day.</p> <p>If you will have difficulty dropping off your donations, please email Friends of Stockbridge School on <a href="mailto:friendsofstockbridgeschool@gmail.com">friendsofstockbridgeschool@gmail.com</a> who will be only too pleased to help.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
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# Stockbridge Parish Council News

## Stockbridge Christmas

Stockbridge Parish Council has been working with the Christmas Committee to apply for a grant from TVBC for the Christmas lights and the 'turning on' for this year. This event is increasingly seen as an important part of what Stockbridge has to offer both the visitor and the community and coincides with 'Small Business Saturday' when all our traders put on their best show to add to celebrations and entertainment throughout the town. After two slightly muted years due to Covid, the Committee is hoping that this year's event will be as fun, exciting and Christmassy as it always was before the pandemic. The date is Saturday 3 December and SPC is already getting enquiries from potential visitors who want to plan their visit to include this event. This demonstrates how much a part of the Stockbridge calendar the event has now become.

## Cost of Living Grant Scheme

Test Valley Borough Council has created a new £50k Cost of Living Grant Scheme to help organisations that are supporting people who are struggling with rising costs. The Scheme is currently being finalised and, once live, local organisations will be able to bid for a share of the money. TVBC has set up a Cost of Living Support Hub which provides useful information and signposts people to the various agencies and groups that can offer a range of help, from local food banks to financial advice. Information can be found at [www.testvalley.gov.uk/costoflivingsupport](http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/costoflivingsupport)

TVBC hopes that other actions and projects over the coming months will help organisations provide targeted aid to residents and make it as easy as possible for people to access the support they need when they need it.

## Do you walk the rights of way around Stockbridge?

Please email the Clerk (address below) if you have noticed any paths that need to be cut back. The Lengthsman will be doing some cutting back on the Test Valley Way from Trafalgar Way to the Parish boundary in October. On this stretch of the route, the vegetation growth has allowed the path to narrow and the overhanging branches from the hedging prevent enough light and warmth getting onto the path to allow it to dry out. The result is that the path becomes overly wet, and possibly waterlogged, whilst the fallen leaves turn to mush. This is why our rights of way must be monitored and maintained in order to ensure they do not become impassable or lost.

## Second Sundays in Andover.

This event brings together seasonal food and drink producers, designer-makers and artists alongside street food, craft drinks, workshops and music on the second Sunday of every month in Andover town

centre. You will be pleased to know that Andover and its surrounding towns and villages are packed with talent (including designers, foodies, brewers) and this event, held on the second Sunday of each month, brings together the best of Hampshire and the South West, with something for everyone.

## Driver skills scheme

Maturer drivers have fewer accidents but, as we grow older, our ability to deal safely with some difficult situations lessens. HCC is offering sessions for drivers aged 60 and over to receive a comprehensive report on their driving skills so that they will be able to enter older age with as many good, safe driving habits as possible. Go to [www.hants.gov.uk](http://www.hants.gov.uk) and search for 'driver skills scheme 60+' for more information.

## Romsey Rapids Evening Session

Romsey Rapids Sports Complex has announced that, following feedback from customers, their swimming timetable has been expanded to include a new 'Just Swim' session in the evenings.

The next meeting of Stockbridge Parish Council will be on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

*Belinda Baker*  
Clerk to Parish Council  
[clerk@stockbridgeparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@stockbridgeparishcouncil.org.uk)

## Friends of Stockbridge School Christmas Tree Orders

Friends of Stockbridge School (FOSS) will be selling Christmas trees again this year with all profits going directly towards enriching the lives of the children at the school.

Prices will be as follows:

Tree size	Pre order Price	Day sale price
4ft	£25	£30
5ft	£35	£40
6ft	£45	£50
7ft	£50	£55
9ft	POA	POA

In order to take advantage of these prices please send an email to [friendsofstockbridgeschool@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofstockbridgeschool@gmail.com) or call Kathryn Campling on 07766835692 before 14<sup>th</sup> November and further information on how to purchase will be sent to you including an online option.



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## Lindy Lou's Kitchen Recipes & Crafty Corner



Traybakes are not only simple to prepare; they also create less washing up! This recipe takes about 10 minutes to prepare and 30 minutes to cook. It's an excellent supper treat and not just for vegetarians.

### Roasted Halloumi with aubergines, tomatoes and pine nuts

Serves 4

#### Ingredients

- 440g cherry tomatoes, halved
  - 2 medium aubergines, cut into 1cm half moons
  - 400-500g halloumi cut into 1cm slices
  - 7-8 sprigs of fresh oregano leaves
  - 2 tablespoons olive oil
  - 2 cloves garlic, crushed
  - 1 teaspoon of chilli flakes
  - 40g pine nuts
  - 100g rocket, roughly chopped
  - Juice of 1 lemon
- Preheat the oven to 200°fan/220°c/gas mark 7

Tip all the ingredients, other than the rocket and lemon juice, into a large roasting tin and mix well with your hands to coat evenly with the oil. The tin should be big enough to have a single layer of aubergines. Once coated, arrange the halloumi cheese slices on top of the vegetables.

Transfer the tin to the oven and roast for 20 minutes. Remove and scatter the pine nuts over the top before roasting for a further 10 minutes, until the halloumi is golden brown and the aubergines are cooked through.

Just before serving stir in the rocket and lemon juice.

Lovely served with a pile of warm flatbreads and some fresh natural yogurt.

#### Tips:

This is a very flexible recipe; the aubergines could be replaced with red pepper slices and some fresh olives

Tomatoes are best fresh, but a tin of large chopped tomatoes could be substituted, but be careful, as with too much juice it will not have the same roasted vegetable flavours. In this case I would take a little longer. Roast the vegetables first for approx. 20 minutes, add the tinned tomatoes and then top with the cheese and roast for a further 20 minutes before adding pine nuts etc.

Linda Hotchen



## Patient News

### Flu and COVID vaccination

We have invited our at-risk patients and everyone aged 65 and over to have their Covid and flu vaccination. From November, we will be inviting every patient aged 50 years or over. Please wait until you receive a text or letter before ringing to book.



### Thank you

We would like to thank all patients who have volunteered to help us out with our Covid and flu clinics – your help is invaluable. We appreciate your support.

### Online access

From 1 November 2022, patients who have online access will be able to see consultation notes, letters and results. This will be for information added to your record on or after 1 November 2022. Please note that if you move GP practices you will no longer have access to any past information so it would be worth considering downloading anything you may wish to refer to in the future.

### New telephone system

During October, we moved to a new telephone system which should offer us better flexibility, particularly if staff have to work from home due to Covid (there are still different rules in place for GP surgery staff). If the lines are busy, you may be given the opportunity to have us call you back when you have reached queue position 1. Please bear with us whilst we implement this change.

### Medication

When ordering your repeat medication, please order all of the medication you will require in the next month, even if it doesn't all run out at the same time.

### Staff news

Dr Hannah Pike has now started her maternity leave. She will be away from the practice for a year.

Ann Spooner



# Church News

## St Mary's Longstock



### The Harvest Thanksgiving Service

on 2 October was a really lovely occasion. The church was decorated with flowers and vegetables and looked at its best. Thanks to Boo Milne and her team – Carolyn Evans, Sue Parish, Chris Reynell, Charlotte Robinson and Alison Taylor. The



Church was almost full, which was great to see and enabled the full-throated singing of the harvest hymns.

After the service many of the congregation plus plenty of villagers came to the Harvest Supper. This year we enjoyed a Hog Roast (Richard Woods), which was delicious. A range of salads was available, together with a vegetarian option. The main course was followed by an amazing range of wonderful puddings – apple, apple and blackberry, plum and rhubarb. A selection of cheese was there for those with a more savoury tooth. It was a real community event. Thanks to the many helpers who set up, served, cleared between courses and helped with the mountain of washing up. My thanks to my lovely son-in-law, Mike, who came from Warminster to help with everything! And to David Fakes who allowed us to raid his dahlias, both for decorating the church and for table decorations.



On 9 October there was a **Celebration Service at Winchester Cathedral** where over 90 people were either licenced (Lay Licenced Ministers) or commissioned for one of the topics under the Bishops Commission for Mission courses. Amongst those commissioned for Lay Worship were Paddy Melville and David Stone, who join the existing

team of Lay Worship Leaders – Beth Oliver, Sonia Gubb, Geoff Cox, and Maddie Hedley.

At the St Mary's PCC Meeting on 12 October, we discussed our ambitions to gain a Bronze Award for working towards Eco Church Status. To gain the award there are many things to improve on and we need to:

- Ensure we teach and preach on Creation and the Environment
- Review our use of the Churchyard and create areas for wildlife and wild flowers
- Consider the possibility of Solar Panels for the Church Roof
- Hold a 'Fair Trade' event
- Invite a speaker to talk about the Environment

We would love to recruit an Environment Champion so if anyone is interested in helping us achieve awards at bronze, silver and gold, please get in touch (Maddie 01264 810284). There is the opportunity to attend a 'Creation Champion' course – one of the Bishops Commission for Mission subjects. There is a taster evening to find out more information – see below:

### 9 November – 7-8pm on Zoom

You are warmly invited to join us on Zoom for a Taster Evening to find out more about the BCM programmes beginning in January 2023, particularly our two new BCMs: 'Beyond Church Walls' and 'Applying Generosity'. Attending the Taster Evening does not commit you to anything. It is simply an opportunity to meet some of the trainers, discover what BCM is about, hear about the coming programmes and ask any questions you may have about BCM. If you would like to join us, please contact [wendy.atkinson@winchester.anglican.org](mailto:wendy.atkinson@winchester.anglican.org) to receive the Zoom link.

### November is the time for Remembering.

There will be a Parish Communion on 13 November, which is Remembrance Sunday. This is followed by an Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial at 10.50am, with a Two Minute Silence at 11.00am. The Peat Spade will, I hope, provide coffee after the service and, for those who book, there is a lunch at the Peat Spade. Contact Charles Grieve to book this ([cfgrieve@lineone.net](mailto:cfgrieve@lineone.net)).

Please watch out for an email asking for help at the **Autumn Clean** which will be on Saturday 12 November, 10.00am – 12noon. Outside - cleaning the graves of weeds and a general tidy and sweeping of leaves (please bring your own rake and brush and any other useful gardening tools). Inside - a good clean of the church, vestry and porches. Refreshments provided.

# Church News

## And a date for your diary:

**10 December 2022 at 3.00pm** when we are looking forward to returning to the Barn at Charity Farm House for 'The Christmas Story'. This by kind invitation of Loz, Paul and Arthur Hardy. The last time we did this was before Covid.

The barn was decorated with fairy lights and we had a lovely time hearing the Christmas Story, singing carols and finishing with mulled wine, savoury nibbles and mince pies. It is lovely to be able to return.



If you have any questions on 'the news' please contact Maddie on 810284 or email [mjh723@btinternet.com](mailto:mjh723@btinternet.com)

*Maddie Hedley*

## Prayer for November

The echoes of guns and smoke and noise and fear travel down the decades.  
As we vowed. We will Remember.

Lord we pray that the lessons from past wars and horrors can provide lessons for today. We pray with all our hearts for peace.  
For your peace; the peace you left with your disciples.

This does not guarantee there will be no tears or pain, but that we will be able to cope.

Your beautiful creation can help us cope; the colours of autumn, the trees shedding their leaves; animals preparing for hibernation. Log fires and warm jumpers.

We give thanks for our blessings and pray that all people will manage through winter, that there will be heat and light for all.

That food banks will always have enough.  
That with the help of vaccinations we all survive the winter.

Thank you, Lord, for the skills of scientists and doctors and nurses;  
For the prayers made each week at church and each day at home.  
Thank you for listening – help us to hear your voice.

Amen

## St Nicholas' Leckford

### Leckford Quiz Night



### Friday 18th November

It's finally back post COVID – the well-loved, completely mad Leckford Quiz Night. Put the date in your diaries now – Friday 18th November from 6.30pm in Leckford Village Hall, with supper halfway through the evening. Space is limited, so tickets **must** be reserved. To reserve yours, please call Dawn Williams on 01264 810724.

**And ...** Many thanks to all who gave so generously for Andover Food Bank at our recent Harvest Festival – we have been told by the Food Bank that this provided 97 meals for local people.

## Bible Study - November 2022

November is the time for remembrance and reflection, so a good time to take just a little time out to reflect on Advent and Christmas. The Study Book is called 'Heralding the coming King'. This is a 'Cover to Cover' publication. We have a few copies available, but this can also be bought on-line.

The book covers the Nativity narratives in both Matthew and Luke. The study course is over four Wednesdays on 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> November

In each week prior to the study meeting, there are readings and reflections for every day. During the evening we meet, we will discuss the questions posed and with discussion on the issues raised for that evening's study. It is quite possible to come just to the Wednesday meetings if you wish.

The sessions are:

- |                           |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Prepare the Way        | 2 November  |
| 2. Drawing near to Jesus  | 9 November  |
| 3. Seek Him first         | 16 November |
| 4. Who will you live for? | 23 November |

The Advent season is a time to discover more of who Jesus really is, raising our faith and believing that He is at work in us and through us to transform lives, now, where ever we live.

The venue will be The Rectory, 11 Trafalgar Way, Stockbridge. Time 7.15pm – 9.15pm  
To book your place please contact Maddie Hedley on 01264 810284, email: [mjh723@btinternet.com](mailto:mjh723@btinternet.com) or Philip on 01264 810810 – email: [revdphilipbowden@gmail.com](mailto:revdphilipbowden@gmail.com)

## Church News

### St Peter's and Old St Peter's Stockbridge



The month of October was the last full month in Ordinary Time in the Church Calendar. During November, we start preparing for Advent. Advent is the season which covers the four weeks of preparation for the birth of Jesus Christ. Of course, the commercial world is way ahead of the Church Year and we have seen Christmas goods on sale since early September. But in Church we will be celebrating the start of Advent on Sunday 27th November. The music of Advent is about hope and expectation, for example, 'O Come, O Come, Emmanuel'. This was originally written in Latin (Veni, veni, Emmanuel) and its haunting melody goes back to 15th century France. A choral work often performed at Christmas time is Handel's Messiah (first performed in Dublin in 1742). Although a work which culminates in the Death and Resurrection of Christ, the first part covers the predictions by the Old Testament prophets of the coming of the Messiah. Words from Isaiah (King James Bible), "Comfort Ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God" proclaim that "the Glory of the Lord shall be revealed". So in Advent we look forward to the celebration of Christmas, and the fulfilment of Isaiah's prophecy, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given . . ."

A service in Old St Peter's on the 19th October coincided with the death in 1812 of the Anglican Priest and Missionary to India and Persia, Henry Martyn. He is honoured on that day by the Church of England. Henry Martyn was born in Cornwall in 1781 and, after ordination, became a chaplain for the British East India Company. On his journey east as a Missionary, he witnessed the British conquest of the Cape Colony and was distressed by seeing the horrors of war. He felt strongly that it was Britain's destiny to convert, not colonise, the world and this view would colour his future missionary work. He arrived in India in 1806 and, as well as preaching, he used his linguistic talents to translate the New Testament into Urdu and Persian. He travelled extensively in India and Persia. On a journey to Tabriz to present his translation into Persian of the New Testament to the Shah, he fell ill with fever. He set out to return to England to recover his strength, but unfortunately, the illness proved fatal. He died in Turkey in 1812, a man remembered for his courage, selflessness and his religious devotion.

The Andover Food Bank sent a lovely thank you poster to St Peter's Church to thank the congregation for the Harvest Festival donations, which provided 110 meals to local people struggling with the cost of living crisis. Let us not forget these people in the coming months. The basket in the Church porch can always hold more and keeping it topped up is an easy way for us to help others.

Two Thanksgiving Services this month enabled friends and relatives to give thanks for the lives of the recently-departed Donald Hutchison, a generous local landowner, and well-known Stockbridge resident, Herry Lawford. Very large numbers attended both services.

Our rector, Phill, held an open house in the vicarage on Saturday 15th October. He generously provided cake, coffee and tea to all comers giving his time to chat with parishioners from the Benefice. Between 30 and 40 people dropped in to enjoy his hospitality.

There was a service in Winchester Cathedral on October 8th led by Bishop Debbie of Southampton and Bishop David of Basingstoke during which Patrick Melville, among many others from the diocese, was formally commissioned and licensed as a Lay Worship Leader. Maddie writes more about this in her column for Longstock. Patrick is a regular and inspiring leader of our All Age services in St Peter's and the Primary School Assemblies.

The Benefice Service in October was held in St Peter's with Dawn playing the organ and the choir providing additional vocal volume. The choir will be meeting more regularly during November to prepare music for the Christmas period.

#### Looking ahead

On **Wednesday 2 November** it is **All Souls Day** and there will be a service in St Peter's at 12 noon. This gives us all the opportunity to remember the people we mourn, both the recently departed and those whose memory we still hold dear.

**Teas in Church on 6th November at 3pm** for those who live on their own.

**Armistice Day on 11th November** will be commemorated at the War Memorial at 10.50am with the participation of the children from the Primary School who will lay a wreath.

**Remembrance Sunday Service** is in St Peter's on **November 13th** with participation from both schools and the whole Scout group together with serving members of the Army Air Corps from Middle Wallop. This service starts at 09.45am and at 10.45am will process to the War Memorial for another Act of Remembrance followed by wreath-laying.

*Janet Williams*

# Church News

## From the Area Dean

Churches were beautifully decorated for Harvest Celebrations – I hope that you managed to see them! Lots of food was taken to Romsey Foodbank – thank you.

'Remember you are mortal.' It is said that, when a successful Roman general was welcomed back to Rome in a triumphal victory parade, he would always have a slave sitting just behind him and whispering those words in his ear – to make sure he didn't get too carried away by the adulation of the crowds. But it is not just Roman generals who seem to have difficulty remembering their mortality – we all do, most of the time. There is a lot of remembering going on. In November, we have All Souls Services (when we particularly remember those who have died recently) and Remembrance Sunday.

After disasters and wars, there tends to be a surge in religious activity and expression. People become aware, in a new way, of just how fragile life is and how easily (and without warning) it can be snuffed out. The shock and uncertainty remind people of their mortality. And they want to be ready – in case such a thing should happen to them. But within a few months it can all be forgotten and religious activity back to the same level as before. In the day-to-day business of getting on with life, most people no longer worry about being ready for death. They no longer remember their mortality. But the fragility of life hasn't changed. Covid and Ukraine all serve to emphasise that.

The need to remember we are mortal is just as urgent as it ever was, for death could be waiting round the next corner. But that is not a prospect to worry about for those who are Christians because Jesus has defeated death and promises resurrection to those who trust and follow him. Such people are ready for death, and life.

In Advent (which starts 27<sup>th</sup> November with a Service of Light in several churches across the Deanery), I hope that you will find, and make, time to look forward, prepare and wait. Next month, our magazines and newsletters will be full of details for Advent and Christmas events and services.

*Your Area Dean, James*

Revd James Pitkin - romseyareadean@gmail.com



## November Services for Stockbridge, Longstock and Leckford

### 2nd November (All Souls Day)

12.00 **Stockbridge** All Souls Service

### 6th November (Third before Advent)

08.00 **Leckford** Holy Communion BCP

09.30 **Longstock** All Age Service

11.00 **Stockbridge** Parish Eucharist

### 11th November, Friday (Armistice Day)

10.55 **Stockbridge** Service of Commemoration and Act of Remembrance at the war memorial

### 13th November (Remembrance)

08.00 **Old St Peter** Holy Communion

09.30 **Longstock** Parish Communion

09.45 **Stockbridge** Remembrance Service

10.50 **Stockbridge** Act of Remembrance at the war memorial

10.50 **Longstock** Act of Remembrance at the war memorial

### 20th November (Christ the King)

09.30 **Longstock** Morning Worship

11.00 **Stockbridge** All Age Service

18.00 **Leckford** Evensong

### 23rd November (St. Clement)

10.00 **Old St Peter** Holy Communion

### 27th November (Advent Sunday)

11.00 **Stockbridge** Morning Worship

## The Column for October

### Baptisms

There were no baptisms this month.

### Weddings

There were no weddings this month.

### Funerals

3 October. The Funeral Service for Donald Hutchinson took place at 11am at St Peter's Church, Stockbridge.

21 October. The Memorial Service for Herry Lawford took place at 11am at St Peter's Church, Stockbridge.

## Hampshire Downs RC Parish St Thomas More

Stockbridge Services - Sundays at  
9.00am



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Forest school - polytunnel - field -  
mud kitchen - huge sandpit - inside  
kitchen - school hall - canopy.  
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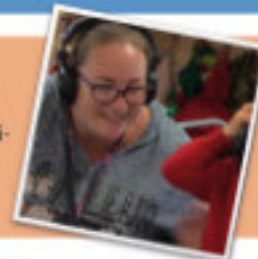


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