

# The Villager



## 2023

August 2023 Volume 52 No 7

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

## WELCOME TO HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT RIDE+STRIDE, 09 SEPTEMBER

<https://hict.org.uk/ride-and-stride/>

The day is an opportunity to discover the rich heritage of our historic church buildings, see beautiful countryside, get some exercise travelling between the churches and have fun with friends and family. Ride and Stride is a chance for you, your family and friends to visit churches, chat with church representatives and learn more about the history and heritage of the churches. Any sponsorship money you raise will be used for repairs and restoration to the churches and chapels of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

Taking Part as a Participant <https://hict.org.uk/taking-part/>

As a participant your sponsored journey on Saturday 9 September 2023 between as many churches as you wish can be on foot, bicycle, scooter, horseback, canoe, bus or classic car, exploring and enjoying the countryside from Sandown to Silchester, Fordingbridge to Farnborough. As there are over 400 due to be open you can have fun choosing which will be part of your itinerary. Many will have refreshments, some will have toilets open, and all should offer your group a warm welcome. Plan your route here...

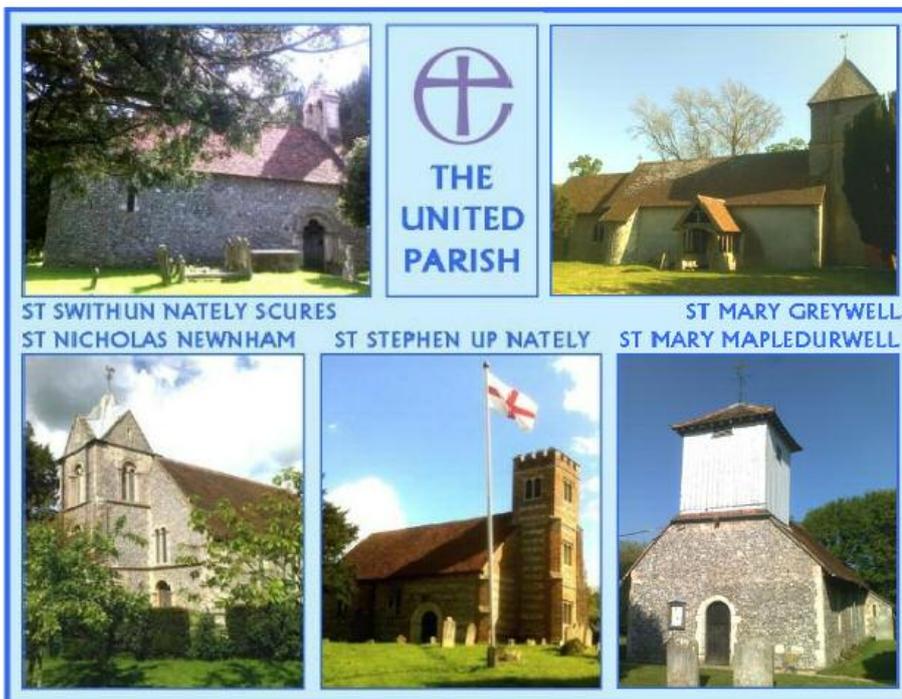
<https://hict.org.uk/participating-churches/>

In 2022 Ride+Stride in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight raised over £47,000 of sponsorship

money, including Gift Aid. This sponsorship money helps to fund repairs to the historic fabric and features of churches as well as urgent repairs such as retaining walls in graveyards, leaky roofs and the installation of facilities to make Hampshire's historic churches, chapels and meeting houses of all denominations fit to serve local communities for future generations.

To donate to the Historic Churches Trust please visit:

<https://app.investmycommunity.com/ride-and-stride-2023>



**All our five local churches are participating and** offering refreshments. St Mary's Mapledurwell has a composting toilet in the churchyard; St Swithun's has the use of the Miller's Ark facilities. For further info see

[www.northhampshirechurches.org.uk/northhampshirechurches/maps\\_and\\_directions-16214.aspx](http://www.northhampshirechurches.org.uk/northhampshirechurches/maps_and_directions-16214.aspx)

### Dear Residents, Local Charities and Community Groups

As your elected Ward Councillors we have a small pot of money for grants of £250 to £1,000 (or £3,000 if we pool our allocation), available to award to community groups or charities in our Ward of Basing and Upton Grey. For award criteria please see:

[www.basingstoke.gov.uk/cllr-community-grants](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/cllr-community-grants).

**Cllr Onnalee Cubitt, Cllr Sven Godesen and Cllr Kate Tuck would love to hear from you if your group or charity is interested in seeking a small grant.** Please contact us no later than 30 Sept, by email to

[cllr.kate.tuck@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.kate.tuck@basingstoke.gov.uk) with a brief outline of your reasons to be selected as the chosen groups for us to support.

This is for prior approval before formal application. Sadly not all applications will be successful.

We really look forward to hearing from you and your group and to learning about your deserving causes and the benefits you provide to our community.

Best wishes

Onnalee, Sven, Kate

### LOCAL EVENT DIARY DATES

**U3a open day** Thursday 10 August 2-4pm Elizabeth Hall, Hook  
Upton Grey Horticultural Show, Saturday 12 August

Wellington International Horse Trials & Country Fair, Sat 26 - Mon 28 Aug

**Newnham & Nately Scures** Harvest Supper 7pm Fri 29 Sept, Manor Fm Barn

**Live theatre at Mapledurwell Village Hall**, Sunday 24 September 6.30pm

# Mapledurwell & Up Nately



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

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)



## PARISH PLANNING APPLICATIONS

23/01117/HSE (Validated 12 June) The Old Orchard, Tunworth Road. Installation of 25 no. all-black solar photovoltaic panels, using an on-roof mounting system.

23/01446/FUL (Validated 06 June) Sheraton, Tunworth Road. Replacement dwelling.

23/01271/HSE (Granted 04 July) 2 Blaegrove Cottages, Blaegrove Lane. Garage extension.

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

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

23/00962/TDC (Pending 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 (Pending 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 2022) The Egg Yard, Greywell Rd, Mapledurwell. Erection of three dwellings with associated parking using approved access.

22/02416/FUL (Pending, 26 Aug 2022) Riverview House, London Road. Extensions including 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 2022) Priory Farmhouse. Variation of Condition 2 of 15/04301/FUL to allow continued use as Class E children's nursery to 31/08/2032.

21/00827/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/00295/23/TCA (Validated 27 Jul 2023) Mistletoe Cottage, Frog Lane. G1, seven Cupressus trees: Fell as undermining garage, obstructing farmer from full use of field. Poor specimens out of place within the local environment.

T/00276/23/TCA (Validated 18 July) Mapledurwell House, Tunworth Road. T1 Paulownia: tree is almost completely dead; fell. Replacement Paulownia has been planted elsewhere in garden. T2 Elms (dead): fell a number of small Elm trees along the boundary hedgerow with neighbouring property; other trees will grow to replace from within the hedgerow. T3 Sycamore: remove lower branch; single long branch extends out over wall and roof of stables; remove to protect structures just below it.

it./00266/23/TCA (Validated 11 July) Little Common Cottage, Frog Lane. Robinia: crown reduce by 2m all round to leave an approx finished height of 8m with crown width 4m.

T/00268/23/TCA (Validated 06 Jul 2023) The Barn, Blaegrove Lane. T1 Walnut: fell.

## NOTES FROM THE JULY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**Greywell Road bus shelter** to be repaired as in reasonable condition; in need of tlc and a new roof.

**Defibrillators** New electrode pad are due to be delivered for the two Parish Council defibrillators located in the Up Nately phone box and on the wall at the Gamekeepers.

**Parish Lengthsman** Keeping roadside grips and drainage channels clear will be an ongoing task.

**Chalk stream** Vegetation as been strimmed back along the roadside fence by Frog Lane. One tree will need attention come the winter.

**Weeping Willows** by Mapledurwell Pond. Permission to repollard the Willows and side prune the Ash trees requested by SSEN and agreed.

**Allotments** A recent spate of small scale theft from the allotments – a rake, hoe and hosepipe – has thankfully abated.

**Allotment mowing** As noted at the Parish Assembly, agreed ongoing thanks and recognition due to Colin Trussler who – as he has for many years – continues to mow the paths through the allotments.

**Up Nately Green** – The second cut this year completed on 20 July, comment from groundsman that: 'starting to look a bit less wild'. To monitor and assess for further work later in the year.

## UP NATELY NEWS

Huge congratulations to Alasdair and Sarah Mackay on the birth of Angus on 22 June, welcome to the village little prince!

**The next coffee gathering** will be on Friday 1st September at Eastrop Cottage, 10-12. Come and meet your neighbours, enjoy a chat with coffee, tea or something stronger to celebrate end of summer or other special event. Please let Liz know if you plan to attend, 01256 762059, everyone welcome, with luck we can be in the garden!

**Direction signpost at the pond** becoming increasingly illegible on the side that catches the weather. The peeling lettering to be renewed.

**Pond clearing** Agreed to work together with the Friends of St Mary's on their project to clear the pond of silt and replace the liner.

**Playground** Annual RoSPA safety inspection completed 23 May. All in order with list of minor maintenance issues as raised during the monthly Parish Council inspections. Various tasks in progress and to be addressed including a new gate latch.

**Community payback** tasks to be scheduled for later in the year.

**Tennis courts** Broken padlock and surrounding area of cut chain link fencing to be replaced and repaired.

## ROAD VERGES OF ECOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE (RVEI)

[www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningand-environment/environment/biodiversity-informationcentre/roadverges](http://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningand-environment/environment/biodiversity-informationcentre/roadverges)

Roadside verges are an important wildlife habitat especially for pollinating insects.

They support fragments of the type of flower-rich grassland once widespread in lowland Britain.

Managed well, the verges can support a wide range of plants and animals. With around 10,000km of highways in Hampshire, this presents approximately 13,000 hectares of roadside verge habitat, equivalent to 3% of the county's land area, with 223 **Road Verges of Ecological Importance** identified.

The County Council is responsible for the management of the verges on all roads in the county, except motorways, major trunk roads, and urban areas. Plants need to remain uncut throughout their flowering and seeding seasons so they can survive and reproduce. This means that most RVEI verges are only cut in April and/or late September.

Approximately 15 to 20 RVEIs are surveyed each year by the Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre (HBIC) as part of an annual survey programme to assess their value for biodiversity.

To qualify as a Road Verge of Ecological Importance (RVEI), the verge must support either a notable species and/or a species rich semi-natural habitat. Selection of RVEI sites is undertaken by the HBIC.

**The verge on the left of Down Lane going up to Five Lanes End has been sign posted as a protected verge of noted wild flowers. Mid July it was at its best with yarrow, scabious, agrimony, nettleleaved harebells, vetch, marjoram, St John's wort, and toadflax, to name but a few, all in full bloom. The following week it was mown and the sign posts showing the protected site removed.**

HBIC have been notified with a request for an update on the status of this verge and its future protection.

## COUNTY ISSUES: EXTRACTS FROM JULY REPORT

Household Waste Recycling Centres – Improving Recycling and Reuse From July, residents are being asked to separate their waste ahead of a visit to the Recycling Centre (HWRC). The HWRC teams will be on hand to answer any questions and offer advice. In addition, there are re-sale sections at all sites where reusable items can be left.

Residents need to book an appointment via the County Council's website before visiting. Also check the website to find out what is accepted at your local Recycling Centre. Most Hampshire HWRCs will be able to recycle the following materials:

Garden and green waste; metals; wood; cardboard; electrical equipment and appliances; batteries, printer cartridges and light bulbs; furniture; clothing and textiles; paints, chemicals, engine oil and gas bottles.

Lead role in Local Nature Recovery Hampshire County Council has been appointed by Government to prepare a Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Hampshire in collaboration with key partners and with £388,000 provided to coordinate development. The Strategy will bring together organisations and residents to restore precious habitats, protect wildlife and combat climate change. Hampshire County Council is one of 48 local authorities across England designated as Leads for the delivery of Local Nature Recovery Strategies and will work with Southampton and Portsmouth unitary authorities, the two National Parks and all 11 District and Borough councils across Hampshire.

Road works are sometimes advertised but don't happen. If you wonder why... The teams carrying out road repairs are those who also respond to emergencies, so if they are called away the work has to be re-scheduled.

## COUNTY ON POTHOLES

The whys and wherefores of Hampshire's strategic approach to repairing potholes. So to share here some extracts from County reports ...

Why so many? Last winter's cycles of heavy rain and frosts were more perfect than usual for potholes. Freeze - thaw action of water in cracks rapidly weakens and break open road surfaces. Then there is the hydraulic effect of vehicle tyres constantly going over standing water in cracks and other small surface defects – which is why potholes are continuing to develop and why some of the temporary fixes are beginning to break down.

Why the temporary fixes? Due to the sheer number of potholes, HCC's Highways team took the decision to keep roads serviceable and safe with emergency infill repairs because four to seven temporary infills take the time of one more permanent fix.

But... replacing the temporary fixes and returning the highway network to its pre winter condition is likely to take most of this calendar year. This has been helped by a Government allocation of £6M for pothole repairs.

What Hampshire does next? The County Council is planning to commit a further £22.5M to support the road repair programme in Hampshire over the next three years (£7.5M per year). As part of these proposals, contractors have been asked to adjust their working method so that when a single repair is made, smaller ones nearby can be filled at the same time. The repair teams at the moment are asked to fix only the defects that pose the biggest risk. This new repairs programme and funding was agreed by Cabinet on 18 July.

As ever, please report potholes at [www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/potholes](http://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/potholes)



Plantlife is the 'global voice' for wild plants and fungi.

Wild plants and fungi support food chains, are a powerful force against climate crisis and underpin all life on earth. They enrich our natural landscapes, and their beauty and colours can calm our minds. But 2 in 5 species are currently at risk of extinction.

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# Newnham & Nately Scures

## HARVEST SUPPER 2023

7pm Friday 29 September

Manor Farm Barn, Newnham

All residents of Newnham and Nately Scures are warmly invited to the 2023 Harvest Supper.

As usual, attendance is free of charge but you are asked to contribute a dish (main, side, or dessert) and to bring a place setting (cutlery, plate, dessert plate/bowl).

Drinks and glasses will be available for a suggested donation and there will be a raffle. All proceeds will be donated to the Friends of St Nicholas'.

To book your place and for further details please email [trudy@rankinfamily.com](mailto:trudy@rankinfamily.com) or call 07975 957960

Places are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Offers of help to source raffle prizes warmly welcomed.



The Harvest Festival Service at St Nicholas' Newnham will be held at 10am on Sunday 1st October. Light refreshments to follow.

### NEWNHAM COMMUNITY'S



July winners are

£100 - Edward Clarkson (3)

£50 - Trudi Rankin (29)

£25 - Collette Wiggin (36)

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to Chris Webster for drawing the numbers. Carolyn Bell



### 'NEWNHAM NOVELS'

#### NEXT BOOK SALE

on Saturday 19 August, from 2 - 4 p.m in the Clubroom.

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

Refreshments available

Proceeds towards Clubroom maintenance

## NOTES FROM THE JULY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The meeting was attended by Parish Councillors, Clerk, four members of the public and guests representing 'Land at the Barracks'.

**Land at the Barracks** The new land owner and applicant for the proposed development of four houses attended the meeting with his planning agent.

The planning application route of a PIP (planning in principle) was taken in hope of a speedy initial decision – which has not been the case. This in part due to 22 neighbour objections requiring the application, though recommended for approval, to be referred to BDBC's Development Control (DC) Committee for decision.

The applicant has made use of the time liaising with neighbours which they otherwise would have intended to do at the TDC stage, should the Planning in Principle be approved.

Attending the Parish Council meeting afforded a further opportunity for residents to raise their concerns.

A site visit has been arranged for Development Control Councillors.

**Land East of Basingstoke** owned by Hampshire County Council. The current Local Plan allocates 450 houses for this site alongside Pyotts Hill (the incinerator and Lodge Farm on the other side) with a further 450 intended for the next Plan period. HCC intends a planning application to come forward asap. Public drop-in exhibitions have been held in Lychnipit and Chineham; a consultation is presently open at <https://landeastof-basingstoke.com/index.php>

**Local Plan Update** – The BDBC website continues to show the Draft Local Plan (Reg 18) Consultation with housing site allocations as scheduled for Autumn this year.

**Newnham Green** Tall growth on the verges is blocking sight lines onto Ridge Lane where walkers cross the ditch from the Green to join Newnham FP 3 Church path. The immediate area will be strimmed and a crossing point soon to be installed.

*Continued next page*

**NANCY BELL:** Stories from her life

A little of Nancy's early life... she was born in Sheffield and was attending Sheffield High School for Girls when war broke out. She went on to the Abbey School in Malvern, to St Thomas' Hospital in London where she trained as a physiotherapist, then on to Bath to learn hydrotherapy.

It was in Bath in 1953 she met Nigel, but there was a pending first job with Shell International and Nancy was away to Ottawa to work for a year in a mobile unit with the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society.

Of married life and more travelling... and challenges to which Nancy was always more than equal.

Khartoum brought heat and desert; in contrast Nairobi had game parks and the coast, but also in East Africa at the time, the turmoil of Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya all regaining independence.

Next, Port Harcourt in the Niger Delta was hot and humid with lots of rain. But with the girls at school or playgroup Nancy was able to volunteer at a local post-natal clinic where she could use her training.

Now 1967, the Biafran war broke out and all the Shell company wives and children were evacuated by oil tanker from the mouth of the Niger Delta to Fernando Po, a large island about 150 miles out to sea. Away sailed Nancy and children, then from Fernando Po via turbulent flight to London.

Some 10 years later, Shell offered the family the chance to go to Mexico and, to Nigel's delight, Nancy jumped at the idea. She learnt a touch of Spanish and used to go into the markets to buy food. One day Nancy had an interesting encounter with a Mexican policeman...

Of relevance, and for those whose Spanish is a bit rusty, the word '*hablo*' means 'I speak' and '*fumo*' means 'I smoke'. The policeman stopped her car and addressed her in Spanish.

Knowing very well he wanted a bribe she responded first with '*No fumo Espanol*'. Nonplussed, the policeman did his best with some very broken English to ask for her driving licence. Now, the normal form in Mexico was for a driving licence to carry a five peso note ready to hand to a policeman and have it returned without the currency.

Nancy immediately handed only her driving licence to him. He did his best to explain the need for money and finally produced his own five peso note, which she smilingly took from him. He again tried to explain that this was not what was supposed to happen, so she smiled and handed back the money and he, defeated, grinned and waved her on her way...

*Further installments in the next issue*

Notes from the July Parish Council meeting continued...

**Parish Council vacancy** Seeking a new member from any locality across Newnham & Nately Scures with interest in community and environmental well being of the Parish. Please contact [clerk.newnham@parish.hants.gov.uk](mailto:clerk.newnham@parish.hants.gov.uk)

**Footpath reports** The Hook footpath from Newnham Road at Kingsbridge to Church Path has been reinstated to a more reasonable condition. Major hedge-cutting, and re-routing the path into the line of the cut hedge, caused serious issues with unsafe walking surface (and resulting in serious dog injury). This was left, as per their instruction, with Countryside Services to resolve. To request an update from them re the Hook side of Church path.

**Bus shelters** Of all the bus shelters on the A30 the Baredown shelter is the one in most need of replacing. It would improve the local appearance...

**Seeking feedback please on how much this shelter is used and how much a new shelter would be of benefit?** Please contact 07515 777060 [clerk.newnham@parish.hants.gov.uk](mailto:clerk.newnham@parish.hants.gov.uk)

#### PARISH PLANNING APPLICATIONS

23/01683/FUL (Validated 28 July 2023)  
Land South Of Western Railways Track OS Ref 470352 153572, Crown Lane. Proposed trackside wifi installation: 6m high street pole and ancillary works.

23/01161/HSE and 23/01162/LBC (Granted 27 July) Nightingale Cottage, Heather Row. 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 (Refused 07 July)  
Elm Cottage, Ridge Lane. Oak framed orangery to rear of dwelling

23/00835/FUL (Pending 31 March)  
Land adjacent to Mulberry House, Scures Hill. A 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 (Pending 14 Feb) Land at the Barracks. Permission in principle for a minimum of one and max of four residential dwellings. To be decided by Development Control 09 August.

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

16/03282/RET (Pending 15 Sep 2016)  
Manor Farm, Blackstocks Lane. Change of use from agricultural to mixed agricultural including farm open days 100 days a year with parking.

#### TREE APPLICATIONS

T/00241/23/TPO (Validated 27 June)  
Kiln Cottage, Scures Hill. T1-4: Four English Oaks: Fell.

# Country Canines

## Dog Training Classes

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07909014223



#### CLUBROOM HIRE

<https://newnhamclubroom.org.uk/>  
Tel 07802 972722 or email [bookings@newnhamclubroom.org.uk](mailto:bookings@newnhamclubroom.org.uk)  
Wifi available

#### IRON BULL COFFEE MORNINGS

held on first Wednesdays of the month at The Iron Bul for home made cake and biscuits, teas at a reduced price from the Pub and a lot of conversation and chatter. A great chance to meet new people.

advertisement

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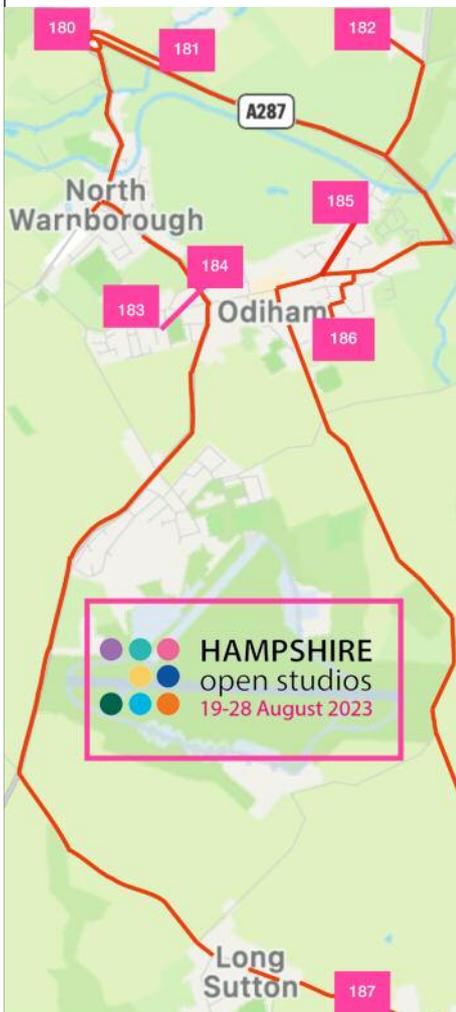
## ARTISTS OPEN STUDIO IN AUGUST – FREE EVENT

www.hampshireopenstudios.org.uk  
Hampshire Open Studios is held across all parts of Hampshire. This event is free and an opportunity to visit local artists in their studios, with maps available on the Hampshire Open Studios website, Facebook and Instagram pages, along with information, opening times and locations of the individual studios.

This year a group of eight venues on **The Odiham and Villages Art Trail**, are taking part, with well-established local artists opening their studios in Odiham, North Warnborough, Whitehall and Long Sutton.

Over 50 artists from Odiham Art Group are displaying their work at Robert Mays School and many of the studios will be demonstrating their skills, running workshops and offering refreshments in their gardens.

There is information on each artist and studio on the website.



# Church Notices

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

www.united-parish.org.uk  
https://www.moretolife.church

### From the Parish Registers

Funeral: Colin Stubbs at Basingstoke Crematorium on July 14th, followed by Service of Thanksgiving at St Mary's Mapledurwell on July 25th 2023.



### From the Ministry Team

I have at home a rather old and battered book... to be fair the reason it came my way was because it was battered.

When my father worked for the Duke of Norfolk at Arundel Castle, Mr Fishpool, the Duke's steward, who was otherwise going to dispose of it, thought Dad might like the book for 'Your boy'. So it came home.

Admittedly as I was four at the time I had to grow into it but when I did I got a great deal of pleasure from it. The book in question by Rev Forbes Winslow and published in 1886 is *The Children's Fairy Geography*.

Inside the cover it is inscribed 'Gwendolen C Maxwell from her affectionate mother'. Gwendolen Constable-Maxwell was to marry the 14th Duke of Norfolk, which is presumably how the book came to be at the castle.

It takes two children Ethel (the author's daughter) and Jack on a series of make believe journeys around Europe so there will be need for packing, or dressing in the dark by candlelight. Sometimes they will travel by steam boat or steam train but when there is a distance to travel then they will go by wishing carpet or with the aid of electric boots.

The journey begins in England: 'What are the English like?' the author asks. 'I think they are very nice people' is the response, although this is later qualified with 'of course there are

many naughty people in England'. Writing for the August magazine I found myself thinking about my old book because August is the month in which many organisations take a break to recharge the batteries for a fresh start in September. It's a time when we think about holidays even though the days when works closed down for a fortnight in August are long gone.

To go with holidays, papers often recommend books to take away with you. It may be the opportunity to read the book you've been meaning to read since it was given to you at Christmas, or perhaps something to deepen your understanding, increase your knowledge, hopefully to challenge your perceptions rather than feed your prejudice. Books can take us on adventures, to distant places, to encounter all sorts of people, take us out of ourselves and the everyday world.

For a bargain you could do worse than the *Bible*; nearly 70 books within its covers. Like Ethel and Jack you'll be off on a voyage of discovery – sublime poetry and prose, even one of the greatest love poems ever written – you'll plumb the depths and scale the heights – weep with those who weep, rejoice with those who rejoice. You'll find simple age-old stories which seek to explain why things are as they are.

You'll travel with a people on their journey to become the people of their God, hear them castigated when they get it wrong and people known as prophets lay on the line how it should be. You'll read stories of high adventure and derring-do as well as stories of veniality, corruption, cowardice and betrayal.

You'll meet a man and, like the people of his time, find yourself asked the questions: 'Who is this?' 'What manner of man is he?' You'll travel with people who took the good news about who he was across the known world of their time without regard to their own safety and you'll see what a mixed reception they received.

You'll see how people of his time and soon after sought to explain just who he was and the difference he could make to life. You'll... but it's time to go get my electric boots – happy journeying whatever you read!

*Alan Hoar, Licensed Lay Minister*



ODIHAM  
DISTRICT

Reminder for our Open Day, to discover the various activities u3a offers its members.

## OPEN DAY

**Thursday 10 August 2-4pm**  
**Elizabeth Hall, Hook**

## NEW MEMBERS OF THE CLERGY TEAM

We are fortunate in the North Hampshire Downs to have a wonderful ministry team comprising Clergy, Lay Readers, Youth Pastor, Pastoral Care Worker, Administrators, and many lay leaders. Our remarkable team has recently grown with the addition of two Curates who were both ordained in Winchester Cathedral on July 2nd.



Rev Mark Ruffell will be serving his Curacy in the village of Tunworth and contributing to the wider life of the benefice in various ways.

Rev Debbie Veel will be serving her Curacy across the benefice and taking a particular pastoral interest in the village of Newnham.

It is always a joy to welcome new members to our team and both Mark and Debbie bring significant gifts and experiences from which we will benefit. Please do pray for Mark and Debbie as they begin ordained ministry.

*Rev Simon Butler (Benefice Rector)*



Hello

My name is Debbie Veel and I live in Basingstoke. I am married to Chris and we have three grown-up children and three small granddaughters and an elderly ginger cat.

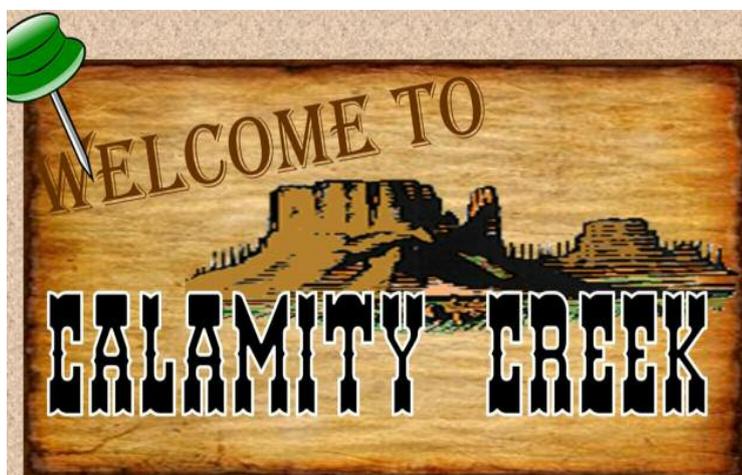
I have done the first year of my training at the Church Mission Society in Oxford to allow me to finish my Graduate Diploma, alongside some amazing pioneers with extra-ordinary ideas about reaching non-churched folk.

My final year has been with the Winchester School of Mission, which has really helped me to see what parts of my faith are important to me and why. So it has been a bit of an unusual pathway, but one that has been amazing and I have learnt so much, not just about ministry but about myself too.

I have been an LLM (Licensed Lay Minister) at St Mark's Kempshott, now the Parish of Basingstoke Down, since 2013 and have been worshipping there for 20 years.

I was surprised (and doubly so being not exactly a 'spring chicken') for God to call me elsewhere to serve my Curacy, and I am going to be serving my SSM (Self Supporting Minister) Curacy in the North Hampshire Downs Benefice (Odiham and the surrounding villages).

It is all very strange to be leaving my St Mark's family, but exciting too. So I would appreciate your prayers for Revd Nicola and the church family I am leaving and for Revd Simon, the team and the church families whom I will be joining.



**Expect songs... Expect games... Expect crafts...**

**Expect silly costumes...**

**But most of all, expect bucket loads of rootin' tootin' laughter!**

**All of this, to teach us about the wonders of God, and how we can learn from him each and every day.**

**Years R - 6 (limited creche places available for younger siblings)**

**Monday 7th - Thursday 10th August**

**1pm - 4pm**

**Church Meadow, Upton Grey**

**(£20 for 4 days)**

## CHURCH SERVICES AUGUST INTO SEPTEMBER

<b>Sunday 06 August</b>	<b>9am St Mary's Mapledurwell, CW Holy Communion</b> <b>11am St Mary's Greywell, Morning Worship</b>
<b>Sunday 13 August</b>	<b>9am St Stephen's Up Nately, BCP Holy Communion (said)</b> <b>10am St Nicholas' Newnham, 1662 Morning Prayer</b>
<b>Sunday 20 August</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 27 August</b>	<b>10am St Nicholas' Newnham, BCP Holy Communion</b> <b>11am St Stephen's Up Nately, Morning Worship</b>
<b>Sunday 03 Sept</b>	<b>9am St Mary's Mapledurwell, CW Holy Communion</b> <b>11am St Mary's Greywell, Morning Worship</b>

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**Church Benefice** [www.moretolife.church/](http://www.moretolife.church/)

**PLEASE SEND STORIES, ARTICLES, PHOTOS OF LOCAL INTEREST TO THE VILLAGER**



## Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

We know that England's rarest and richest chalk stream rivers should be gin-clear and sparkling with vitality. Instead, they are clogged and choked by toxic chemicals, fertilisers and sewage. Drought and overconsumption are draining the life out of the rivers, with devastating consequences for the wildlife and people that rely on them.

Healthy rivers are vital for our water supply, our food security and our ability to withstand a changing climate but current targets mean our rivers will remain degraded and unhealthy until at least 2063!



**'The state of our chalk streams is shocking, which is why this September we are joining with partners across the south of England in launching a new campaign to Save our Chalk Streams.'**

Do you have stories of rivers near you that are struggling, polluted or have declined within your lifetime? Is there a precious river near you that you want to protect from damage? Are you already taking action to protect and restore your local rivers?

We need your photos and videos for our campaign launch. We want you to tell us your age in 2063, the date the government says our rivers will be healthy and why you think that is too late. If you are already taking action, we also want to hear what you are doing and share your story!

### **SUPPORT OUR SAVE OUR CHALK STREAM CAMPAIGN**

**The Government says our rivers won't be healthy until 2063 but we can't wait 40 years to clean them up.**

**We want to highlight this by asking people to submit their age they will be in 2063 and why they care about our rivers to highlight the absurdity of it taking 40 years to restore our precious chalk streams.**

## NATURE 2030

Ahead of the General Election, over 70 environmental charities have joined forces to create a five-point plan for decision-makers. We want to see this reflected in all Party manifestos, to put a stop to nature's decline.

**Will you join us? Sign our open letter to Party leaders. Ask them to commit to including these five actions into their manifestos:**

### **1. A pay rise for nature**

Farmers need greater support to help nature and manage over 70% of UK land. We want to see double the current budget for nature-friendly farming in future.

### **2. Make polluters pay**

Business – from companies working finance to retail to energy – all contribute to nature's decline and should contribute to nature's recovery.

### **3. More space for nature**

Just 3% of the land and 8% of English waters are properly protected for nature. We want rapid action to expand and improve protected areas, and ensure public land and National Parks contribute more to recovery.

### **4. A National Nature Service**

We want lots of helping hands if nature is to recover quickly and at scale. A 'National Nature Service' would create thousands of green jobs as well as a healthier society.

### **5. A right to a healthy environment**

Limited access to nature, and pollution in the air and water, affects everyone's health: An 'Environmental Rights' Bill would drive better decisions for nature and improve public health.

Read the Nature 2030 proposals in full

<https://action.wildlifetrusts.org/page/131895/petition/1>