

# The Ampfield Messenger



*The Parish Magazine of  
St. Mark Ampfield*

**May 2023**

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

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

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

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

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**St. Mark's Fete and Dog Show - Saturday 10th June**

## *Letter from Vanessa*

### *Dear Friends*

**W**e are delighted to say that we at St Mark's are 'Coronation ready' thanks to Jean and her wonderful marmalade!! Just in time for the coronation, our flagpole has been refurbished and a new flag bought, all with the proceeds made by selling marmalade. I think both Paddington and her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth would be very pleased! If you are nearby, please do come and see the flag and try out our Coronation Trail around the churchyard devised by Beth, our Benefice Children and Families worker. If you time it right, you will hear Daryl and his team ringing the bells to celebrate the moment the new King is crowned.

As I write this, I am still hearing the sound of our 'Songs for Spring' concert echoing in my ears. We had a wonderful evening, listening to Issy Potts and Ben Collyer – do have a look at our facebook page (Friends of St Mark Ampfield) for a snapshot of the lovely music. It was a perfect evening to celebrate the launch of our building project – you can hear more about this later in the magazine. Our vision is to make St Mark's an accessible space for all our community to enjoy through the beautiful building and grounds. St Mark's is your church, and your space – how would you like to connect with and enjoy the space? Please do get in touch and give us your ideas!

See you at Ampfield Market for coffee and cake, if not before!

*Vanessa*





# Weekly service pattern

## Sunday Services

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

## Midweek Services

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



# Benefice News

## Church Fete & Dog Show

Come to a Fun Day in and around St. Marks Church. 11.30 - 2:30pm on Saturday 10 June. This will be the same format as last year and will feature a dog show, barbecue, a variety of fun stalls (some of them free), cream teas, beer, Pimms, and a splendid raffle. Free admission to the fun day, but donations warmly welcomed.

***We do still need some volunteers to make it go with a swing, so drop me a line if you'd like to help.***

***Phil Budden [philb@acnb-church.org](mailto:philb@acnb-church.org)***

## Ampfield Market – St. Mark's Stall

We will be back at the village hall on Saturday 6th May selling bric-a-brac and gifts. Last month we raised £75.50 from our final sale of clothes. Proceeds go towards maintaining the buildings of St. Mark's Church. If you have any saleable items that you no longer need, please contact Chris or Kate (contact nos. on p2) to arrange delivery or collection. We are grateful for the generous donations we have received.

## Friends for Lunch Wednesday 17th May

**12.15 for 12.30.**

Thank you to all our volunteers and diners for making this a happy community occasion. Sheila's meat loaf was a great success in April. Please contact us on

**[friendsforlunch@acnb-church.org](mailto:friendsforlunch@acnb-church.org)**



to book a place for May's meal. The cost is £8 and includes a two course meal, a glass of wine and tea or coffee and chocs. Please bring a small prize for the raffle. If you know of anyone who might like to join us for a delicious home-cooked meal please get in touch.

## Benefice News



**St Mark's Church Ampfield**  
10th June  
11.30am to 3pm

**CHURCH FETE & DOG SHOW**

In the church grounds and Chapel Wood

 **BBQ**  **Raffle**

 **Side shows for the children**  **Afternoon tea**

## Benefice News

# Songs For Spring

Launching the  
St Mark's  
Building Project



Isabelle Pott



Ben Collyer

On 28th April, a lovely spring evening at St. Mark's, Isabelle Pott, a Soprano Choral Scholar at Royal Holloway, University of London entertained us with traditional songs for spring. She was accompanied on the piano by her cousin Ben who is Organist at St John's Church, Hyde Park. Ben also gave us a solo piano piece. Songs included work by Vaughan Williams, Henry Purcell and Mozart. The concert ended with 'Can't help loving that man of mine' from Showboat and a standing ovation.

Thanks to Jennie and her team who provided delicious refreshments and wine in the church room afterwards. This was a great way to launch the St. Mark's Building programme.

# Benefice News

## Sunshine Saints

Is a toddler and baby group which meets every Friday in term time from **10:00am to 11:30am** in All Saints Church.

## Welcome Café at All Saints Church now every Thursday 10am—12 noon

## Memories - Tea and Me Wednesday 3rd May

Members of The Memory Box Foundation will be joining the warm hub this Wednesday (3rd May) so come along and see what they have brought with them. There will be tea/coffee and biscuits. If you want to read more about 'Memory Boxes' then please read [here](#).

## Churchyard Trails

The 'Coronation Churchyard trails' are now up (thanks, Beth) in St. Mark's, St. Denys' and St. John's churchyards so do go along and have a look. They give interesting facts about the coronation and can be enjoyed by both adults and children. They will be up till the 12th May.

## Annual Parochial Church Meetings

These meetings are open to everyone and it is an opportunity to learn more about what has been happening in the churches over the past year.

## Ampfield Sunday 14th May

after the 9.30am service at St. Mark's Church

## North Baddesley Wednesday 17th May

7.30pm at All Saints Church

## Chilworth Thursday 18th May

7.30 pm in St. Denys Church

# St Mark's Building Project

## Our Journey

St Mark's Church, located in a beautiful woodland setting, is very much loved by the church members, the church school community and the wider community alike. The church is of historic significance, being built in 1838 by John Keble who was a leading figure in the 'Oxford Movement' and the Anglo Catholic revival in the 1860s, and is now Grade II listed. Later the Rev Audrey of Thomas the Tank Engine fame was the son of the vicar of St Mark's.

We have a vision to create an accessible spiritual heart at the centre of Ampfield, used by worshippers, the wider community and others who might seek to connect with the spirituality of this place. St Mark's Room was built in 1991. But in recent years the Room has deteriorated somewhat and alongside the refurbishment work necessary to update the space, we also need to improve the disabled access and fire exits.

Jean Smith is a regular worshipper at St Mark's Church and has previously served as a Church Warden. It was an observation by her which triggered the idea to take on a major updating process, when she suggested we might consider installing French windows in the Room. This would enable better disabled access and give the building a safer fire escape. She pointed out the fact that there are many older parishioners who use the Room and in its current state it does not meet their requirements.

So that simple conversation led to a real enthusiasm to do something with this wonderful space which is frequently used by both the church and the community. The PCC agreed and we formed a committee of 4 to take the project forward. The team were further inspired when an anonymous donation of £10,000 was given to the project and immediately committed to a Restricted Fund to be managed by our PCC treasurer .

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St Mark's Church is set within Chapel Wood, a local beauty spot which is frequented by walkers, dog walkers, and people looking for some quiet solace from the world. The woodland itself is maintained by Ampfield Parish Council and they are currently installing a pathway from outside the Room to connect to the woodland walkway that leads to a dipping pond. Part of our plans are to install a Labyrinth which would be part of a small sensory garden with beds. This would fit so well with the Parish's footpath.

The PCC have employed the Heritage Architect Duncan McKellar, to produce the plans for the refurbishment. In the planning stages the PCC team realised we should embark on other works that are needed in the Room, to improve disabled access into and through the church, and to make St Mark's Room more sustainable by improving insulation and replacing the windows. The PCC are committed to using local builders, engineers and suppliers where possible. We will be fundraising and applying for both local and national grants to fund the work.

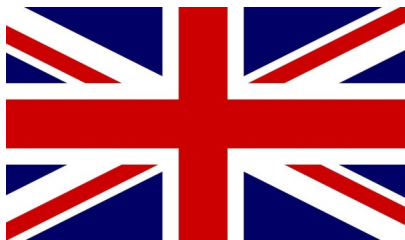
Finally what do we actually do in St Mark's Room? We use the Room for all our church socials including the village fete, we host the Lent Lunches and a monthly Lunch Club which is open to all and welcomes people from many of our surrounding villages. Ampfield CofE Primary School is a regular user both for the children and teacher and headteacher meetings. We have a morning service every Tuesday which ensures that those who cannot access the Sunday services have an option of a communion service during the week. We offer afternoon teas when there is an event such as the Ride & Stride charity day. All our fundraising events offer some kind of refreshment served in the Room. The Room is available to hire and we have had Pilates and yoga classes. There are children's parties held, as well as Christening parties and funeral teas.





## Getting St. Mark's flag ready for the Coronation

The rope from the flag pole was damaged. Jason, with Phil's help, refitted the rope to the pole. He also repainted the pole and it now looks pretty smart! St. Mark's also has a new flag, paid for by Jean's marmalade sales - thank you Jean for your hard work making so much delicious marmalade. Marmalade can be purchased after church services and at the Ampfield Market.





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

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

#### **AMPFIELD BRIDGE CLUB**

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

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

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

#### **ROMSEY MODELLERS**

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

#### **AMPFIELD ART GROUP**

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

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

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

#### **YOGA FRIDAY MORNINGS with YogaByGaynor**

(9.30-10.30) with Second class afterwards

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

#### **CRAFT CLASSES**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## An update on life in Kasese, S. Rwenzori, the diocese with which Romsey Deanery is linked

**C**hris Lloyd of Broughton has just returned from Uganda and has reported back on life in Kasese. Bishop Nason has now been in post for two years. He has a strong Diocesan team working with and is striving to improve life for his people.

The local Kagando hospital is on the verge of gaining university status. The old St. Pauls's Cathedral has been utilised as a medical centre. Despite this positive news, mortality rates are very high.

In S. Rwenzori Diocese 55% of the population are under 17 years, and 22% are between 18-30. Mortality amongst women during pregnancy and childbirth is very high. The deaths could be prevented if women received the right medical care through their pregnancies and during birth. Bishop Nason has suggested members of the Mothers Union, pair up with pregnant women to "care" and advise, but a much greater input of education and teaching resources is required to improve this situation for the long term. The Romsey link is working towards sending a team of medics to Kasese District, to teach maternity care.

As there are so many impoverished families in Kasese District, funding for education is difficult. The Link committee supports 113 pupils, and photographed are some of the lucky pupils, some in borrowed uniforms. The cost of a uniform is 85,000 Ugandan shillings (about £18).



*Musoke Barbara and Mumbere*

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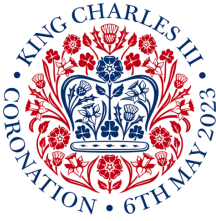
*A recycled tent/ classroom at Bulembia*

Bulembia School was completely washed away when the River Nyamwamba flooded two years ago. Luckily, no one was hurt, but they had to move into temporary tents provided by UNICEF.

As a result of poor education, Kasese District faces high unemployment amongst young people. The national rate in Uganda is 3.5%, but Kasese stands at 32%.

Unemployed adolescents drift into anti-social behavior such as alcoholism, drug abuse, theft and early pregnancies. Bishop Nason has put his mind to these increasing problems and has a vision to tackle them. The link is hoping to help him train 120 vulnerable young people in agricultural skills, basic managerial skills and business knowledge. Vocational skills will also be taught such as cookery, hair dressing and motor mechanics. Watch this space to learn how you could play a part in achieving this vision.

**Romsey Deanery Lay Chair Sarah Boothman**



# The Coronation Day



## Ampfield Market

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

**Saturday 1st. April 2023**

**From 10am to 12noon  
in Ampfield Village Hall  
(SO51 9BJ)**

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

**We will provide TV coverage on th large projector screen, of King  
Charles III Coronation Day throughout the market so you can enjoy  
this wonderful occasion with friends and family whilst enjoying fresh  
coffee and a delicious selection of freshly baked cakes**

**Parking and admission are always FREE**

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

**Next date Saturday 3rd June 2023**

## Ron and Stella's Quiz Night



1. Which year was King Charles 3<sup>rd</sup> Born?
2. Which football team has the nickname of the “Trotters “
3. Which planet has a pink sky?
4. Which UK city is well known street artist Banksy from?
5. What is the name of the evil headteacher in Matilda?
6. What song is this lyric from “Is this the real life”?
7. Who has a Heinz ketchup tattoo on his arm and always carries a bottle or two of it on tour?
8. What is the main ingredient in Black Pudding?
9. In which country do red onions originate?
10. What is the name of the river that passes through Baghdad?

Answers on P. 29

Ron and Stella Cobb



## THE IMPACT OF COVID

### A RETURN TO NORMAL

By Alan Edwards

**O**ur editors have asked about the impact of Covid on our lives. We made many changes whilst Covid was at its zenith. Some of those changes have continued as it is evident that Covid is still prevalent.

Our experiences are the same as many others. Covid accelerated our introduction to the cashless society quite dramatically. Many businesses have become cash free zones and there has been no alternative but to use debit and credit cards when shopping.

Prior to Covid, our use of on-line shopping was quite rare. We now use it far more than before. Shopping for everyday food and groceries continues to be at the supermarket, but, for other items, we purchase online. Part of this has been driven by some manufacturers and producers only supplying goods on-line. We have become used to this new mode, but keeping track of our many passwords does cause us problems!

Our family now work from home far more than before. One member is a teacher which obviously rules this out, but for others, working from home, at least for part of the week, is now an accepted way of working. They feel they are more productive than before.

One factor that has definitely changed our lives is dog-sitting! The family bought dogs during lockdown. The three dogs concerned have enriched our lives; their characters also provide much fun.



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The psychological impact of Covid has been fairly minimal. We do ask ourselves whether some journeys are necessary and in that respect we consume less petrol than before. Consequently, though we walked before, we now do so daily. We don't eat out as much as previously. Some of our previous pastimes, particularly going to the cinema, have been limited by changes in the market. Film producers now seem to make films for circulation on Netflix or Amazon Prime. I have returned to watching league football after a two-year interval (breaking a 65-year old habit has proved impossible!). We never stopped frequenting a range of arts performances but now, thankfully, we don't have to wear masks.

And so life has changed, but on the whole we feel comfortable with our altered circumstances. We are able to visit friends, family, and enjoys days out and holidays, without a metaphorical look over our shoulders.

**Alan Edwards**



Thank you Alan. Readers, please let us have your reflections on Covid...Eds.

*Daryl will be ringing the bells at St. Mark's on Coronation Day. If you would like to give him a hand, please just turn up. Time will be on the acnb website.*

**Thank you.**



# Friends of Chapel Wood

As luck would have it, the date of our April working party coincided with most of our happy band of woodlanders being away or having other stuff to do. The job schedule had to be quickly rejigged to find something we thought we might be able to manage. This included moving the occasional leaf from the glade area, reorganising an out of position twig from the hedge or even simply have a prolonged coffee break to eat all of the chocolate brownies. Imagine how excited we were to see Simon and Phil turn up unexpectedly since it meant that our plan A could be brought back into action.

As many regular readers will know, we have experienced a running battle with the weather this past winter. Any thoughts we had of having a bonfire were increasingly looking very dodgy. In any case, bonfires are really winter activities, when it is fresh and cold and the prospects of leaping around, feeding the fire and generally enjoying the occasion are very appealing. So we decided to give it a miss this year but we still had to deal with the piles of arisings. They were intrusive,



unsightly, and generally sent out the wrong message. For want of something better to do with them, we decided to build up the hedge between the glade and the woodland. We might consider burning what's left next Christmas.

Cont. ...



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Whilst the men were seeing who could carry the biggest pile in one pair of arms, Sue was clearing the leftover leaves from the glade. If they are left lying, leaves do not do the grass any good and will eventually kill it. If you have looked at the glade recently you will see an ever-increasing collection of mole hills. This is not an attractive feature, but we have asked a local moleman about catching them and were told it would be a waste of money to try. It is not like a garden lawn, if you get rid of one, two will take its place. In the meantime, we collect the soil they kindly dig out for us. This will make a good seed compost, when added to horticultural sand. It will be mixed with grass seed to resow latter in the year.

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



**Graham Roads**

# Ampfield Art Class Gallery



Home grown squashes -  
Stephanie, watercolour



Bald Eagle - Frank, acrylics



The Queen  
and  
Paddington  
Carle,  
watercolour

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



Winter evening glory -  
Graham , inks



Tranquility - Karen  
Acrylics

## Ampfield Art Class Gallery



Florentine Skyline  
Karen, watercolour

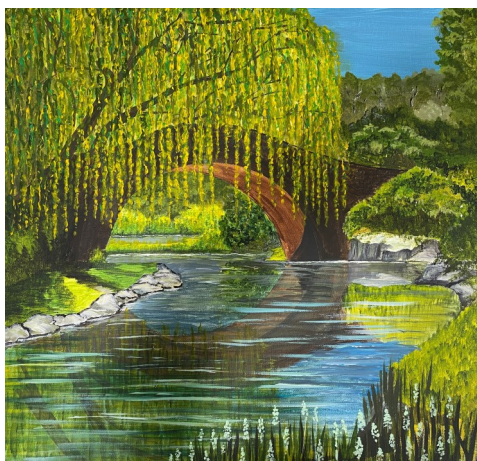


Comical Crows -  
Alison, watercolour



Nuthatch -  
Alison, watercolour

RHS Rosemoor Gardens  
In Devon  
Hilary, acrylics



## *Thought for the Month*

**D**uring Covid, like many of our friends, I began sorting out some drawers and cupboards which I hadn't even opened for a long while. One day I found a very old autograph book, from when I was a school girl. My lovely Mum had written two verses in this book, on 24 September 1958. To see her beautiful handwriting after so many years; she died suddenly in 1995, made me feel very emotional. My Mum loved her garden, and when we moved to Chandler's Ford when I was 5 years old, we had a big plot of land, so there was lots of gardening to be done. I had my own secret garden which I tended to, while Mum got on with all the borders and planting roses, bedding plants, and taking cuttings, especially of camellias – a big favourite of hers. She knew all the names of the shrubs and flowers, and we had a huge area of mint, by the back door. Bunches would be handed out to the neighbours.

As sunshine glistens after rain,  
As flowers fade and come again,  
As seeds left down in darkest earth,  
In glowing beauty come to birth ...

So will our faith in all things good  
Bring forth one day its blossoming bud,  
A flower of beauty that springs from strife  
For that is the truth we learn from life.

This poem seems so appropriate this month when the gardens are coming alive, and their beauty gives us hope for the future. Remember to not only work in your garden, but to sit and look and take in the beauty surrounding you.

**Jennie Edwards**





# The Green Man

By Liz Hallett

**T**he green man on the Coronation invitation caused much chatter in media circles. Let's have a look at what these figures are and what they may mean. They are found in many old churches. What on earth are they doing there?

First of all, what exactly are Green Men? These figures are carved in wood or stone, with a human head within a mass of leaves. Usually the leaves appear to grow out of the head itself, often the mouth but sometimes the eyes or ears; sometimes the human head seems to be a chance result of the configuration of the leaves. They are more correctly known as 'disgorging foliate head motifs' - the amateur



historian, Lady Raglan, called them Green Men in an article she wrote in 1939 and her name has been accepted by most people. They carvings came to this country along with many other new building styles and associated features after the Norman Conquest. There is one in Romsey Abbey (hidden in the vestry) and Winchester Cathedral has an extensive collection.

Romsey Vestry Green Man

It is also true that a number of images and practices in our Church have pagan origins. When the first Christian evangelists arrived in Britain they assimilated many of the old ways, rather than banning them or trying to make them illegal. There were, in any case, features of the Celtic customs and spiritual beliefs which adapted reasonably easily to Christianity. The society was a tribal one with a strong culture based on a shared faith - so too was ancient Israel. Christ's 40 days in the wilderness and His rebirth into a different life associated with water at baptism would both have been recognisable to them. Such things could be given a new meaning in Christ.

Cont. ...

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However there is no obvious way to link green men with this, and it would not explain why so many of the figures are hidden away in dark and obscure corners, often high in the roof bosses or under misericords, often not recognisable to the casual eye. So possibly the stone-masons and architects employed to build those ancient churches still held beliefs about the pagan past and perhaps wanted to slip the figures in among the church designs so as to remain 'in touch' with the old order? We will never be sure.



Croyland Abbey green man boss

Whatever the origin of the Green Man, it is believed to have had a particular meaning in a Christian context in the twelfth century: it is a representation of Adam, as the first man. The most common version of the legend tells that Adam, exiled from paradise, sent his son into the Garden to fetch a branch from the Tree of Mercy. This was planted in his mouth when Adam died.



Norwich Cathedral  
Green Man boss

(Stephen Miller's book 'The Green Man in Medieval England: Christian Shoots from Pagan Roots') suggests that the motif is derived from legends and medieval hagiographies related to the Quest of Seth, son of Adam, who planted three twigs, seeds and kernels under the tongue of Adam after his expulsion from Eden, the seeds being provided by the angel of mercy responsible for guarding Eden.

Cont. ...

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These grew forth, bringing new life to humankind.) Yet another variant tells that the foliage might equally have sprung from the pips of the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge which caused the fall of Man. The tree that sprang from Adam's mouth is said to have finally provided the wood of the cross. Thus the cause of the Fall of Man leads directly to the cause of Man's redemption.



Nantwich porch green man boss

So many theories, and we cannot be sure which, is any, is correct.

We have made a photographic collection of green men as we have explored churches around the country and some are included here. One fascinating discovery has been that not all green men are human - we found two 'green dogs' at St Newlyn East in Cornwall, a 'green hare' in Worcester and a 'Green King' at St Nicholas at Wade in Kent. This is a fascinating subject and the Green Man something to look out for when you visit an ancient church. Why don't you visit the Cathedral in Winchester which claims to have around 70 examples and actually provides special tours to show you some of them



Worcester green hare



**Liz Hallett**

## Signs Written in English Discovered Around the World



***On a French passenger jet:***

Live West Under Your Seat.

***In a Tokyo hotel:***

Is forbidden to steal hotel towels please. If you are not a person to do such thing is please not to read notis.

***In a Bucharest hotel lobby:***

The lift is being fixed for the next day. During that time we regret that you will be unbearable.

***In a Belgrade hotel elevator:***

Please leave your values at the front desk.

***In a hotel in Athens:***

Visitors are expected to complain at the office between the hours of 9 and 11 a.m. daily.

***In a Yugoslav hotel:***

The flattening of underwear with pleasure is the job of the chambermaid.

***In a Japanese hotel:***

You are invited to take advantage of the chambermaid.

***In an Austrian hotel catering to skiers:***

Not to perambulate the corridors in the hours of repose in the boots of ascension.

***In a Swiss mountain inn:***

Special today: no ice cream.

***At the office of a Rome doctor:***

Specialist in women and other diseases.

***At an Acapulco hotel:***

The manager has personally passed all the water served here.

**Contributed by Liz Hallet**



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

1. 1948
2. Bolton Wanderers
3. Mars
4. Bristol
5. Miss Trunchbull
6. Bohemian Rhapsody
7. Ed Sheeran
8. Blood
9. Italy
10. Tigris



*From the St. Mark's*  
*Register.*



15th April Charlie Steptoe and Anabella Sessions were  
married in St. Mark 's.

We send our congratulations and best wishes

# The Kitchen Garden - G4G

## By Graham Roads

There can be little doubt that this is a lovely time of year for gardeners who enjoy growing vegetables. The days are getting noticeably longer and (dare I say it) warmer. Every time you visit the kitchen garden there is something new to see. The broad beans appear to be well established. Potatoes are beginning to show they are thinking about emerging, those missed from last year are already up. The greenhouse is full of new growth, both vegetable and flowers.

From time to time, we still see evidence of frost in the early mornings, so this can serve as a timely warning, it is not possible to relax just yet. As good a guide as any is the date of the Chelsea Flower Show – 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023. This is chosen because then the risk of frost is minimal. Regular watering has started but, perhaps, not too much to begin with, at least until the weather has warmed up a bit more. The only exception might be if you are transplanting vegetable seedlings into their summer beds, when a good soaking to

help them absorb the stressful shock can be helpful.



This is also a good time to be thinking about summer recipes. Although summer is a way off still, it is worth going through cupboards or the freezer to see what preserves remain from last season. Flatbreads brushed in olive oil and then topped with oven dried tomatoes, pickled cucumber and some cheese can make a great supper whilst enjoying a glass of wine in the last of the day's rays.

Cont. ...

...Cont.

One thing that fascinates us is how month after month, year after year, new cookbooks are being written and the glossy magazines seem crammed full of different recipes. What an endless variety of ideas? One game that often pays dividends is to look back on some of the recipes from books that have been collected over the years and simply change the vegetables used into something that is available now or is simply an old favourite.

As usual, all the information needed for growing vegetables successfully can be found on the RHS website:

( <https://www.rhs.org.uk/advice/grow-your-own> ).

This also provides a great summary and good ideas on what to do now as well as recipes. It would be great if we could all put together a collection of recipes, focusing on stuff that we have grown ourselves. Send all thoughts, ideas and contributions to Chris. They are most welcome.



**Graham Roads**

## A point of view

### The Joy of Breakfast

Descartes thought of the brain as a thing and of the mind as a thing but he knew that the brain was physical and the mind non-physical. I guess one could think in this way of food and eating.

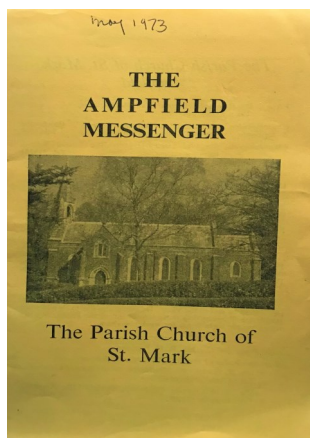
There shouldn't be any difference between what one has on one's plate in a higgledy-piggledy pile and that which is artfully displayed, but there is. A plate presented interestingly inexplicably tastes better than one presented in a 'let them have it' fashion. In other words, and petty snobberies aside, does a breakfast of eggs royale daintily presented with a splurge of 'smashed' avocado on the side have any greater entitlement to being enjoyed than fried eggs, bacon and beans?

Pondering upon this conundrum whilst exploring the eateries of the area offering breakfast has been entertaining. Breakfasts are a current seek-out. This just happens to coincide with an old friend who can't sleep, likes getting going early-day and can match the other's pathological insistence on economy.

In these inflationary times somewhere that charges less than £12 and doesn't demand extra for a paltry slice of black pudding as some do and presents it in good order is a find indeed. Coming upon a local, reasonably priced yet adequate breakfast where one can hear the others chat is a much appreciated thing of joy for both one's brain and physical maintenance. So, seeking out places in which to spread one's largesse will continue, until it's decided to move on to brunch.



**Charlie Brown**



## From the Messenger Archives

*May 1973*

### W.I. REPORT

At the March Members' Meeting Mrs. Caunter took the chair, Mrs. Attlee acted as Secretary and Mrs. Humby, Treasurer. There was a very good attendance and Mrs. Metcalfe welcomed a new member, Miss Lawson. Mrs. Bignall thanked Mrs. Machell for arranging the outing to Taylor of London Perfume Factory at Alresford, which was very much enjoyed. Mrs. Kelly's Whist Drive was a great success and we were very grateful to her for arranging this at her home with most delicious refreshments.

Mrs. Bardell, Handicraft Secretary, hoped that there would be many entries for the Handicraft Guild competition and thanked Mrs. Rae for having classes at her home which enabled us to sort out many problems in various crafts.

The speaker, Mrs. Powell, gave a very interesting talk on her life in India as she had lived there for many years. Mrs. Gale gave the vote of thanks.

F.A.E.Green

### THE AMPFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

At the Annual Parish Assembly, the Chairman (Miss Joan M. Cornwell) welcomed the Parishioners who attended and following the acceptance of last year's Minutes, introduced Mr. Geoffrey Crowther



(Hampshire County Council Member) who spoke of the newly formed Test Valley Division which included Ampfield and confirmed that in the future only one R.D.C. member would represent both Ampfield and Braishfield. Mr. Simon Attlee reported on RDC matters dealt with during the year, mentioning that after sounding local opinion it was decided to oppose the introduction of paper sacks for Refuse Collection, particularly as this would lead to an increase in the Rates. Parishioners residing in Knapp Lane expressed their fears that if rumours were correct that a Car Park would be established on land at the entrance to Ampfield Woods it would inevitably lead to an increase in the already heavy volume of traffic using Knapp Lane. On the suggestion of Mr. Tom Faber the Clerk was instructed to write to the Forestry Commissioners stating that the Council would strenuously oppose any such plan.

It was reported that the Clerk (Mr. Anthony Eastwood) had tendered his resignation owing to pressure of work and applications were invited from any local resident to fill the position.

Applications should be sent to the Chairman or the Clerk.

The Chairman concluded the meeting by extending sincere thanks to Mr. Geoffrey Crowther, Mr. Simon Attlee, Mr. Christopher Marr, Mr. & Mrs. Campbell for tending the War Memorial and the Rev. I.W. Evans for his co-operation in continuing to publish Council matters in the Church Magazine.

- - - - -

#### HOLY BAPTISM

April 8th Vikki Clare, daughter of Barry & Valerie Taylor, 41, Senlac Road, Whitenap. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor were married in Ampfield Church in 1968 and Valerie is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs D.C. Basham who then lived at "Chez Nous", Ampfield Hill.

#### HOLY MATRIMONY

April 7th Norman Denis Emery of Crampmoor to Lynda Margaret Rose, "The Heritage", Ampfield Hill.



There was a church full when Miss Lynda Rose was married to Mr. Denis Emery of Crampmoor. Right up to the time she left us to go to a Training College in London, Lynda was a most keen church girl. Starting off in Sunday School where she was a leading member of a promising little choir, she later joined the senior choir and in time became Top Girl and soloist. She was also a regular communicant.

Her husband is no stranger to Ampfield and for several seasons played in the Ampfield Cricket Team. Denis is now stationed at Andover. We wish them every happiness when they settle in their new home and we are hoping to see them often at Ampfield.

- - - - -

In our prayers we are remembering those of our church people who are ill and those who are looking after them. At this time we are thinking particularly of Mrs. Pack, Mrs. Pegler, Mrs. Morgan and Mr. Gollledge.

- - - - -

#### AMPFIELD WOOD

"Adjoining Hursley Park is a n extensive tract known as Ampfield Wood, a perfect miniature forest, where the greater number of trees are of oak, beech and fir. Here and there large spaces are covered with a thick growth of whortleberry shrubs; the tree trunks are wreathed with ivy and honeysuckle, and in spring the ground is carpeted with blue-bells, wood anemonies, prim-roses, with an occasional patch of lilies of the valley".

(From a Prize Essay on Hursley, in the year 1902).

## *A Prayer for the Coronation*



Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness, bless our  
Sovereign Lord, King Charles,  
and all who are in authority under him;  
that they may order all things in wisdom and equity,  
righteousness and peace, to the honour of your name,  
and the good of your Church and people; through Jesus  
Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**





## Local Information

### **Nextdoor.co.uk**

Neighbourhood hub for connecting with local services.

### ***Online Facebook groups:***

#### **Romsey News and Information Group**

The original Facebook Group for Romsey.

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

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

**Hampshire Coronavirus Helpline - 0333 370 4000**

**Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults - 0300 555 1386**

**Romsey Community Pantry - 01794 522106**

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

**Frontline Debt Advice - 02380 552866**

**Southampton Basics Bank -**

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

### ***Local Representatives***

Member of Parliament: Caroline Nokes; Phone: 01794 521155

County Councillor: Alan Dowden; Phone 02380 266458

TVBC Councillor: Martin Hatley; Phone: 02380 254040

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

## Rotas for St. Mark's in May

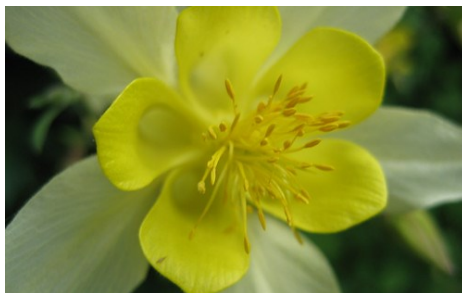
Date	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Intercessions	Sides	Coffee	Music
Sun 7th May	TIDY CHURCH -				Doreen	Mark & Abbie
Sun 14th May	Mark B Acts 17: 22-31	Jennie E 1 Peter 3: 13 - end	Sally	Sally C Phil	Heather C	Organist
Sun 21st May	Rob Acts 1: 6 - 13	Chris 1 Peter 4: 12 - 14; 5: 6-11	Ron	Daryl Robyn	Stella	Jean
Sun 28th May	Doreen Acts 2: 1 - 21	Robyn 1 Corin- thians 12: 3b-13	Sally	Ron Mark B	Jean	Organist

### Flowers:

Thank you to everyone who provided beautiful flowers for Easter.  
Flowers for May: Diane

### Coffee after Communion:

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Jean Smith on 01794 519685.



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Account Name: St Marks Church PCC / Reference: Magazine

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## AMPFIELD VILLAGE HALL

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