

The Villager

August 2021 Volume 50 No 7

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

FAREWELL DRINKS FOR PC ANDY REID ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM HAMPSHIRE CONSTABULARY



Over 100 turned up from villages throughout his Beat to say farewell to PC Andy Reid on his retirement after 19 years as 'our copper'.

It was a case of third time lucky as weather and then COVID restrictions had thwarted previous planned occasions. After a particularly hot spell, it was the most perfect late July evening to celebrate on the cricket field outside The Candover Valley Club in Brown Candover.

(Photos from the event will be available for the next *Villager*.)

The Earl of Portsmouth began the proceedings, reading a personally composed Citation then presented to Andy as a framed copy, beautifully calligraphed by Mrs Susie Deane from Ellisfield.

A few words of thanks were said by Jonathan Moseley before Mrs Effie Andreae presented Andy with an original 400+ year-old framed map of Hampshire showing some of the villages by name on his extensive Basingstoke Rural South Beat.

Mike Pratt then made an impromptu speech on behalf of the keepers and to much applause! Mark Wilson, NFU Mutual in Dummer, generously provided the refreshments, and the evening made for a very happy but sad occasion. It was a most fitting send off for Andy and his wife Lynda as they head west and start a new chapter in their lives.



Help us take nature's pulse by joining the Big Butterfly Count from 16th July to 8th August.

The Big Butterfly Count is a UK-wide survey aimed at helping us assess the health of our environment simply by counting the amount and type of butterflies (and some day-flying moths) we see. To take part, download the Big Butterfly Count app and submit sightings during the Count period. <https://bigbutterflycount.butterfly-conservation.org/>



LOCAL PLAN UPDATE (LPU)

SUMMER 2021 – ISSUE 3

VISION FOR B/STOKE TOWN CENTRE

BDBC is working with Hemmingway Design and Allies and Morrison to develop a long-term vision for Basingstoke town centre.

A survey for views on the draft proposals is open until Friday 6th August at www.talkbasingstoketowncentre.co.uk

LOCAL POLICING As mentioned in the last *Villager*, Mapledurwell & Up Nately and Newnham Parishes are now considered to be part of Basingstoke East Policing Area. The website link is <https://www.police.uk/pu/your-area/hampshire-constabulary/basingstoke-east/>

Please report all crimes / incidents at <http://www.hampshire.police.uk> (or to 101) – not to individual officers. All reports must be logged – this the only way the police can evidence what is happening and allocate resources.

Our local policing contact is PCSO Lucy Ollerenshaw lucy.ollerenshaw@hampshire.pnn.police.uk



LOCAL PLAN UPDATE SUMMER 2021 – ISSUE 3 EVIDENCE BASE

A number of evidence base studies have now been completed:

Retail and Main Town Centre Uses Study Lambert Smith Hampton.

Draws conclusions about the future need for different types of floorspace and highlights how changing consumer behaviour is likely to reduce demand for retail floorspace. It identifies the importance of diversifying and repurposing Basingstoke town centre while ensuring that smaller centres continue to meet local needs. <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/retail-assessment>

Landscape Assessment HDA (Hankinson Duckett Associates). This defines 20 landscape character areas according to similarities in underlying geology, landcover, appearance and historical development, also seeking to reflect how the landscape is perceived, experienced and valued by people. The Loddon / Lyde Valley is 'Character Area 6' encompassing both Mapledurwell & Up Nately and Newnham Parishes. www.basingstoke.gov.uk/ENV07

Urban Design Framework FERIA Urbanism have provided a survey and analysis of Basingstoke town to help underpin the design policies in the Local Plan Update. (Similar analysis has been undertaken by many other settlements in the borough via the neighbourhood planning process.)

www.basingstoke.gov.uk/urbandesign-framework Continued page 2

CHURCHSUITE EVENTS

HOLIDAY CLUB IS BACK!!

Monday 2nd to Thursday 5th
August, Church Field, Upton Grey

<https://allsaintsodiham.churchsuite.co.uk/events/l8kadn06>



Join us for a week of 'seaside-style' fun (as close as we can get in North Hampshire!). This year's holiday club, Seaside Rock, will include games, crafts, challenges, drama, music, and even a massive sand pit! Sessions run from 1-4pm each afternoon.

- Ages 4-11 welcome.
- Year 7 and up welcome to join as young leaders, with special evening activities for them.
- There are limited spaces in a creche for 1-3 year olds.

Mapledurwell & Up Nately

UP NATELY NEWS

Huge congratulations to Stuart and Maria from St Stephens Close on their recent wedding, Up Nately villagers are delighted for them and wish them a happy future together



ST STEPHEN'S UP NATELY

Ride and Stride on Saturday 11th September, see poster back page.



THANK YOU ...

Mapledurwell and Up Nately Village Hall Committee wish to thank all those who joined us for Coffee and Cake as part of reopening the Village Hall.



TO HIRE THE VILLAGE HALL

Please contact mandunvillage@gmail.com

This was a long awaited, successful post-lockdown opportunity for villagers both old and new to meet and utilise our village hall.

Over £130 was raised for the 'NHS Charities Together'. We will be looking at further events and hope these will be supported by all. Watch out for future activities in the *Villager* newsletter.

MAPLEDURWELL AND UP NATELY VILLAGE HALL CARETAKER

We are looking to appoint a friendly and reliable individual with a range of practical skills for the role of Caretaker to join our team and contribute to the smooth running of the Village Hall.

Responsibilities include looking after the security of the building, minor maintenance and repairs, ensuring the cleanliness of the premises, and preparing the hall for bookings.

Working alongside the Village Hall Committee, the caretaker will need to be available to attend the hall to help with the overall running of the facilities.

The hours are likely to be flexible and between 2-4 hours per week.. We are looking for the successful candidate to start as soon as possible.

If you are interested in finding out more, please contact via email: mandunvillagehall@gmail.com



LOCAL PLAN UPDATE SUMMER 2021 - ISSUE 3

EVIDENCE BASE *Continued from page 1*

Evidence base studies yet to be completed:

Economic Needs Assessment Stantec have been commissioned to complete this study which will consider planning issues associated with land uses such as office, industrial, and storage and distribution. It will identify the need requirements for these uses over the Plan period and is due to be completed by the autumn.

Transport Assessment Jacobs have started to consider the overall impact of forecasted growth on the highway network and identify potential infrastructure strategies to mitigate the impact of development. It will also consider the role of modal shift, away from the car.

Climate Change Study to consider possible policies relating to climate change mitigation.

Strategic Flood Risk Assessment to ensure that the scale and location of future development can be met without increasing flood risk and adversely impacting on the borough's water environment.

Water Cycle Study to ensure that sustainable water management (infrastructure and mitigation) can be delivered to meet the needs of potential housing and employment growth in the borough.

The REGATTA

(but not as we know it!)

Bakes! NOT BOATS!



Sunday 12th September 3pm

Bake categories

- ⚓ **Fifteen or under (for budding bakers!)**
- ⚓ **From a cardboard box (for nervous bakers)**
- ⚓ **6 inches and under (for cupcake bakers)**
- ⚓ **Fruit and Veg (for healthy bakers)**
- ⚓ **The Penelope Edwards Fantasy Cake (for sparkly bakers)**

For residents of Mapledurwell and Andwell (extended family and children welcome)

All levels of bakers welcome!

Come as either Baker, judge or even better BOTH!

PARISH PANNING APPLICATIONS

21/01739/LBC (Validated 14 Jul 2021) Arlings Tunworth Road. Replacement of all existing windows and exterior doors with new like-for-like design windows and doors.

21/01951/HSE (Validated 13 Jul 2021) Elm Cottage, Tunworth Road. Erection of garage and home office with loft room over following demolition of existing double garage. Riverview

21/01777/RET (Validated 24 May) The Gamekeepers. Laying of hardstanding to provide access to the cesspit for the pump-out lorry and to enable the dray lorry to make deliveries clear of the highway; hardstanding also to serve as additional parking, plus 7 x low-level, bat-friendly downlights.

21/01566/HSE (Pending, 7th May) 2 Canalside Cottages, Heather Lane. Two storey rear/side extension, single storey front/side extension, conversion of garage to habitable space, loft conversion. Outbuilding for garden store / office and cantilevered decking over canal side.

21/01503/HSE (pending, 30 April) Burrough Close, Greywell Road, Andwell. Two storey side extension, floor plan alterations and all associated works.

21/01441/FUL (pending, 26 April) Parrotts, Greywell Road, Mapledurwell. Demolition of existing agricultural building and erection of one single storey dwelling. (Replacement application for 20/01675/FUL granted 9th Sept 2020.)

21/01095/ROC (pending, 27 April) The Gamekeepers. Variation of condition 1 of 19/01351/FUL to allow for change from tarmac to gravel parking area.

21/01103/FUL (pending, 25 March) Southville, Greywell Rd, Mapledurwell. Demolition of bungalow and construction of one x 3- bedroom chalet bungalow.

21/00827/FUL (pending, 20 April) Land Opposite Hillside, Heather Lane. Change of use of land to form secure dog walking area and off road parking area for 2-3 cars. Gate and 1.8m fence around perimeter of site. Replace existing shed.

21/00427/FUL (pending 22 Feb) Land to north of Nunnery House, Tunworth Road. One 4-bed dwelling, garage, access etc.

21/00107/PIP (pending 25 Jan) The Farm, Tunworth Road. Permission in Principle for a maximum of nine dwellings.

20/03328/FUL (pending 27 Nov) Waterside, Frog Lane. Redevelopment of offices to create two family dwellings.

20/01723/FUL (Refused 22nd July) Brockwell (Paddock and Stable) Andwell Lane. Eight dwellings with service road.

TREE APPLICATIONS

T/00353/21/TCA (Validated 8th July) Little Common Cottage, Frog Lane. T1: fell; T2 Plum: fell; T3 Blackthorn: fell.

T/00365/21/TCA (Validated 26 July) Arlings Tunworth Road. T1 Walnut: reduce by approx. 1m. 1m all round to leave an approx. finished height of 20m with a crown spread (radius of 6m). T2 Oak: (dead) monolith, leaving a single stem. T3 Ash: Reduce by approx 1m all round

TALES FROM THE CHALKSTREAM

Working around the chalkstream, in just one day I came across three interesting *Lepidoptera* (butterflies and moths to you and me). Just about being able to tell a Red Admiral from a Common Blue, I had to look them up... Turns out they are all moths!

The first, the very delicate yet ghostly White Plume Moth, was hiding under a leaf during the day. Wingspan of about 1.25in, completely white, with feathery wings. Rough grass, roadside verges and bindweed are just some of its favourite things !



Second up, was the Scarlet Tiger Moth – given its colours I had thought it was a butterfly. I saw several that day including in the allotments. Black upper wings with orange spots and bright scarlet hind wings. A bit larger at 2in they like wet meadows and riverbanks, comfrey, buttercups and willow (nectar feeder).



The third is the Common White Wave Moth (1.3in wingspan) seen in flight around the allotments during the day (should be nocturnal but perhaps no-one told it?) and more white than it appears as pictured. Feeds on trees and shrubs including Rowan, Birch, Oak and Willow.



A name check for Jeff Kirby who spotted the bright caterpillar below in his garden – a Mullein Moth. Last seen busy munching its way through his flowering Verbascum plants (common name mullein)!

I must admit I usually think of moths as rather dull, nocturnal creatures that are attracted to light bulbs (one line of thought is they confuse the light for

the moon, by which they navigate at night). There also appears to be differing opinions as to the difference between butterflies and moths though there seem to be many exceptions to each rule.

As a general guide: butterflies have club shaped antenna (moths: feathery or tapering); butterflies fold their wings vertically over their back when at rest (moths: horizontal). In truth there isn't much difference at all. In the UK we have c60 butterflies and over 2,500 recorded moths (only two species nibble on clothes!). So, clearly, moths are much more varied and diverse than I had assumed. They are also pretty specialised in their chosen environment / food source. Accordingly, greater variation in moth / butterfly species is just one indicator of the health and diversity of our countryside, as required to support their individual needs.

Perhaps we should start a register of sightings, if nothing else, to demonstrate the importance of our village environment – let me know your thoughts?

Colin Robertson colin.robertson21@btinternet.com

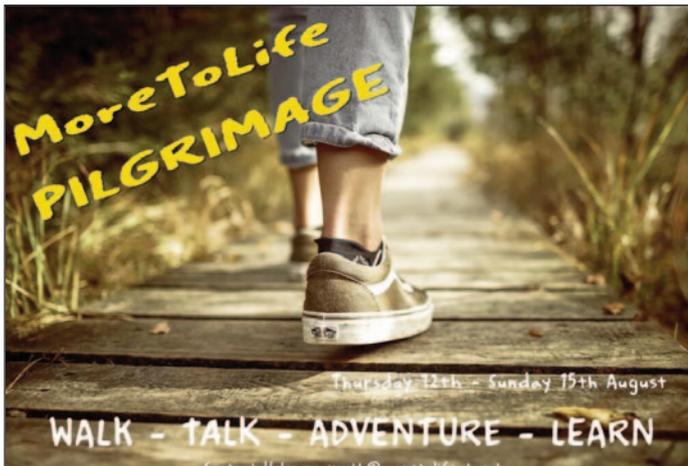
to leave an approx. finished height of 15m with a crown spread (radius of 5m). T4 Yew: Reduce by approx 1m all round to leave an approx. finished height of 5m with a crown spread (radius of 2m). T5 Holly: Reduce by approx. 1m all round to leave an approx. finished height of 5m with a crown spread (radius of 2m). T6 Yew: Reduce by approx 2m all round to leave an approx. finished height of 9m with a crown spread (radius of 3m). T7 Acacia: Reduce by approx 1m all round to

leave an approx. finished height of 15m with a crown spread (radius of 5m). Note: we would like to deadwood branches at lower levels which are severely diseased. This is in an effort to save this tree, else it would otherwise die. T8 Conifer (multi-stemmed): fell. The tree is leaning towards the vegetable plot and has a shallow root system – at risk of falling. T9 Oak: Reduce by approx 1m all round to leave an approx. finished height of 20m with a crown spread (radius of 6m).

Newnham & Nately Scures

NEWNHAM'S NEW DROVERS ROAD

Two hundred sheep and lambs arriving in Newnham on 10th June, driven across the A30 and up Crown Lane to Newnham Hill fields by a couple of sheep dogs and the farmer and his family



BENEFICE YOUTH PILGRIMAGE

NEWNHAM & NATELY SCURES, 12TH AUGUST

Helen Chatfield, the Benefice Youth Pastor, is organising a 'pilgrimage' around the local villages for children and teenagers on 12th to 15th August. <https://allsaintsodiham.churchsuite.co.uk/events/f9h1rwy>

Contact Helen on 07540 140228
youth@moretolife.church

Note from Monica Wardrop, St Swithun's

'The Pilgrims will be walking via all 12 churches in the Benefice and spending three nights sleeping in a church on their journey. Our patch of Newnham and Nately Scures gets a visit on Thursday 12th, first to Newnham at 12.30pm where there will be pizza for lunch, then moving on to Nately Scures at 2pm where they are hoping to visit Millers Ark as well as the church. Elizabeth Miller has agreed a half price rate – for a maximum group size of 15 – which has been funded by the Parish Council.'

Note from Carolyn Peck, St Nicholas'

'Helen would be delighted if young people from Newnham could join the pilgrimage lunch at Newnham church that day. The group will then go on to Miller's Ark and everyone is of course invited to join this leg and also the whole pilgrimage.

'I will be happy to co-ordinate the Newnham lunch, please let me know if you would like to take part, on carolynpeck@btinternet.com 07775 994261.'



PHOTO: Bridget Bell

SAVE THE DATES

Sunday 11th September – Newnham BBQ on the Green starts 3pm, food at 4ish, cost £10 (£6 for under 12s) – for a burger, a hot dog, salads, baked potatoes and a dessert. A bar will offer beer, wine, Pimms and soft drinks for a suggested donation. We will have tables, chairs and gazebos but please bring crockery, cutlery and glasses. Children games will be organised by Helen Chatfield the benefice youth pastor. People are also very welcome to have a stall if they would like to sell products or run games – please get in touch with Carolyn Peck.

Sunday 12th September 4.30pm – Open Up Sunday with a children-led service in St Nicholas' Newnham followed by tea for the children and Pimms.

Harvest Supper Friday 15th October 7pm More details to follow but please ensure Joanna Bell has your email address Joannabell1@gmail.com to keep you in the loop. All new ideas for raffle prizes welcomed.

The pond throughout the year: JULY



NEWNHAM COMMUNITY'S



CONGRATULATIONS TO WINNERS FOR JUNE

1. Jenny Pomroy - £100
2. Georgie and Bob Scott-Kerr - £50
3. Beth and Richard Wilson - £25

Thank you all for supporting the 100 Club.

To join the scheme, please contact Carolyn Peck 07775 994261 carolynpeck@btinternet.com

All profits to Friends of St Nicholas' registered charity no 283088

PARISH PLANNING APPLICATIONS

21/02135/RES (Validated 25 June) Land Adjacent to Oakfield Farmhouse, Scures Hill. 'Reserved Matters' application for consideration of **appearance, landscaping, layout & scale** only pursuant to outstanding matters reserved by Condition 1 of outline permission 16/00097/OUT.

21/01848/FUL (Validated 28 May) Land to the rear of Nately Place, Scures Hill. Erection of 1no. six-bed dwelling with associated garage and access.

21/01821/HSE (Validated 26 May) Holdings Farm, The Barracks. Erection of single storey front extension with changes to fenestration.

21/02159/PIP (Validated 28 Jun) Land on West side of Nately Towers, Scures Hill. Application for Permission in Principle for residential development of one dwelling.

21/01670/FUL (Validated 14 May) Land At Blackstocks Lane. Erection of one dwelling, (Further to 21/00038/FUL refused 17th March.)

21/01623/RET (Validated 21 June) Webbs Farm, Newnham Lane. Retrospective amendments to 19/03245/RET, to allow change to the plot shape.

21/01590/HSE (Granted 12 July) Newnham Corner. Single storey rear extension



Church Path Hook, July 2021

WALK OUR HISTORIC CHURCH PATH

On request, Nigel Bell is offering to lead a walk from Hook to Newnham Church along this historic path on Monday 9th and/or Tuesday 24th August @ 11h until approx 12h.

All ages and especially young people welcome! Please sign up with Nigel Nbnx2@hotmail.com or text / WhatsApp 07757406410 for details of when and where to meet.



Church Path Newnham, July 2021



The Strings boardwalk, Newnham

planning continued...

OLD HOUSE AT HOME OPENING TIMES

Tuesday to Saturday

Bar hours 12-3pm; 5.30pm-10pm

Kitchen hours 12-2pm; 5.30pm-9pm

Sunday

Bar hours 12 to 5pm

Kitchen hours 12 to 4pm

(Closed Monday)

01256 761 896

www.oldhousenewnham.uk/



21/01325/HSE (Pending, 18 May) Beech House, Newnham Road. New vehicular access to the west of Beech House plus parking using stone gravel base.

21/00025/FUL (pending 25th Jan) Nately Place, Scures Hill. Dwelling and detached ancillary accommodation, following demolition of house and garage. Acoustic fencing to front/road-side boundary and retaining bank inbound of south boundary.

16/03282/RET (pending 15th Sep 2016) Manor Farm, Blackstocks Lane. Change of use from solely agricultural to mixed agricultural use to include the diversification of farm open days etc, 100 days a year with associated parking.

OWENS FARM APPLICATION

21/01048/OUT (Validated 29 April) Owens Farm, Newnham Road, Hook. Application for **(a) Outline development** (with matters except access reserved) for retirement care living development of up to 160 units (C2 use) and community facilities, pedestrian and vehicular access, parking and landscaping; **(b) change of use of agricultural land** to Suitable Alternative Green Space (SANG) with sustainable drainage pond.

There are several Consultee responses – including from BDBC Landscape and Conservation – posted on the Hart Website – search on the application reference and find under 'documents'.



NOW SERVING

FISH & CHIPS

THE IRON BULL ROADHOUSE IS DELIGHTED TO NOW BE OFFERING A FISH & CHIPS SPECIAL EVERY FRIDAY, COMMENCING FRIDAY 23RD JULY

**SERVING FROM
12:00 NOON
UNTIL 19:30
EVERY FRIDAY**

**SUPREME FILLET OF BATTERED COD WITH
HOMEMADE TARTARE SAUCE, MINTED PEAS AND
TRIPLE-COOKED FRIES**

£12.95

**TAKAWAY
AVAILABLE**

*** PLEASE BOOK YOUR TABLE IN ADVANCE BY CALLING 01256 765156 ***

Iron Bull Roadhouse
Water End Park, Old Basing
Basingstoke RG24 7BB
01256 76 5158
contact@ironbullroadhouse.co.uk
www.facebook.com/ironbullroadhouse
<https://ig.page/iron-bull-roadhouse>

St Swithun's Natelý Scores



PHOTO: Chronicle / Alamy

and cold, are written into our society, culture and language. And the skies are as a blank canvas on which humans paint their beliefs and fears.

PUNISHING SIN

Our current concerns about climate change differ from those of our ancestors. Smaller local changes in weather were often of more immediate importance because of the threat that they posed, but also because of the message they carried.

That message was often from God, an interventionist deity who used nature – storms, floods, drought – to communicate with humanity. The Bible contains ample precedents: when his people would not repent, God warned Noah that he would 'bring a flood of waters upon the earth'.

Churches responded to both successful harvests and natural calamities with prayer and fasting. *The English Book of Common Prayer* (1549) attributed a 'plague of rain and waters' to human sin. And in 1598, a preacher from Sussex declared that famine, floods and unseasonable weather were 'a sermon of repentance'.

Weather was where the natural and the supernatural met. But it was not just God and his saints who could manipulate the weather.

RAISING TEMPESTS

A mini ice age in Europe (c.1300-1850) led to a succession of severe winters and cold, wet summers in which harvests failed. In these conditions, plague, famine and fear combined to fuel a belief that unnatural weather was the work of witches.

Theologians and demonologists described how witches stir up storms, raise tempests, 'solidify springs of water and melt mountains'. The link between witchcraft and weather was cemented in the famous book, the *Hammer of Witches* (Malleus Maleficarum).

The idea was repeated in printed pamphlets and news, in sermons, and in the accusations that neighbour made against neighbour. In 1562, storms swept across Europe leaving panic in their wake. In the German town of Wiesensteig more than 60 witches were burned at the stake.

In a well-documented and high profile case of weather magic in 1589, the Scottish king James VI was caught in a storm in the North Sea, and more than 100 suspected witches were arrested in the area surrounding North Berwick. Many were tortured, found guilty and executed for witchcraft and for treason. So blame witches, your sins or even saints for the weather 15th July brings and the summer that predicts. But, for the record, meteorologists tracking the position of the jet stream predicted a spell of warm, dry weather beginning in mid-July.

HOW TO PREDICT THE SUMMER WEATHER MAGIC MIRACLE AND METEOROLOGY

From an article by Helen Parish, Professor in History, University of Reading, published in 'The Conversation' 14th July 2021 (re-published under Creative Commons Licence)

On 15th July 971 the bones of St Swithun were moved from their resting place on the order of Aethelwold, Bishop of Winchester, and placed in a shrine inside the cathedral. The saint, it seemed, did not approve. A violent storm followed, and rain fell for 40 days. And from that story came the belief that the weather on 15th July predicts a summer of sun or rain.

*St Swithun's day if thou dost rain'
For forty days it will remain;
St Swithun's day if thou be fair,
For forty days will rain na mair.*

The weather in the UK this summer has been unpredictable – much of it overcast and wet and there was even a freak tornado in east London in late June. Technology might give us access to minute-by-minute forecasts, but how humans read the skies has long been shaped by a heady mix of meteorology, magic, and miracles.

The origins of the legend of St Swithun are questionable. Early sources suggest that St Swithun himself requested the removal of his bones to the cathedral. Why then would the saint stir up a storm? The first written record tying St Swithun to weather forecasting is linked to a torrential downpour in 1315, well over 300 years after his bones were

moved, and the rhyme above dates from some three centuries after that.

Has it ever rained for 40 consecutive days after 15th July? Not according to weather records. The closest may have been in 1924 when (according to the *Guinness Book of World Records*) 30 of the 40 days after St Swithun's day were wet – but 13.5 hours of sunshine were recorded on 15th July!

It still may be, however, that there is a glimmer of truth in the legend. Summer weather in the UK is shaped by the position of the jet stream. A northerly position in early July will make a drier, sunnier summer more likely, but a southerly position will often usher in a period of unsettled weather. St Swithun's day could well be a useful barometer.

If St Swithun is deemed responsible, he's not alone. Other saints whose feast days fall in June and July are also associated with weather forecasting. Rain on St Gervase's day on 19th June predicts 40 days of wet weather, while a damp feast of the Seven Sleepers (in Germany, Siebenschläfertag) on 27th June will usher in seven weeks of rain. St Swithun's legend is just one part of a complex picture of human interaction with the weather. Snow and sun, hot

Church Notices

'Journeying together, we worship God and serve the community'
www.united-parish.org.uk

From the Parish Registers

Burial of ashes

Marion and Harry French
at St Stephen's Up Nately
on 11th July 2021

May they rest in peace

APPRECIATION AND FAREWELL

REVD HELEN O'SULLIVAN

At the end of June we said goodbye to the Revd Helen O'Sullivan.

Helen has completed her three-year curacy with us and, with that now at an end, has been appointed and licensed as Interim Minister, working with The Revd David Roche serving across the benefice of Hurstbourne Priors and Longparish and St Mary Bourne and Woodcott; the benefice of Whitchurch with Tufton with Litchfield; and the parish of Barton Stacey and Bullington.

It has been a great joy having Helen as part of our team and we will miss her warmth, sense of fun and thoughtful and insightful input into our team and parishes.

Helen has been a wonderful pastor to the United Parish and has been a great encouragement to many others across the benefice. Helen is a gifted preacher and alongside her work in the parishes has been teaching at the Winchester Diocesan School of Mission.

We wish Helen all the best in her new role and trust that she will know Gods richest blessings in her new ministry.



FROM THE MINISTRY TEAM

The Church's calendar has so many festivals

and feast days that if they were all public holidays very little work would get done. Apart from the four great festivals of Christmas, Easter, Ascension and Pentecost we also have lots of Saint's Days when we remember men and women who, having caught hold of who Jesus is, lived lives which reflected his life.

By way of contrast this month, on August 8th, we have the Feast of the Transfiguration, which remembers the time when Jesus took three of his disciples, Peter, James and John, up on the mountain to pray. Mountains are mysterious places – swirling cloud, sun breaking through here and there – that's the kind of place Jesus and the disciples went to.

St Mark in his account tells us that Jesus is transfigured in the presence of his disciples. They find the appearance of his face changes and his clothes become dazzling white, they see him talking to two great figures from the Old Testament, Moses and Elijah. They find themselves enveloped in a cloud like one of those which blows up so quickly on a mountain and from the cloud they hear a voice saying: 'This is my Son, my chosen, listen to him.' It is a moment when light breaks through, when Jesus is seen in a new light.

Which may be nice enough as stories go but what it got to do with us in August 2021? Perhaps because we live in a world which often badly needs a new way of seeing, which needs light to break through, which needs moments of transfiguration.

If we are to continue as a species to live in the world, we need to continually look at it through fresh eyes, see it in the light of its fragility, its dependence on us for it for its ability to continue to sustain life.

We quite often need to see people – groups of people and individuals – in a new light. It's all too easy to write people off, to see them in a poor light and see the problems they seem to present rather than the potential which they should represent. Sometimes the mountain on which we need to stand is in the shoes of the other person and that can be a very steep climb.

There was once someone I found it difficult if not impossible to get on with. They seemed to be the hardest of hard cases until I took the trouble to discover something of their background and I found that the hard shell was a suit of armour without which, given the difficulties that they had faced, they would have been destroyed.

We remember the Transfiguration in the Church because light still breaks through in people's lives as they see Jesus in a new light, see that he is more than a good bloke who did some good things, said some wise things. People who like the Saints catch hold of who Jesus is, not a dead figure in the past but living presence in the world today and endeavour to live lives which reflect his life.

Whether or not the Feast of the Transfiguration on August 8th reflects a moment of profound spiritual significance for us or it serves to remind us of the importance of being prepared to see things in a new light. It is an important date.

Alan Hoar
Licensed Lay Minister
North Hampshire Downs Benefice

CHURCH SERVICES FOR AUGUST

	9am	10am	11am	4.30pm	5pm
1st Aug – 9th Sunday after Trinity			Mapledurwell CW HC Revd Michael Chatfield		
8th Aug – 10th Sunday after Trinity	Odiham CW HC Revd Chris Dudgeon and Revd Simon Butler		Upton Grey END OF HOLIDAY CLUB TENT SERVICE		
Thursday 12th August		Upton Grey BCP HC Revd Simon Butler			
15th Aug - 11th Sunday after Trinity	Newnham BCP HC (said) Alan Hoar				
Thursday 19th August		Herriard BCP HC Revd Linda Scard			
22nd Aug - 12th Sunday after Trinity			Up Nately Morning Service Revd Linda Scard		Nately Scures Evensong Revd Simon Butler
29th Aug (5th Sunday) 13th Sunday after Trinity	Odiham CW HC The Very Revd Catherine Ogle Dean of Winchester		Odiham Informal Service Revd Amber Beresford	Mapledurwell Hymns & Pimms Camilla Douglas	

RIDE + STRIDE for Churches

11th
Sept
2021



RIDE AND STRIDE IS A FUN DAY OUT FOR ALL

The day consists of simply visiting as many churches as you either can or want to in a day, always on the second Saturday in September. How you do it is up to you, in the past tractors have been driven from church to church, horses have been ridden and the visits have even been made using a bus pass. Many churches provide refreshments on the day, so not only do you get to see some great buildings, you also get to meet some nice and interesting people who feed you as well.

There is a serious side to Ride and Stride. The event is non religious and is organised to raise money for the maintenance of the fabric of our churches. If you want to take part please visit our website which will give you the details of all the churches participating throughout Hampshire, as well as details of how to make a donation or get sponsorship.



Find out more at
www.hihct.org.uk

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GREEN WASTE COLLECTION

Update from Cllr Hayley Eachus, Cabinet Member for Recycling, Waste and Regulatory Services

Due to Covid-related staff shortages, some scheduled garden waste collections are being suspended. For updates please see <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/gardenwaste>

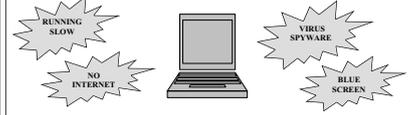


PLANNING AND BIODIVERSITY

THE ENVIRONMENT BILL which is currently past the Commons and part way through the Lords – in its Part 6 Nature and Biodiversity – has sections on Biodiversity Reports and Local Nature Recovery Strategies. (Also on Species Conservation Strategies: 'Natural England may prepare and publish a strategy for improving the conservation status of any species of fauna or flora.')

In the meantime, Basingstoke and Deane BDBC has issued 'Interim Guidance for Development' on biodiversity net gain: 'Ahead of any statutory legislation due to be put in place by central Government, the borough council has prepared a guidance note for applicants, agents and ecological consultants to inform development proposals and decisions over the short-term. The guidance note also sets out the information to be submitted to demonstrate that measurable net gains have been achieved. See www.basingstoke.gov.uk/supplementary-planning-documents

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01256 701480

07719738897

imcs@hotmail.co.uk

VILLAGER CONTACT DETAILS

Editor Susan Turner 07515 777060 –
su.newnham@btinternet.com

Distribution Lorna Cuthill 354651; **News Gathers**
Up Nately Liz Preece 762059; Mapledurwell: Lorna Cuthill

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Thank you to everyone who contributed to this issue. Please support the *Villager* by sending any stories or pictures of local interest.

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