

# The Ampfield Messenger



*The Parish Magazine of  
St. Mark Ampfield*

**August 2022**

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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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Last month we had expected that many of our regular contributors would be enjoying the channel crossing queues so anticipated that this month's edition would be very slim. However, the current exceptionally dry spell has no doubt lured you to staycation - nor should we have underestimated your loyalty. We are therefore pleased to offer up this month a reasonably full edition for you, for which thanks.

We suspect now that you'll be away next month - if so happy holidays!

***Rob & Chris***

## *Letter from Vanessa*

### *Dear Friends*

I know that many of you reading this are dog lovers, and so you will be of the same mind as me that there is nothing quite so loving as a dog. The joy and enthusiasm of a dog launching themselves at their owner as they come in the door never gets old! (unless of course they are covered in mud!)

Exuberance in love is something we are all called to – in the version of the bible called The Message, Romans Chapter 12 begins “love from the centre of who you are; don’t fake it” God brings life and love in all abundance; God loves us exuberantly and with joy! For me, this is most present in the beauty of the world around us, and in Ampfield particularly we are surrounded by creation – such a range of flora and fauna even just in the churchyard itself – when we move out into Chapel woods there is even greater variety.

This week, Anglican Bishops from across the world are meeting in Canterbury for the Lambeth Conference which happens approximately every 10 years. You may have seen the pictures on social media – there is great diversity of ethnicity, gender and sexuality among the bishops, and it’s a joy to see how God has created us all so differently.

Sometimes as human beings we put up barriers that stop us from showing God’s love to those who are different from us ... thank goodness, God is far above those barriers and rejoices in our diversity.

*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

### St. Mark's Stall at the Ampfield Market

In July we introduced clothes to the stall with great success, thanks to your generous donations. So, think of us when you get out your winter clothes! Contact Chris or Kate and we will arrange collection/delivery. We will also be selling gifts, so perhaps it's time to think about Christmas?

### Foodbank Donations

Thank you to all who have already donated to the Food bank. In the Summer holidays many families are struggling and the Romsey branch of the Trussell Trust are getting very low on stocks. Kindly look at the current [shopping list](#) so you can purchase accordingly. Please bring your donations to any of our churches on a Sunday or during the week to All Saints on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday morning and at other times when the library or café are open.

### Donations for holiday meals

Once again we will be serving breakfast to struggling families (takeaway) once a week at All Saints over the school holidays and we're asking for your help. As well as breakfast, we'd like to be able to offer the families a treat or two to take away with them - perhaps a packet of biscuits, chocolates, sweets or cakes. If you're able to donate a packet of something (ideally with a month or so on its best before date) over the next couple of Sundays, we'd really appreciate it. We're also asking for your prayers - for the smooth running of the breakfasts and for those families who come to them. Thank you.

### Crafts for Children

Two craft afternoons have been organised for Primary School children and their families at All Saints Church during the Summer Holidays. The next one will take place on the 11th August from 2 - 3.30pm with the help of Beth our new Children and Families Worker. To find out more details about the craft afternoons and how to book in, please look on our [website](#).

## Benefice News

### Friends for Lunch – Harvest Celebration

Friends for Lunch will be on holiday until October. Watch this space for details of October's lunch, when we will invite all parishioners to join us to celebrate Harvest.



### Welcome Café at All Saints Church

The Welcome Café is for any and everyone in the community to come and meet friends for a catch-up and enjoy great coffee. There is no charge for coffee but donations are welcome. We particularly welcome those who find themselves lonely or who have been bereaved. There are trained 'listeners' who will be happy to talk, befriend and empathise with you and if appropriate signpost to other helpful organisations, all in complete confidence.

**10am – 12 noon on**

**Thursdays 11th and 25th August**

Contact [joinin@acnb-church.org](mailto:joinin@acnb-church.org) ☎ 023 8073 7617

### The Ampfield Market

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Ampfield Market during the last year, The Market continues to thrive and provide a lovely monthly meeting place for all the community and many friends from further afield! The Market takes a welcome summer break in August but will return on **Saturday September 3rd** with an amazing selection of tables and hopefully a new bread supplier.



I hope you all have a relaxing and happy summer, the team will look forward to welcoming you all back in September. **Julie Trotter**

## Benefice News

### Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride, Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2022

**R**ide and Stride is the major fundraising event of the Trust. It makes grants to churches for a wide variety of reasons, mainly major maintenance and repair projects.

Our benefice has over recent years benefitted from grants to St Marks and St Denys. Churches which receive grants are expected to reciprocate by



participating in this event. Half the funds raised come to the participating church. The other half and Gift Aid raised goes to the Trust.

As in previous years it is hoped that a group of people will be able to walk between a few of the churches in our benefice and enjoy our wonderful countryside. With sponsor money being divided between the church of their choice and the trust. If you are interested in taking part in the walk, please email Sally on

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

François intends to cycle about seventy miles around the thirty three churches of Romsey Benefice for St Denys' and the Trust. His sponsorship form is in St Denys' or commitments may be emailed for entry on the form.

[fh@talk21.com](mailto:fh@talk21.com).

**Sally Kerson**





**Brief Report of St. Mark's PCC  
Meeting held on Thursday 7 July  
2022  
in St. Mark's Room**

Revd Vanessa is the new Assistant Rural Dean. We are very pleased for her. She opened the meeting with a prayer.

Below are some of the items that were discussed:-

The Quinquennial Inspection

has taken place and we are awaiting the report and its recommendations. Unfortunately, there is an on-going problem with woodworm, which can be seen all over the wall between the organ and the flower vestry. We have a quote for this work which will be dealt with soon.

Fete and Dog Show

Vanessa wished to record our thanks to everyone who helped with this wonderful day. It was a great community event enjoyed by so many people. We are very grateful to the North Baddesley Co-op in Botley Road, who donated beef burgers and veggie sausages on that day for our bbq.

The Friends for Lunch and the Church table at the Village Market are also ways in which we are enjoying connecting with the community.

Cream Tea

It was decided to hold the summer cream tea on Sunday afternoon, 11 September. This could possibly include a celebration of Claire's life and we may have the bench in memory of her in situ. Please come along.

Safeguarding

Jo Hooper is kindly helping us with the safeguarding audit and the training which all PCC members are required to undertake. We are very grateful to Jo who is working hard for each of the churches in the Benefice.

Lithograph of St. Mark's Church 1851

Thanks were expressed to Nick Jeffery for having this painting cleaned, enhanced and copied. A copy is back on the wall opposite the main Church door and is full of interest. The original will be stored safely. Do go and have a look if you can. (Nick's interesting article on this lithograph was in July's Messenger).

Church Table at the Village Market

It was decided that Oasis Fairtrade goods will no longer be sold at the Market, as they are available in most supermarkets now. There are lots of interesting items for sale each month, including some smart dresses and skirts.

Rotas

If you can spare a little time to help with the cleaning of the Church and St. Mark's Room, or would like to provide flowers for the altar for a month, or could volunteer to be a Sidesperson, to welcome people into Church, do have a word with Vanessa, or one of the Churchwardens. Thank you.

Jennie Edwards  
(PCC Secretary)



## AN EPIC VOYAGE

by Ian Wylie

Later this August, I'm going to start a long slow solo sail round the UK and Ireland. For those of you who remember me, that might be a bit of a surprise, as when I came to ACNB Church now nearly a decade ago I was in a really rough state. I'm grateful to all the churches in the group, to the prayers of many and to the Andrew Cassell Foundation who helped me, a disabled person, get back to independence on the water. My sail is in part to raise awareness of their work, and funds to help them grow.



You can help the Foundation and encourage me by clicking: 'Donate Now' at [SailingTrilleen.org](https://SailingTrilleen.org). Any gift is amazing. Every little really does help get more disabled people sailing sooner.

One of the things that I learnt during those rough, rough years was that I couldn't do without the wild, because as well as being a place of hazard, I've learnt it's a place of where the noise of modern life is stripped away and the life of God is more easily visible. I was in my time @acnbchurch grateful for the churchyards at St John, St Denys and St Mark because, in their different ways they are each places of peace and mild wildness.



...Cont.

**T**he Andrew Cassell Foundation were instrumental in helping me get out of the Nursing Home at Kingfisher Court. I'm grateful to the team there, because without their acute clinical judgement I don't think I would ever have got the repeated and worsening cycle of infections related to my spinal cord injury stabilised. But the Foundation were the organisation that made my rehabilitation real and present. They work with disabled people to help them achieve maximal independence on the water.

My sail will be altogether less high performance. I'll be sailing solo, in a Vancouver 27 an 8.34 glass fibre transoceanic capable design built the year I was born in in 1979. She, like me, has been on a bit of a rehab journey over the last two years. Also like me, her state is now adequate, but there is much more to do. I'll be going slowly, both for safety reasons, but also because I want to connect with people along the route, tell them the story of what the Foundation does and invite them to help us, or refer new disabled people to us.

I'll be setting off in the middle of August, the week after Cowes Week, where I'll be helming one of the Foundation's Sonar sailboats in the regatta week. We find the Sonar, a former Paralympic boat, is a great platform for helping disabled people explore how they can achieve the maximum in terms of independence on the water. The Foundation trains through the long cold months of the winter, developing skills and improving fitness before racing in Cowe's

Week as a celebratory finish to the training cycle for that year.



**Ian Wylie**

# F

riends of  
Chapel  
Wood  
by  
Graham Roads

As many of you will know, there is an attractive pond area in the lower reaches of Chapel Wood. In keeping with many such places, the recent spell of dry weather has taken

its toll on the water levels, which looked well down when compared with previous summers. Faced by the real possibility that the pond might dry out, the Friends decided that the July working party

should be used to clear the area as best they could and to see if they could not get the tiny stream of water which, in more normal times can act as a feeder for the pond area, to flow once again.



The stream area was very heavily overgrown with bracken, brambles, ferns and various other woodland plants. In some areas, the stems of fallen trees were acting as mini-bridges

or, in others, acting as a dam. We needed a cunning plan! The First Battalion of the Chapel Wood Corps of Engineers was formed and instantly stepped up to the plate. The stream was divided into separate stretches, the younger officers started at each end and the rest of us attacked from the centre. Some were working downstream and others working up. Hopefully, before it got dark, all teams could meet somewhere near the middle in a crescendo of accomplishment.



We tried slashers, we tried loppers, we tried trimmers and we tried shovels. We even pulled up some stuff by hand. Bit by bit, the bottom of the stream became visible.

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Then it was time to remove the bigger obstacles, such as the tree stems. Some could be sawn in half and moved, others were levered out of the way, and one needed to be cut up with an axe. Finally, the path of the stream was clear. It was also clear that, to get the water really flowing, the channel needed to be dug out from top to bottom by hand.

It was at that stage we became aware of the mud. In places, we found the mud was so deep it could swallow an entire foot. Now, it may be quite funny to watch someone throw themselves clear, only to have to go back again to settle into the boot that had refused to budge, but, if you dare smile, rest assured your boot will be next!!



Whilst all this was going on, the real heroes of the morning had been clearing out the pond. This presented a very similar set of problems, with the unwelcome addition that much of the surrounding plant material was very securely anchored by a healthy and robust root system. The best tools proved to be muscles and determination, both of which, happily, were present in abundance. We managed to clear the worst of the pond weed and, hopefully, as it settles down again once we leave, pond dipping can be resumed.

By the time, we settled down to coffee and chocolate cookies, all had been completed. It was with very considerable satisfaction, that we watched the water begin to flow once again. An initial hint of moisture gave way to tiny puddles. Gradually, the puddles would combine to form larger areas of water and eventually a clear trickle became apparent from the spring at the top to the pond at the bottom. We can fine tune all of this next time, but, for now, the evidence of a constant flow was very satisfying.

**Graham Roads**

# Before the days of the parish church

by Liz Hallett



*St Martin's Cross at Iona*

**I** was always taught that Christianity reached these shores when St Augustine arrived in 597. Not so, it was here long before that. The earliest Christian faith came to Britain in Roman times (think of St. Alban in the 3rd century) and a Celtic form was then established by the Celtic people who were based particularly in Ireland, Wales, Cornwall and Scotland, probably reaching Ireland first by sea-routes from the Mediterranean and to Cornwall from Brittany. Early missionaries included men such as St Ninian of Whithorn, St Columba of Iona and St Aidan who went from Iona to Lindisfarne to establish the great Christian base there. Their worship was based on local leadership from small monasteries, rather than being organised

nationally. People flocked to these monasteries to learn about the new faith and evangelists would visit local communities where they would set up preaching crosses at the meeting places - and much later as the number of followers grew, the sites made holy by generations of teaching and worship would become the site of a wooden or stone church. Thus the early parish system developed.

A surprising number of these Celtic crosses still survive, many in Cornish churchyards. Later crosses were carved with Biblical scenes, often on all four sides. These made a good teaching aid, in the same way that, later on, stained glass windows would be used for the same purpose.

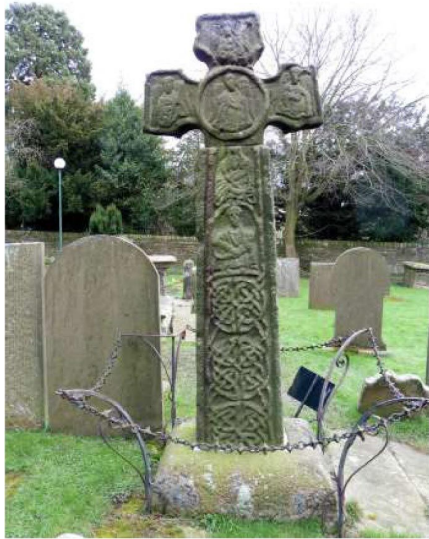
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**I**t is remarkable how these carvings have survived and can still inspire us today. The Irish crosses are particularly impressive since many of them were carved rather later, when techniques had developed and their worship continued in the Celtic style for much longer, not being affected by the Synod of Whitby's dictats.

Celtic Christianity came to a formal end in England at the Synod of Whitby in 664AD, and gradually new styles of worship based on leadership by the Pope in Rome became popular. Preaching crosses were to continue for some time however, since a parish church in each community would not be Established for some centuries more. Small communities of priests were established in minster churches (such as locally at Nursling) and would travel out to all the villages and communities around to evangelise and lead worship. There was still a need for a preaching cross to mark the gathering place for the Christian community. We have seen two wonderful examples in the north, at Bewcastle near Carlisle and Ruthwell on the Solway coast. It is thought that these date from the early 8th century and were the work of masons brought in by Benedict Biscop who established Monkwearmouth and Jarrow as centres of the new Roman Christianity. Another sturdy Anglo-Saxon cross of the same period stands in the churchyard at Eyam in Derbyshire.



*An English C8-9th example at  
Eyam in Derbyshire*

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**I**t is believed that there were once over 12,000 crosses in the country, but only around 2,000 survive today. I can recommend to you a couple of very fascinating holiday trips: either exploring the super-abundance of Cornish crosses or secondly the Irish so-called high crosses, much grander and more ornate. We need to remember that originally the crosses marked a place of new Life, not of death: they stand on holy sites, sanctified by the prayers of centuries. They are fundamental to the development of Christianity on our Islands.



Carved detail on the Moone Cross - can you work out which biblical stories are illustrated on this Irish example?



*Two Cornish examples:  
left at Crows an Wra and  
right at Cardinham*

**Liz Hallett**





## Ron and Stella's Quiz Night

1. What is the eighth Planet from the sun?
2. In what year was the Romsey Agricultural and Horse Show Society first invited to hold a show at Broadlands?
3. HG is the chemical symbol of which element?
4. Which Email service is owned by Microsoft?
5. In which year was Concorde retired from service, following a terrible accident three years earlier?
6. Which Ampfield vicar always maintained that he turned to God, following being shipwrecked?
7. What colours are the Norwegian flag?
8. What is the capital of Spain?
9. Beethoven was born in 1770 in which city?
10. Name the three primary colours.



# The History of Ampfield Village Hall

## Part 9: 2016 - 2017

by Julie Trotter

### 2016

The Parish Council completed the purchase of the freehold of the Hall from the WI. It was felt necessary to create a new 100 year lease. The Pantomime, Hansel and Gretel, took place on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. A new bicycle rack was installed in the car park. Iestyn Edwards returned to the hall with his new show on March 19<sup>th</sup>. In April, the Hog The Limelight funding offered by HCC to subsidise Village Hall entertainment ceased, making it more difficult to afford popular and top quality artists. Another quiz night took place on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Wi Fi was installed in the hall and made available to all hall users. Sue O'Dowd set up a new IT Support Service which would take place every week in the Committee Room at the same time as the Cafe. In August, 40 grey chairs were purchased from Ikea for the Cafe. 8 new Cafe tables were also ordered, (4 x purple, 4 x lilac), from County Supplies. The first Race Night took place in the hall on October 15<sup>th</sup>, it was hugely entertaining and successful. Caterers supplied a sausage and chip supper – with a veggie option ! Sadly, the Pre-School decided to close in December due to changing regulations, falling numbers and the opening of many Yellow Dot Nurseries locally.

A mobile shop briefly came to the lay by outside the hall on every Thursday morning to hopefully be of benefit to the Cafe visitors. The Pantomime, the Elves and the Shoemaker, brought the years events to a close on December 17<sup>th</sup>.



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**2017**

**J**ulie prepared some designs for 2 new Village Hall signs, one for the hall and one for the car park. The designs were submitted to the printers to be produced and installed on March 23rd. On March 11<sup>th</sup> Shoo Shoo Baby came to entertain guests who also enjoyed a chilli supper kindly provided by Sarah Guilder a local caterer. The W.I. (Paddy) chair was moved into the Committee Room where it could be used and enjoyed.

Steven White provided the framed family history of the chair to be exhibited in the room. Steven also presented the hall with an Ivy called 'Paddys Pride' which had been specially cultivated in Ampfield. (More of this next month). A Quiz night took place on May 12<sup>th</sup>. Trevor took the opportunity to purchase some second hand patio furniture for use on the patio during the warmer summer months. Liz and Trevor Easterbrook created a lovely garden around the edge of the patio. The special name plates were designed, produced and fitted to the committee and annexe doors. The committee chose and purchased a new laptop for use primarily in the IT Support Service sessions. A safe was installed in the committee

room for its secure storage. The first baking demonstration took place during the Cafe, Noel and Paul showed everyone how to make Soda bread in a very entertaining morning. The Cafe also donated all its proceeds from a previous morning to the MacMillan cancer charity.

The Committee discussed plans to replace the wooden floor in the main hall and began to source 3 quotes and some floor samples. A Quiz took place on November 10<sup>th</sup> and the year closed with the Pantomime, The Frog Prince, on December 13<sup>th</sup>.



**Julie Trotter**

## A Kitchen Garden (G4G)

by Graham Roads



**T**his time of year, everything in the kitchen garden seems to be growing flat out. The Charlotte potatoes have been ready to dig for the past few weeks. Broad beans are being frozen to preserve their fresh taste. The baby leeks that were planted between the main crop can now be thinned and treated in a similar manner to asparagus. Baby spinach, rocket, parsley and basil can form the basis of a tasty green salad. Everywhere you look there is stuff going on.

In the greenhouse the story is similar. Tomatoes are turning red, cucumbers are really stretching out and chilli peppers are everywhere. It is hard work trying to keep up with it all but we have to try. There are a number of jobs, which, if ignored now, can store up problems for the future.

The first of these is watering. Generally speaking, plants in the greenhouse appear to like a settled routine. Like some of us, they prefer to know where their next drink is coming from. But, very often, the pattern of watering can be as important as the overall availability. Plants like tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers do not appreciate irregular watering, even if the overall weekly supply might be adequate. For instance, irregular watering can disrupt the supply of essential plant minerals; in tomatoes a lack of available calcium can result in a physiological problem known as blossom end rot, whereby the base of the fruit turns a leathery brown colour and it should be destroyed.



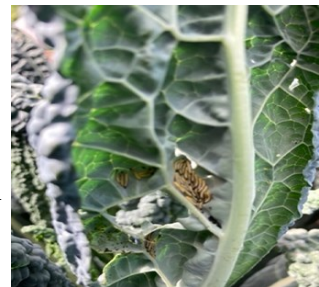
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**A**nother common issue can be air circulation. Good air circulation is important – it can maintain a lower ambient temperature across the leaves and it also can reduce the possibility of disease being spread due to higher levels of humidity to put into fruit production, which is why we grow them in the first place! Air circulation for greenhouse plants can often be improved by removing the lower leaf branches from the main stem. A similar effect can be achieved by removing the plant side shoots. One side benefit is that the plant has more energy

Outside, one job that should take priority is keeping an eye on the crops for insects and, particularly, their eggs. Eggs have a habit of producing caterpillars and caterpillars have a habit of munching their way through the best, the tastiest leaves of kale and spinach in no time at all. The earlier they are found the better and then just wipe them off with a damp cloth. A daily inspection of the outdoor larder at this stage can also catch black fly and white fly before they become too embedded. Well worth the time and easily done last thing at night or very early in the morning when deciding whether to water or not.



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 over the summer, focusing on stuff that we have grown ourselves. Send all thoughts, ideas and contributions to Chris and Rob. They are most welcome.

**Graham Roads**

*Collect for the 6 August*  
*The Transfiguration of our Lord*

Father in heaven, whose Son Jesus Christ was  
wonderfully transfigured before chosen  
witnesses upon the holy mountain,  
and spoke of the exodus he would accomplish at  
Jerusalem:

give us strength so to hear his voice and bear our  
cross

that in the world to come we may see him as he is;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and  
for ever.

**Amen**



## August Rotas for St. Mark's

Date	1st Reading		2nd Reading		Intercessions	Music
7 Aug 9.30	Tidy Church					
14 Aug 9.30	Jeremiah 23:23:29	Doreen	Hebrews 11:29- 12.2	Jennie	Ron	Clive
21 Aug 9.30	Isaiah 58:9b- end	Ron	Hebrews 12:18- end	Chris	Jean	CDs
28 Aug 9.30	Ecclesi- aticus 10.12- 18	Heather S	Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16	Robyn	Sally	Clive

## Answers to Ron & Stella's Quiz

1. Neptune
2. 1919
3. Mercury
4. Hotmail
5. 2003
6. Roger Edwards
7. Red, White and Blue
8. Madrid
9. Berlin
10. Red, Yellow and Blue



## Information

If you need any Zoom meeting links, would like to join in with readings or intercessions, would like prayers said for you or someone you know, or would just like to comment, please email [joinin@acnb-church.org](mailto:joinin@acnb-church.org).

### **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

\*\*\*\*



## CONTRIBUTIONS and CONTENT

**DONATIONS** may be payable by cheque, please post to:  
Attn. Adrienne, All Saints Church, Church Close, North Baddesley  
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Or paid directly:

Sort code: 30-92-94 Account No: 01254722

Account Name: St Marks Church PCC / Reference: Magazine

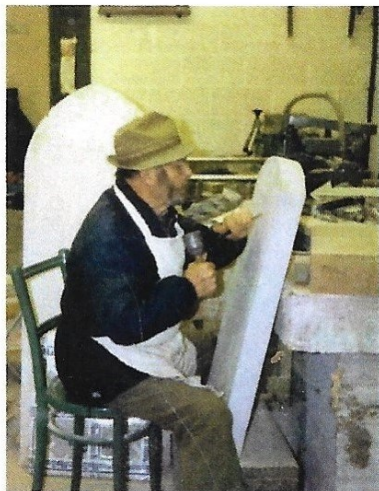
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