

The Ampfield Messenger



*The Parish Magazine of
St. Mark Ampfield*

November 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

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This picture was taken by Mark West when St. Mark, Ampfield was looking particularly wonderful in the dusk.

Letter from Anne

Dear Friends

When do you put up your Christmas tree? Over the past few weeks on social media, I have noticed an increasing amount of people asking the question if it is okay to put up their Christmas trees in the middle of November! My first reaction was 'no!' as traditionally Christmas trees should not go up until the start of Advent, which is the fourth Sunday before Christmas. But I am also aware of the sense of fear and hopelessness shrouding society today: financial hardship and loss for many, as well as the uncertainty of conflict, and the injustices in our world.

Then I remember the one who came into our world and turned everything upside down. I remember our Lord Jesus who ate and drank with those in society branded as *sinners*, Jesus who defied tradition by healing someone on the Sabbath, Jesus who became angry with his friends when they told the mothers with the little children to go away and not bother him. Jesus was aware of the deep sense of pain and loss of his people living under Roman rule and he brought with him a sense of joy. A joy which resulted in occasionally having to be controversial and break the rules of tradition!

With this in mind, I decided to message those who were asking if it was okay to put up their tree in mid-November - *'Yes, why not! If it brings you and your family joy then go ahead and put up your Christmas tree in the middle of November!'* Imagine the sheer joy on children's faces as their parents surprise them by putting up their Christmas trees that bit earlier this year. Our world desperately needs joy at this time, especially the joy of the one whose birth was heralded as *'good news of great joy'* from a moonlit sky full of angels.

Do keep an eye on all that is happening in the benefice over the next few weeks and may we all follow Christ's example and become fearless joy-givers this coming Christmas season.

With love and prayers

Ann

Ann Devereux is an Ordinand from Winchester School of Mission and a member of our ministry team.



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	09:30 informal Morning Prayer	
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

All Souls Service

Will take place on Sunday 5th Nov, 3:30pm at All Saints Church, when we remember our departed loved ones. The service is open to everyone who might find it comforting especially if they have recently bereaved.

Remembrance Sunday - 12th November

There will be Acts of Remembrance across the benefice at the churches and war memorials for venues and timings please read [here](#). And on p. 26.

Benefice News

Ampfield Market - St. Mark's Stall: Sat 4th Nov.

We will be at the market in November, selling Christmas decorations and gifts. Thank you to everyone who has supported our stall. If you would like to donate, please contact Kate or Chris to arrange collection or delivery.

Friends for Lunch - Next date Wednesday 15th Nov.

We had an excellent turn out for October's meal. Annie's cottage pie and Clare's bread and butter pudding were enjoyed by all. To book a place for November's meal, please telephone Kate: 07738467350

Memorial Benches in St Mark's glade

You may have seen the memorial bench with the inscription "ERIC WOOLLEY 1907 - 1996" which has adorned the glade outside St Mark's Room for many years but sadly is no longer safe to sit on. Please could anyone with connections to the Woolley family make contact with Phil on philb@acnb-church.org.

Many people made generous donations towards a bench in memory of Claire Ludwell. Progress in purchasing and installing the bench has been held up by working out how its location in the glade will be affected by the proposed Labyrinth. This has now been resolved, and discussions are in hand with her family to choose her bench, and to install it once the relevant diocese permissions are completed.

Phil

The Children's Society — a grand total!

A big thank you to all who contributed so generously to this years box collection. I have been able to bank **£643.08** as a grand total. Thank you, again for all your continuous support to The Children's Society. Bless you all

Heather



Benefice News

CHRISTMAS IS COMING!!

Carol Singing

We're delighted that The Friends of St Mark's have agreed with our two local hostelrys to sing carols this Christmas. We plan a practice on either 20 or 21 Nov at 7:30pm in St Mark's Room, and then to sing in:



**The Potters Heron and The White Horse
on the evening of 1st Dec.**

If you would like to join in, please email Phil Budden on: philb@acnb-church.org, including your availability for the practice on 20 and 21 Nov. Or you can just come along on the night to The Potters Heron and The White Horse to enjoy listening to our carols with your meal or drink!

Following a Star

In preparation for our Christmas events, we are collecting knitted or crocheted stars - it would be fantastic if the churches in the group could be filled with these handcrafted stars at Christmas. Our colour theme is gold, silver, white, yellow and cream and the stars can be of any size and will be put up in the church of your choice. More information, plus a crochet and knitting pattern can be found using this link:



Following a Star

**Calling all those who
can crochet or knit!**

Help us to decorate the churches this Christmas



<https://www.acnb-church.org/blog/2023-christmas-stars/>

Benefice News



ESPRIMO

Early & Contemporary Partsongs

SATURDAY 25TH NOVEMBER, 12 P.M.
ST MARK'S CHURCH, AMPFIELD



Tickets £10 available at <https://bit.ly/48vTMzl>
40 minute recital followed by ploughman's lunch
In aid of St Mark's Church and Esprimo



You can follow this link: <https://bit.ly/48vTMzl>

Benefice News

Friends of St. Mark's Wine Tasting

Great fun was had at the wine tasting event hosted by The Friends of St. Mark's, in St Mark's Room. The event was sold out and everyone was entertained & given some great wine tips by Stephen Phillips, accompanied by Karen Phillips serving up the wine & tasty nibbles, supported by helpers from The Friends of St. Mark's & the local community. The wines were served in unmarked carafes and we were all encouraged to write down what we could see, smell, and taste before being given Stephen's view.

A fun draw saw 10 bottles of very nice wine shared amongst the lucky winners & the event raised over £400 to help with the upkeep and maintenance of our beautiful buildings. A success that we will aim to repeat in the months to come, perhaps with a different twist, so watch this space for more events including news of the very popular informal candle-lit Carol Service at St. Mark's, with Mulled Wine & Mince Pies, in the run up to Christmas.

Phil



Benefice News

Memory Box Foundation

The Memory Box Foundation will be visiting on Thursday morning during Welcome Café at All Saints and showing items from the past for us all to enjoy and reminisce. Please do let people know of this facility. For more information please read [here](#).

Jam Jars

In the next few months there are going to be activities which require jam jars, if you have any you can donate that would be great, and please if possible could you take the paper labels off! Then just leave them in a box/bag at any of the churches. Thank you.

Lunchtime Recitals at St. Denys

The next recital will take place on 8th November at 1pm when there will be a Ukulele and Handbells performance. The recitals are free, tea/coffee and cake are provided and donations welcome

Diddy Disciples

We are delighted to announce the launch of [Diddy Disciples](#) on a Wednesday morning starting 8th Nov at 9.15am during term time. There will be a fun Bible story, song and snack session for pre-schoolers and their grown ups.

Wine and Paint

The next wine and paint evening will take place on Friday 17th November in All Saints Church . No painting skills are required and all materials are provided. Tickets are selling fast so book now to make sure that you have a space by using this [link](#).

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

Benefice News

New Songs workshop

The workshop we held last year was well attended and so there is another chance to learn new songs on Sat 4th Nov, 2:30pm at All Saints.

Social Hub at All Saints Wednesdays 9.30 - 12pm

Social Hub is a place to chat, have a drink, do a jigsaw and meet the Memory Box Foundation. You can relax with a book that has been borrowed from the Community Library (also open on a Wednesday morning) or just sit and chat. There are free drinks and biscuits and sometimes other treats!

Inclusive Survey

A massive thank you to everyone who contributed their votes and comments in our recent inclusion survey. We have a magnificent 57 responses which we're looking at. These give us a good picture of the range of views across the benefice and will inform how we continue to look at inclusion. If you'd like to know what the votes look like, here is the [link](#) to a summary of the responses.

Autumn Fair

Knights Grove Care Home, Thomas Road, in North Baddesley are holding an Autumn Fair on Friday 3rd November from 2.30 - 6pm. As well as many different items for sale, there will be a table raising money for the church so please come and support.

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.

Village News

Ampfield Bridge Club

Ampfield Bridge Club is a friendly club that plays duplicate Bridge every Tuesday evening in Ampfield Village Hall at 7.00 pm until 10.00 pm. New members are very welcome. If you are interested, please contact Janet on 07879915726 or email janetwallace1@hotmail.co.uk.



Romsey Trefoil Guild meeting on new plans for recycling

When Doreen invited guests to a Romsey Trefoil Guild meeting on recycling, I thought it sounded interesting, and so it proved. Nick Adams-King came to bring news of a major upgrade in Hampshire recycling. Adams-King used to be responsible for recycling for Test Valley Borough Council and now has similar responsibilities for Hampshire County Council, and is evidently well qualified to talk on the subject.

HCC's last serious investment in recycling was 20 years ago, and an upgrade was overdue, and they are now about to build a new Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) in Eastleigh. We'll all get a second blue recycling bin so that glass, plastic bottles, PTTs and metal cans go in one, and paper and card in the other. This will allow a wider range of plastics to be collected. It will start in Test Valley in 2024, and be fully implemented in 2025 when the MRF goes live.

There were lively questions afterwards, including one about whether smaller bins would be available for those without much space. The answer was yes, but the logistics of delivering 150,000 bins across Hampshire means a large one will be delivered first, but will then be swapped for a small one. All in all a very encouraging preview of an important step forward in our recycling capability.



Phil



The Ampfield Market

**(Established in 2000, now
in its 24th year !)**

will take place on



**Saturday 4th November
From 10am to 12noon
in Ampfield Village Hall
(SO51 9BJ)**

Our Market has a great reputation, we regularly sell fresh fruit and veg supplied by Hansards in Awbridge and delicious bread and cakes supplied by Matts Bakery. Honey, preserves, plants and fresh flowers. Cards, wrapping paper and books. Collectables, unusual crafts and jewellery. Clothes, toys and puzzles. Bric a brac, seasonal treats and much much more !

**We serve fresh coffee and a wonderful selection of
cakes throughout the morning.
Come along with friends and family to enjoy this special
monthly community event.**

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.

**BOOK A TABLE NOW & JUST PAY ON
THE NIGHT!**

Ampfield Village Hall QUIZ NIGHT

? ? ? ? ? ? ?

**Join us at our ever popular
friendly fun Quiz Night with
Raffle!**

**By demand, the Ampfield Quizmasters
are back! As Christmas is approaching
some questions might just have a
Christmas theme. 😊**

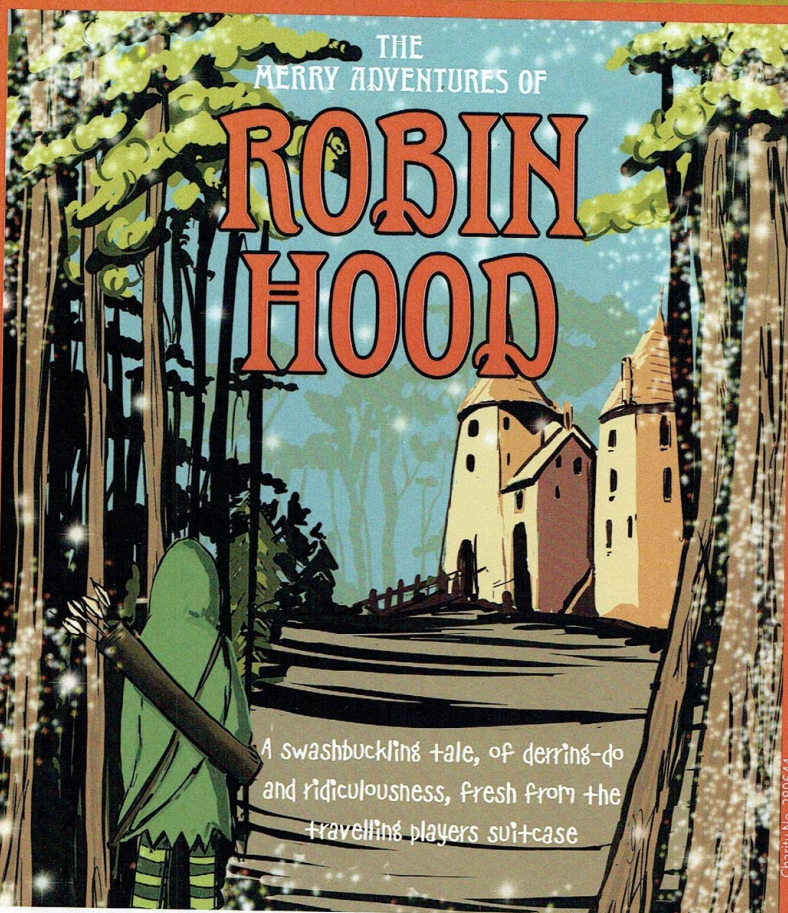
**Friday 24 November 2023 at
7.30pm
(Doors open at 7pm)**

Mischievous
Theatre

A co-production with

BUMBLEFLY
Theatre

forestforge
theatre company



Ampfield Village Hall – Wed. 13th December 2023

Starting at 6 pm prompt (doors open at 5.30pm)

Tickets (unreserved) Adult £10 Children £5

Please book early.

Available from Martin Hatley Tel. 07970 501050

E-mail: info@ampfieldvillagehall.org.uk

Visit our website to keep updated www.bumbleflytheatre.co.uk
www.mischievoustheatre.co.uk www.forestforgetheatre.co.uk



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What happens in the Ampfield Village Hall every month?

MONDAYS

PILATES WITH HANNAH – Two sessions in the morning. Details at www.pilateswithaplomb.com

AMPFIELD PARISH COUNCIL regularly meet on a Monday evening for their ordinary meetings, planning meetings and other meetings. Details at www.Ampfield.org.uk .

AMPFIELD CLICKERS informal and friendly, resumes knitting, crocheting, skill sharing and chatting (!) 3rd Monday evening Jan 2024.

Contact Jo on 07970 509450. Email joannehatley@aol.com

TUESDAYS

AMPFIELD BRIDGE CLUB friendly duplicate bridge. Every Tuesday (except at Xmas time) from 7pm to 10pm. If you require a partner or want more information contact Janet Cox on 07879 915726 or email janetwallace1@hotmail.co.uk . New members always welcome.

WEDNESDAYS

TODDLER SENSE SALISBURY – two morning sessions. 13 months to 4 years. Call Sian on 07984 051713 or Email: salisbury@toddlersense.co.uk

1st AMPFIELD BROWNIES meet every Wed. evening during term time. 6pm to 7.30pm Tel. Sue Moore 01794 523947

ROMSEY MODELLERS Build model kits? Join this club on the 1st and 3rd. Wed. of each month 8pm to 10pm.. www.romseymodellers.co.uk

THURSDAYS

YOGA MORNING with Diana Craven 9.30 to 11.30am

E-mail: diana_craven@hotmail.com for details.

AMPFIELD ART GROUP meets Thurs. afternoons during term time 2pm to 4pm. All abilities welcome Contact email: Julie@ampfield.org.uk

(NEW PILATES CLASS planned, Thursday evenings from January '24)

FRIDAYS

YOGA ON FRIDAY MORNINGS with YogaByGaynor 9.30 to 10.30am All levels, Gentle, Vinyasa Flow Yoga. All welcome. Facebook:

@yogaByGaynor OR Email: yogabygaynor@yahoo.com

SATURDAYS

VILLAGE MARKET (Established 2000) (see p.13)

Ring Julie on 02380 254587. This is a great event to meet up with people.

CARD MAKING WORKSHOP WITH VANESSA. A range of crafts, monthly, 10am to 4pm. Details from Vanessa 01794 515490 or email Ampfieldcards@gmail.com .

For general enquiries and hall bookings tel. Martin Hatley 07970 501050

Or visit our new website: www.ampfieldvillagehall.org.uk Or E mail: info@ampfieldvillagehall.org.uk

SEE OUR NEW WEBSITE www.ampfieldvillagehall.org.uk and take a virtual tour, book the hall or buy tickets for *The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood Pantomime* on 13 December 2023.

Philip Mounstephen legally becomes Bishop of Winchester in a Service led by the Archbishop of Canterbury

At a service at St Mary le Bow church in London on Tuesday 10 October, Philip Mounstephen was legally made the Bishop of Winchester. This event marked the next step in Bishop Philip's journey to our diocese, following on from the Election by the Canons of Winchester Cathedral in September, whereby his election was 'confirmed' in a legal process set within an act of worship. These services are traditionally held at St Mary le Bow Church because it is the historic home of the Arches' Court of Canterbury, and therefore the venue for sittings of the Vicar General's Court.

As well as the court officials, those present included representatives from the Diocese of Winchester and Winchester Cathedral who had come to support Bishop Philip, the Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby. It was also attended by Archbishop Angaelos, the Coptic Orthodox Bishop of London, as a special guest of Bishop Philip. Archbishop Justin gave a moving charge to our new Bishop, calling on him to encourage our diocese 'to be bold and courageous' in this new season, remembering always 'not who you are but whose you are - your calling not depending on you but on Jesus Christ'. He also made reference to 'challenging times we live in', times of war, division and uncertainty, and that as bishops they are 'to bind up the wounds of the hurting.' The next and final stage in the process is the Service of Welcome and Installation which will be taking place at Winchester Cathedral on 13 January 2024.

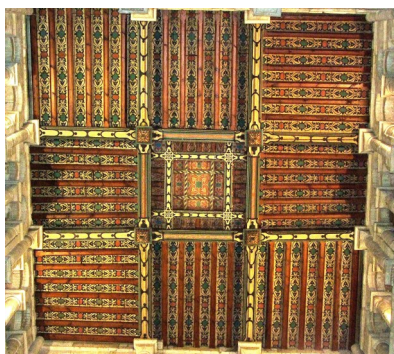
Between now and then, Bishop Philip will be present in the diocese, meeting people and spending time getting to know his new diocesan family, but not performing public ministry until after his installation.



Don't forget to look upwards: Crossing ceilings

By Liz Hallett

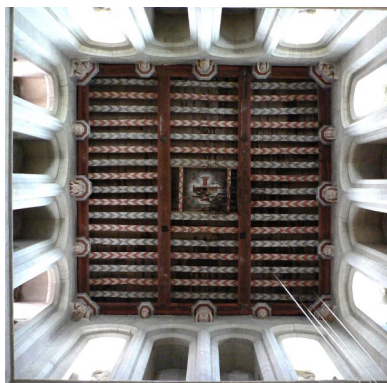
Lots of spectacular ceilings to see this month. Many churches are built in the shape of a cross, for obvious reasons, and when this is the case the tower is often, though not always, built at the point where the chancel and transepts meet the nave. (Sometimes it is placed at the west end of the nave). This tower, an integral part of the building, usually houses the bells. The ringing chamber is often constructed below the bells and the underside of its floor is usually highly decorative. The design tends to be geometric because of the need to incorporate a central hatch through which the bells can be raised or lowered –were you lucky enough to visit Romsey Abbey in 2007 when the bells were lowered from this hatch and later raised once more?



Romsey Crossing Ceiling

This month I want to show you a selection of some of the interesting and often beautiful ceilings which we have discovered as we have explored churches and cathedrals.

Cont. ...



St. Cross Crossing Ceiling

...Cont.

It is so easy to miss them if you don't look upwards so don't look around you just at floor level.

These ceilings are often painted in dramatic colours: York is white and gold; Chichester navy, red and gold; Wimborne bright blue and white, etc. In most of these designs you can see the hatch for the bells. Chichester, of course, does not need ones since its bells are housed in a separate free-standing tower. Do be sure to look upwards when you visit churches and cathedrals. I think you may be surprised. Many churches and cathedrals have mirrors on wheels to make it easier to peer upwards. Next month I will show you more reasons for doing so.



Wimborne Crossing



Malvern crossing ceiling



Chichester NW tower ceiling



Liz Hallett

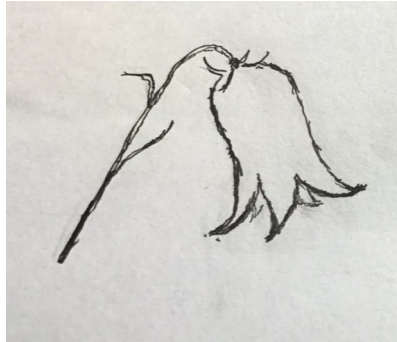
Ron & Stella's Quiz Night

1. Which local motorway is twenty-eight miles long?
2. In which year did the Berlin Wall fall?
3. How many U.S. Presidents have been assassinated?
4. Who painted 'The Last Supper'?
5. Who wrote the epic poem Paradise Lost?
6. In which Italian city was Pizza first made?
7. Which is the only food that cannot go off and can actually last forever?
8. Farrokh Bulsara was the real name of which singing legend?
9. How many bones does an adult human have?
10. Which hair product was invented in 1950?



Answers on P, 29

CAN YOU IDENTIFY THIS PLANT GROWING IN ST. MARK'S CHURCHYARD?



FOR A HINT, GO TO P. 26



From Silver Surfers

Friends of Chapel Wood

Probably the first thing to say is that, for this working party, the writer was skiving at home, nursing a very persistent bout of Covid. All the work, therefore, was completed by the remainder of the group. In this connection, we would like to say 'Welcome back' to Trevor and, particularly, we would like to also welcome a new member, Paul. We are exceptionally lucky that we have a grand group of volunteers who are happy to turn out what ever the circumstances.

The main tasks of the morning involved the continued clearing out of the box hedge in the cruciform. A combination of beetle issues and box blight had stripped the foliage from most of the hedge. There was some hope that the hedge might be rejuvenated with a bit of TLC but increasingly it became evident this would not provide a



satisfactory outcome. You will see from the photographs that the majority of what remains of the hedge has now been removed. Our plan is to source the replacement hedging, most likely yew, over the winter months. This will allow us to start a programme of planting early next spring.

Cont. ...

...Cont.

In addition to the cruciform, work will continue in the wider burial ground with a view to removing the rhododendron to the rear. This will allow a material enlargement of the usable space within the burial ground. As soon as the unwanted vegetation has been cleared, the ground will be prepared, and grass seed will be sown. Hopefully, by next spring, the whole area will blend together beautifully.

There is a lot to complete between now and next summer. Apart from the hedge, our new path has been installed at the west end of St. Mark's. this is a particularly exciting project. We have identified a portfolio of plants, suitable for inclusion in the area. All are native woodland plants that can be seen in and around Ampfield Wood. We hope to get to work on the planting plan over the next few months, with a view to this being completed before Christmas. Again, we want to plant the area before summer of next 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

"If you give me six hours to chop down a tree, I'll spend the first four hours sharpening my axe"

Abraham Lincoln

"In God we trust. All others must bring data"

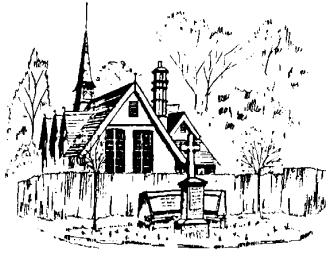
W. Edwards Denning



A Prayer for World Peace

O God of the nations,
as we look to that day when you will gather people
from north and south, east and west,
into the unity of your peaceable Kingdom,
guide with your just and gentle wisdom all who take
counsel
for the nations of the world,
that all your people may spend their days in security,
freedom, and peace,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

AMEN.



Remembrance at the three War Memorials in the Benefice

Ampfield War Memorial (On corner of Knapp Lane)

Following the 9:30 service in St. Mark, Ampfield there will be a short Act of Remembrance beginning at approximately 10:50 am at the War Memorial.

Chilworth War Memorial (opposite the Chilworth Arms)

Please arrive by 10:45 for the Act of Remembrance which will begin at approximately 10:50am. Also note that there is no 09:30 service at St Denys' on 12th November.

North Baddesley War Memorial (St. John the Baptist) There will be a parade of uniformed organisations and local dignitaries, plus anyone else who would like to join. It will leave All Saints Church, Rownhams Road at 10.30 am and the service around the War Memorial at the church will start at approximately 10.50 am.

IDENTIFY THE PLANT ON P. 21

HERE IS A CLUE:

“IT SOUNDS LIKE A RINGING ROUND YOUR HEAD”

The Poppy



“Why are they selling poppies Mummy
Selling Poppies in town today”
“The poppies my child are flowers of love
For the men who marched away”

“But why have they chosen a poppy Mummy,
Why not a beautiful rose?”
“Because, my child, men fought and died
In the fields where the poppy grows”

“But why are the poppies red Mummy,
Why are the poppies so red?”
“Red is the colour of blood my child,
The blood our soldiers shed”

“The heart of the poppy is black Mummy,
Why does it have to be so black?”
“Black, my child is the symbol of grief,
For the men who never came back!”

“But Mummy, why are you crying so?
Your tears are giving me pain.”
“My tears are my fears for you, my child,
For the world is forgetting again!”

Unknown Poet

Submitted by Cllr. Allan Dowden



ANSWER TO IDENTIFY THIS PLANT:
HAREBELL CAMPANULA ROTUNDIFOLIA
THE FLOWER IS BLUE AND CAN APPEAR FROM JUNE TO
OCTOBER

Answers to Ron & Stella's Quiz Night

1. M27
2. 1989
3. Four
4. Leonardo Da Vinci
5. John Milton
6. Naples
7. Honey
8. Freddie Mercury
9. 206
10. Hairspray



From the St. Mark's Register



We remember in our prayers:

Baptism

Margot McCarthy was baptised at St. Mark's Church
on 1st October

Funeral

Ronald Arthur Marsh
St Mark Church, 17th October followed by burial in the
Churchyard.

A Kitchen Garden (GFG)

by Graham Roads

In one respect, the autumn heralds the end of another growing season and another year passing. Yet, in another, it points the way to the exciting prospects promised by the new year. As we begin the process of clearing the beds, we also start to plan what we will grow in 2024 and where everything will go. Of course, we cannot clear out the entire garden, there are still loads of fresh goodies still to come. We hope to still be picking fresh vegetables for our Christmas lunch and, maybe even, New Year's supper.

It is important at this time of year to maintain a programme of hygiene across the vegetable garden. 'Little and often' is a good maxim when it comes to weeding. Remove all dead or dying leaves. Cut back all finished plants in the greenhouse. Removing the fruits when they are in good condition helps to set up for a good programme of preserving cucumbers, peppers and tomatoes through the winter months.



In this connection, we are trying out preserving pickles in brine as opposed to pickling vinegars. We hope that by completely cooling the liquid first, before adding the fruit, the pickles will stay crisp for longer. We think chilli peppers would benefit as would cucumber.

Cont. ...

...Cont.

Whilst on the subject of chillies, we grew what the packet suggested were Apache chillies this year. Apache chillies are hot, these, although good looking plants, were anything but! Apache seeds, they were not. Still, the seed company has kindly agreed to present us with a fresh packet of Apache seeds and, more than that, the chillies that grew had a very fruity taste. By combining these with some dried Apache from a previous year, we can produce a very usable chilli paste.



Apart from the plants, this is also the best time of year to think about repairs and servicing. The weather is still relatively warm and, perhaps more importantly, we are not in a rush to get stuff done because we are desperate to use it. We can take our time and enjoy the process.

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

Thought for the Month

“A picture is worth a thousand words” the phrase is often equated to photographs. Many families have quite a few pictures passed down through the generations, often carefully put in albums or stored in an old shoe box. Sadly, though not always identifiable as to who or what is in these photographs.

When someone dies a picture of the deceased enjoying their life becomes very important and takes on a new meaning. Although some people don't have any photographs, or not many of their loved one. There can be several reasons for this, family photographs were lost or destroyed. It could be that the person was just camera shy, or they were the person who generally took the photographs!

When I talk to families before conducting a funeral service it is always good to be shown a photograph of the deceased, as it gives a tangible connection for me as I learn about their life. It can also be very comforting for the family as they recall some of the happiest moments of their loved one's life through these pictures.

We are in the season of Remembrance with All Souls service on 5th November. A service which gives an opportunity to focus on those who have died and are with God and to remember them with love and affection.

As the generations go by there probably will be less printed photographs. It is much more common now to store them digitally rather than print them. Therefore, take time to look at the photographs you have. They help to give a sharper focus on the memories we cherish of our loved ones, especially in this month of Remembrance.

Sally



Benefice News

Dear Parishioners of St. Mark's Church

I would like to thank you for thinking of our residents this Harvest and donating so generously. Your donations have been carefully stored by our volunteers and will help us to feed our residents over the coming months, saving our charity much-needed money on our food bills. As well as providing home-cooked meals for our residents, some of your donations will also be gifted in food parcels to those moving on from The Winchester Beacon to their own home.

We continue to accommodate and support 22 people every day and night of the year across our 4 properties. Last year, our residents stayed with us for an average of 111 nights. As well as being a safe place to stay, we help our residents to rebuild their lives and last year we delivered 288 hours of counselling and psychotherapy as part of their support out of homelessness.

Your donations will help people like Tim who came to stay with us after his relationship broke down with his mum. He stayed with us for 15 months before we supported him to move into his own flat. Before leaving, Tim reflected on his stay: "My time at The Beacon has definitely bolstered me".

We would love you to stay in touch with our latest news and events via our website, www.winchesterbeacon.org.uk and on social media, Twitter @WinBeacon, Facebook/Instagram @winchesterbeacon.

Thank you again for your kind donations, we can only achieve all that we do thanks to people like you believing in and supporting our work. Together, we really are changing lives.

Yours sincerely,
Paula Sharpe

The Winchester Beacon
(Winchester Churches Nightshelter)
20b Jewry Street
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01962 862050



Rotas for St. Mark's in November

Date	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading	Intercessions	Sides	Coffee	Music
5th Nov	Tidy Church				Jean	Mark & Abbie
12th Nov	Heather S. Amos 5: 18 - 24	Robyn 1 Thessalonians 4: 13 - end	Jean	Sally C Ron	Jennie E	Organist
19th Nov	Jennie E Zephaniah 1: 7, 12 - 18	Mark B 1 Thessalonians 5: 1 - 11	Ron	Mark B Jennie E	Heather C	Jean
26th Nov	Ron Ezekiel 34: 11 - 16 20 -24	Heather C Ephesians 1: 15 - 23	Sally K	Heather C Chris	Stella	Organist

Flowers: Diane

Coffee after Communion:

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