

PARISH MAGAZINE



St. Mary's, Herriard



All Saints', Turworth



St. Mary's, Upton Grey



St. Lawrence, Weston Patrick

April
2020

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

Benefice Rector Simon Butler 01256 861706
simon@moretolife.church
Parishes' email address admin@moretolife.church

Licensed Lay Ministers Jill Lestrille 01256 862131
Alan Hoar 01256 395077

Church Wardens

Herriard/Winslade John Jervoise 01256 381723
Fiona Ives 07867 973266

Tunworth Mark Ruffell 01256 346148
Edwina Spicer 01256 471271

Upton Grey Sarah Barnes 01256 861164
Geoffrey Yeowart 01256 861218

Weston Patrick Clare Davies 01256 862762

Elected Representatives

Borough Councillor Mark Ruffell 01256 346148
cldr.m.ruffell@basingstoke.gov.uk

County Councillor Anna McNair Scott 01256 476422

Member of Parliament Ranil Jayawardena 0207 219 3000
(Phone for your MP Surgery Appointments) ranil.jayawardena.mp@parliament.uk

Parish Chairmen

Herriard Gareth Davies Chair@herriard-pc.gov.uk

Tunworth David O'Donnell 07831 631455

Upton Grey Charles Holroyd 01256 862127

Weston Patrick Ian Turner 01256 862162

Winslade John Raymond 01256 381203

PC Andy Reid

Main local 01256 389050

Mobile 07768 776844

Neighbourhood Watch

Herriard Rebecca Wills herriardnhw@btinternet.com

Upton Grey George Hillier georgeandray@uptongrey.uk

Powntley Copse Jill Burry jill.burry@btinternet.com

Tunworth Sarah Whitcombe swhitcombe@hotmail.co.uk

Weston Patrick/Corbett David Don davidtwdon@gmail.com

Parish Magazine

Editors Tess Chevallier 01256 862636

David Shearer 01256 320538

Sheila Stranks 01256 862465

Ian Lansley-Neale 01256 381380

All editors' email: uptongreymagazine@gmail.com

KidsZone Helen Chatfield 07540 140228

Treasurer William Maughan 01256 861371

Advertising & Production Susie Vereker 01256 862365

uptongreymagazine@gmail.com

Distribution Jane Hanbury 01256 862681

BENEFICE MAGAZINE – April 2020
Edition for the Parishes of Herriard with Winslade, Tunworth,
Upton Grey and Weston Patrick

Message from the benefice Clergy Team

As you will be aware the Church of England has, in line with government guidance, suspended all Sunday services and mid-week gatherings for the foreseeable future. In a joint letter the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have shared that:

‘Being a part of the Church of England is going to look very different in the days ahead. Our life is going to be less characterised by attendance at church on Sunday, and more characterised by the prayer and service we offer each day. This is a defining moment for the Church of England. Are we truly a church for all, or just the church for ourselves? We urge you sisters and brothers to become a different sort of church in these coming months: hopeful and rooted in the offering of prayer and praise and overflowing in service to the world.’

Worshipping Together

We are committed to providing opportunities for people to join together in worship either online or through resources that can be emailed or posted out.

On Sunday 22nd March we live-streamed two services: 10.00am Holy Communion (a more traditional service) and 11.15am Informal Worship (a more contemporary service), and our aim is to stream services every Sunday, with each service generally 20-30 minutes in length and including hymns or songs, Bible readings, a short reflection, and times of prayer. We are also continuing with midweek worship, live streaming an 8:30am Morning Prayer every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: 15 minutes in length, with a Psalm, a Bible reading, and a short time of prayer. The services are on our new Facebook page www.facebook.com/north.hampshire.downs.churches, and there is a link to it on our website www.moretolife.church.

Our aim is to leave the live-stream videos on the page through the day in case you can't make the start time.

If you have no access to online resources, please contact the church office on 01256 703791 and we will do our best to get some printed resources delivered. Let us not stop worshipping together, even if it has to look a little different for a while.

Prayer Requests

Please be assured that as a clergy team we are praying for all in our communities. If you have a specific prayer request, please email it to prayer-requests@moretolife.church. All the clergy team have access to that email address and will be praying for requests daily. If you like we can also include your request in our intercessions during our live-streamed services. If you would like us to do this, please indicate in your email.

Supporting our Communities

In these challenging times it is important we seek to be Good Samaritans to each other. We are encouraging all those who are safely able to do so to offer support to their neighbours. Even if you are self-isolating, we encourage you to commit to pray daily for your neighbours and community. If there is anything, we can do to help you during this time please let us know by dropping an email to simon@moretolife.church. This could be picking up shopping or medication, a regular phone call or another urgent task. Let us be those who take care of others and share God's love with our neighbours.

Open Churches

We are committed, as far as is possible, to keeping our church buildings open in the coming weeks. We hope these can be places of sanctuary for quiet prayer and reflection. We would ask that you wash your hands before entering the church and after leaving and please ensure that you remain at least 2m away from other people in the building. We will continue collections for the Foodbank at a time of increased need. Let us be those who are generous to those who are struggling.

Sharing Good News

Finally, as churches we are called to be light in the darkness, and we would love to encourage you to share good news stories with each other. Whether that is a particularly helpful neighbour, a surprise phone call or a beautiful picture you have taken in your garden. You could share these on our Facebook page or on other community groups. Let us be people who spread light and hope.

For more information about any of the churches please contact Rev Simon Butler on simon@moretolife.church or have a look at our new website www.moretolife.church.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptism

- Theodore Yerbury at Tunworth on February 23rd

CHURCH NEWS

Meetings

Face-to-face church-related meetings – and in particular PCC meetings and Annual Parochial Church Meetings – are generally suspended until further notice. More information on the way ahead with these will be provided in due course.

The Revd Canon Linda Scard

We are delighted to announce that Rev Linda Scard has been appointed as an Honorary Canon of Winchester Cathedral. Linda was installed during Choral Evensong at the Cathedral on February 23rd. The photograph below shows Linda with the Bishop of Winchester and two other newly appointed Canons.





KidsZone

Easter Christingles

Easter is almost here, and most of us will be looking forward to eating eggs (of the chocolate variety!) on Easter day. Not so in Dunstable, just North of London, where they will be grabbing their oranges and going to nearby Dunstable Hills! There they all stand in a line and roll them down a hill... This tradition helps them remember the story of Easter. The orange reminds them of the stone that sealed Jesus' tomb when He was buried. When they roll it down the hill, it represents when the stone was rolled away on Easter morning, the grave was empty, and Jesus was not there. The sadness the disciples had felt on Good Friday, when Jesus had died on the cross, had miraculously changed to the joy of Easter Sunday, when He had risen from the dead.

The Dunstable oranges got me thinking... Who remembers Christingles? We make them at Christmas each year to remind us of Jesus coming into our world as a baby. So, I got to wondering if we could make Easter Christingles to remember Him dying and rising back again. Let's give it a go!

- Find an orange – this represents the stone which was rolled away on Easter morning.
- Inside the top of the orange, wrapped up in foil at the base, is a white candle. It represents the light of Christ, white and pure, come into the world (just like at Christmas).
- Four pieces of garden dowelling are tied together to make two crosses, either side of the candle, representing the two thieves.
- Cocktail sticks, stuck around the top of the orange, represent the crown of thorns.
- Three pieces of wool are plaited together, red for blood, black for death, purple for Jesus' robe. They are fixed around the orange, with a drawing pin, representing the nails.

Helen Chatfield, Youth Pastor (Tel: 07540 140228)



Please note that in view of the Government's advice about the Coronavirus, many events may have to be cancelled. Please contact the organisers before attending a specific event to ensure it is still taking place.

NEWS FROM THE VILLAGES

Local Police Report

Dear residents

I start this month with an excellent piece of news. Back in August 2019 a local resident saw a lady dumping her rubbish on Lee Farm Lane, Herriard, he recorded the registration number and spoke with the lady concerned who subsequently drove away. He located certain information that led to him checking a social media site in which the same lady had her picture. I was called and went to the area and took evidential photographs and seized certain parts of the rubbish. I completed a file which was handed to the Borough Council who interviewed the lady and subsequently prosecuted her. On March 12th, 2020 the lady Mrs. Le Besque pleaded guilty and was fined £670, costs awarded against her of £963.20, a Victim Surcharge of £67, totalling **£1,700.20**, for her to pay. A truly excellent result. I wish to thank the resident concerned for his help and assistance within this matter. And now sadly on to other news, I am seeking any information in relation to several outbuildings being broken into after a set of electric wooden gates were forced open. This took place at a house in Basingstoke Road Upton Grey, just before leaving the village, between February 29th and March 2nd, I am aware that the thieves are likely to have parked or at least forced the gates of Upton Grey House. Garden equipment was stolen from this crime scene.

In the same road between February 10th and 14th a shed in the grounds of a house was forcibly broken into with what we suspect was a crowbar on the lock. Nothing was stolen. I ask if anyone saw anyone or any vehicle at this entrance to please give me a call direct, and as always, all calls are treated in strictest confidence.

I am also aware of recent issues concerning speeding vehicles through the village, I can assure you that I will endeavour to be out again soon with speed enforcement equipment.

Many thanks for your support as always **Andrew REID, Local Beat Constable PC 3746, Tel: 01256 389050. Mob: 07768:776844 email: andrew.reid@hampshire.pnn.police.uk**

UPTON GREY NEWS
www.uptongreychurch.co.uk
www.uptongreyparishcouncil.co.uk

Upton Grey Village Hall :100 Club April Draw

- First Prize £100 No 23 Mrs. P James
- Second Prize No 104 Mr. T Stringer

The 100 Club draw is your UG Village Hall main fundraiser. Please support this valuable facility. Subs are £24 pa or £2 per month. Join in at any time. Contact Brian Thrussell 01256 862819 or Caroline James 01256 862480.

TEA@3 APRIL

Dear Friends,

In view of the current situation, we have decided it would be unwise to hold a tea in April. It is very sad, but we think it is the sensible thing to do. We will let you know about a tea in May in due course - let's see how things progress - hopefully the situation will have improved by then!

If any of you are struggling and need help - please get in touch.

Barbara 862627 Jill 862131 Viv 862455

Upton Grey Bridge Club

Please note that the Upton Grey Bridge Club meetings are cancelled forthwith but the Club hopes to reopen in September.

If you are interested or need more details, please contact **Peter Haynes phaynes27@hotmail.co.uk** or **Tel 862433**

Upton Grey Tennis Committee: Tennis Coaching for Children now cancelled

Unfortunately, the Tennis coaching with Andrew Ridges has had to be cancelled due to the current situation around Coronavirus. This was due to take place on the week of **Tuesday 14th to Friday 17th April** inclusive. If you require any further information please contact Susannah Livingston Booth: M: 07957 401174 or email: slivingstonbooth@gmail.com.

However, there are some further dates to note for warmer times:

Summer Junior Tennis Coaching week is from Monday 3rd - Friday 7th August and the **Tennis Mix-In Evening** is on the 11th June. This is organised by The Upton Grey Tennis Committee and is a fun Tennis evening. For ages 16 and over. Time: 6.45pm for 7pm. Meet at the Upton Grey Court. All abilities welcome.

Upton Grey & District Horticultural Society: Spring Show 4th April

Regrettably we have to cancel the Spring Show due to the Coronavirus. We are very disappointed to have to cancel this lovely community event, but we feel we have no choice. June Hunt, Secretary **PS: Save the Date: Summer Show, Church Meadow, Upton Grey, Sat 8 August 2020**

Help with Tombola for Village Summer Flower Show 8th Aug

This year's Summer Show will take place on Saturday 8th August.

We need 2 volunteers to join the team and help with the Tombola which is a major fun attraction. In particular, we need help with the collection of Tombola donations (bottles, cans, etc.) from the village on 2 nights during the week prior to the show from:

- Bidden Road: from Lees Hill to Bidden barn and all the roads off Bidden road left and right.
- Lees Hill: from the Bidden Road as far as the Janaway's Farm and all roads off left and right.

If you can join the team and help with the stick up (sticking raffle tickets on Tombola prizes) on the Thursday evening before the show, and selling the Tombola tickets on show day, that would also be appreciated. If you are able to support this Village event, please contact Mike Mendoza as soon as possible so that we know who we have. Contact 07801712251 or email: mike@meminternational.com. Thank you.

Upton Grey Fete: Garden Stall: Fete 13 June 2020

We must start early to pot up anything that has been dug up and divided, plant up hanging baskets and pots, so that the plants look good on the day. If you are thinking of splitting up perennials including Hosta, Phlox etc., have any dahlia tubers you no longer want - please think of the plant stall. We can do the potting up. If you have any unusual containers that could be planted up, any hanging baskets in reasonable condition that you may

not use again, any indoor or outdoor pots/troughs, metal buckets, anything garden related which might be upcycled into something attractive for the plant stall, it would be gratefully received. If you are having a clear out/spring clean of the shed and have any unwanted garden tools, garden furniture, an old wheelbarrow, please think 'plant stall' and don't throw them away. **Anything** that could possibly be sold on a 'garden' stall please let me know so I can arrange collection, or you could just drop on my drive. Clock Cottage, Cleves Lane, Tel: 862705 - Debbie Bridle (debbie@debbie-bridle.com). We are always very grateful for any donations - Thankyou.

Attention all Upton Grey golfers! Annual Golf Day: Fri 19th June.

This year's Golf Day is on Fri 19th June at Basingstoke Golf Club. The day is open to all golfers regardless of age, shape, size or ability – whether you play regularly or once in a blue moon, there's a space for you! It will be a relaxed, sociable day together with a pleasant walk in attractive Hampshire countryside. Cost is £40 per golfer (£15 for Basingstoke GC members) and includes coffee/tea and a bacon roll on arrival before 18 holes of golf, a single-course lunch, followed by prize-giving. Prizes will be awarded for nearest to the pin, the longest drive, the best team and best individual performances.

Meet at 9.30am – first tee booked at 11.00am. Please contact davidc@pdc.mpm, 07903 169536 or 01256 862145 to book your place. David Cook.

Open Air Theatre: 'She Stoops to Conquer' on Sunday August 9th

Upton Grey Drama Group are returning to Upton Grey with their new production 'She Stoops to Conquer' by Oliver Goldsmith, at 4pm on Sunday August 9th in the Flower Show Marquee, Church Meadow, Upton Grey. In association with Rain or Shine Theatre Company'. Gates open at 3pm for picnics and the performance starts at 4pm. Bring your own chairs and the Flower Show Marquee will be there in case it rains!

More details about tickets will be released in future editions. For any other information please contact Sarah: sajgray59@yahoo.co.uk

Upton Grey Harvest Supper: Sat 26th September

The Upton Grey Harvest Supper this year is a little earlier than usual, on Saturday 26th September, so do please make a note in your diaries, we will be serving cottage pie and apple crumble as usual, as well as a raffle and pay bar. Entertainment to be confirmed!

Upton Grey Drama Group next production: 20th and 21st Nov

Dates for your diaries! Upton Grey Drama Group are planning their next production to be performed on Fri 20th and Sat 21st November.

This will be in Upton Grey Village Hall starting at 7.30pm. Rehearsals start from Sunday 1st November up till the show dates on Friday 20th & Saturday 21st November. On weekdays the rehearsals take place in the evenings and on most of the weekend dates the rehearsals are in the afternoons. There will be a couple of dates in October for the read-throughs / walk-throughs. So, if you would like to be part of the next production either acting or working backstage please contact Sarah Gray (Chair of Upton Grey Drama Group) on email: sajgray59@yahoo.co.uk or 01256 862440

Educational Grants available to ALL Upton Grey Residents

The Upton Grey Educational Trust was formed when the Upton Grey School was sold after its closure in the 1980s and half of the proceeds were put into the Trust.

The Trust can use the income from the investment twice yearly “for the advancement of education”.

The Trust meets in June and December each year to consider applications for assistance with educational needs, **from any age group and with no means testing**. Since the Trust was set up, it has awarded grants to over 95 applicants and 16 groups in addition to Long Sutton School.

For more information on how to apply and terms and conditions, please visit www.uptongreychurch.co.uk (under Groups & Organisations) or email debbie@debbie-bridle.com.

This is primarily open to residents of Upton Grey, but consideration **may** also be given to applicants from other parishes within the Benefice – funds permitting.

Applications must be made by the person requiring assistance and **not** by a parent /guardian or other.

We are very lucky to have this fund and very grateful to the late Ros Mills for establishing it.

Please submit your application in writing **before the end of May 2020** to:
 The Secretary to the Trustees
 UPTON GREY EDUCATIONAL TRUST
 Clock Cottage
 Cleves Lane, Upton Grey
 Basingstoke RG25 2RG
 or via email to: debbie@debbie-bridle.com (requesting a read receipt) –
 please ensure child written application is attached if email sent by parent
 or guardian. (**NOTE:** that any late applications received after this deadline
 will automatically be carried over to the next meeting).

A Talk on Ethiopia given by Geoffrey and Frances Yeowart at St Mary's Upton Grey, February 2020

We often pray for Christians in foreign lands who risk persecution. You may be interested to read about a country where the Christian faith is strong and thriving – Ethiopia.

Ethiopia is a landlocked republic in the Horn of Africa bordered by Sudan, Eritrea, Djibouti, Kenya and Somalia. Roughly twice the size of France, the landscape is dominated by the dramatically mountainous Ethiopian Highlands. With an average altitude of 2,000 metres, the region is bisected by the Rift Valley and is the source of the Blue Nile.

Ethiopia's population is about 108 million, the 12th largest in the world. Roughly 40% of the population is aged 16 or under and roughly 40% still also live on or below the poverty line, living on \$1 per day. Some 17 languages are spoken, with Amharic being the most important. English is taught in secondary schools. Ethiopians are a handsome race with a strong Arab influence – dark skinned with high cheek bones and slim.

The capital is Addis Ababa at 7,000 feet. Ethiopia is the only country in Africa, apart from Liberia, which was not colonised. It's justly proud of this fact. It was occupied by the Italians in 1936 but liberated by the Allies in 1941. Addis Ababa is home to the headquarters of the Organisation of African Union.

The economy is dominated by agriculture which employs 80% of the labour force, with coffee being a key export. Coffee drinking is a national pastime. The Ethiopian Highlands are fertile and the farming methods traditional, little changed since biblical times. We did not see a tractor during our whole stay, nor indeed, outside the cities, a private car on the roads.

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Ethiopia has an ancient history and is almost certainly where modern human beings evolved. The hominid skeleton found in the Rift Valley - better known as Lucy - is thought to be 3.5 million years old.

Up to 1974 Ethiopia was an empire with a feudal system of government. The empire had its roots in the Axumite Empire. The empire reached its peak between the 1st and 7th centuries AD, stretching from Sudan in the west across the Red Sea to Yemen and beyond. It traded as far afield as Europe and India.

In 1974 a Marxist inspired military regime – known as the Derg – seized control of the country and murdered the last emperor, Haile Selassie. The Derg held power until 1991. It was so ruthless, cruel and unpopular that opposition groups in Eritrea and the north rebelled, starting an armed conflict. A major famine also occurred in 1985, exacerbated by the war and leading to Bob Geldof's *Live Aid*. The Derg finally collapsed after the fall of the Berlin Wall, when support from Russia and Cuba fell away. Eritrea became independent.

Since 1991 Ethiopia has moved towards a more democratic system and now has one of the fastest growing economies in the world. Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2019 but the land border with Eritrea is still closed.

Christianity, Judaism and Islam have strong historical roots. Roughly 44% belong to the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, while 19% are catholic or protestant and 34% are Muslim. The orthodox church dominates in the north and west.

Christianity was brought to Ethiopia in the 4th century in the unlikely form of 2 shipwrecked boys from Syria. The boys were found under a tree quietly reading their lessons. They were taken into the Emperor's court and grew up to become trusted advisers, converting the Emperor to Christianity. One of them, Frumentios, became the first Archbishop of Ethiopia.

The orthodox church has historical links with the Christian community in Egypt, but Ethiopian Orthodoxy has developed differently from Coptic Christianity. The bible is written in Geez, the language of the Axumite empire, and has 16 more chapters than our own bible.

The orthodox religion is a unique mix of Christian fundamentals with Judaic influences: both the Christian sabbath of Sunday and the Jewish sabbath of Saturday are recognised; fasting days and religious dancing are included; and male circumcision is practised. Ethiopia never replaced the Julian calendar with the revised Gregorian calendar, as did the West in 1582. So, we are all 7 years and 8 months younger in Ethiopia!

Most intriguing, there is a deep mystery at the heart of the orthodox religion relating to the Ark of the Covenant. Ethiopians are convinced that the original Ark was brought to Ethiopia in the first millennium BC and now rests at Axum in the Maryam Tsion Church. Only the official guardian is permitted to see it.

Each church has a *tabot* kept in its Holy of Holies. This is a replica of one of the Tablets of the Law placed in the Ark by Moses. The *tabot* is only removed on important religious days. While in Axum we were fortunate to see the *tabot* procession and special celebration of TimKat, the Ethiopian Epiphany.

The story of how the Ark came to Axum is a colourful one. According to legend, when the Queen of Sheba visited King Solomon, an intimate relationship developed between them. On her return home the Queen gave birth to a son – Menelik. At the age of 22, Menelik visited his father in Jerusalem and stayed with him for 3 years. Despite being Solomon's eldest son, he decided to return to Ethiopia.

Solomon permitted him to go but decreed that he be accompanied by the eldest sons of his high commissioners drawn from the 12 tribes of Israel – about 1,000 young men. One of these was Azariah, the eldest son of the High Priest. He was told in a dream that he should take with him the Ark of the Covenant and did so. On Menelik's return to Ethiopia, his Mother abdicated in his favour and he founded the Solomonic dynasty which continued almost unbroken until 1974.

This might seem a touch far-fetched but, on the other hand, is it purely coincidental that the orthodox religion has strong Judaic characteristics and that a substantial community of Ethiopian Jews - the Beta Israel - existed up to 1985 (when they were airlifted to Israel during the famine)? One of the glories of the Ethiopian Orthodox religion are the rock hewn churches, particularly in the province of Tigray, the birthplace of Ethiopian Christianity. The earliest are thought to date from the 8th century and typically, are well concealed in the mountains, often on the summit. The Debra Tsion, for instance, takes over an hour of fairly arduous climbing to reach. There are several different types and styles of church; some have been carved out of natural caves while others have been excavated top-down out of solid rock.

The underground churches at Lalibela, perched at over 8,000 feet in a landscape of wild craggy peaks, rank amongst the Wonders of the World. They are different to most of the other churches as cut in one piece from the solid rock and often connected by tunnels. The northern cluster includes Bet Medhane Alem (House of the Saviour of the World); reputed to be the largest rock hewn monolith in the world, it is modelled on King

Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem. King Lalibela's concept was apparently to create a new Jerusalem, after the fall of Jerusalem in 1187 to Saladin. A low, pitch-black tunnel leads to a trio of other churches. Emerging from the tunnel into the bright light is meant to give the impression of ascending into heaven. It is a popular shrine for pilgrims.

The southern cluster includes Bet Giyorgis which is dedicated to St George. It's often shown in photographs with its iconic cross carved into the structure of the rock roof. Like many rock hewn churches, the interior is sparsely furnished but atmospheric.

Ethiopian churches have been decorated with wall paintings ever since the introduction of Christianity in the 4th century. The painting is distinctive: highly stylised with bright colours, depicting the life of Christ and scenes from the Ethiopian bible including the miracles of St Mary and those of Ethiopia's own saints. The scenes are very pictorial and the tradition continues in the modern new churches of today.

Ethiopia is unlike any other country that we have visited. Christianity is deeply embedded in the national character of the people whom we met. We were told that, when the Anglican and Catholic clerics and American evangelists expelled by the Derg were able to return to Ethiopia, they expected to find that their churches had dwindled or even ceased to exist. Not only did they find the churches still there but thriving like never before. The congregations had taken power into their own hands!

HERRIARD AND WINSLADE NEWS

www.herriard-pc.gov.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/herriardservicesclub>

Herriard Village group on <http://www.Facebook.com>

Herriard Parish Council

Annual Open Meeting on Monday 11th May.

Join us for drinks at the Royal British Legion in Herriard at 7.00pm prior to the Council Meeting at 7.30pm. Find out what your Parish Councillors are doing to improve our community.

There will be an open forum at which you can raise concerns or make suggestions.

If you require transport to attend contact 01256 381448 to arrange a lift. We look forward to seeing you. **Please note this event may be postponed as the Hall is closed.**

Herriard with Lasham & Bentworth WI report for March 2020

Our talk this month was entitled 'Tales from the Green Room', by Mr Alan Grace, who was head of Sport on London Radio before retirement.

The expression 'Green Room' comes from far back in history when the Greek actors and speakers would head outside to relax in the fresh air and green spaces. They would rehearse and relax here before going on stage to perform.

Fast forward to the magnificent theatres we have now and Mr Grace regaled us with stories of the ghosts who inhabit these places, often helping out nervous actors who would feel hands on their shoulders, guiding them onto the stage. Examples are: -

A grey man who lives in Drury lane theatre, and at another, Joe Grimaldi, the first famous clown, appeared to a nervous girl who was auditioning for a role in Miss Saigon, and with his encouragement went on to win a lead role.

Mr Grace who has interviewed many famous sports personalities and other celebrities during his career kept us entertained with anecdotes from some of his favourite guests and a few surprising facts. Did you know that Richard Burton was such an amazing Rugby player that he had to make a career choice between Rugby and acting? This was the studio rather than Mr Burton who thought he could happily do both! Likewise, the fabulous Gareth Edwards who during a programme on reflection of life, said he would rather go fishing any day than play Rugby!

How about Mr Bob Monkhouse apparently well known for being a hoarder of tinned food among other things, eventually cured by having to choose between the hoarding or his wife. You have to laugh, but really quite a serious issue to deal with and luckily, he chose his wife. Ken Dodd talked a lot (no surprise there) and Jean Marsh who acted and wrote Upstairs/Downstairs but was absolutely no good at casting actors in roles. After so many interesting tales Mr & Mrs Grace were thanked and joined us for tea and biscuits.

Please note that there will be no further meetings until June 2020 at the earliest. Further details when available will be available in the Parish Magazine or from the Organisers.

Diane Knight

Herriard Gardening Club News

While we have been enjoying a break from outdoor garden tasks, we have been busy growing seeds of ideas into fully formed plans for HGC events for the rest of the year.....so watch this space.

Unfortunately, The **Quiz Night** with Fish and Chip Supper that was due to take place on Friday 15th May at 6.45 pm for 7.00pm start, at the Royal British Legion Hall, Herriard has now been cancelled.

We also have plans for the **Herriard Fete** on Sunday 7th June. Details will follow but if you are dividing or propagating plants or if you have any unwanted gardening gifts, please think of us as we will be having a stall.

Please check next month's magazine for updated information due to the Coronavirus restrictions.

Recipe of the month: Spiced Parsnip Soup

55g butter

680g parsnips

1 onion

1 stick celery

1 clove garlic

1-2 teaspoon curry powder

1Half teaspoon cinnamon

Half teaspoon cumin

1200ml chicken or vegetable stock Salt and pepper to taste

140ml single cream

Melt butter in pan and sweat chopped onions, garlic, celery and parsnips. Add the spices, stir well and cook for 3 mins. Add stock and simmer for approx. 30 mins. Adjust seasoning. Cool slightly then liquidise. Add cream prior to serving. *Serves 8*

OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

North Hampshire Downs Mothers' Union

Unfortunately, we had to cancel our meeting on Tuesday evening when we were due to hear about the work done at Winchester Prison to support prisoners and their families. Sadly, we have also had to close our Sunflower Café for those with dementia and their carers, who are likely to find isolation at home particularly trying. Please do pray for them over the next few months. Our Child Contact Centres in Basingstoke have not yet had to close, but I expect that they will have to do that in the near future.

If you want to find out more about our organisation, please contact me on 01252 845011. Sue Murphy, Branch Leader

North Warnborough & District Garden Club: April 23rd

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday 23rd April in the North Warnborough Village Hall at 2:10 pm for a 2:30 pm start. We are delighted to be welcoming back Marina Christopher as our Speaker whose talk, on this occasion, is called "Fancy Carrots".

The competitions will be:

1. Three Specimen Tulips.
2. Anything in Flower in a Jug.

Visitors are very welcome to join us. We are a friendly Club whose members share an enthusiasm for gardens and gardening. During the growing season, we always have a plant stall starting at 2:10 pm.

For further information, please telephone 01252 843848

Please note: In view of the Coronavirus Pandemic, all Members will be contacted through the normal channels if the April Meeting is cancelled.

Musical Concerts at All Saints Church, Odiham 19th and 25th April

Please note that the two concerts, Haydn's Creation Mass and The Kuessner Family in Concert, due to be held at All Saints in Odiham on the above dates have been cancelled. For further information please log on to the website www.jubileechoir.com

Hook Choral Society Spring Concert

Unfortunately, the Society's Spring concert has been cancelled but the team hope to reorganise it in due course. Further details will follow when they are available. www.hookchoralsociety.org.uk

Cardiac Rehab: Race Night 24th April/Spring Charity Lecture 20th May/ Closure of the Cardiac Rehab Centre for Exercise

Please note that the Race Night and Spring Lecture have now both been postponed. The Team are hopeful that it will not be for too long, so watch this space for future details.

The Team have also taken the decision to close the Cardiac Rehab Centre for all exercise sessions and classes with effect from the 18th March until further notice.

More info/updates on the website www.cardoac-rehab.co.uk

Alton Abbey Open Days

Alton Abbey will be holding their annual OPEN DAYS on Saturday & Sunday April 25th & April 26th from 12 noon to 5pm. There will be a demonstration of Letter Cutting, and recitals at 3pm on both days: Organ on Saturday and Piano on Sunday. For sale will be Beautiful Stationery, Second-hand books, Hadeel Fair Trade goods from Palestinian, and some Bric a Brac.

Admission: £3 Tea and Cake: £3

In aid of Friends of Alton Abbey (Registered Charity No 284876), who are fund-raising to improve the access to the church for the disabled.

Alton Abbey, Beech, Alton, GU34 4AP

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Please note: These events have not yet been formally cancelled and may be open for the gardens only. Please check with the Organisers beforehand.

All Shook Up: Thursday 16th - Saturday 18th April

This event has now been cancelled. For further information please contact the organisers on www.batsnextgen.co.uk or on [facebook.com/BATSNG](https://www.facebook.com/BATSNG).

Winchfield Festival Postponed: Update from the Organisers

It is with great regret that we have decided to postpone the 2020 Winchfield Festival because of the risks posed by the Coronavirus pandemic. We are very sorry for the disruption that this will cause to all our suppliers, performers and audience members.

All the tickets that have been bought will be fully refunded and you should receive a reimbursement within the next few days.

Nobody yet knows how long it will be before we can safely resume our normal lives, but our current plan is to postpone the Festival by a year and provisionally hold it from 19th to 26th June 2021, using as much of the 2020 programme as possible.

Depending on the progress of the virus and subject to Government guidance, we may be able to stage one or two concerts later this year. We will endeavour to do this so that the 2020 season is not entirely lost.

We are all very sorry to bring you this disappointing news, but trust you understand our decision in the circumstances, and we look forward to resuming normal service as soon as it is safe to do so.

Many thanks for your patience and continuing support.

Tristram Cary, Chairman, Winchfield Festival

For more information please contact Pam Whittle:
info@winchfieldfestival.org

National Garden Scheme – Hampshire

After the storms will come the sun, eventually! Now that we begin to say good-bye to the snowdrops, it is great to see the daffodils, wild primroses, camellia, hellebore and the forsythia bursting through. Spring is surely around the corner.

In the next magazine I will be able to tell you how much the NGS will be donating to our beneficiaries, in 2020. It is you - our garden visitors - who help us raise such fantastic amounts.

Here are details of couple of gardens, open in April, within 15 miles of Upton Grey, which you might like to visit.

In light of the current situation, we suggest that before you set out on a visit, you check the website ngs.org.uk under *Plan a visit and click on cancelled gardens*

**BLUEBELL WOOD: Bavins, New Odiham Road, Alton GU34 5SX
Opening Friday & Saturday 24th 25th April 11am to 4pm: Admission
£5.00 children free: Light refreshments:**

Unique 100-acre ancient bluebell woodland. If you are a keen walker you will have much to explore on the long meandering paths and rides dotted with secluded seats. Those who enjoy a more leisurely pace will experience the perfume of the carpet of blue, listen to the birdsong and watch the contrasting light through the trees nearer to the entrance of the woods.

BRAMDEAN HOUSE: Alresford, SO24 0JU

**Open Sunday 5th April 2pm to 4pm: Admission £5.00 children free:
Home-made teas:**

Beautiful 5-acre garden best known for its mirror image herbaceous borders. Also carpets of spring bulbs, and a large and unusual collection of plants and shrubs giving year-round interest. 1 acre walled garden featuring prize-winning vegetables, fruit and flowers. Small arboretum. Plus, a wildflower meadow and a boxwood castle.

Hopefully one of these gardens might interest you, otherwise you can find more gardens on ngs.org.uk pat.beagley@ngs.org.uk

SMALL ADS FOR APRIL

Tailoring & Garment Alterations. ELITE STITCH, Ladies and Gents garment alterations and tailoring service. Suits, Wedding outfits. Restyling and repairs. 1hr same day service. Curtains and soft furnishings. Leather and PVC repairs. 5 Star Express Gold service 20% off until 1/5/20. www.elitestitch.co.uk 12 Upper Church Lane, Farnham, GU9 7WP elitestitch12@gmail.com 01252 444640

One bed Apartment for Sale. At Lady Susan Court in Basingstoke, designed for over 70s wishing to live independently with access to care package and meals. Viewing highly recommended. Contact Gill 01256 381448 or email hill3gill@gmail.com

HALLS FOR HIRE

Upton Grey Village Hall for hire from £8.50 per hour. Functions, meetings, parties, private and commercial. Full kitchen facilities, central heating and sound system, chairs, tables, crockery and cutlery available. Contact Elaine Lewington on 01256 862894.

The Royal British Legion Hall, Herriard available for hire: wedding receptions, functions, parties, meetings, and events. Fully licensed bar, full kitchen facilities, garden, tables and chairs, sound system, disabled access, central heating, pool table and darts. The new keyholder is Betty Ball on 01256 381487. Email is betball39@gmail.com and herriardrblhall@gmail.com.

Disclaimer: Please note that the views expressed in this magazine are the contributors' personal opinions and do not necessarily represent the views of the editors.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – April 2020

Please note all events are subject to cancellation following Government advice re the outbreak of Coronavirus, please check with the Organisers if attending a specific event.

Advance Dates

11th	May	Mon	Herriard Parish Council Open Meeting, RBLH, Herriard	7.00pm
15th	May	Fri	Herriard Gardening Club: Quiz and Fish and Chip Supper	7.00pm
7th	Jun	Sun	Herriard Village Fete, Herriard Green	
11th	Jun	Thu	Tennis Mix-In Evening, UG	6.45pm
13th	Jun	Sat	Upton Grey Fete	
19th	Jun	Fri	Annual UG Golf Day	9.30am
11th	Jul	Sat	Live music incl Toyah, T’Pau, Altered Images www.lowdefest.com	
3-7th	Aug		Summer Junior Tennis Coaching, UG	
8th	Aug	Sat	UG Summer Horticultural Show	
8th	Aug	Sat	Dinner Dance, Church Meadow, UG	7.30pm
9th	Aug	Sun	‘She Stoops to Conquer’ Church Meadow	4.00pm
26th	Sep	Sat	UG Harvest Supper	
14 th	Oct	Wed	Herriard Harvest Supper RBLH 7pm	
31st	Oct	Sat	Upton Grey Autumn Festival	
20-21	Nov	Fri	UG Drama Group Production, UG Village Hall	7.30pm

Deadline: The copy deadline is 15th April for the May issue. Please email your news and contributions to uptongreymagazine@gmail.com. May’s editor is David Shearer.

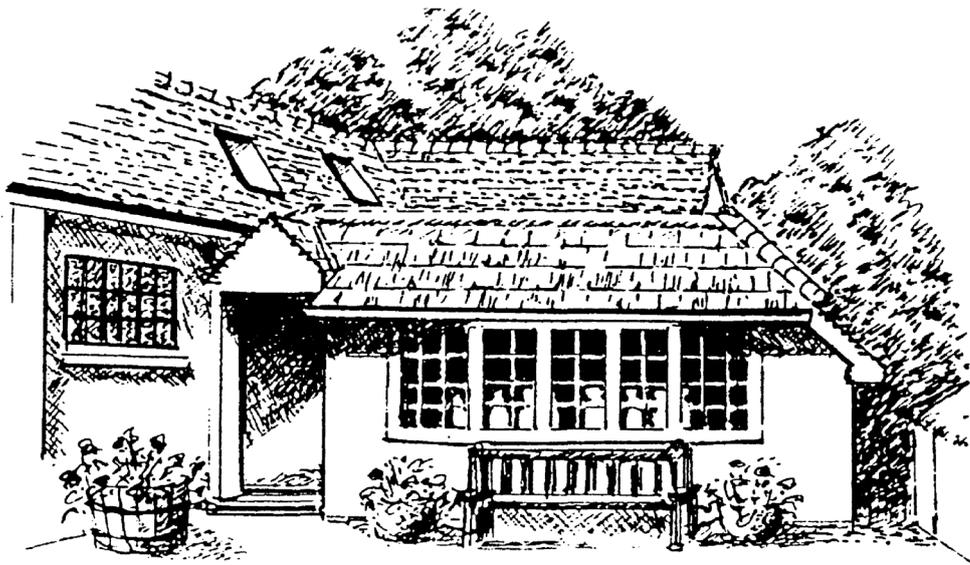
UPTON GREY VILLAGE SHOP and POST OFFICE

Tel: 01256 862326 (Shop), 01256 861454 (Post Office)

shopuptongrey@btconnect.com

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THE POST OFFICE

OPENING TIMES

Tuesday: 1.30pm - 3.30pm

Thursday: 1.30pm - 3.30pm

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