

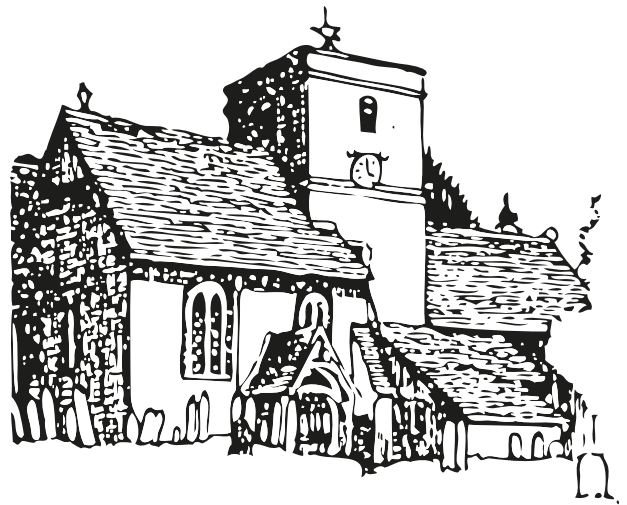
PARISH MAGAZINE



St. Mary's, Herriard



All Saints', Turworth



St. Mary's, Upton Grey



St. Lawrence, Westcott Patrick

December
2021

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BENEFICE MAGAZINE – December 2021
Edition for the Parishes of Herriard with Winslade, Tunworth,
Upton Grey and Weston Patrick

From the Benefice Ministry Team

Upheaval, displacement and loss have become the dominant narrative of the last 2 years. In a variety of ways, different people have experienced one or more of these life changing intrusions. And not just because of the pandemic. Upheaval, displacement and loss occur daily due to political instability, changing weather patterns, war and famine. Indeed mass displacement of people due to these combined threats is predicted to be one of the greatest challenges our world leaders will face over the coming decades.



A couple of thousand years ago a young couple faced their own journey of upheaval and displacement. At the whim of the ruling powers a man and his heavily pregnant young wife were instructed to leave the comfort and safety of their home and make a 90 mile (ish) journey. The journey would lead them through dangerous open country and would take them many days to complete, all so that they could be counted and added to the Imperial balance sheet.

Joseph was a carpenter, a strong and tough man who knew how to look after himself and his wife, and thoughts of her safety must have occupied his mind as they prepared to leave home.

Eventually, with preparations made and having been through an unexpectedly strange series of events involving angelic visitations and dreams, and a promise that the child Mary bore would bring salvation to Israel, Joseph and Mary set off.

I find myself wondering about their state of mind as they started the 90 mile walk. What pre-occupied them? As someone whose second daughter was born in the back of the car, I can forgive Joseph for worrying about whether he would have to deliver the baby on the side of the road...

What of Mary? So many promises, so much to think through, and yet all of a sudden everything was up in the air. Upheaval, displacement and loss were the order of the day.

I also wonder if they encountered God in a new way as they walked? I wonder if the upheaval and displacement and loss opened their hearts and minds to a greater awareness of God's presence with them and a deeper assurance of his purposes for them? In my experience times like this tend to send us one of two ways, either towards God or away from him. We rarely remain where we are, spiritually speaking, when the pressure builds.

We read in the Gospels that they eventually arrived in Joseph's home town of Bethlehem. Greeted by family and friends and given a room in the family home, they must have arrived slightly different people to who they were when they set off. Long and uncertain journeys often change us.

Mary and Joseph's journey culminated in the arrival of a boy, Jesus of Nazareth, who was born in the safety of Joseph's family home, surrounded by love and joy and celebration. In Jesus' birth and subsequent life and death and resurrection, a sign was given that no matter what journey we find ourselves on, even if it involves upheaval, displacement and loss, God is with us in the most profound and intense way imaginable.

In Jesus we are shown and told that God walks through the dirt and dust of life as we do and that our human frailties and struggles are not alien to him. This is the wonder of Christmas and the joy of Immanuel - which means literally 'God is with us'.

If the last two years have been tough, if life is tough right now, if we have experienced more than our fair share of upheaval, displacement and loss, the Christmas narrative reminds us that we are not alone, that God is with us - Immanuel.

And like any journey, easy or hard, full of joy or sorrow, we are changed as we walk it. And, like the young couple 2000 or so years ago, my prayer is that we might draw closer to God, trust him more fully and let the assurance of his presence wash over and change us as we celebrate the arrival of Christ.

On behalf of the whole of the ministry team in the North Hampshire Downs Network of Churches may I wish you and your family, and all those who you love, a joyful and Christ-filled Christmas. A Christmas full of the assurance of God with us, no matter what journey we may find ourselves on.

Rev'd Simon Butler
Benefice Rector

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptism Alayla Lee-Buckland at St Mary's Herriard on October 24th
Funeral Thomas Stockdale at St Lawrence Weston Patrick on November 18th
Funeral Heather Perry at St Mary's Upton Grey on November 19th
Baptism Max Morgan at St Mary's Upton Grey on November 21st

CHURCH NEWS

Christmas seasonal services

Our four churches are very much looking forward to welcoming you at our range of services in December, and ask you please to note the following arrangements.

Herriard and Weston Patrick

From the Churchwardens of St Mary's Herriard with Winslade and St Lawrence Weston Patrick:

Whilst Government guidance allows for personal choice we would like to protect the vulnerable members of our congregation as much as we possibly can. We would really appreciate it if everyone could **please wear masks** for our December services. And if you could **please book in** so we can allow for social distancing that would be greatly appreciated - for St Mary's Herriard please email **fiona@ashmeadow.co.uk** or **phone 07867 973266**; for St Lawrence Weston Patrick, please email **churchwarden.westonpatrick@gmail.com** or **phone 07793 653745**. With many thanks,

Adrian and Fiona (Herriard with Winslade), **Clare** (Weston Patrick)

Tunworth

If you are planning to attend either the Midnight Service on Christmas Eve or the Carol Service on Christmas Day at Tunworth **please email allsaintschurch@gmail.com** to advise the church how many people will be attending in your party.

Upton Grey

St Mary's Upton Grey do not require you to register in advance or to wear masks for the December services.

Church Services

Sunday 5th December

9.00am **Tunworth** - Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion

11.00am **Upton Grey** - Morning Service

Thursday 9th December

10.00am **Upton Grey** - BCP Holy Communion (said)

Sunday 12th December

11.00am **Weston Patrick** - Christingle

4.00pm **Herriard** - Christingle

4.00pm **Upton Grey** - Christingle

5.00pm **Tunworth** - Evensong

Thursday 16th December

10.00am **Herriard** - BCP Holy Communion (said)

Sunday 19th December

9.00am **Tunworth** - 1662 Morning Prayer

4.00pm **Herriard** - Carol Service

5.00pm **Weston Patrick** - Carol Service

6.00pm **Upton Grey** - Carol Service

Friday 24th December (Christmas Eve)

11.00am **Herriard** - Nativity Service

4.30pm **Upton Grey** - Nativity Service

11.30pm **Tunworth** - Midnight Communion (BCP)

Saturday 25th December (Christmas Day)

10.00am **Herriard** - Family Service

10.00am **Weston Patrick** - CW Holy Communion

10.15am **Upton Grey** - Family Service

11.00am **Tunworth** - Carol Service

Sunday 26th December

No services in the Benefice

Services online or telephone based

With some parishioners not in a position to attend church services, the streamed services are continuing. Most services from All Saints Odiham are live-streamed (and then available online afterwards) - see the website www.moretolife.church for details.

In addition to streamed services, the Church of England has established 'Daily Hope', a telephone line offering music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England. The line, which is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044, has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services in mind.

Private prayer

In this group of four churches, **St Mary's Upton Grey** is open every day - generally in daylight hours. **St Lawrence Weston Patrick** is open **Monday-Saturday** (and Sunday if there is a service), usually from **9.00am to 5.00pm** though times may vary. St Mary's Herriard and All Saints Tunworth are available for private prayer on the same basis as before Covid.



KidsZone

Hi Everyone!

I'm sure you've heard the story of the three wise men, who brought gold, frankincense and myrrh to baby Jesus, but one of my favourite Christmas stories is of the fourth wise man, called Artaban. It's not a true story, but it is a lovely legend, which teaches us a lot about Jesus.



You see, Artaban was a star gazer and a doctor from Persia, much like the other three wise men, and when they saw the special star, they made a plan to follow it and find the Messiah. They went their separate ways and promised to meet in 10 days to start their journey. Artaban went and sold all he had, but it was worth so much gold that he couldn't carry it all, so he bought 3 precious stones: a sapphire; a ruby and a pearl. As he rushed off to meet his friends, he came across a man who was sick. He couldn't just leave him, so he took care of him, took him to an inn and used the sapphire to pay for them to look after him. He quickly carried on his way, but this had held him up and he was late – his friends had already left. He jumped on his camel and tried to follow them.

He had to travel through the scorching desert, and try as he might, he just couldn't catch up with them. He finally made it to Bethlehem, but he had no idea which house to go to. Suddenly he heard a baby cry. He knocked on the door, just as a group of Roman soldiers barged past. Herod was worried about this new king and wanted to kill all the babies – including the one in front of him. He begged the soldiers to turn a blind eye to this child and offered the soldiers his ruby. They took it, turned around and left the house. This baby was safe...

Artaban then went on to spend many years looking for the new messiah. He travelled far and wide and listened to news from people everywhere he went, until his name was changed to Simon – the listener. Eventually Simon heard of a man named Jesus, who others were calling the king of the Jews. He took his final pearl and rushed to Jerusalem to find him. When he got there, he heard some terrible news – Jesus has been arrested and was to be put to death.

He sat and wept – maybe he could use his pearl to buy Jesus’ freedom? Then he noticed a girl being dragged from her home – her family couldn’t pay their debts, and now she would be sold into slavery as punishment. Simon took out his final pearl and paid the price, so this girl would be freed.

He heard shouting and weeping – a man was carrying a cross up a steep hill, to where he would be killed. “Who is this?” He asked. “Jesus, the king of the Jews”, he was told. Simon ran towards him and took the cross on his own shoulder.

As he lifted the weight, Simon caught Jesus looking him straight in the eye, and in those moments, when their eyes met, Simon knew that he found the one he had been looking for. With tears streaming down his face he said, “Oh, my Lord, I am so sorry I am so late. I’m so sorry that I have no gift to help you.” It was then that Jesus reached out and touched Simon on the arm. “You have come just in time, Simon, and that is gift enough. You have given yourself. That is all the gift I have ever wanted.”

Now, you and I do not have gifts like gold, or frankincense or myrrh, nor do we have sapphires, rubies or pearls. So, what could we give him during these days of Christmas? Scan this QR code and listen to this famous carol for a clue (the answer is in the last verse!)



Have a great Christmas and see you next time!



Helen Chatfield

Youth Pastor

youth@moretolife.church

07540 140228



NEWS FROM THE VILLAGES

Farming Report - December

As I write this in mid-November, the trees are finally shedding their leaves, the wheat is planted and the grass has stopped growing and what is there, has no feed value. Our thoughts now turn to housing all our cows and heifers in the barns for the Winter. However, one of our team (you know who you are!) left a barn gate unlatched this morning and all the cows from Robot 3 went for a quick hop, skip and a jump around the buildings and yards. Cue lots of arm waving and shouting as we rounded them up and got them back in the barn. Mind you, better they escaped at 9am when we were all here rather than 3am!

We have our dreaded annual TB test to carry out soon. This is our most worrying time of the year by far. A vet must inject all our 500 cows and heifers on a designated day and then three days later come back to read the results. If we get a single reactor (those with a lump where they were injected) then we are shut down (we cannot move any cows off our farm) and the animal that reacted is sent to slaughter. Unfortunately, the test isn't 100% accurate so a slaughtered cow may actually be free of TB. We then must retest the whole herd in two months' time and continually, until we have no reactors.

In the 1970's it was thought that bovine Tuberculosis had been eradicated in the UK. Unfortunately, that wasn't the case, and the opportunity was missed. TB has spread up from the West Country ever since through a combination of cattle movements and the badger and deer population. There are now over 30,000 cows slaughtered each year and cattle herds and family farms have been decimated. The cost to the farmer and taxpayer is enormous but you can't put a price on the pain of seeing one of your favourite cows, who may be healthy, unnecessarily taken to slaughter. The whole TB debate has become a very political and emotive issue, but most people can't understand why. Surely healthy cows and healthy wildlife should be the aim for all?

On a much happier note, you may remember me talking about Shottle Primrose 3 (our second oldest cow) back in March. She's a fantastic animal who's a real prima-donna. Last month she produced her eighth calf, a lovely heifer calf called Rubicon Primrose. I fed Rubicon Primrose her milk this morning and she's gorgeous, a real character. She doesn't seem to have inherited her mother's diva traits yet. We'll see how she develops through her 'teenage' years, but great things are expected of her.

The dairy doesn't shut for Christmas, so we have to make sure all feed orders are in place and delivery dates set in stone. Especially this year with some serious supply issues and very volatile prices. The Christmas work rota needs planning so that we all get time off with family and friends, but the welfare of our animals is not diminished. We try and have everything in place so that the holiday workload is slightly less, but all the calves will be very well fed on Christmas morning and Rubicon Primrose may even get an extra cuddle if she's lucky!

Merry Christmas to you all from the Park Farm team. **Joe Ives**

Useful Websites for Various Local Issues

Dear Villagers, please find below links to various websites where, as a villager, you can find out information relevant to you, or report issues you feel are appropriate:

Fixmystreet.com to report, view or discuss local problems such as **fly tipping, fallen trees**, etc. These reports are sent to the appropriate people to deal, i.e., the Borough or County Council

one.network to **view roadworks** in any areas for the next week, 3 months or year. You will need to sign up to this website to use it but should only get emails if you sign up to updates/alerts. I would recommend signing up to updates/alerts for the specific area you are interested in. Parish Councils have no control over roadworks or road closures any written information from an official source that is received is circulated to villagers

www.basingstoke.gov.uk. Basingstoke & Deane BC to find out information regarding **bin collections, garden waste collections, planning applications** plus much more. Report issues such as **litter, dog fouling** and many other things all of which are listed on the website. Parish Councils do not receive updates regarding bin collections

www.hants.gov.uk. Hampshire County Council to report a **Rights of Way problem, potholes** and other things listed on their website.

Beverley Bridgman, Parish Clerk, Upton Grey Parish Council

Police Report from PCSO Andy Jones

Wildlife related incident

On the 3rd of October there was a report of dog having bitten one of the local Farmer's sheep in the Ellisfield area. Police attended and spoke with the person responsible for the dog at the time. The dog owner was under the impression that the sheep was cornered but does not believe that the dog actually bit the sheep in question. A Vet has confirmed the injury and how the incident is to be dealt with, and it is under

consideration. It is likely it will be by an out of court disposal and a Dog Behaviour Contract.

Two thefts from vehicles reported

On the 27th of September in Cliddesden a Nissan Pick-up had items stolen from it, a Stihl blower, a Stihl Hedge Cutter and a Stihl multi-tool. On the 7th of October, a catalytic converter was reported as stolen from a BMW M5 in Upton Grey. It is unclear exactly when the theft occurred.

Theft

Between the 1st and 16th of October a Public House in Herriard reported that its cooking oil had been stolen. This is a reasonably common occurrence at premises that serve food. The oil itself is of reasonably low value but there is obviously a bigger market where it is being processed and turned into a biofuel. Whilst CCTV has captured images of offenders there are no lines of enquiry at this time.

Criminal Damage

There have been three reports of Criminal Damage in our area. On the 26th of September a car was damaged whilst parked in a remote layby on Weston Road near Herriard. It had been keyed. Between the 23rd and 25th of October, in the Moundsmere area, damage was caused to fields by individuals involved in Hare Coursing. Between the 16th and 28th of September, a (SID) Speed Watch Indicator was damaged. The damage appears to have been caused by a projectile having been fired from a Catapult.

Burglaries

Between the 16th and 18th of October, a building site in the Herriard area, with a dwelling under construction, was broken into and damaged. It was unoccupied at the time. In the early hours of the 25th of October, a shed was broken into, and damage caused. Two bicycles and a paddleboard were stolen. On the 26th of October, again in the early hours, a non-dwelling property around Tunworth, was broken into. A large number of petrol-powered tools were stolen and also a Bronze coloured deer statue. On the same day, between 7.30am and 8am, a cabin in the Upton Grey area, was broken into, damage was caused and hand tools stolen. Please ensure all personal belongings are secured as best you can and ensure when not in use they are stored out of sight.

Please continue to report crime through the **101/999** telephone numbers, or alternatively online if not requiring immediate deployment. **www.hampshire.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime**.

(Reporting a crime direct to me keeps me in the Office for longer which obviously gives me less time to be seen out and about.)

andrew.jones.13301@hampshire.police.uk, 07775 542021

News from Long Sutton C of E Primary School:

If you are a parent or carer of a child due to start school in September 2022 and you were unable to attend the dates in November for the Open events, we would be happy to make an appointment for another time.

Please contact the school office on 01256 862238 or adminoffice@longsutton.hants.sch.uk .Applications for Reception 2022 can be made now. The deadline for applying is 15th January 2022.

Long Sutton C of E Primary School Virtual PTA Christmas Raffle

Please help raise funds for Long Sutton Church of England Primary School and win one of our amazing prizes donated by several local and national companies. All contributors and prizes will be advertised on the website for the raffle. Raffle tickets are £1 each. Raffle tickets are available to be purchased online only from now until Wednesday, 1st December 2021 at 6pm. Please pay online using the following link:

www.goldengiving.com/raffle/longsuttonvirtualchristmasraffle2021 and you will receive your virtual raffle ticket confirmation by email. Please ensure that you tick the box which states “Do you wish people to contact you by email?” when entering your details so that you are notified if you are a winner.

You will be notified by email if you are a winner. Prizes will be available to collect from the school during the Christmas Fair on Friday 3rd December 2021 between 5pm and 7pm or delivered to you that weekend if you are local and unable to collect. Good luck and thank you for supporting our wonderful school. Long Sutton C of E Primary School PTA.

Danielle Mendoza

Long Sutton Primary School are once again running our hugely popular Christmas Tree Sale!

Premium Quality Real Nordmann Fir Trees are available for both collection and delivery on selected dates during December and every tree sold will raise valuable funds for our school. In addition, we will be offering our beautiful, locally produced, handmade wreaths.

The trees are supplied by a family run, local business who are members of the British Christmas Tree Growers Association. They supply only top-grade trees at wholesale prices, which means we can offer them to you cheaper than you would be able to find in a garden centre, while also raising money for the school.

Please support our local school by ordering your tree from www.longsuttonpta.org.uk.

North Warnborough & District Garden Club

Season's Greetings to all our Members. As we do not hold a Meeting in December, we look forward to welcoming you again in 2022. Club Information and News can now be found at our new website, which is at: <https://www.nwdgc.org.uk/>

UPTON GREY NEWS

www.uptongreychurch.co.uk

www.uptongreyparishcouncil.co.uk

facebook.com/uptongreyvillagecommunity/

Upton Grey Autumn Festival

Many thanks to all sponsors, helpers and attendees for making this year's Autumn Festival another great success despite the fact that we were unable to put on the afternoon event. Special thanks to Anita and all the Hodd team for their great support, Marcel van Poecke for the use of Hoddington Park, David Janaway for the bonfire and Guy Fawkes straw, Jazz Incorporated and the Rag & Moan men and John Jame's Silent Disco and, of course, Linda Webb's spectacular (Merlin) fireworks.

We had a great, capacity evening in the marquee (kindly donated for free by Carters) and even had to turn away about a couple of dozen people.

The bonfire was the biggest yet and we had approaching a thousand people to see it burn and then watch the fantastic firework display.

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LOGS – see Tree work

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See also under Gardens

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In total we made over £1100 for St. Michael's Hospice and we had a good display of Guys and Jack O'lanterns around the village with the Mills family and Zebedee Guy winning our Guy Fawkes competition, and Carole Plant and Russell Clifford winning our Jack O'lantern competition with Clifford's Creepies.

A number of you were disappointed not to be able to purchase game this year but Robbie has told me that, if you ring him on 078840 32692, then he is happy to take your orders and arrange delivery to you. He currently has different cuts of venison, pheasants, partridges, pigeons and occasionally wild ducks and rabbits all from his local shoots. BTW, Robert, who advertises Game Breasts in our Parish Mag, is not "our Robbie".

Roger Clark.

Tea@3

There will not be a Tea@3 during December but the next one will take place on the 13th of January at Westfield, Greywell Road by kind invitation of Annabet and Peter Chapman. Let us know if you are able to come or if you would like a lift, please get in touch with Barbara 862627, Jill 862131 or Viv 862455.

The Ladies' Group

Before the pandemic Upton Grey Ladies' Group comprised 30-40 of us from the village who enjoyed meeting up each month, sometimes just in each other's gardens, or going on a visit to an interesting place or a theatre trip. We have a Reading group and a Knitter Natter group both of which have kept going for the last 18 months or so. We would like to reinstate the group on a regular basis, so we are going to have a Christmas Party in the Village Hall on Tuesday the 14th of December at 7pm.

It seems that this might be a good opportunity for new members to join us. We all bring a dish of food for 6 people, either sweet or savoury and the wine or soft drink is supplied. If you think you would be interested in coming, please let Donna Thompson know tel: 01256 862615.

Andrew Roberts, talk on George III, Monday 13th December, Upton Grey Village Hall

See Tunworth News section for further details

Upton Grey Bridge Club, Monday 10th Jan Onwards

‘I am pleased to announce that our Bridge Club will be re-opening for evening bridge, probably in Village Hall, from Monday, the 10th of January 2022. Playing commences at 7.30pm on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month, except Bank Holidays. We welcome new members, and we are a very sociable club who don't take our bridge playing over seriously so please try us out'. For more information contact Roger Clark, 01256 862776, rogerclark@btinternet.com.

Saturday 22nd January 2022, Village Drinks “BYO” Upton Grey

On Saturday, the 22nd of January at 7pm - 9pm in Upton Grey Village Hall, bring your own drinks and nibbles for “Village Drinks”. All villagers welcome!

Save the Date - Safari Supper, Saturday 5th March 2022

We are very much looking forward to hosting the Safari Supper in its usual format with tea and coffee at the village hall after an evening of travelling around the village. For those that are new to the village, Safari Supper is held to support St Mary's Church, Upton Grey. It starts at 7:15pm and finishes with coffee at 10:15pm. Each participating couple will be asked to provide at their home, either a starter, main course or a pudding course for four guests. We will then all join together at the village hall and chat to fellow Safari Supper guests, over a cup of tea or coffee. Everyone is welcome, especially our new villagers. Please make a note in your diary!

Vivian & Julia

HERRIARD AND WINSLADE NEWS

www.herriard-pc.gov.uk

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

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

Christmas Bingo - Herriard RBL Hall, Saturday 4th December

Join us for this year's Christmas bingo on Saturday 4th December. 6.30pm for a 7pm start. Half time - filled rolls for sale & raffle. Please contact me by text to 07801238200 or email: jfalconer035@gmail.com to book a table and let me know your numbers. If we do not get enough interest, this event will be cancelled. Many thanks, Jenny Falconer

Herriard Gardening Club: December

Organic Principles. It cannot have escaped your notice that wildlife is in trouble. The reasons are complex, and they include loss of habitat and climate change. The use of pesticides in gardens target small invertebrates that sustain lots of creatures including birds and small mammals. Using these chemicals to kill aphids etc. has a knock-on effect on other creatures including ladybirds and spiders.

Glyphosate is a toxic herbicide used to kill weeds, it is rarely used on its own, but as part of a chemical cocktail (sold under well-known tradenames) the claim is that it is 1,000 times more toxic than pure Glyphosate.

Recent research shows that Glyphosate formulations destroy the micro-organisms in healthy soil and affects earthworms (Soil Association Report). In seasonal climates such as the UK, residues have been found in the soil for up to 3 years.

Amphibians are thought to be affected by this product and common frog numbers have dropped because they come into contact with the chemical when they are on the ground and the toad is declining rapidly. Birdlife is impacted when this chemical is used on weeds and wildflowers because many seed-eating birds will eat these contaminated seeds when short of food.

Weeds are wildlife plants in the wrong place. A lot more gardeners are doing things naturally, when the weeds start to appear, turning to hard work and not chemicals, if you do it little and often then it is not such a chore, and the weeds will not have a chance to take over.

Weeds need to be removed with a hand fork or trowel and the more persistent weeds such as Ground Elder, Dock Leaves. Brambles, Couch Grass etc needs a large garden fork and spade to get to the larger or long root mass, several attempts might be needed to eradicate these plants.

Paths and patio paving can be problematic so rather than filling the gaps with just sand, fill with mortar or allow low growing plants such as *Erigeron Karvinskianus* (Mexican Daisy). These flower nearly the whole year until the frost hits, spreading its seeds easily into the gaps along with Primroses. Use mulch or wood chippings to suppress the weeds, as many of them need to be exposed to light to germinate. Before you get rid of all your weeds ask yourself if it's really necessary because over-tidy gardens are not good for wildlife. Leave wild areas for the wildlife such as nettles, which is a food plant for caterpillars of the Red Admiral, Small Tortoiseshell, Painted Lady and Comma Butterflies. If you want wildlife to thrive in your garden, do it more organically.

Recipe: - Root HotPot

1 Large red onion, sliced
 2 Garlic cloves, crushed (optional)
 2 Veg stock cubes/pots
 2 Carrots, 2 parsnips, 1 swede, peeled and diced
 3 Celery sticks, roughly chopped
 1 Leek, trimmed and roughly chopped
 ¼ Green cabbage, shredded
 750 g Potatoes, peeled and thickly sliced
 120g Dried Pearl Barley
 50g Frozen peas
 1tsp Dried Thyme
 Salt and freshly ground pepper
 1tbsp Finely chopped fresh parsley
 Grated cheese for topping (optional)

Put the onion, garlic, stock pots and 1.2 Litres of boiling water into a large saucepan over a medium heat and cook for 5 minutes.

Add the carrots, swede, parsnips, celery, leek and cabbage, simmer for 20 minutes.

In another saucepan, cook the sliced potatoes in boiling salted water for 8/10 minutes or until starting to soften. Drain and leave to cool.

Preheat oven to 220c /fan 200c/gas 7.

Stir in the Pearl barley, peas and Thyme into the other root vegetables and cook for a further 15 minutes. Check the seasoning and add the parsley

Tip everything into an ovenproof dish, level the surface and arrange the sliced potatoes on top. Cover the dish with foil and bake for 20/30 minutes.

Take off the foil and add cheese topping (optional) bake uncovered for another 20/30 minutes or until potatoes are tender and golden brown .

Serve hot with other vegetables

Patricia Pegg

TUNWORTH NEWS

Andrew Roberts, talk on George III, Monday 13th December

The George III talk is on Monday the 13th of December at 6.30pm in Upton Grey Village Hall. Apply for tickets (£30) via Eventbrite for a fascinating talk by noted historian Andrew Roberts. See Andrew-roberts.net. Wine and canapés will be served during the evening, thereafter a pay bar. All proceeds in aid of Tunworth Church. If interested, you are strongly advised to apply soonest as tickets are on a first-come-first-served basis. To buy tickets, contact james.whitcombe03@btinternet.com for the link to purchase tickets. Tel. 07801 103665 **James Whitcombe**

OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

North Hampshire Downs Mothers' Union:



As I mentioned last month, from 27th November to 10th December Mothers' Union is part of the campaign to raise awareness of gender-based violence. It is shocking that 1 in 3 women worldwide experience domestic or sexual abuse. Cases of domestic violence have increased during lockdown and the pandemic and so there is more need than ever to join together and say, "No more 1 in 3".

In Odiham, we are supporting this campaign by offering coffee to those walking past our church around 9am on Friday December 3rd and Friday December 10th (Human Rights Day). Do come and visit us on one of those days to find out more.

In January we look forward to our Wave of Prayer. Mothers' Union is based firmly on prayer for our work locally, and also for members in other parts of the world. Mothers' Union divides the year into 3-day periods when we pray for the members and projects of a particular group of dioceses. Winchester diocese has its turn between 12th and 14th

January along with Mauritius, Nandyal (South India), Kericho (Kenya), Katsina (Nigeria) and Kumasi (Ghana). We plan to hold a Wave of Prayer service in January 2021 but the details for this have not yet been finalised.

If you want to know about our branch or the Mothers' Union, please feel free to contact me. Sue Murphy, 01252 845011 or sue@the-murphys.me.uk.

Mozart Requiem, All Saints, Odiham, Sun 5th Dec

The Jubilee Choir is delighted to announce their first concert in over two years on Sunday 5th of December at 6pm. In recognition of the difficulties so many have had to face during the pandemic we could think of no more appropriate programme than the Mozart Requiem. The choir will be joined by professional soloists and a full orchestra, and all profits will be donated to the NHS. Tickets are £20 and available from www.jubileechoir.com, Katharine Jane in Odiham High St or Lynn Lymer on 01256 701947.

St Michael's Hospice Carol Concert in All Saints, Odiham: 9th Dec

The Friends of St Michael's Hospice invite you to A Celebration of Carols and Christmas Music on Thursday, the 9th of December at All Saints' Church, Odiham, at 7.00pm with doors opening at 6.30pm. The carols and music will be performed by Magdalen College Choir, Oxford, and the Tippett String Quartet. The evening will be led by Canon Roger Royle, and we also have readings by Tom Bradby and the Mayor of Basingstoke. Wine and mince pies will be served, and we very much look forward to you joining us for a festive evening. Tickets are £30.00 and can be purchased at Katherine Jane, High Street, Odiham, or on the events page at www.stmichaelshospice.org.uk/events.

Hook Choral Society Christmas Concert, Sat 18th December at 4pm

The Concert will take place at St Johns Church, London Road, Hook, RG27 9ED. Doors open at 3.30 for mulled wine and mince pies which is included in ticket price of £8. Under 11s free of charge. This is a popular event with a selection of new and old carols and readings. Tickets are available online at www.hookchoralsociety.org.uk, Trees Newsagent in Hook or ring 07957 293641 or on the door.

Ho! Ho! Ho! ❄️

We start our festivities off with **Graham Harrison: A Christmas Entertainment**, a performance of classic Christmas songs from the Golden Age of Hollywood musicals combined with humorous stories about the artistes. Our groups celebrate the festive season by often adding a beverage/tipples, mince pies and other tasty treats to their meeting, while, no doubt, reminiscing about the last year and the real pleasure that comes from being able to meet again, face to face

As a change from their monthly meeting Wings & Wheels organised a visit to the Brooklands Museum at Weybridge as it covered all the bases! The visit also included a simulated flight, with the seats designed to give the sensation of the engines and the afterburners at work.

A group of people, including children and adults, standing in a line on a street, possibly waiting for a bus or a service. A woman in a red jacket is in the foreground, looking down.

have been influenced by Queen Mary living in the Palace at Beaulieu and her religious views? The group also works with individuals and organisations who require help with research. The most recent being with Professor Rebecca Probert, a leading authority on marriage law.

A painting of a landscape. In the foreground, a large, dark tree with thick, gnarled trunks stands on a rocky, reddish-brown shore. The tree's dense green foliage fills the upper left and center. To the right, a body of water reflects the scene, showing the tree and the sky. In the background, more trees are visible, including one with vibrant orange autumn leaves on the right. The overall style is impressionistic, with visible brushstrokes and a rich, warm color palette.

palette of acrylics, but her demonstration included advice on colour mixing which applied to all mediums

Have a Happy Christmas and maybe your New Year resolution will be to try a taster session if so, we would be delighted to hear from you!

Contact: membership@odihamu3a.org.uk

Our website: <https://u3asites.org.uk/odiham/home>

Bridge Club News

South Warnborough Bridge Club is inviting new members to join our friendly, local club and we welcome people from Upton Grey and our neighbouring villages. Also, any villagers who are already members but have not attended recently are encouraged to play again. We meet each Tuesday in South Warnborough Village Hall at 7:15 for 7:30 p.m. Please note that the South Warnborough Bridge Club plays duplicate bridge whilst the Upton Grey Bridge Club plays contract bridge

For further information, please contact David Day on tel. 01256 862467 or david@davidday7.plus.com.

Odiham Surgery Patient Group Needs Your Help!

We are currently recruiting new volunteers to our patient group. If you are a patient (or carer of a patient) of Odiham or Old Basing Surgery and want to help all patients get the best from our surgery and improve our collective wellbeing, then please join us.

You can join us in two ways:

i) Patient Network

Join our patient group network - we want enthusiastic, caring people to support our local GP practice by providing feedback and help when we have a particular health- related project.

We need people from all parts of our community – living in Odiham, Old Basing or surrounding villages or on the RAF base. We want both young (over 16s it would look good on your personal statement) and old, people who work in or attend local schools, care groups or voluntary agencies or charities. We would especially value those who have a different perspective -perhaps you are a carer or you have a unique insight due to disability or chronic illness.

Volunteers with experience in communication, IT, health promotion, healthcare, marketing, PR, research would be great to have within the network.

There would be no commitment to go to committee meetings, but we would keep you updated and get your views.

ii) Patient Group Committee

You may also join our committee- a much smaller group who will liaise with the surgery and other local groups. The committee will also decide which projects to focus on and how to do it.

It has been a really tough time recently and our GPs are really struggling. We want to support them to deliver a service that works for everyone. If you are interested and want to find out more then email us at odihampatientgroup@gmail.com.

From Cardiac Rehab - Causes of high blood pressure (hypertension)

There are a range of effective drugs for treating hypertension, however all drugs have side effects so it is clearly better to start treatment by tackling any aspect of lifestyle which may be contributing to the high blood pressure (BP). Some of the common ones are:

Obesity: Being overweight or obese significantly increases blood pressure, particularly central obesity. Losing weight reduces blood pressure so should be one of the first aims of hypertensive patients, and exercise can play a big part in helping with this.

Alcohol: Excessive alcohol intake (21 or more units for men and 14 or more for women) contributes to raised BP. Alcohol is also a source of calories and just reducing drinking can have a significant effect on body weight, as mentioned above.

Salt: Reducing salt consumption usually reduces BP. Inactivity: Exercise is an effective tool in the fight against hypertension.

More info at www.cardiac-rehab.co.uk

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

Planning reforms have been “paused”– what does that mean for wildlife?

The planning system shapes the places where we live and work, but it also has a profound impact on wildlife in our local area. Inappropriate development can destroy our precious remaining habitats, while well-designed developments can help secure nature's recovery through the restoration and creation of well-connected wild places.

Planning could also help improve people's access and connection to nature. Evidence shows that almost half the population say they are spending more time outside than before the pandemic – but access to nature is not equal, exacerbating health inequalities.

With nature now declining at a speed never previously seen, it is clear the current planning system has flaws and needs updating to create better homes and communities for people and wildlife. It is great

news for the Wildlife Trust that the new Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Michael Gove MP, has pressed “pause” on the planning reforms announced last year, acknowledging that the proposals would not help the nature and climate crisis.

Across the country, The Wildlife Trusts are still fighting against developments that put important wild areas at risk. For example, here in Hampshire, the Trust is currently fighting proposals in Portsmouth City Council’s Draft Local Plan which would build 3,500 houses on top of fifty football pitches worth of legally protected intertidal habitats at Tipner West. The area has some of the highest legal safeguards that can be awarded in recognition of its importance to thousands of migratory birds, such as dark-bellied brent geese and dunlin, as well as many fish and invertebrates. Not only would this development be disastrous for the wildlife and people of Portsmouth but could set a precedent that would allow housing targets to trump nature anywhere.

We need a new approach. The Wildlife Trust is calling for a Planning Bill that prioritises people and wildlife – one that restores nature and draws clear red lines for developers, while also tackling the climate crisis, and supporting people’s health and wellbeing.

The planning system can play a crucial role in nature’s recovery—mapping out where nature still survives, and where it needs more space to recover. By avoiding damage to these critical places, we can make sure that as we build, we can also leave nature in a better state than we found it.

You can respond to the Portsmouth City Council Local Plan consultation, demanding they stop the destructive plans for Tipner: wtru.st/portsmouth-local-plan.

Abi Webber

Senior Marketing Officer (Interpretation & Publications)
Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

Let your garden go wild for wildlife this autumn – Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

Rustle. Crunch. Swoosh. The familiar sounds of crisp, freshly fallen leaves underfoot are a sure sign autumn has arrived. But as the nights gradually draw in and the temperatures start to dip, this marks a crucial season for wildlife as preparations are put in place to survive winter.

As the bounties of summer food sources start to dwindle, gardens become an increasingly important haven for wildlife in the ‘harvest season’. At this time of year, many garden visitors – be it birds,

mammals, amphibians, reptiles or invertebrates – are busying themselves securing enough food and shelter to see them through the harsh winter months.

You can play your part in helping countless species this autumn, and the best part? It requires minimal effort.

That golden scattering of leaf litter may look untidy on the lawn but, rather than removing, simply sweeping the leaves into a neat pile in a wind-sheltered corner of the garden can provide a vital habitat for frogs and many overwintering invertebrates. In turn, a garden boasting a healthy population of insects equals more foodstuff for ground feeding birds like robins, blackbirds and song thrushes as well as small mammals such as hedgehogs, foxes and badgers. And not only do decaying leaves provide essential refugia for insects, frogs and hibernating hedgehogs, it also makes excellent mulch for flowerbeds.

Avoiding the temptation to prune hedgerows and shrubs excessively also allows birds more time to eat the remaining berries whilst providing valuable sanctum. This is especially true for garden ivy as this evergreen perennial offers both a perfect shelter and winter berries.

For our feathered garden guests specifically, another olive branch that gardeners can extend in autumn is to put up nest boxes. Though these boxes won't be used for nesting until the breeding season in spring, they can provide birds with a warm and safe space to escape foul weather and boost their chances of survival.

Finally, as many gardens witness an influx of birds during autumn as the search for food intensifies among common species and winter migrants, this makes it the perfect time to clean your feeder, ensuring it is free from disease.

So, remember to spare nature a thought and enjoy turning your garden into a wildlife haven this autumn.

Abi Webber

Senior Marketing Officer (Interpretation & Publications)
Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

SMALL ADS DECEMBER

Game meat – breasts only: Partridge (10 in pack £5.00); Pheasant (6 in pack £5.00); Pigeon (10 in pack) £5.00. Contact Robert 07557 054844

The Christmas Barn, Hartley Wintney at West Green Fruits, Hartley Wintney RG27 8LP. Open from Monday November 22nd, 9.00am to 5.00pm every day for locally grown Trees and Wreaths, Decorations etc. For information, inc. Covid precautions and assistance, please visit www.westgreenfruits.com & follow the Christmas link to www.christmasbarnhartleywintney.co.uk or call 01252 845772

HALLS FOR HIRE

(Subject to government guidance and local constraints)

Upton Grey Village Hall, for hire from £10 per hour (discounts possible for regular users). 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, chairs, sound system, disabled access, central heating, pool table and darts. To reserve, contact Tracy Crawford on 07769 220390 or email bookings.herriardrbllhall@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 – DECEMBER 2021

All events remain subject to cancellation following Government advice, and restrictions on events and public meetings resulting from Coronavirus. If in doubt, please check with the organisers before attending an event.

NB: All Church Services are listed under CHURCH NEWS near the front of the magazine

DECEMBER'S DATES

4th Dec	Sat	Herriard Christmas Bingo, HBLH	6.30pm
5th Dec	Sun	Mozart's Requiem, All Saints Odiham	6.00pm
9th Dec	Thu	Hospice Carol Concert, All Saints, Odiham	7.00pm
13th Dec	Mon	Andrew Roberts Talk – George III; UGV Hall	6.30pm
14th Dec	Tue	Ladies' Group, Christmas Party; UGV Hall	7.00pm

2022 DATES

10th Jan	Mon	UG Bridge Club, UG Village Hall	7.30pm
13th Jan	Thu	Tea@3, Westfield, Greywell Road	3.00pm
22nd Jan	Sat	UG Village Drinks, UG Village Hall	7.00pm
5th Mar	Sat	UG Safari Supper	7.15pm
19th Jun	Sun	Platinum Promenade, Upton Grey	

REGULAR EVENTS

2nd & 4th Mon	Upton Grey Bridge Club	7.30pm
Each Mon	Prayer group, 4 Little Hoddington	10.00am
Each Tues	Prayer group, 4 Little Hoddington,	5.00pm

PARISH MAGAZINE COPY DEADLINE

Please note that, as usual, the copy deadline for the January issue is earlier than in other months (to allow for printers being closed over Christmas). **The deadline is 10th December.** Please send news and contributions to **uptongreymagazine@gmail.com**. January's editor is Sheila Stranks. Your editor for December was Sheila Stranks.

Please note: we are re-introducing our Regular Events section of the magazine (see above). Please let us know of any regular events that need to be added.

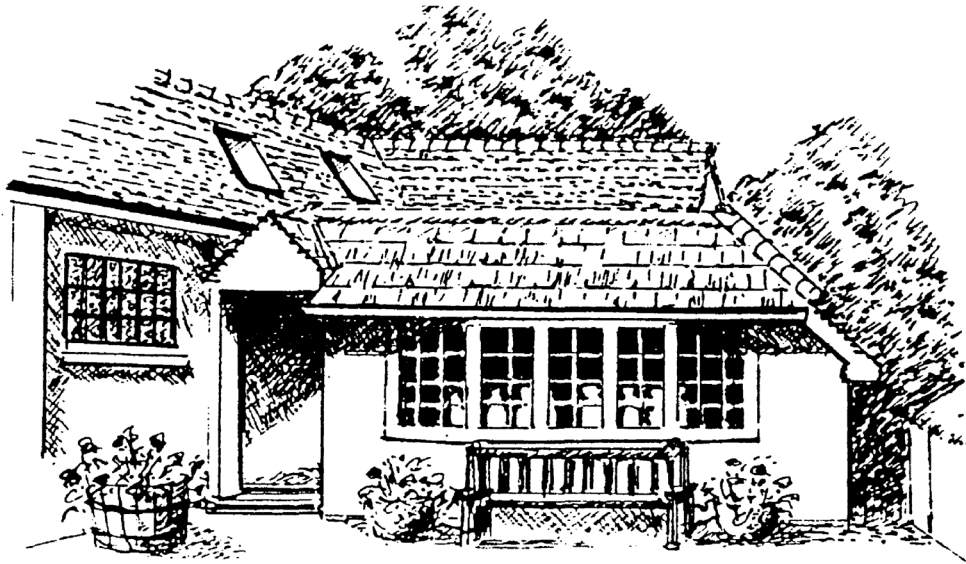
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