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BENEFICE MAGAZINE - May 2023 Edition for the Parishes of Herriard with Winslade, Tunworth, **Upton Grey and Weston Patrick**

From the Benefice Ministry Team

As I'm writing this, it certainly feels like Spring has sprung. Birds are chirping outside, sunshine is pouring through my window and there is a warmth that was not there a week or two ago. It really is great, and it gives life a more positive and optimistic feel. I'm noticing many more smiling people and a generally increased joy about the place.



In the light, in the warmth, there is hope. There is optimism. There is a noticeable increase in green around us, and the multi-coloured blanket of flowers is slowly beginning to emerge. The cold, stark winter landscape is transforming and I'm aware, as you read this in the May edition, we will be even further through this progression. This leads me to think about light.

In some ways, in the winter when things are so dark, we're much more acutely aware of the light. When it shines into the darkness, we notice it and immediately sense its impact. However, when we have more daylight and the sun consistently shines, we begin to take it for granted. We begin to just accept that it will be there shining each day (despite this being far from a certainty in England!). And this has made me wonder about how much in life we take for granted, how many good and lovely things we don't always appreciate.

With a cost of living crisis, and the war in Ukraine as the two most obvious examples, I think we are seeing in many ways the undermining of those things we take for granted; in this case, readily accessible food and heating, and the expectation of security and stability. It can feel deeply unnerving and unsettling, and if we're not careful we can obsess over these things.

It's at these times when I feel the need to remind myself, and others, of the one thing in life more constant, consistent and stable than the rising of the springtime sun. Jesus is above all things, over all things, in all things. While we may not always feel him there, or appreciate his presence, or maybe even acknowledge his existence, he is always there.

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" Hebrews 13.8

Writing this as we are about to walk through Holy Week, remembering again the journey Jesus took to the cross, the grave and into resurrection after, for us, fills me with confidence. The one who entered in to be like us, to die and rise again to ensure that death is not the end, to give us a hope for the future. The one who did all that for us is constant, even in the uncertainty of the world around us. He is sure and constant. I pray you know his blessing this springtime, as the flowers bloom and the leaves return, and into the rest of the year ahead.

Revd Matt Bianchi
Mission Priest
North Hampshire Downs Benefice

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 7th May

- 9.00am Tunworth Coronation Service (BCP Holy Communion)
- 11.00am Upton Grey Coronation Service
- 6.00pm Herriard Coronation Evensong

Thursday 11th May

10.00am Upton Grey – BCP Holy Communion (said)

Sunday 14th May

- 9.00am Herriard CW Holy Communion
- 10.00am Upton Grey Rogation Walk
- 10.00am Weston Patrick Morning Worship
- 6.00pm Tunworth Evensong

Thursday 18th May

- 10.00am Herriard BCP Holy Communion (said)
- 7.30pm Odiham Benefice Ascension Day Service

Sunday 21st May

- 9.00am Herriard Rogation Walk
- 10.00am Tunworth Rogation Walk
- 10.00am Upton Grey CW Holy Communion

Sunday 28th May

- 9.00am Tunworth Family Service
- 10.00am Upton Grey Morning Worship
- 11.00am Herriard Family Service
- 5.00pm Weston Patrick Evensong

CHURCH NEWS

Coronation Services – Sunday May 7th

There are Coronation Services on Sunday May 7th at **Tunworth** (9.00am BCP Holy Communion service, followed by a Coronation Lunch at 12.00 noon), Upton Grey (11.00am special all-age service, with a peal of church bells, a glass of Prosecco and the planting of a tree in memory of HM Queen Elizabeth, followed by a Big Picnic Luncheon in the marquee on Church Meadow) and **Herriard** (6.00pm Evensong, followed by a celebratory drink and canapés). Please see the notices in the Upton Grey and Herriard sections of this magazine.

Weston Patrick Coffee Morning – Wednesday May 10th

St Lawrence Weston Patrick is starting a coffee morning on the second Wednesday of the month, beginning on May 10th. Please come along for some coffee and cake from 11.00 to 12.30 in Weston Patrick Village Hall. All ages welcome!

Rogation Walks

There are Rogation Walks at Upton Grey (10.00am on May 14th), Herriard (9.00am on May 21st) and Tunworth (10.00am on May 21st). Please see the notices in the individual village sections of this magazine.

Upton Grey Coffee & Cake Drop-in – Monday May 22nd

The St Mary's Upton Grey 'Coffee & Cake Drop-in' events are once or twice a month, and the next is on **Monday 22nd May, 11.00-1.00**, in Upton Grey Village Hall. Tea or coffee, slice of cake, chat. Open to all, very informal, no need to book, just turn up.

APRAPERPREPREPREPREPREPRE

KidsZone

Helen's away on holiday at the moment, but here are reminders of some of the exciting things young people have been up to in church this last month!



Families from around Tunworth and Greywell crafting at Easter - including making hot cross buns and blowing eggs!



Children from Long Sutton School taking part in our Easter prayer space.



Youth from the churches enjoying a meal together at the Easter Eggstravaganza.



Helen taking a well earned break!!

If you would like to be part of all the fun we have with children and young people right across the Benefice, please get in touch with Helen on youth@moretolife.church.

Helen Chatfield, Youth Pastor youth@moretolife.church 07540 140228

NEWS FROM THE VILLAGES

May Farming News

One would think after so many years in agriculture that us farmers would stop moaning about the weather.....no chance I'm afraid! After an incredibly dry February we then had a torrentially wet March. The wettest March for over 40 years with the lowest recorded hours of sunshine ever in Hampshire the Met Office reported. It's been very difficult to manage our spring field work. In February Dad measured 0.27in of rain and in March he measured 6.4in on his rain gauge. Quite a difference! The very wet March meant we couldn't travel on the fields with machinery because we would damage the ground and the crops. We also couldn't put our youngstock or cows out to grass because they would have irreparably poached (damage) the pastures.

Early spring is the time for emptying our slurry lagoon onto our grass fields, giving the muck time to wash in and utilise the nitrogen and goodies in the slurry so as not to contaminate the flavour of the grass with mucky residue. We managed a first application in February but a second application we usually apply in March didn't happen because our pastures were waterlogged.

We also didn't get to roll our grassland with the heavy roller that pushes in the stones and mole hills because of the wet weather. When the ground finally dried enough in early April the grass was too long to roll and would have been damaged, so for the first time I can remember we haven't rolled our grass.

When mowing for silage in May we'll have to set our cutting height higher so we don't get earth or stone contamination because we couldn't roll. Stone or dirt contamination will have several consequences; first we'll make poor quality silage and secondly, our agricultural contractor who cuts and forage harvests our silage will not be happy if our Hampshire Diamonds (flints) go up through his very expensive machinery.

Some cheerful news in a moment but while I'm having a little moan, I'll have one last one about our milk price. As we are all aware costs of pretty much everything rose sharply last year. This year some, but by no means all, of our input costs are thankfully dropping but so is the price we get for our milk. Our milk price changes every month, and we don't know what price we'll be getting for the following month until the day before. So, for example, our April milk price was announced to us by our milk buyer, ARLA, on the 31st March. This makes budgeting a real headache to say the least. ARLA announced that our April milk price was dropping

by a whopping 5.3 pence/litre. This is the biggest single month price drop I can ever recall. This comes off the back of a drop of 3.52 ppl for March and 2.65 ppl for February.

So, a milk price reduction of around 11 pence/litre this year so far which will now put the milk price we receive at around 38 ppl. This does not cover our cost of production. I would like to think that will be fully reflected in the milk price you see on the supermarket shelves, but I have my doubts.

Some cheerful news to finish on; storm Noa has passed, it's 6am on a bright sunny morning, the dawn chorus is in full swing, the daffodils have been stunning, the Herriard Easter egg hunt after the Easter Sunday service was sunny so no drenched children, and Ben Rich on BBC 'weather for the week ahead' tells me it's going to be a sunny 20 degrees next week. So, we'll finally get some cows out to grass, spread the muck and plant our maize in good warm seed beds hopefully.

Finally, our dairy consultant tells me that there is going to be a milk shortage this coming winter as a result of the poor price farmers are receiving now. So, our milk price will possibly rise. Always look on the bright side!

Joe Ives

UPTON GREY NEWS

www.uptongreychurch.co.uk www.uptongreyparishcouncil.co.uk facebook.com/uptongreyvillagecommunity

Upton Grey Village Hall 100 Club – April Draw

The first draw for the 2023-4 session was won by J Wallinger (£100) with number 98. Second prize (£40) by G Johnson with number 47. There is still time to join or take out extra numbers. Contact Sam Clough (07766 663511), Wendy Stanway (862886), or Brian Thrussell (862819).

Upton Grey News by Email

After many years of keeping the village informed by email, George and Ray Hillier have decided to step down. They have done an amazing job and we are all very grateful. Jane Hanbury has taken over and is creating a brand-new list of addresses. If you would like to join the new list, please email: ugnewsnhw@gmail.com

Upton Grey Horticultural Society Shows 2023

We were saddened to have to cancel our SPRING SHOW on 15 April in Upton Grey Village Hall due to lack of entries. As a lot of work goes on in the background to get a show up and running and then bringing it all together, and with so few entries, we had no option other than to cancel it.... **for this year!** We will be back again next Spring. We will let you know when we have the date - so watch this space.

Our **Summer Show** which we hold in the Marquee in Church Meadow will soon be upon us – **Saturday 12 August.** We hope that you and your families will be able to support it. It is such a lovely community event. We'll put more information in this magazine, the village news, community Facebook, and WhatsApp groups and you'll receive schedules of classes available to enter etc in July. We look forward to receiving your entries and seeing you, and them, on the day.

If you would like to help us organise our Shows (especially the Summer Show coming up in August) either prior to the event or on the day, then do please contact us - we welcome any offers of help - thank you. We are not a committee, just a few enthusiastic people!

June Hunt (01256 862719)

Coronation events (May 6th/7th)

We're looking forward to a wonderful weekend of events to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. On **Saturday 6th May** there will be a **Barn Dance** in a marquee on Church Meadow starting at 6.30pm. It's free and no tickets are needed, just bring family & friends (of all ages!) food, drink, tables and chairs and of course your dancing shoes! On **Sunday 7th May** there will be a **Celebration church service at 11.00am** followed by Prosecco and a peal of church bells. At 12.30pm we're back to the Church Meadow marquee for a **big picnic luncheon**; again, bring tables, chairs, food, drink, family and friends. No tickets are needed, and all are welcome to this free family event, which will also include a supervised bouncy castle for children.

Millie White (07557 793237) & Sarah Barnes (01256 861164)





SATURDAY 6TH MAY

VILLAGE BARN DANCE

FROM 6.30PM - CHURCH MEADOW BRING YOUR OWN FOOD, DRINKS, TABLES & CHAIRS

SUNDAY 7TH MAY

CELEBRATION CHURCH SERVICE

11.00AM ST MARY'S CHURCH

BIG PICNIC LUNCH

FROM 12.30PM - CHURCH MEADOW - WITH BOUNCY CASTLE BRING YOUR OWN FOOD, DRINKS, TABLES & CHAIRS WEAR YOUR CORONATION CROWN, HAT OR HEADDRESS

SATURDAY 6TH - MONDAY 8TH MAY

FLORAL CELEBRATION AT ST MARY'S CHURCH

AND ALSO ... A PRIZE FOR THE BEST DECORATED HOUSE

With very many thanks to

Upton Grey Parish Council

L Hunt & Sons The Stitching Room Totally Tennis David Janaway

Upton Grey Rogation Walk – Sunday May 14th

Please join us on Sunday 14th May for this year's Rogation Walk. Meet at the church at **10.00am** for a short walk (interspersed with a little reading or two and some singing) before returning for coffee and "sweet treats" in the churchyard. Children and dogs especially welcome for this morning of informal worship combined with bucket loads of fresh air and a new dimension on your daily dog walk! **Tessa Morrish (and Woozle!)**



The Upton Grey Golf Day 2023

Every year (since the Jubilee I think) golfers of Upton Grey have battled for the honour of holding the Upton Grey Champion's Cup. All golfers in any way related to Upton Grey are invited to compete. This is the official notification. It will take place on Friday 9th June 2023 at Tylney Park Golf Course (Rotherwick, RG27 9AY, https://www.tylneypark.co.uk/.) Arrive at 12.00 for coffee and bacon rolls. Tee offs from 12.45. Prizes for individual and team Stableford, longest drive and nearest the pin. Two course dinner at 5.00pm. Cost £65 if we have fewer than 12 players, otherwise £57. The Organiser this year is the possessor of the 2022 reply trophy champion Tom Bennett. So please me! tdtbennett@tiscali.co.uk (07743 554994)



2.00pm Saturday 10thJune Sherborne Cottage Church Street Upton Grey

Tombola/ Raffle/ Cards
White Elephant/Garden plants/Books
Cakes/Cream teas/Ice creams
Pimms/Woodworking
Brass band/Punch & Judy
Toys/Children's games
Admittance £2/ Under 14 free

Parking on Church Meadow Church Street

St Mary's Church Fete – Saturday 10th June 2023 2.00-5.00pm

The Upton Grey village fete in aid of St Mary's Church is coming soon. Please save the date for this annual long-standing village event which is both a fundraiser for the church and fun entertainment for all ages. See above ad for details.

We are very grateful to Nick and Rosie Ralls who have kindly agreed for us to use their beautiful spacious gardens at Sherborne Cottage.

Last year 500 people turned up which is fantastic but did mean the Tea and Pimms teams were really stretched. If you would like to lend a hand for an hour or two, please contact Frances Yeowart, mobile 07774 163217 or email francesyeowart@outlook.com, who can direct you to the right person. It's amazing how helping out can be really fun! Thank you.

Sarah and Frances on behalf of St Mary's, Upton Grey PCC

Garden Stall – Church Fete 10th June 2023

Any garden related items 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, hanging baskets, garden pots/troughs then please don't throw them away. If you have leftover seedlings, the odd bag of compost, or maybe overbought on your bedding plants, are dividing a Hosta or any perennials, surplus rhubarb, the odd indoor plant or anything that could possibly be sold on a 'garden' stall please let me know. I can collect or just drop on my drive or deliver to the stall on the day: Clock Cottage, Cleves Lane. Any donations will be very much appreciated. Thank you. **Debbie Bridle** (debbie@debbie-bridle.com, 01256 862705).

White Elephant Stall - Church Fete 10th June 2023

Spring is coming and so what better way of spending time than a bit of decluttering? If you have any **good quality** unwanted items, then please do bring them along to the **White Elephant** stall at the fete where we will be delighted to sell them. We are very grateful for donations, but please, nothing broken or chipped as it is just does not sell and then has to be disposed of.

Delivery on the day from 10.00am. Also, **books for the book stall.** If there is anything that is too big to sit on a table (!) or be easily transported, we would prefer to sell this beforehand, so please do ring to discuss. Frances Yeowart (01256 861218 or mobile 07774 163217). Thank you. **Frances, Julia, Mary and Rosie**

The Friends of St Michael's Hospice invite you

....to the world-renowned Gertrude Jekyll Garden at The Manor House, Upton Grey, RG25 2RD by kind permission of Mr and Mrs John Wallinger on **Sunday 11th June 2023 from 11.30am to 2.00pm**. Drinks and canapés will be served.

If you would like to join the event, please go on the Hospice website to purchase your tickets, <u>www.stmichaelshospice.org.uk</u>, the tickets are £25.00 per person. Otherwise please contact Jane Lyons at Weir's Barn, Hartley Wintney, Hook, RG27 8HS or by email: janelyons@talktalk.net.

If you are unable to join the event but would like to donate, again please go to our website as above. Donations by cheque should be payable to St Michael's Hospice.

Tennis Dates for 2023: May-August

The village tennis court has recently been resurfaced and it is both looking great and playing really well for tennis of all standards. Please can members settle this year's **Membership Subs** by 1st May 2023, these are being kept at the same price as last year: £40 family, £25 single. New members are always welcome, for any new membership enquiries please contact Charles Holroyd on holroydcja@aol.com.

A couple of dates for the diary for later this spring/summer: Social Tennis Mixer: Thursday 29th June 6.00pm at the village tennis court - it would be great to see as many of the Upton Grey Tennis Club members as possible for this event which is always fantastic fun.

Summer Junior Tennis Coaching Week: Mon-Fri 7-11 Aug, 9-12.45.

Rain or Shine Theatre Company "Comedy of Errors" Sunday 13th August at 4.00pm in Church Meadow Upton Grev

Rain or Shine Theatre Company in association with Upton Grey Drama Group return again this time with their new production "Comedy of Errors" on Sunday August 13th: gates open for picnics at 3.00pm, the performance starts at 4.00pm.

Please bring your own chairs/rugs/picnics/drinks, and the Flower Show marquee will be there if it's raining or shade is needed. For further information please contact UptonGreyDrama@gmail.com.

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 100 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 by the last week in May 2023 to be in with a chance for the application to be put forward at the June meeting. Please address your application 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 to the email sent by parent or guardian. (**Note** that any late applications received after the deadline will automatically be carried over to the next meeting).

Pipe UP for St Mary's Church Organ Appeal

We are delighted to say that we have received over 45 donations to the *Pipe UP for St Mary's* SPONSOR A PIPE APPEAL meaning we are well on our way to our final goal. The beautiful pipe organ will be dedicated to the late Queen as a lasting and visible tribute to her long reign. If all goes to plan, the organ will have been installed in April with the **opening concert on the early evening of Sunday 9th July**.

Thank you for your support! Please ask Frances Yeowart (francesyeowart@outlook.com or 07774 163217) for a donation form.

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LOGS - see Tree work

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Deconstruction of the Redundant Organ (circa 1902) St Mary's Church, Upton Grey

Subsequent to an invitation to view and select wood that might be available from the redundant church organ, an offer was made by members of the SFWW (Southern Fellowship of Woodworkers) to dispose of the various remaining components in an environmentally sustainable way.

The pipes had already been sold to a church in Germany and the better wood, from the casing, given to Rory Vereker for making into shelves for the vestry in St Mary's and to Richard Anscombe, for making into turned artefacts. These have subsequently been sold in aid of the Organ Fund. Five trips were made, transporting everything to my garden in Tunworth Down, including some very large and heavy pieces, these included the 1m x 1.3m bellows and many wooden pipes, some of them 2.5m long.

The first priority was to dismantle the various items into a size where they could be carried into the workshop for further intricate dismantling. Ensuring that any wood was removed out of the elements, as it is about 120 years old and very dry. There are plans to make some heritage items out of the wood, including bird nest boxes. These should be available at the St Mary's Church Summer fete to be held at Sherborne Cottage on the 10th June 2023.

Some statistics around this project: 1kg brass, 3kg of screws and fastenings, 7kg of lead, 15kg of copper cable were found.



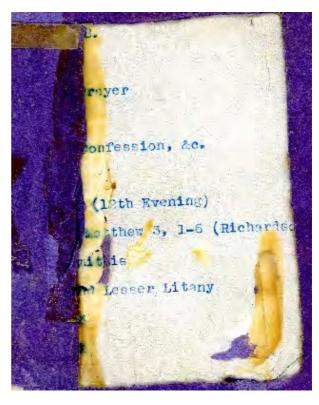
There was also a blast from the past, as a small sheet of paper was found, attached to the surface of one of the sound boards, shown here:

The first page shows Hymn 162 with verses 1, 2 & 5, my Common Prayer book for the 1900's gives the following: Have mercy on us, God most High.



Hymn 162 verses 1, 2, and 5

On the back appears to be an Evening service for Advent with verses from St Matthew and the Nunc Dimittis! The original will be available for perusal.



The text above is brought to you by the SFWW, a woodworking fellowship who meet on every fourth Thursday evening of the month, in the winter, spring and autumn, in the stunning medieval Cross Barn, Odiham in the North Hampshire Downs Benefice. Information is available from the SFWW secretary Tim McGinn (secretary@sfww.org.uk). **Arn Huddy**

Save the Date: Upton Grey Harvest Supper, Saturday 7th October Upton Grey Harvest Supper - Saturday 7th October. Please make a note in your diary. Further info to follow!

Please could we ask all Dog Walkers ...

Having experienced a few 'dog ambushes' in recent months, as I know have a few others in the village, it would make the dog walking experience much more enjoyable if everyone could kindly put them on the lead when approaching others - unless they obviously know that each other is friendly - so that everyone can feel safe. Many thanks, Rachel.

HERRIARD AND WINSLADE NEWS www.herriard-pc.gov.uk www.herriardvillagehub.co.uk Herriard Village Group on http://www.Facebook.com

Curry and Quiz Evening – Saturday 20th May, The Herriard Hub (RBL Hall), Herriard at 7.00pm.

Tickets are £5 per person and include a meat curry/rice or vegetarian option. Teams of 4-6. Fun guaranteed! Book now. Call Gill Fitt 07957 400029

Herriard Parish Council Meeting – Monday 22nd May at 7.30pm The Annual Parish meeting will be held on Monday 22nd May at 7.30pm at the Herriard Hub (RBL Hall). Open to all residents of Herriard who are welcome to join Councillors for a complimentary drink at the Hub bar from 7.00pm. The agenda will be posted on notice boards and the village Facebook page prior to the meeting.

Plant Stall, Herriard Summer Fete – Sunday 4th June 12.00-3.00pm The Herriard Gardening Club will be manning a plant stall, if you have any garden related items, unwanted plants or seeds, please donate them for the stall. Any leftover seedlings or divided perennials would be gratefully received.

Please label your plant donations which can be left in the porch at Kate Dunford's, 'Highwood', King Johns Lane, RG25 2PE or Pat Pegg's, Danetree Cottage, 4 Bagmore Lane. Alternatively, labelled plants can be brought to the stall on the day.



To celebrate the Coronation of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen Consort we invite you to join us:

On <u>SATURDAY 6TH MAY</u> we will be screening the Coronation at <u>The Herriard Hub</u> – with tea, coffee and homemade cake available from 10.00am for the 11.00am Coronation Ceremony at Westminster Abbey.



On <u>SUNDAY 7TH MAY</u> we will be having a special Coronation Evensong at 6.00pm at St Mary's Herriard. And after the service a celebratory drink and canapés.

St Mary's Church Herriard with Winslade

ROGATION WALK Sunday 21st May 9.00am

Rogation Sunday is traditionally when churches walk round parishes and bless the crops.

Everyone is very welcome to join us on our Rogation Walk, starting at the Church at 9.00am and walking across to Nashes Green, then down past Golden Dell to Lee Farm, across to Hale Farm, and then ending up at The Herriard Hub (RBL Hall) for coffee & cake!

Michael Chatfield will be leading the walk - and bird song will be a big part of the event.

Please do come and join us and find out why!

Well behaved dogs welcome too!



TUNWORTH NEWS

Our **Rogation Walk** is on **Sunday 21st May**. We meet at All Saints' Church at **10:00am**.

WESTON PATRICK NEWS



OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

News from Long Sutton C of E Primary School

One of our priorities this academic year has been to re-engage with the local community in a more 'face to face' way, following the limitations brought about by Covid. A particular highlight was providing a group of singers and dancers for the Long Sutton Village pantomime. Our Junior Choir are earning a reputation for high quality singing, which brings so much joy to the children as performers, as well as the audience. We love 'touring' the local community so if you have an event which we might be able to perform at, do let us know and we will do our best to make an appearance!

With 'community engagement' in mind, we are planning a Community **Open Day** at the school on **Thursday 6th July** (1.15-2.45pm). We invite anyone from the local community, either from within our 3 catchment villages or the wider area, to enjoy a tour of our school and find out a bit more about our school community, vision, values and curriculum. The event will include a Fair-Trade café, hosted by our Year 6 children. Nearer the time, we will be asking for RSVPs, so we know how many cakes to bake! Do look out for flyers and posters later in the term.

Hannah Inglis (Headteacher)

Local Art News, Open Studio to Visit!

I'm organising an open studio exhibition in June. I live in Tunworth and am putting on the show in **Odiham** at the former Lloyds Bank, 61 Odiham High Street. My paintings will be there, alongside three friends' work. I'd love to invite all my neighbours in the parish. I'll be painting but also making tea and showing everyone around. Sadly, there's no wheelchair access due to steps up to the door. The opening times for the studio will be: **Tuesday June 6th (11-5.00), Thursday June 8th (11-8.00); weekend June 10th/11th; June 13th/15th/18th (11-5.00).** Hope to see you there!

Chloe Scott Moncrieff



Looking back and looking forward

So, what keeps a group of over forty men in one room, quiet and facing the same way for two hours and doesn't involve alcohol?

The answer ... someone talking about building a replica Spitfire at 80% of original size! Steve Markham's amazing story covered 16 years and 5 months from buying a kit of parts to securing the approval from the appropriate authorities to actually fly the aircraft. The aircraft is known as the Odiham Spitfire, not just because it was built by Steve in the village, but because it is a replica of one of the photo reconnaissance aircraft that were based in Odiham in 1944.



Our military history theme continued with our Family and Social History group. They listened to a member's presentation on the derring-do of HMS Valiant in WW2, a ship on which Prince Philip served for a while. The story of *Valiant* being seriously damaged by limpet mines placed by Italian frogmen riding two-man "human torpedoes" was made very personal when the group learnt that the captain had been the presenter's grandfather and had been played by John Mills in the film made of the incident!

On the other hand, looking forward, some members of our Moto Group are planning for their trip to Isla Cristina in Southern Spain in September. Too early to buy the sun cream - but never too early to start the conversations of how to get to Gatwick!

We will be showcasing all our groups at our Annual **Open Day, on the afternoon of Thursday 10th August**. More details to follow, but due to building works at our usual venue, Robert Mays School, we will be in **Elizabeth Hall, Hook.** Save the date!

In the meantime, to learn more about our u3a please visit our website: https://u3asites.org.uk/odiham/home

North Warnborough & District Garden Club

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday 25th May**. It will be our very popular Annual Plant Sale. This will commence at 1.30pm and will be followed by a Plant Auction.

Visitors are always welcome at our meetings, and on this occasion there will be plenty of time to meet other members and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee.

For further information about our Club, please visit our website at: https://www.nwdgc.org.uk

Citizens Advice Hart Outreach Project

It may be difficult for people to get to the Citizens Advice Office in Fleet. They have therefore opened an outreach project with venues across the Hart district. We would be very happy to come and give a talk to any local groups to let them know of the type of advice we can provide. Please contact us to arrange either individual help or to request someone to come and talk to your group.

Call 01252 878435 or email outreach@citizensadvicehart.org.uk. Many thanks in advance.

Caroline Sutton, Outreach Adviser at Citizens Advice Hart

King's Coronation, Saturday 6th May 2023

The National Association of Civic Officers have published information about the King's Coronation on Saturday 6th May and provided details about some of the national events that will be taking place over that weekend. The coronation itself will take place at Westminster Abbey on the morning of Saturday 6th May. Sunday 7th May will be the day for a Coronation Concert staged and broadcast live at Windsor Castle and a Coronation Big Lunch will take place on the same day. The Big Lunch is being organised by the Eden Project and downloadable resources will be available from www.coronationbiglunch.com. The bank holiday on Monday 8th May will be focusing on volunteering and The Big Help Out is aimed at encouraging people to try volunteering in their local area. Further details can be found using the links below:

https://www.royal.uk/coronation-weekend-plans-announced

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-64349942

Coronation of King Charles III - A Celebration in Flowers. All Saints Church Odiham, 5th-14th May 9.00-17.00.

Come and enjoy the floral displays, created by the All Saints Church flower arrangers, for this very special occasion.





Foreign Coins and Notes for Prostate Screening: 13th May OCH

We are collecting foreign notes and coins cluttering up your home in our Odiham, Hartley Wintney and Old Basing Charity Shops. This is a joint project that will share the proceeds between Odiham Cottage Hospital and Hook & Odiham Lions (covering Hook, Odiham and Hartley Wintney). All Lions proceeds will help fund the next Lions' Prostate Cancer Screening session at 10.00am Saturday 13th May 2023 at the Odiham Cottage Hospital. Please see the Lions website for more details hookandodihamlions.co.uk

National Garden Scheme - Hampshire



As we say goodbye to the Snowdrop gardens, and a very successful 'Snowdrop Festival', we now prepare for the newly emerging Spring flowers in our gardens, and the plethora of gardens to choose from to visit in Hampshire, during the coming months.

Nationwide, the National Garden Scheme has over 3,500 gardens opening their garden gates to the public. Here in Hampshire we have 89 gardens listed, with around 20 others who are part of the Village Group

Openings - the likes of Amport & Monxton, Crawley, Froyle, Headley (NEW), Romsey and Stockbridge. These gardens are great value for money, with one payment covering several gardens. We are really pleased to welcome Headley Gardens (GU35 8PW) for 2023, and hope they have a very successful year. Every visit by the public to one of our gardens equates to more funds raised for our very deserving beneficiaries - the likes of Marie Curie, Macmillan Cancer Support and Parkinson's UK, plus several others.

New for 2023

Coles: Basing Dean, Privett, Alton, GU34 3PH. Opening Sunday 14th May 10.30-7.30. Admission £10.00, children free, Card Payments available. Various Light refreshments. Country Life called this space "a great post-war garden". An historic 25 acre creation still being renovated. There are many dazzling spring rhododendrons and azaleas with bluebells and Japanese acers among ancient oak woodland and an arboretum for autumn colour; see koi, wildlife and Japanese ponds; lawns and contemporary beds of grass and perennials around stunning modern house (not open). Illustrated talks at 11.30am and 2.30pm by the owner, who once restored Old Alresford House.

As we move away from a new Village Garden opening, we move towards a garden which has been opening for the NGS for many years: **Tylney Hall, Ridge Lane, Rotherwick, RG27 9AZ** has been opening its gates for more than 30 years. In recognition of this, two rare Cork Oak Trees (to replace two which have recently died of old age) were presented to Sam Aziz, Tylney Hall General Manager, by Mark Porter, County Organiser for the National Garden Scheme in Hampshire. This year Tylney Hall will be opening on Sunday 14th May and Sunday 11th June: 10am to 5pm. Admission £5.00, children free. Cash only. Refreshments: Cream Teas in the Chestnut Suite from 12.00 noon. Large garden of 66 acres with extensive woodlands and beautiful vista. Fine avenues of

wellingtonias; rhododendrons and azaleas, Italian garden, lakes, large water and rock garden, dry stone walls originally designed with assistance of Gertrude Jekyll. This is a great garden to visit and one we are proud to have in our Hampshire NGS portfolio.

Beechenwood Farm Hillside Odiham RG291JA

Opening: every Wednesday from 29th March to 8th June, 2.00-5.00pm; also by arrangement - this gives the visitor a more private and leisurely visit. Admission £5.00, children free. Refreshments: Home-made teas. https://ngs.org.uk/view-garden/8569. A 2-acre garden in many parts. Wander through the woodlands with drifts of Spring bulbs. Rose pergola with pots of Spring bulbs - and so much more.

Pat Beagley pat.beagley@ngs.org.uk

Reporting potholes

After a mild but wet autumn, the hard freeze before Christmas has undoubtedly done more damage to relatively fragile road networks. Please do report potholes using the following link:

https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/potholes

Strictly Come Courting - Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

As mists rise from the water's surface on early spring mornings, love is in the air as great crested grebe pairs join together to dance. These graceful courtship rituals denote the start of the birds' breeding season as the grebes look to successfully attract a mate with their synchronised salsas.

With orange and black head plumes spread wide, an elegant pattern of head shaking, bill-dipping, 'mewing' (calling) and preening culminates in the famous 'penguin dance'. The performance reaches an astonishing crescendo as a pair of great crested grebes will rush together, paddling their feet frantically to raise upright from the water. Then, standing chest to chest, they flick a beak-full of water weed at each other before one final shake of the head and the weed is dropped, and the deal is clinched. In time, a suitably enamoured pair will move into their nest, floating safely in the reedy margins of the lake shore.

You may stand a chance to observe this impressive display at any flooded gravel pits, reservoirs, lakes or canals where a pair of great crested grebes are residing. Locally, Testwood Lakes Nature Reserve in Southampton and Blashford Lakes Nature in the New Forest offer opportunities to see these grebes. All you need is a pair of binoculars and a little patience – and perhaps a flask of something warm while you wait to enjoy the show. If you're lucky enough to see that famous dance, then remember to pop a note in your diary to return in five weeks' time and you

may be fortunate to witness the birds' stripy 'humbug' hatchlings riding on their parents' back.

Great crested grebes are the largest and most commonly seen grebe species in the UK. As well as the impressive plume on its head and bright coloured ruff on its neck, these handsome and sleek waterbirds have white cheeks, a dark cap, a white neck and a dark body.

The species was formerly a great rarity having been sought by milliners for its decorative plumage. However, the species represents a conservation success story. W.H.Hudson, a pioneer in nature conservation and author of Hampshire Days (1903), campaigned for the protection of grebes from the demands of the fashion industry. There are now estimated to be almost 5,000 breeding pairs in the UK.

Find out more about local wildlife by visiting the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust website at hiwwt.org.uk/wildlife

Jake Kendall-Ashton Senior Communications Officer (Publications & Media) Jake.Kendall-Ashton@hiwwt.org.uk



Great crested grebes perform synchronised courtship displays in spring © Jon Hawkins_Surrey Hills Photography

HALLS FOR HIRE

Upton Grey Village Hall can be hired at a basic rate of £12 per hour. Tables and chairs are also available to hire. There are kitchen facilities, including china, cutlery & glasses, central heating, sound system, stage and disabled access. If you don't know the hall, we would be happy to show you round. To book, or if you have any questions, please contact Jane Hanbury 01256 862681 email: ajhanbury@btinternet.com.

The Herriard Village Hub (RBL 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, please see booking form found at www.herriardvillagehub.co.uk, or contact Tracy Crawford on 07769 220390 or bookings@herriardvillagehub.co.uk.

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 - May 2023

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

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		WIAT DATES				
6th May	Sat	$\boldsymbol{\mathcal{C}}$	10.00 for 11.00			
6th May	Sat	Barn Dance in marquee on Church Meadow, UG	6.30pm			
7th May	Sun	Coronation BCP HC at All Saints Tunworth	9.00am			
7th May	Sun	Celebration service at St Mary's Upton Grey	11.00am			
7th May	Sun	Coronation Lunch at Tunworth	12.00noon			
7th May	Sun	Big Picnic Luncheon in Church Meadow marquee,	_			
7th May	Sun	Coronation Evensong at St Mary's Herriard	6.00pm			
10th May	Wed	Coffee Morning, Weston Patrick Village Hall	11.00-12.30			
13th May	Sat	Prostate Screening, Odiham Cottage Hospital	10.00am			
14th May	Sun	Rogation Walk, Upton Grey	10.00am			
20th May	Sat	Curry & Quiz Evening, The Hub, Herriard	7.00pm			
21st May	Sun	Rogation Walk, Herriard	9.00am			
21st May	Sun	Rogation Walk, Tunworth	10.00am			
22nd May	Mon	Coffee & Cake drop-in, UG Village Hall	11.00-1.00			
22nd May	Mon	Herriard Parish Council Meeting	7.30pm			
		ADVANCE DATES				
4th June	Sun	Herriard Fête, Herriard Green	12.00-3.00			
9th June	Fri	Upton Grey Golf Day, Tylney Park Golf Course	12.00noon			
10th June	Sat	Upton Grey Fête, Sherborne Cottage, Upton Grey	2.00pm			
11th June	Sun	Friends of St Michael's Hospice Drinks, Manor House	-			
29th June	Thu	UG Tennis Mixer, Upton Grey Court	6.00pm			
6th July	Thu	Community Open Day, Long Sutton School	1.15-2.45pm			
9th July	Sun	PipeUp for St Mary's UG Opening Concert	5.00pm <i>Tbc</i>			
7-11Aug M	Ion-Fri	Junior Tennis Coaching Week, Upton Grey	9.00-12.45			
12th Aug	Sat	Upton Grey Summer Horticultural Show				
13th Aug	Sun	Comedy of Errors, Church Meadow, UG	4.00pm			
7th Oct	Sat	Harvest Supper, Upton Grey Village Hall				
28th Oct	Sat	Upton Grey Autumn Festival	6.00pm			
REGULAR EVENTS						
Each Mon/	Thu	Odiham book exchange, Bridewell, Odiham	2.00pm			
Each Sat		Odiham book exchange, Bridewell, Odiham	10.00am			
Each Mon		Prayer group, 4 Little Hoddington	10.00am			
Each Tues		Prayer group, 4 Little Hoddington	5.00pm			
Each Thu		Coffee, Tea & Cake Morning, Hub, Herriard	10.00-12noon			
Every 2nd Wed		Coffee Morning, Weston Patrick Village Hall	11.00-12.30			
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PARISH MAGAZINE COPY DEADLINE

Please note that the copy deadline for the June issue is the 15th May.

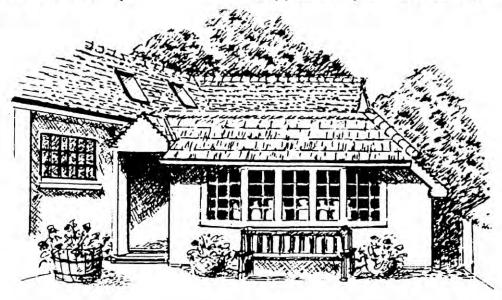
Please send news and contributions to uptongrey magazine@gmail.com. Your editor for May was Sheila Stranks with Nick Willmer, Church Editor. For June your editor is Tess Chevallier with Nick Willmer, Church Editor.

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