

PARISH MAGAZINE



St. Mary's, Herriard



All Saints', Turworth



St. Mary's, Upton Grey



St. Lawrence, Westcott Parvick

**April
2025**

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Parish Chairperson

Herriard	Simon Wills	Chair@herriard-pc.gov.uk
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BENEFICE MAGAZINE – April 2025
Edition for the Parishes of Herriard with Winslade, Tunworth,
Upton Grey and Weston Patrick

Letter from the Benefice Ministry Team

A few days ago as I sat in my home I heard a sound which always lifts me, the sound of geese flying over my house. At this point I am reminded that the season is changing and spring is on the way. There is nothing more beautiful than to look into the sky and see the geese flying in a V formation, especially when there is a



large group. This is not the only sign of spring though. The snowdrops have been flourishing for a while and now the daffodils are opening in the garden. The primroses are filling the churchyard grounds like a carpet and the buds look ready to burst open on trees. As I drive down the country lanes I know that very soon the bare branches of the hedgerows will explode with green as the new leaves unfurl.

The emotions felt in spring are joy, hope and expectation as one looks forward to the longer days and the promise of summer ahead and this prompts a response in us. For some it is the joy in the wonderful creation that surrounds us, the reassurance of the patterns of the seasons, and for others the reminder of new life given by God in creation. It is good to take time out to look at our wonderful, created world and remind ourselves of the powerful creator God who made it. To step aside for a short time from our worries and the fears of what is happening in our world, though they are very real, and focus on the powerful, loving God who made and controls this wonderful creation.

It is very natural that, as we look at all that surrounds us, we should spend time thanking God for all the joy, hope and expectation that we experience, not just in nature but in life too. Mark Stibbe in his book ‘Drawing near to God’ suggests that our daily prayer should begin at the ‘gates of thanksgiving’ as we thank God for all the blessings in our life. This season of Lent is a time for reflection, and perhaps one thing we may pay attention to is spending time thanking God for all he gives us before we rush into all the requests that are on our minds as we pray. We live in a world where little attention is given to thanks, and yet feedback is sought everywhere. This is often interpreted as an opportunity for criticism that things should be quicker, cheaper, easier, and rarely as a chance to thank those who have provided a service or goods. As we

stand at the gates of thanksgiving each day, our feedback to God should be one of thanks for the new life we observe in spring, the spiritual, emotional and material blessings we experience and for the love that he pours on us each day.

*Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.*

Suzanne Newcombe (St Mary's Church, Herriard with Winslade)

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 6th April

9.00am Tunworth – 1662 Morning Prayer

10.00am Upton Grey – CW Holy Communion, followed by Annual Parochial Church Meeting at 11.00am

5.00pm Herriard – Evensong

Thursday 10th April

10.00am Upton Grey – BCP Holy Communion (said)

Palm Sunday 13th April

10.00am Herriard – Palm Sunday service

10.00am Upton Grey – Palm Sunday Service, preceded by procession up the hill from the pond

10.00am Weston Patrick – CW Holy Communion

6.00pm Tunworth – Evensong

Maundy Thursday 17th April

7.30pm Odiham – Benefice Holy Communion with Tenebrae

Good Friday 18th April

8.00am Tunworth – Reflective service

10.00am Herriard – Good Friday reflection

10.00am Upton Grey – Family workshop, followed by short informal service at 11.00am

Easter Sunday 20th April

5.45am Upton Grey – Sunrise service

9.00am Tunworth – BCP Holy Communion

10.00am Herriard – Family Communion, followed by Easter egg hunt in the walled garden at Herriard Park

10.00am Upton Grey – CW Holy Communion, followed by Easter egg hunt in the Churchyard

10.00am Weston Patrick – CW Holy Communion, followed by Easter egg hunt in the Churchyard

Sunday 27th April

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

CHURCH NEWS**Maundy Thursday Service of Holy Communion with Tenebrae**

The name Maundy Thursday comes from the word *mandatum*, ‘commandment’. In John 13.34 we read that Jesus said to his disciples at the Last Supper: ‘I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.’ It contains a rich complex of themes: humble Christian service expressed through Christ’s washing of his disciples’ feet, the institution of the Eucharist, the perfection of Christ’s loving obedience through the agony of Gethsemane.

On Maundy Thursday we will be meeting together in All Saints Church, Odiham at 7.30pm for a quiet and reflective service as we take time to prepare ourselves and to walk with Christ towards the horror of the cross and the joy of Easter Day. Our service will fall into two parts.

The first part will be a communion service during which we will recall the institution of the Lord’s Supper, and enact Christ’s command to ‘do this to remember me’.

The second part will be a Tenebrae, which is a service of shadows in which darkness symbolically encroaches as we step closer to Christ’s death on Good Friday. The service is structured around nine short readings and after each reading a candle is extinguished, until the church is in darkness, and we leave quietly as we prepare for Good Friday.

Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCMs)

The APCMs of the four churches are as follows:

- Upton Grey **Sunday 6th April** at 11.00am in the Church (after the morning service).
- Herriard **Tuesday 8th April** at 7.00pm in the Herriard Hub.
- Tunworth **Tuesday 8th April** at 7.00pm in the Church.
- Weston Patrick **Tuesday 22nd April** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Coffee & Cake

All Saints Tunworth, St Mary's Upton Grey and St Lawrence Weston Patrick are continuing with their regular coffee/cake sessions. The March events are:

- Coffee and cake in the church porch, **All Saints Tunworth**, at 10.30am on **Thursday 3rd April**.
- Coffee and cake drop-in at **Upton Grey Village Hall**, 11.00am-1.00pm on **Monday 14th & 28th April**.
- Coffee morning at **Weston Patrick Village Hall**, 11.00am-12.30pm on **Wednesday 23rd April**.

Tea or coffee, slice of cake, chat. Open to all, very informal, no need to book, just turn up. All ages welcome!

The Table

Dates for 'The Table' (a free community meal at North Warnborough Village Hall) are usually the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. For more information about The Table please contact The Revd Matt Bianchi (matt@moretolife.church).



KidsZone

Hi everyone,

I'm hoping that, by the time you read this, the sun will be a regular visitor to our skies, the temperature will have increased and you will have had plenty of opportunities to play outside in the garden!



This month we are going to think a bit about gardens and even build one together! I wonder if you've ever made an Easter Garden? Basically they are a model, which can tell the Easter story. They're loads of fun to make and can help us remember what happened on Easter weekend.

Firstly, let's remind ourselves of the story! Scan the QR code, or follow this link: https://youtu.be/4VtcF_fOoWY?si=GzjhLCT0L-ZnZl2v

Now, let's grab a few bits and build a garden. Remember these are just ideas. Now you know the story, you can use your creativity to make the garden individual to you!

You may need:

- A shallow tray or box. Any size is fine, but I find A4 paper size or a bit bigger is perfect. You could even make it directly in a corner of your garden at home – just ask permission first!
- Some soil or sand. It's always fun just to get outside and have a dig, but compost from the garden centre or even sand works fine.
- A small, circular jar or plant pot.
- Some stones (including one large enough to cover the jar's opening).
- Some sticks and string.
- Grass, moss, small plants (ask permission! I don't want you to pull up Granny's favourite roses!!)

Let's get started! Firstly, let's add the soil to the tray. It would be great if the soil could cover the whole tray. Place the pot/jar on its side in one corner and then use some more soil to cover it to make a bit of a hill. This is the empty tomb. Lash together two of the twigs to make a cross to place behind the tomb. You could even make three, if you wanted, to represent the two criminals who were crucified on either side of Jesus. Use the moss/grass and plants to cover the soil and make a garden. Place the large stone to the side of the opening of the tomb, to represent the stone that was rolled away. You could even place a folded white tissue to represent the grave clothes, if you wanted, or a Lego figure to represent the angel who spoke to the ladies who found the empty tomb. Use your imagination!



As you build the garden, why don't you try to remember the story, tell it to your grown up, maybe even think about how the characters were feeling at the time. We'd love to see how it goes. Send us a pic on email at youth@moretolife.church.

See you next time!

Helen Chatfield, Youth Outreach Worker
youth@moretolife.church, 07540 140228



NEWS FROM THE VILLAGES

Farming News

The turn of the month it has brought spring-like weather with it – which has been welcomed as we look to plant our spring crops. After what feels like a very long and wet winter, it hasn't taken too long to dry up. It's amazing how quickly the ground conditions change with the longer day length. As I write this we have planted all but two fields of barley which is grown for the malting barley market. These barley fields are following what we call a 'cover crop'. This is a multi-species mixture of plants that we plant post harvest (2024). This cover crop mixture will help to capture and retain vital soil nutrients for the next crop. The mixture of plants in the cover crop include plants like a tillage radish, which has deep rooting to help break up soil compaction, aid water infiltration and retain soil nitrogen. Also included are buckwheat, which is fast growing and is good at scavenging phosphate in the soil, as well as clover and vetch, which will also fix nitrogen. We plant this cover crop mix as soon as we can after harvest, in order for it to establish quickly before the winter to give it the best chance of providing all its benefits. We then have a local shepherd who brings his sheep in to graze off any green plant biomass in January. The sheep digest the green biomass into manure that cycles nutrients in a more readily available form into the soil. We then spray off the cover crop post sheep-grazing to kill off any remaining green crop area and problem grass weeds that are expensive to control in a barley crop. The barley has gone into a good seed bed and we feel we've given it the best chance of a good start to the growing season. We just have to keep an eye on rooks and pigeons to make sure they aren't digging it all up to eat the seed.

As the crops start to grow, it is now the season for us to start applying fertiliser and crop protection. We have an advisor that will walk around the fields every two weeks and recommend when to apply fertilisers, as well as protection to prevent diseases. We have been applying liquid slurry digestate from the AD plant at Herriard. This is similar to cattle slurry, providing fertiliser for the crops mainly in the form of nitrogen with traces of other nutrients. This is a great source of fertiliser for us to utilise and helps reduce the carbon footprint resulting from using artificial fertiliser. But it can only be used in collaboration with other fertiliser products that provide a 'balanced diet' of nutrients for the crops. It also helps to keep costs down as new regulations have

implemented a 'carbon tax' on imported fertiliser, which will only mean that UK-produced fertiliser will match these prices.

You may think, why aren't more farmers changing to organic? There *are* more farmers looking to reduce artificial inputs, like ourselves, but organic farming is extremely unreliable. Some years the weather can fall just right to give you a profitable crop, but on others it could work completely against you. Ultimately you don't get the same yield from organic produce per hectare and, with a growing population that needs feeding, it is just not possible for the whole of UK agriculture to be organic. But 'conventional farming' is evolving and there is much more information available for farmers to manage their crops more efficiently. Technology is going to play a massive part in helping farmers to reduce artificial inputs as well, by targeting applications if/when required. Unfortunately, this tech is extremely expensive so not overly accessible to all farmers.

The second house of laying hens arrived this month, so we have been busy cleaning and disinfecting the house before the new hens arrived. They have settled in well, enjoying the sunshine and laying nicely.

It has been an extremely testing time for UK farmers politically, with new restrictions implemented on us for growing food that is priced on the global market. This feels as if we have one arm tied behind our back: trying to produce a crop that is grown much cheaper elsewhere around the world using techniques that are illegal for us to use. Also, environmental schemes are closed off without notice or warning, leaving many farmers out of pocket and removing vital income streams which would otherwise prop up food production. The stark reality of farming in the UK now is that diversifications are encouraged to help subsidise food production. The worry is that these farms won't be operating in the future and the alternative will be large corporations buying the land for non-farming uses that provide a better return. This inevitably will mean more reliance on imported food.

I'll try to look through the political bleakness and leave this on a positive note. Spring is my favourite time of year: everything around us is starting to wake up and grow again after the winter. There is always the sense of optimism for the year ahead. Whilst walking the dogs around the farm the other day, I remembered why I love farming where we do, and we are extremely lucky to have the landscape we do around the parish thanks to the many people that look after it. **Will Cheyney**

UPTON GREY NEWS
www.uptongreychurch.co.uk
www.uptongreyparishcouncil.co.uk
facebook.com/uptongreyvillagecommunity

Upton Grey Village Hall

March 2025 100 Club Winners: 1st – Christie Norris £100; 2nd – Wills £40. Congratulations to the winners!

Now is the time to renew/join! Please look out for the information to renew or sign up for 20205/2026. This is our Village Hall's main fundraiser and your support is greatly appreciated.

The Hall is such a wonderful resource for our village, from yoga to playgroups, reels to theatre, and so much more. Upton Grey would be much less of a community without it. So please do take the opportunity to support the Hall and main sure it remains our village's hub. It's a mere £24.00 for twelve monthly draws. Sort Code 09-01-51; Account Number: 86355505; Upton Grey Village Hall Committee (use your name and postcode). Or drop a cheque to Rowan Croft, Weston Road.

Thank you so much for supporting our village.

Sam and the UGVH Committee

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

The APCM will be on **Sunday 6th April** at 11.00am in the Church (after the morning service).

Easter services – Upton Grey

Palm Sunday (April 13th)

To join the procession up the hill, please gather at the pond from 9.30am. Otherwise please meet in the church for the 10.00am service. (If the weather is awful, we will all just meet in the church for 10.00.)

Good Friday (April 18th)

Family Workshop at 10.00am, followed by a short informal service at 11.00am.

Easter Day (April 20th)

We are holding a special **Sunrise service** in the church, meeting at **5.45am** for morning worship timed to coincide with the sunrise. There will be coffee afterwards! Any queries to **Sarah Barnes on 01256 861164**. After the **10.00am service** there will be the customary **egg hunt** in the Churchyard.

Tea@3

After an interval of several weeks because of Lent and Easter, it is great to invite friends to the next two events. On 1st May, Susie Vereker has invited us to her house Spindle Wood, Weston Road, and on 19th June our hostess will be Adele Dunkley (The Orchard, Weston Road). We are very grateful to both of them. Please let us know if you are coming and also if you need a lift. It's always such an enjoyable afternoon so if you are retired, live in the village and have never come along before now, then do please come – you will be most welcome – and enjoy traditional afternoon tea and excellent company. Please ring me Jill Lestrille 862131 or Viv Anscombe 862455

Lent Lunches

A reminder of the Lent Lunches held in the village during April. Starting time is 12.30pm, to finish no later than 2.00pm.

2nd April: Val Buckley 01256 862460 (The Butts – behind the church)

9th April: Frances Yeowart 01256 861218 (The Old Post House – next to the Hodd)

Please could you let your host know if you are coming, by the preceding day. There is no charge, but you are invited to donate to the charity chosen by your host. For the avoidance of doubt, everyone is welcome – these are not exclusively ladies' lunches but, please, no dogs. Any enquiries or requests for a lift please contact **Jill Lestrille, 862131**

Coffee and Cake drop in

Upton Grey Village Hall

Monday

14th & 28th April

11.00-1.00

All welcome



St Mary's Upton Grey
www.moretolife.church

St Mary's Church, Upton Grey: Did You Know?

The Church Recording Group's book (reported in the previous edition) reveals a link to the Battle of Trafalgar (Admiral Lord Nelson's great victory over the combined French and Spanish fleets of October 1805). A ledger stone in the nave marks the grave of Ann Tyler, born Ann Rice in 1760, a surgeon's daughter. In April 1783 she married Charles Tyler, then a commander in the Royal Navy. Ann died in August 1784 (aged 24), only four days after their son was baptised. Charles went on to become one of Admiral Nelson's 'Band of Brothers', participating in the Battle of Copenhagen and the Battle of Trafalgar. At Trafalgar he commanded the 80-gun H M S *Tonnant* (captured from the French at the Battle of the Nile). She was involved in fierce close quarters action, forcing the surrender of the *Algesiras* and capturing the *San Juan Nepomuceno*. Charles was shot in the thigh but survived another 30 years and became Admiral Sir Charles Tyler, GCB. His sword was sold at Bonham's for \$430,000 in 2005.

Geoffrey Yeowart

Tennis Dates for 2025 – Junior Tennis Coaching

Easter Tennis: Monday 14th – Thursday 17th April

Sessions start from 9.00am and are 45 minutes long. The coach will be Andrew Ridgers, who has been leading the tennis coaching for many years. He is very experienced and highly regarded and makes the sessions fun for all. He also coaches at Odiham tennis club. The youngest children have the first session, which is 45 minutes and then there are several more groups, largely grouped together by age. The age range is roughly 3.5 up to 16/17 year olds.

The cost is £16.00 per child, whether your child is able to attend all the days or not. We are able to keep this low due to the continued and much appreciated support from the Upton Grey Educational Trust.

In the event of bad weather, the sessions will be cancelled. Please email Susannah Livingston Booth on: slivingstonbooth@gmail.com with your child/children's name(s), age(s), and your contact details.

Payment should be made by 1st April by Bank Transfer to Upton Grey Village Tennis Court. Bank Details: Sort Code 30-93-32, Account No: 02410908 or alternatively you can pay by cash to Susannah Livingston Booth at Redwing House, Cemetery Lane, Upton Grey, RG25 2RD

Save the Date!

- Concert in St Mary's Church - **Sunday 22nd June 6.00pm**

St Mary's Church Fete

Coming your way this summer, on **Saturday 7th June, 2.00-5.00pm, in Sherborne Cottage gardens!** 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. Get your families and friends organised now to come and enjoy this most traditional afternoon celebrating the best of village life in our beautiful corner of rural North Hampshire.

All the usual stalls plus delicious home-made cream teas, Pimms and ice creams and the ever popular Punch & Judy show and Cove Brass Band to entertain.

We are very grateful to Nick and Rosie Ralls who have kindly agreed for us to use their beautiful gardens at Sherborne Cottage, Church Street, Upton Grey.

Thank you so much in advance for your support. For more info contact francesyeowart@outlook.com

Sarah Barnes and Frances Yeowart

Garden Stall

Early call-out for the UG fete garden stall. The garden stall takes year-round effort and as with all the other stalls relies on donations. 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, terracotta/ceramic garden pots then please don't throw them away. If you have leftover flower or vegetable 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, Tel: 862705. Any donations will be very much appreciated – Thankyou.

Debbie Bridle (debbie@debbie-bridle.com)

Upton Grey Golf Day – Tuesday 17th June

The annual Upton Grey golf day this year is at Tylney Park. The format for the day is: 10.30am coffee and bacon rolls, 11.30am 18 holes of golf, 4.30pm one-course meal and prize giving. Cost £57.50.

Golfers of all abilities are welcome to join in this fun day. Please contact Lucy Church if you are interested: 01256 862857, 07710 802254 or lucychurch2008@hotmail.co.uk.

HERRIARD AND WINSLADE NEWS

www.herriard-pc.gov.uk

www.herriardvillagehub.co.uk

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

Herriard & Tunworth Lunch Group

The Lent Lunch series continues: **the April dates are 4th and 11th.** Then the normal fourth-Friday lunches restart on **April 25th** (12.00–1.30pm at the Herriard Hub).

Easter Bingo – Saturday 5th April

6.30 for a 7.00pm start at Herriard Village Hub. Raffle and filled rolls for sale (£1) at half time. To book yourself or a table, please phone Jenny Falconer on 0780 123 8200 or email jfalconer035@gmail.com

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youth@moretolife.church

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

The APCM will be on **Tuesday 8th April** at 7.00pm in the Herriard Hub.

Herriard Garden Club

Herriard Garden Club are hosting a talk on '**Summer Perennials**' on **Tuesday 15th April** at 7.00pm at Herriard Village Hub. Local gardener Gill Fitt will show twelve summer flowering perennials, giving information on growing conditions and characteristics. A limited number of plants will be available to buy on the night. All welcome. Entry £10.00 payable in cash on the door. A raffle will be held and wine available to purchase.

Gill Hill

St Mary's Church
Herriard with Winslade
Easter Sunday 20th April
Our Easter Sunday service at 10.00am
will be followed by an Easter Egg Hunt
in the walled garden at Herriard Park
Everyone is very welcome!



Garden Open Day 10th May 2025

Brick Kiln Cottage, The Avenue, Herriard RG25 2PR (opposite Lasham Gliding Club on the Avenue, A339 between Basingstoke and Alton)

Set in the old Herriard brickworks, our wildlife woodland garden is open for one day from 11.30am–3.00pm in aid of National Garden Scheme fundraising for MacMillan cancer support, Marie Curie, Hospice UK, Carers Trust, The Queen's Nursing Institute and Parkinson's UK. Enjoy walking in the bluebells, and homemade cakes, endless pots of tea, coffee, country lemonade, sandwiches, or a cream tea. Textile studio open, reading area, bubbles and making seed bombs, fun for children, treehouse, bug palace, shepherds hut. Parking, toilet, dogs on leads please.

Summer Fete and Fun Dog Show



The Summer Fete and Fun Dog Show will be on **Sunday 1st June** from 12.00noon–3.00pm at the Herriard Green & Pavilion.

WEEKLY COFFEE MORNING IN HERRIARD

Weekly every Thursday at the Village Hub

Open any time between 10.00 and 12.00

Good coffee and fresh baked cakes

Donations from £2.00 each to cover costs

Do come and join us – everyone welcome!

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We're not all about cricket!

The cricket season is just around the corner which will see Herriard's teams playing at home at Herriard Green every Saturday commencing at 1.00pm from early May. But please keep an eye on the noticeboard for further details, so you can come along and lend your local team your support. We also have a pay bar and ice lollies for sale for the big kids amongst us; all you need is to bring the sunshine, your blanket and picnic!

But did you know hidden away in this little gem called Herriard Green, we also have two tennis courts and unlike other facilities dotted in and around Basingstoke our courts are available 365 days of the year? Our membership is extremely competitive, and we also have access to coaching – so why not give us a try.

A warm welcome awaits new members whatever ability and, if you are interested in cricket but the competitiveness of Saturday league is not for you, we also have an occasional Sunday friendly side too. Cricket training takes place every Thursday from 5.30pm, weather permitting, from around mid-April. So if you fancy having a go with the bat, racket or ball why not come along and give us a try?

Whether you are interested in joining us for sports or simply to enjoy meeting new friends in your community, we occasionally hold social events which are open to all.

We are also looking for sponsors and have a wide range of sponsorship opportunities available. Please get in touch to find out more about how you, or your business, can get involved in supporting your local community – herriardsportsclub@gmail.com What's on section, or Dates for your diary

Cricket

Saturday 3rd May, 1.00pm – Herriard 1st XI v East Woodhay 2s

Saturday 10th May, 1.00pm – Herriard 2nd XI v Andover

Poppy Appeal 2024

I have now just received the QR Code payments from head office for my area.

Cash collected £1,766.58 QR £173

Total collected £1,939.58.

A huge thank you to all the collectors who went around in awful weather to collect within Herriard, Tunworth and Lasham, plus the generous donations given by the villagers for this worthy cause.

Pat Pegg

Foodbank at St Mary's Herriard with Winslade

We have a box in the Church for any food donations you would like to contribute. If you can't make our Sunday service, you can always leave donations on a Saturday/Sunday at the vestry door at the back of the Church. If you would like to sign up for the Camrose Centre's newsletter to keep up-to-date with the work the centre is doing, and get an updated list of the many items they so desperately need, please visit www.thecamrosecentre.org. They also have an Amazon wishlist – the list is regularly updated:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/printview/FY45O4AC8JKM?target=_blank&ref_=lv_pv&filter=persistent_all&sort=default

The Camrose Centre is a drop-in centre for anyone who is sleeping rough, homeless or vulnerably housed within Basingstoke and Deane.

Herriard Prayer Group

If you or anyone you know would like to be included in our prayers, please contact suzanne@moretolife.church or fiona@ashmeadow.co.uk.

TUNWORTH NEWS

Coffee & Cake: Thursday 3rd April 10.30am

On the first Thursday of the month, we meet for Coffee and Cake in the church porch. Please do join us if you are at home and fancy taking a break from online work.

Herriard and Tunworth Lunch Group

The Herriard/Tunworth Lent Lunch series at the Herriard Hub continues into April, on **Fridays April 4th & 11th**. Then the normal fourth-Friday lunches restart on **April 25th** (12.00-1.30 at the Herriard Hub).

Prayer Hour: Saturday 5th April 9.00am

On the first Saturday of the month, we have a Prayer Hour. We meet and pray in the church for everyone in the parish. If you would like to join us or would like us to pray for a particular matter, then please contact Mark.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

The Tunworth APCM will be held in All Saints Church on **Tuesday 8th April** at 7.00pm.

Tunworth Home Group

The Tunworth Home Group usually meets fortnightly on Wednesdays from 7.00 to 8.00pm at The Orangery, Hackwood Park, to study Bible passages and Biblical themes. There is **only one date in April – the 9th**. If you would like to know more or to join, then please contact Gabrielle.

Good Friday

All Saints will hold a Reflective Service for Good Friday on **18th April at 8.00am**.

Tunworth Parish Meeting

The Tunworth Parish Meeting will be held at 6.00pm on **Friday 25th April** at the Shoot Lodge.

Safari Supper

The Safari Supper will be held on **Saturday 26th April**. Please contact Gabrielle for details.

WESTON PATRICK & WESTON CORBETT NEWS

St Lawrence's next service will be **Mothering Sunday** service at 10.00am on Sunday 30th March, followed by Holy Communion on **Palm Sunday** 13th April at 10.00am.

We then have an **Easter Sunday Service** at 10.00am on Sunday 20th April with an **Easter Egg Hunt** in the churchyard for all the children.

Our regular Evensong service at 5.00pm will take place on Sunday 27th April with our wonderful choir leading the singing.

Reverend Linda Scard will be praying for our community in our church at 9.00am on the first Friday of every month and will be there on 4th April. All are very welcome to join her but if you are unable to attend personally and would like her to pray for someone specific please contact her: Revd Linda Scard on 01256 703294 / 07801 039717 or linda@moretolife.church

Our **APCM** (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) will be held in the Village Hall on **Tuesday 22nd April at 7.30pm** where the PCC and all officers of the PCC will be elected.

Coffee morning will be held on the fourth Wednesday of the month, 23rd April at 11.00 am in the Village Hall. Everybody (and your dog) is welcome to pop in.

Weston Patrick and Weston Corbett's Women's Home Group welcomes any women who would like to come along. This is an informal fellowship group exploring faith and how faith relates to our daily lives. This term we're using 'The Good and Beautiful Life', a book by James Bryan Smith which starts with the premise that everyone wants, and searches for, happiness and then explores what happiness is and how we know when we've found it. For more details, or if you would like to join us, please contact Revd Linda Scard on 01256 703294 / 07801 039717 or linda@moretolife.church

Coffee Mornings
Weston Patrick Village Hall
Wednesday 23rd April
11.00-12.30
Then on the fourth Wednesday of
each month



Join us for Coffee & Cake
All ages welcome!

St Lawrence
Weston Patrick
www.moretolife.church

OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

Cross Barn Odiham – film / theatre for April and May

25th Apr: Film – Conclave

Ralph Fiennes takes charge of a tense papal election thriller, leading a top-tier ensemble, including Stanley Tucci and Isabella Rossellini, in an entertainingly juicy adaptation of Robert Harris’s novel.

16th May: Film – Maria (2024)

Maria spends the last part of her life in Paris, where she confronts her identity. “Angelina Jolie excels as tragic Callas in Pablo Larraine’s reverential portrait of the great soprano. The visual images and music are beautiful, as aspects of her life, including her loving relationship with Onassis, are vividly portrayed.”

23rd May: Film – A Complete Unknown

New York, 1961. A 19-year-old from Minnesota arrives with his guitar and revolutionary talent, destined to change the course of American music. “It is a journey through music and history, emotionally rich, and visually stunning. It is cinema at its finest, whether you are a Dylan fan or not.”

Doors open at 19.00, coffee/tea, wine and ice cream available. Start time: 19.45. Ticket price: £7.50; Purchase tickets online at <http://www.thecrossbarn.org.uk>

A Cosmic adventure awaits – Return to the Forbidden Planet lands in Alton!

This May, Alton Operatic & Dramatic Society invites you to fasten your seatbelts for a spectacular sci-fi musical that’s truly out of this world!

Return to the Forbidden Planet is a hilarious, high-energy show packed with rock ‘n’ roll hits, a thrilling story inspired by Shakespeare’s *The Tempest*, with all the excitement of a classic space adventure. Expect romance, betrayal, quirky characters, and plenty of surprises as the crew of the Starship Albatross crash-land on a mysterious planet ruled by the brilliant – but possibly mad – Doctor Prospero.

Featuring toe-tapping hits like Great Balls of Fire, The Monster Mash, and Good Vibrations, this award-winning musical promises a night of laughter, drama, and rock ‘n’ roll magic!

Show dates: 14th–17th May

Venue: Alton Assembly Rooms

Tickets: On sale now at www.aods.org

North Warnborough and District Garden Club

We look forward to welcoming Richard Ramsey from ‘Withypitts Dahlias’ to our meeting on Thursday 24th April from 2.10pm in the North Warnborough Village Hall. Richard will talk to us about all aspects of growing Dahlias.

New members are always welcome; visitors can attend for £3.00. For more information, visit our website <https://www.nwdgc.org.uk>

Music for Passiontide: Saturday 5th April 7.30pm

Join the Jubilee Choir for a wonderfully varied programme of music by Bach, Daley, Edney, Haydn and Mozart at 7.30pm on Saturday 5th April at All Saints Church, Odiham. Tickets are £15.00 or free for under 16s and are available from Katharine Jane, High St, Odiham, www.jubileechoir.co.uk, or Lynn Lymer on 07837 571708.

Hook Choral Society

Hook Choral Society will be giving their Spring Concert on Saturday, April 26th. On that evening, you will be taken, via Joseph Haydn’s *Little Organ Mass*, Malcolm Boyle’s *Thou, O God, Art Praised in Sion*, Samuel Sebastian Wesley’s *Ascribe unto the Lord*, and Charles Hubert Hastings Parry’s *Blest Pair of Sirens*, up into the jolly delights of Edward Elgar’s six songs *From the Bavarian Highlands*.

Elgar’s songs, redolent of lederhosen and dirndl-skirted mädchens, raise the spirits in a cheerful Edwardian manner that makes a good contrast with John Milton’s sonorous verses in *Blest Pair of Sirens* and Wesley’s uplifting tones. The concert will be given at St. John’s Church, London Road, Hook at 7.30pm on April 26th. We think you will love it all, so why not book now (tickets £15.00, £13.50 for four or more), at www.hookchoral.co.uk, or by telephone at 07957 293 641.

Meanwhile, as we look forward to spring, remember that singing is not only good to listen to: it is really fun to do. And it is really good for your health. Why not find out for yourself by joining a choir – or at least trying one out.

Cardiac Rehab bridge tea

This will be held on Thursday 24th April, from 2.00–5.00pm, at Beech Village Hall. Tickets £17.50 to include tea and cakes. Apply to 01420544794 or www.cardiac-rehab.co.uk/events

Foodbank

The Basingstoke Foodbank, together with Trussell, provides free emergency food and toiletries to local people in crisis within the Basingstoke and Deane area. Established in 2012, the foodbank operates through a voucher system with referrals from local agencies. It has multiple distribution points in Basingstoke and offers opportunities to donate food, volunteer, or contribute financially. For more details, visit <https://basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk/> Every egg counts!

The North Hampshire National Trust Centre

We are one of the National Trust supporters' groups and we are based at The Vyne in Sherborne St John. We are looking to increasing our membership. The NHNTC was formed almost 50 years ago. Its first purpose is to provide our members with opportunities to visit NT properties, other historic houses and interesting venues and also to provide talks from experts in their subjects. Its second purpose is to raise funds for the NT - mainly supporting projects at The Vyne - and sharing social events.

Visits: Our visits are held in the summer months and are mostly coach trips, but we also have some 'self-drive' outings to more local properties (e.g. Chawton House). Some of this year's planned trips include Kew Gardens, Hever Castle, Basildon Park and Gilbert White's House.

Talks: Afternoon talks are held monthly in the autumn and winter at Elizabeth Hall in Hook. Planned talks include: 'Sex & Scandal at the Royal Court', 'Munstead Wood' and 'A history of Hampshire through ten objects'.

We are an extremely friendly group and organise other activities such as a Christmas lunch in a local hotel, and a spring lunch and August cream tea cream – both in the well-equipped Elizabeth Hall in Hook.

Fund raising: Most of the surplus from our activities is donated to The Vyne. Since 1985 over £100,000 has been donated by NHNTC for a variety of projects.

If you would like to enhance the enjoyment which you derive from your National Trust membership, why not join us? Membership of the NHNTC costs just £8.00 per annum (or £13.00 for a joint membership). You don't have to be a member of the NT to join the NHNTC. Please visit our website www.nhntc.com where you will find an application form to join us.

Hop into the spirit of giving this Easter!

Join BizSpace Basingstoke, Reassured and Tomato Energy in our Charity Easter Egg Collection for Basingstoke Foodbank and help bring smiles to families in need.

Your generous donations of Easter Eggs will help make their Easter holiday extra special. Let's spread joy and kindness together! Drop off your egg donations and be a part of this heart-warming initiative. Location: Belvedere House, Basing View RG21 4HG; Dates/Times: Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 5.30pm (before Monday 7th April)

Mothers' UNION North Hampshire Downs Christian care for families Mothers' Union

It was very humbling to be commissioned by Bishop Philip to my new role of Diocesan President for Mothers' Union during Evensong at Winchester Cathedral on Sunday 9th March. I will be supported by a lovely team of members from around to Diocese who are taking up leadership roles within Mothers' Union and it was so encouraging to see so many people coming to support us for the service. I hope that in the coming months we can continue to make a difference to the lives of the families that we support. Our next meeting will be on Monday 7th April at 7:30pm at the RAF Chaplaincy Centre, when we will explore some Lent resources and plan for activities later in the year. If you want to find out more about Mothers' Union or our branch, please contact Sue Murphy on suemurphybranch@outlook.com or 01252 845011.



Never too late for a new chapter!

One of the positive things about working part time or being retired is having more time. More time to focus on personal priorities – whether it's hobbies, self-care, or unfinished projects. Taking on new challenges can be a little daunting but also very rewarding and fun!

One of our most senior members, whose next birthday is closer to 100 rather than 90, is returning to Canada! He popped over here eighteen years ago during which he was a founding member of our Philosophy Group. The group presented him with a T-shirt appropriately emblazoned with a bust of Socrates at their March meeting. Professor David Gallop finished his time over here with a flourish by having a letter printed in *The Times* in early March regarding how Plato showed in two of his works an 'uncanny insight' into Trump's mentality.



Over sixty members have taken the opportunity to enjoy our new Language courses, appreciating accessing them in the local area rather than travel to evening venues. With the summer term approaching,

this the perfect time to brush up on the rusty holiday vocab!

The new Short Walks group is ambling along introducing members to new paths in and around the Odiham area. This group is ideal for getting out into the fresh air and making new friends however map reading is at an early stage!

Our new Events group had a 'Hit' with their Music Quiz focused on popular music from the 60s, 70s, and 80s. It was a sellout, as members remembered Thursday TOTP and the evening was rated "Oi'll give it foive".

And finally, one of the Craft and Chat members has always wanted to knit a jumper, she may have awaited nearly half a century to get started but the finished item was worth it. To find out more, please visit our website.

<https://odiham.u3asite.uk/>





National Garden Scheme – Hampshire

For 2025 the NGS have a new Ambassador – Fiona Bruce – the well-known newsreader and broadcaster. Commenting on her appointment Fiona says, “I am thrilled to be a new ambassador for the National Garden Scheme. I’ve been visiting National Garden Scheme gardens for as long as I can remember, it’s one of the great pleasures, so to be part of the charity is a total thrill. I love gardening, it’s a big part of my life. I have to say I’m not the most skilful gardener, but I make up for it in enthusiasm.”

Now for three gardens opening in May.

Streamside Trees –Bonsai Experience 43A Basingbourne Road, Fleet, GU52 6TG

Opening: Saturday 24th May, 10.00am to 2.30pm (two pre-booked sessions: 10.00am for 1.5 hours and 1pm for 1.5hrs). Admission: £20.00, children free. Tickets must be pre-booked.

Refreshments: Tea, coffee and cake included.
<https://findagarden.ngs.org.uk/garden/46991/streamside-trees-bonsai-experience>.



Something completely different! Visits start promptly at 10.00am and 1.00pm with a guided tour around the 140ft garden with stream, azaleas, rhododendrons, camellias, pond and many unusual wildlife habitats. Finally, you will see a display of bonsai in development and a tree nursery. Then enjoy an informal demonstration on creating a bonsai from

scratch by Julia, an enthusiast who also holds 'Create a Bonsai' hands-on experiences. This is followed by Q&A and refreshments. Due to the popularity in 2024, there is extended capacity to 20 people per session for 2025.

Tylney Hall, Ridge Lane, Rotherwick, RG27 9AZ

Opening: Sunday 18th May, 10.00am to 4.00pm. Pre-booking available
 Admission: £7.50, children free CASH ONLY

Refreshments: Coffee, tea and cake from 12.00 in the Chestnut Suite
 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. (For more history of the

house and garden I recommend that you read the extended description under 'Features' on the Website ngs.org.uk)

Shalden Park House, The Avenue, Shaldon, Alton, RG34 3DS

Opening: Sunday 25th May, 2.00pm to 5.00pm, Pre-booking available

Admission: £5.00, children free CASH ONLY

Refreshments: Home-made teas (in aid of local charities)

Shalden Park House welcomes you to our 4-acre garden to enjoy a stroll through the arboretum, herbaceous borders, rose garden, kitchen garden and wildlife pond. Refreshments will be served from the pool terrace. (Again for many more details check the website under 'Features')

Happy Garden Visiting!

Pat Beagley (Head of Publicity)

National Garden Scheme - Hampshire

News from your local Prostate Cancer support Group

The speaker at the recent North Hampshire Prostate Cancer Support Group monthly meeting was Fiona Labrooy from Heartburn Cancer UK, a national charity based here in Basingstoke. It was founded in 2003 by Mimi McCord after her husband passed away only nine weeks after diagnosis. Their mission is to inform and give hope to sufferers of persistent heartburn and acid reflux, oesophageal cancer, and Barretts disease. Their aim is to give more hope for oesophageal cancer survivors; working together to keep more people alive; and raising awareness with people that persistent heartburn can be dangerous.

The condition is caused when the sphincter valve at the top of the stomach fails and allows acidic stomach contents to escape back up the oesophagus. This manifests as Acid Reflux or GORD (Gastro-oesophageal Reflux Disease) which can progress to Barrett's disease (pre-cancerous) and eventually to oesophageal cancer. It maybe hereditary (yet to be proven) and can affect men and women at any age. The symptoms are often ignored, with people self-medicating with Rennies, Gaviscon etc. so they don't go to their GP until it is too late. If your symptoms persist for more than three weeks you must seek medical advice.

Oesophageal cancer kills 8000 people each year in the UK. It's the 7th most common cancer in the UK and the 4th in men. Once diagnosed the 5-year survival rate is low at 15%.

Historically diagnosis required an endoscopy, but Heartburn Cancer is championing the encapsulated sponge test: a simple expanding sponge inside a pill the size of a vitamin capsule. The sponge is attached to a thread so that ten minutes after being swallowed with water, it can

be gently retrieved, collecting cells from the oesophageal wall which is then sent away for analysis. Health Scotland have already adopted this for diagnosis and the charity is pushing for NHS England to do likewise.

February was Oesophageal Awareness Month, with the Spinnaker Tower in Portsmouth being illuminated in red and gold, along with a poster campaign to increase awareness carrying the message ‘is it really only heartburn’.

The charity website contains the videos shown by Fiona during her presentation at <https://heartburncanceruk.org/latest-updates/our-videos/> For more information email: info@nhpcsg.org.uk, call or text 07377 430242, www.nhpcsg.org.uk

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust – The charming chaffinch

As the seasons shift, the countryside and gardens across Hampshire are alive with birds searching for food and a mate. Among them is one of the UK’s most familiar and striking finches – the chaffinch. The chaffinch is one of the UK’s most common birds, with an estimated population of over six million breeding pairs in summer.

Throughout winter, chaffinches gather in large flocks, often made up of birds that have migrated from continental Europe, arriving from late October onwards. Those seen alone or in small groups within suburban gardens are more likely to be year-round residents.

As early spring approaches, these winter gatherings break apart as males establish territories and search for a mate. Males put on a lively courtship display, singing to attract a female while performing fluttering flights and spreading their tails to show off their vibrant plumage. Once paired, they remain monogamous for the season, the female will build a well-hidden nest using moss, grass, and spider silk.

The males are especially striking, with pinkish underparts, blue-grey caps, and rich chestnut backs. Females are more subtly coloured in shades of brown, giving them excellent camouflage. Male chaffinches learn their songs rather than being born with them, and different regions have distinct ‘dialects.’ Their song, a rapid, descending ‘rain of notes’, becomes more prominent as spring approaches.

The species’ latin name, *Fringilla coelebs*, means ‘bachelor finch.’ This name was given by the famous Swedish naturalist Carl Linnaeus, who noticed that male chaffinches in Scandinavia migrated south for the winter, while many females stayed behind.



Photo: Amy Lewis

Chaffinches can be seen in woodland and hedgerows, and prefer a mix of dense trees and open areas, perfect for searching for seeds. They often forage beneath trees, using their strong beaks to crack open fallen seeds.

One of the best Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust nature reserves to see them is Blashford Lakes Nature Reserve. With well-positioned hides and feeding stations, visitors have an excellent chance of spotting these birds up close.

While chaffinches are primarily seed-eaters in winter, they shift their diet in spring and summer, feeding on insects to nourish their young. If you'd like to encourage chaffinches into your garden, sunflower seeds and mixed seed blends are ideal, especially in winter when natural food sources are scarce. Although they will happily visit bird tables, they do not feed openly on feeders, preferring to hop about on the ground and under hedges instead.

Find out more information on the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust website: hiwwt.org.uk/wildlife-explorer/birds/finches-and-buntings/chaffinch

**Helen Skelton-Smith, Communications Officer – PR & Media
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HALLS FOR HIRE

Upton Grey Village Hall can be hired at a basic rate of £14 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 on 01256 862681 or email bookings@uptongreyvillagehall.co.uk or visit our new website www.uptongreyvillagehall.co.uk.

The Herriard Village Hub, 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 email 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 – APRIL 2025

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

APRIL DATES

2nd Apr	Wed	Lent Lunch, The Butts, Upton Grey	12.30pm
3rd Apr	Thu	Evening with Robert Hardman, Middlewood Ho, WC	6.30pm
4th Apr	Fri	Lent Lunch, Herriard Hub	12.00pm
5th Apr	Sat	Music for Passiontide, All Saints Church, Odiham	7.30pm
5th Apr	Sat	Easter Bingo, Herriard Hub	7.00pm
6th Apr	Sun	Annual Parochial Church meeting, UG Church	11.00am
8th Apr	Tue	Annual Parochial Church meeting, Herriard Hub	7.00pm
8th Apr	Tue	Annual Parochial Church meeting, Tunworth Church	7.00pm
9th Apr	Wed	Lent Lunch, The Old Post House, Upton Grey	12.30pm
11th Apr	Fri	Lent Lunch, Herriard Hub	12.00pm
15th Apr	Tue	'Summer Perennials' garden club talk, Herriard Hub	7.00pm
14th–17th Apr		UG Junior Tennis	9.00am–12.45pm
22nd Apr	Tue	Annual Parochial Church meeting, Weston PatrickVH	7.30pm
24th Apr	Thu	North Warnborough Garden club, NW Village Hall	2.10pm
24th Apr	Thu	Cardiac Rehab Bridge tea, Beech Village Hall	2.00–5.00pm
25th Apr	Fri	Tunworth Parish Meeting, the Shoot Lodge	6.00pm
25th Apr	Fri	<i>Conclave</i> film, Cross Barn, Odiham	7.00pm
26th Apr	Sat	Hook Choral Society concert, St John's Church, Hook	7.30pm

ADVANCE DATES

1st May	Thur	Tea@3, Spindle Wood, Weston Road, Upton Grey	3.00pm
10th May	Sat	Garden Open Day, Brick Kiln Cottage, Herriard	11.30am
14th–17th May		Return to the Forbidden Planet, Alton Assembly Rooms	
16th May	Fri	<i>Maria</i> film, Cross Barn, Odiham	7.00pm
23rd May	Fri	<i>A Complete Unknown</i> film, Cross Barn, Odiham	7.00pm
1st June	Sun	Summer Fete and Dog Show, Herriard Green	12.00noon
7th Jun	Sat	St Mary's Upton Grey Fete	2.00pm
17th Jun	Tue	UG Golf Day, Tylney Park, Rotherwick	10.30am
19th Jun	Thur	Tea@3, The Orchard, Weston Road, Upton Grey	3.00pm
22nd Jun	Sun	Concert in St Mary's Church, Upton Grey	6.00pm
4th–7th Aug		UG Junior Tennis	9.00am–12.45pm

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	9.30-10.15am
Each Thurs	Prayer group, 4 Little Hoddington	5.00-5.45pm
Each Thurs	Coffee, Tea & Cake Morning, Hub, Herriard	10.00am
Every 1st Thurs	Coffee & Cake, Tunworth church porch	10.30am
Every 1st Saturday	Prayer Hour, All Saints Tunworth	9.00am
2nd & 4th Mon	Coffee Morning, Upton Grey Village Hall	11.00am
2nd & 4th Tues	Upton Grey 'Get OWT', UG Churchyard	10.00am
Every 4th Wed	Coffee Morning, Weston Patrick Village Hall	11.00am

PARISH MAGAZINE COPY DEADLINE

The copy deadline for the May issue is 15th April 2025.

Please send news and contributions to uptongreymagazine@gmail.com. Your editor for March was Tess Chevallier with Nick Willmer – Church. The editor for April will be Nick Willmer.

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