

PARISH MAGAZINE



St. Mary's, Herriard



All Saints', Turworth



St. Lawrence, Westcott Patrick



St. Mary's, Upton Grey

**June
2025**

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BENEFICE MAGAZINE – June 2025
Edition for the Parishes of Herriard with Winslade, Tunworth,
Upton Grey and Weston Patrick

Letter from the Benefice Ministry Team

In Church, we are in the season of Easter and we are looking at the resurrection appearances of Jesus. For Christians now, and over the last 2000 years, they have been part of the proof that Jesus is the Messiah who was promised in the Old Testament, and that He is the Son of God. They are also part of the proof of eternal life, that God raised to life His Son as both a conqueror of death and a pioneer for us to follow. The disciples in many ways prefigure our own journeys of faith. Before Jesus was arrested, they were close to Him, perhaps hanging on His every word. But when the going got tough, and Jesus was arrested, they fell away. They would have been devastated by His death. Yet His resurrection transformed their lives. They realised that everything He had said was true, and they were inspired to tell everyone about Him to the ends of the known world, and that of course has led to us hearing the Gospel in church. It was the disciples' acceptance of the resurrection that transformed their lives and it is what transforms our lives too.



John the Gospel writer carefully selected his resurrection accounts. He wrote towards the end of his Gospel that he could have written so much more about Jesus, but he carefully selected what he wrote to make the single point: that we would believe that Jesus was the Son of God. We have to remember that the disciples already had seen that Jesus had risen from the dead. They believed and trusted in who Jesus was and He was for this brief time physically moving in and out of their lives as they lived with Him in their hearts.

One of the resurrection stories that is in John's Gospel has Jesus appearing on the shore after Peter and some of the disciples had been fishing all night. They had not caught anything. Then Jesus shouts out to them from the shore, "try the other side of the boat". Their tired eyes and the dim light meant that they could not see who it was who shouted at them, but they heeded the advice and caught a huge haul of fish. They then dragged their full net to the shore and recognised that it was Jesus who had shouted out to them. John recorded that they had caught 153 large fish. Is this just some quaint fishing tale or is there more to it?

For centuries much has been made of the number 153. If you love mathematics then it is both a pyramidal number and the sum of the first five factorial numbers. 153 was apparently believed in Biblical times to represent the total number of known species of fish. It was also linked to the Hebrew words chosen by the prophet Ezekiel when he prophesied about a future restoration and a new creation and relationship with God. Put shortly, 153 was considered to be a number symbolic of the breadth of God's creation and of future hope with God.

This fishing story is one of the last accounts of Jesus on earth with His disciples. It has echoes of the start of his earthly ministry with Jesus calling the disciples, where other Gospels record Jesus as saying that they would be 'fishers of men', a phrase that means they would point men and women towards Jesus, and lead them to faith. If we take this resurrection encounter on the shore, with Jesus being the person that causes it, the number 153 being significant and symbolic, and the calling of the disciples as followers of Jesus to then become 'fishers of men', we see a picture of Jesus commissioning His disciples and all who believe and trust in Him to become 'fishers of men' throughout the world. Jesus was making it clear through the catch of fish that the Gospel was for the whole world. The disciples took heed. Peter spent the next 30 years as the first Bishop of Rome.

As Peter's successor in Rome is being selected, it is worth us all recalling that this is where it all started, with Jesus calling Peter and all those who believe and trust in Jesus to be 'fishers of men' and for the Gospel to be preached to all people from all parts of the world.

The Reverend Mark Ruffell

Associate Curate, North Hampshire Downs Benefice
at All Saints' Church, Tunworth

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funeral: Freedom (Fred) Duffett at St Mary's Upton Grey on 28th April

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 1st June

9.00am Tunworth – BCP Holy Communion

10.00am Upton Grey – CW Holy Communion

Sunday 8th June

10.00am Herriard – BCP Holy Communion (said)

10.00am Upton Grey – Morning Worship

10.00am Weston Patrick – CW Holy Communion

6.00pm Tunworth – Evensong

6.00pm Upton Grey – Summer Evensong

Thursday 12th June

10.00am Upton Grey – BCP Holy Communion (said)

Sunday 15th June

9.00am Tunworth – 1662 Morning Prayer

10.00am Herriard – Morning Worship

10.00am Upton Grey – CW Holy Communion

Thursday 19th June

10.00am Herriard – BCP Holy Communion (said)

June 22nd June

9.00am Tunworth – Pet Service

10.00am Herriard – Pet Service, Street Croft Farm (park at church)

10.00am Upton Grey – Pet Service

5.00pm Weston Patrick – Evensong

Sunday 29th June

9.00am Mapledurwell – Benefice CW Holy Communion

11.00am Odiham – Benefice Informal Service

CHURCH NEWS

Sunday 29th June – come and worship together!

Please do come and join us as we gather together from across our 12 benefice churches, for special ‘all together’ worship services, on Sunday 29th June.

That day is a ‘5th Sunday’ when we normally just have two services in the benefice - a traditional service and an informal service - and worship all together. There is also an extra reason to gather that Sunday, as Rev’d Luke Augustyn will have been ordained priest in Winchester Cathedral the day before, and so we will be celebrating his ordination and he will be presiding at communion for the first time.

So that morning our only services will be:

- 9.00am, St Mary’s Mapledurwell, a traditional service with Common Worship Holy Communion.
- 11.00am, All Saints Odiham, an informal service, including children’s church.

All are invited to join us from across the benefice for these services that morning.

Rev’d Chris Dudgeon

Rector, North Hampshire Downs Benefice

Coffee & Cake

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

- Coffee and cake in the church porch, **All Saints Tunworth**, at 10.30am on **Thursday June 5th**
- Coffee and cake drop-in at **Upton Grey Village Hall**, 11.00am-1.00pm on **Monday June 9th & 23rd**
- Coffee morning at **Weston Patrick Village Hall**, 11.00am-12.30pm on **Wednesday June 25th**

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



KidsZone

Hi everyone!

You are never too small to have big Hope!

Have you ever hoped for something special, like a birthday gift or a fun trip? Hope is when we *believe* something good is coming, even if we can't *see* it yet.

In the Bible, Christian hope is a little like that - but much bigger and stronger! Christian Hope means trusting that God will always keep His promises. His promise that *He loves us*, that *He has a plan for our lives*, that *He wants the best for us*, that *we do not have to worry*, because *he has it under control*... It's not just wishing - it's knowing deep in our hearts that God is good and He is with us, even during hard times.

You are never too small to have big Hope!

Christians believe that Jesus is the reason for our hope. Just a few weeks ago, at Easter, we remembered that He came to earth, died on the cross, and rose again so that we can have a forever friendship with God. Because of Jesus, we know that no matter what happens, we are never alone. God is always working for good, and one day, He will make everything right. We have a Hope, that He is in control and that love will win in the end. But just because we have Hope, it doesn't mean we should shrug our shoulders and give up trying to be God's hands and feet in this difficult world...

Sometimes life can feel scary or sad. For some people in our community, especially our friends from Ukraine, life is particularly scary at the moment, and they can be left worrying about the future and feeling like we can do nothing about it. So let me introduce Надія (or Nadiya, in English), and her intrepid driver, Diana. In February, a group of young people from England and Ukraine, who really trust that God is our Hope and has a plan, decided to try to do something practical in a



small way to make the world a little less scary and sad and worked hard to raise nearly £10,000 to send a vehicle, jam-packed with humanitarian aid, to Ukraine. They had a **big** Hope that the **small** thing they could do, could make a **massive** difference. The young people named her Nadiya, which means 'hope' in Ukrainian. And by the time you read this, it will be over there, and already helping people injured in the war. They didn't give up and think there was nothing they could do, they trusted in the hope they had in God, and did something about it.

You are never too small to have big Hope.

The Bible says, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him." That means He fills our hearts with joy and peace - like a warm hug from someone who loves us, when we trust in him, when we have Hope. So whenever you feel worried or unsure, remember: Christian hope is holding on to God's love and trusting His plan, even when things are scary. It's the kind of hope that motivates us to work for God's love in our world. It's the kind of hope that never runs out! So remember:

You are never too small to have big Hope.

Maybe you'd like to download a colouring page all about Hope? Just scan this QR code!

God Bless and see you next time!



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

Diana Maclean is a local resident, and has just returned from her fourth trip to Ukraine as part of the charity Pickups For Peace (www.pickupsforpeace.co.uk). P4P have so far delivered 642 vehicles loaded with much needed supplies in 20 convoys using 1,134 drivers. Drivers fund themselves there and back, and are looked after while in Ukraine by the hugely grateful Ukrainian community. The young people here are raising further money to send another vehicle later this year - please visit their Just Giving page www.justgiving.com/page/odiham-youth-2025.



NEWS FROM THE VILLAGES

Farming News

Spring is turning into summer following a prolonged dry spell which was needed after the wet winter we had. But it has gone a bit far the other way now if I'm being fussy. The crops have taken up the early fertiliser and are slowly growing away despite the chilly northerly breeze we had been getting. But as we turned the month into May, the warmer weather has arrived and the crops have responded quickly. As I write this we have just had a thunder shower pass over giving a refreshing drink for the spring sown crops of barley and maize. We had just applied the last doses of fertiliser to our crops beforehand so the timings worked out nicely to wash it into the roots of the crops. Not often this happens, more luck than judgement! But this is important as our crops can only uptake the nitrogen fertiliser through its roots.

Although dry, this weather has given us a tremendous amount of sunshine. Which has been great for the flowering period of the oil seed rape crop (OSR). This is essential, as you will know sunlight is the key ingredient for a plant to photosynthesize. Our OSR crop uses its flowers to convert this sunlight and they only flower for a short period of time which is why it's important that the sun shines during this period. The energy provided from the sunlight has a knock on effect to yield. Lack of sunlight will produce shorter pods and smaller seeds. Now the flowers have dropped you can seed the pods forming and filling out with seeds.

The negative impact of the dry weather is now showing in some of the winter wheat plants though. The flag leaf, which is the main leaf of the plant that is usually the broadest leaf, has started the curl up to preserve moisture. The flag leaf is used in the same effect to the flowers of the OSR plants. This broad leaf captures as much sunlight as possible to photosynthesize, so when the leaf curls up it restricts this process and will reduce grain fill which reduces yield. It's not critical yet but some rain wouldn't go a miss! Also I noticed that the Wheat has started to come out in 'ear', this is farmer terminology for the grains emerging from the stem of the plant. This is a lot earlier than usual so another sign that the plant is potentially stressed and is rushing through its growth stages.

Our disappointing crop this year has been the Hybrid rye. This is grown for the Anaerobic digester in Herriard. It is a relatively small seed that is pretty fussy, and needs the weather to be on its side as it starts

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growing. Which last year it didn't, with a record level of rainfall in September it was always going to have the odds stacked against it. We've got large patches of bare where the slugs decimated it, and other parts of fields where it had waterlogged and the planted drowned out. It is something we are having to adapt to as we seem to be getting prolonged periods of weather, either dry or wet.

On the chicken side of the farm, they are enjoying the sunshine. Being able to range, sunbathe and dust themselves outside certainly makes for happier chicken rather than wading around in mud and puddles! New this year for us is two new nest boxes for the birds to lay their eggs in. This gives more laying area for the hens and makes collecting eggs a lot easier for us, as the laying area is on a slight angle, so when the hen lays its egg it will roll onto a central belt that we can turn and gather all the eggs at the end of the shed. We have also found we are getting less cracked eggs as well which is another bonus.

We are also moving into competition season, these are very much a casual low key, local farmer competitions. But also are a great way of benchmarking with fellow farmers to see how your farm is performing. We enter all the crops we grow as well as the farm business as a whole. But also having a chat with farmers from out of the area and discussing/moaning about our problems and the weather. So fingers crossed for a drop of rain before then!

Will Cheyney

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

June is busy! Event summary:

- * **Saturday 7th June** - fete (includes portable bell tower!)
- * **Monday 9th & 23th June** - Coffee & Cake drop in
- * **Wednesday 18th June** - Vicarage Tea & Cake (T@3 deferred to July)
- * **Sunday 22nd June** (10.00am) - Pet Service
- * **Sunday 22nd June** (6.30pm) - Concert for a Summer Evening
then Junior Tennis Coaching from 4th to 7th August
and Comedy Theatre in Church Meadow on Sunday 10th August

Upton Grey Village Hall 100 Club Winners

The winners for May are

1st Prize (£100) A E Wills

2nd Prize (£40) V Buckley

Congratulations!

Remember it's not too late to join the 100 Club for a chance of winning.
 Please contact Sam or Wendy at UGVH100@gmail.com for details.

St Mary's Church Fete: Saturday 7th June 2.00-5.00pm, Sherborne Cottage Gardens, Upton Grey

Coming very soon! We look forward to seeing you all at this long-standing village event which is both a fundraiser for the church and fun entertainment for all ages. 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.

New this year – try your hand at bell ringing with the Mobile Belfry and our very own team of Church bell ringers.

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.

Please note – this is largely a CASH event. Thank you so much in advance for your support and may the sun shine!

**Sarah Barnes and Frances Yeowart on behalf of St Mary's Church,
 Upton Grey PCC - Contact: francesyeowart@outlook.com**



St Mary's Church
Upton Grey

more+

North Hampshire Downs Churches

Church Fete
2.00pm Saturday
7th June
Sherborne Cottage
Church Street
Upton Grey RG25 2BS

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

Parking on Church Meadow Church Street

How to help:

Teas

Denise Turnbull will be running the teas with her wonderful team of helpers. If you would like to make a cake, please leave at Compton House on Friday 6th June or first thing on the morning.

Cake Stall

Eliza Bromley-Davenport (Sun Cottage) and friends are running the cake stall, so they too will be asking for donations. Eliza can be contacted: Elizagorebrowne@gmail.com

Toys

Good quality toys much appreciated.

Mary Harman mobile: 07909 510829 for drop off instructions.

White Elephant

Frances Yeowart and helpers will be running the White Elephant stall. Any **good quality and clean** unwanted items that can be sold from a table (!) are welcome. Please bring to the stall during the morning of the fete, or, if this is a problem, please contact Frances and arrange for drop-off. Mobile: 07774163217

Books

We very much welcome donations of second-hand books in good condition but please bear in mind what is likely to sell. We would like ***modern*** novels/literary/thrillers/romance and young adult/children's books, but we cannot usually manage to sell out-of-date non-fiction, i.e. factual books such as 'how-to' or history or old cookbooks.

Please could you kindly bring your donations to the stall in the morning of the Fete or when you first arrive in the afternoon.

If in doubt, dump your unwanted books yourself rather than donate them to the stall, as we can't store anything and some of us are too old to take heavy loads to recycling!

Contact Susie Vereker 01256 862365

Raffle

If you can't come but would like to contribute, or are just feeling generous, Sarah Barnes would be delighted to receive raffle prizes such as you would like to win yourself! Email: pg.barnes@btinternet.com

Children's Games

Helpers required - please contact Tara Brown email: tarabrown179@googlemail.com if you can spare an hour or two...

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)

Tombola Collection 25 May to 5 June

A collector from the Tombola Team will be knocking on your door sometime between 25th May and 5th June. Any goodies you can donate will be much appreciated – bottles, jars, tins, confectionery etc. If you want to drop off a donation instead, please call me on the number below.

The tombola is one of the main features of the fete and is always very popular, a great fundraiser and known as the best tombola in Hampshire! We are always very grateful to the villagers for providing such a great collection of exciting prizes, so thank you in advance. Here is a picture of one we prepared last year! **Patrick Symington 07867 537373**



Upton Grey Ringers Go on Tour

St Mary's Upton Grey bell ringers plus three welcome guests took to the roads on 5th April 2025 for their annual tour. Well, they tried to take to the roads but one of the welcome guests (Rachel's Dad) had a puncture when nearly at the first tower – Assumption of the Mary Blessed in Upper Froyle – with the net result that a passing angel fixed her Dad's car meaning he was able to ring there, whilst Rachel and her friend Lucy (from primary school days) having scoured the roads of Hampshire for her Dad not realising he was 'fixed', missed the first tower all together. Meanwhile, whilst the bells were not the easiest to ring, all those that rang got off to a good start. The second tower, Holy Rood Church, Holybourne had the full complement of tour ringers plus Mike from Holybourne. They were beautiful bells, and the ringing was pretty good too.

A delicious lunch was enjoyed at The White Hart in Holybourne before we all merrily set off for tower number 3 in Alton – All Saints. Rachel again experiencing a bit of a calamity when all of a sudden, she thought she'd lost her mind as she couldn't 'stop' the bell. After handing over to Pete, a much more experienced ringer, it was discovered that the bell was in fact broken. Rachel and Lucy had now actually only rung at 1 out of 3 towers and it was now 15:00. Hey Ho, we all then traipsed over to St. Matthew's Church, Blackmoor – a stunningly beautiful church and everyone enjoyed the relatively easy to ring bells there.

It was now time for tea in the church rooms behind St. Mary's Church, Bentley - elegant, light and very functional - adjacent to the church. We all finally got to sample Brenda's mouth-watering cake that we'd been looking forward to throughout the day and Lucy Church's delicious blueberry muffins. Oh....and then there was a little more ringing. In Bentley the entrance to the ringing room is DOWN a few steps – very unusual. The bells have a long 'draft' (lots of rope) which makes ringing them a bit more of a challenge, but it was lovely to ring there and adapting how you ring to each tower is all part of the experience, it was great to be joined by Simon and Harry from Bentley.

Many thanks to Mike from Holybourne who helped Rachel organise the tour, Pete for organising the leads and methods (tunes) for each tower and to Alan Frost, Lucy Armstrong and Caroline Winnicott for joining us. Particular congratulations to our beginner ringers - Brenda and Paul as it can be a challenge to ring many new bells, and they managed incredibly well. Here's to 2026!

If you'd like to join the ringers and maybe the 2026 tour, we practise on Thursday nights. **We will also have a light-weight 'mini tower' at the Village Fete on Saturday 7th June so do come and say hello.**

Please contact Michael Church mjchurch@btinternet.com or Rachel Dulai rachel@rachel-dulai.co.uk if you'd like an introduction to the bells.



Vicarage Tea and Cake

On **Wednesday 18th June** Tea and Cake will be served in the Vicarage garden in Upton Grey (weather permitting) from 3.00-5.00pm. We'd like to extend an invitation to all 'senior' members of Upton Grey, Tunworth, Herriard and Weston Partick to join us! If you'd like to come RSVP simon@moretolife.church or suzanne@moretolife.church

Hope to see you there.

Rev Simon Butler & Suzanne Newcombe

Tea@3

Please note that T@3 in June **will not** take place as a separate event as we are all invited to the Vicarage on 18th June. Our next T@3 is on Thursday **24th July at the Orchard**, Weston Road by kind invitation of Adele Dunkley. In August, we are invited to **Pond House** by Sarah Barnes and that will be on **Thursday 21st August**. Lifts can be arranged for any of these occasions - please ring me, **Jill Lestrille, on 862131**.

Upton Grey Pet Service at 10.00am on 22nd June 2025

Paul Birkbeck will be leading the Upton Grey Pet Service at 10.00am on 22nd June 2025. As is traditional, the service will be held in the churchyard, weather permitting. It will be short, but with a couple of very well-known hymns accompanied by an organist on a keyboard, and there will be coffee and biscuits afterwards - for adults and children only! Water will be available for dogs, etc. All pets - of whatever variety and however great or small - are welcome, and each will receive an individual blessing by name. Children are also very welcome, as are owners of both pets and children. So do please come and join us and bring your pet for a blessing.


St Mary's Church
Upton Grey

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North Hampshire Downs Churches

**Concert for a
Summer Evening**

Sunday 22nd June

St Mary's Church

6.30 pm

**A popular programme to include Panis
Angelicus and music to feature St
Mary's new church organ.**

**Andrew Sackett – organist and
presenter**

With a quartet of professional singers

Tickets: £18 to include a glass of wine

Apply: francesyeowart@outlook.com

Church Street, Upton Grey, Hampshire, RG25 2RB

**Concert for a Summer Evening @ St Mary's Church, Upton Grey.
Sunday 22nd June @ 6.30 pm - Back by popular request!**

Join us for a beautiful programme of music to fill a summer's evening, featuring our splendid new pipe organ and an entertaining selection of songs, arias and duets performed by a young professional quartet of singers. The power of such voices in our little church must be heard to be believed! We are delighted that Andrew Sackett, former organist at Tewkesbury Abbey and St Pauls' Knightsbridge, will be returning to present the evening.

Everyone is very welcome, but we are limiting the audience to 80. Hopefully the weather will be at its glorious midsummer best so we can spill outside after the concert to enjoy a glass of wine in the evening sunshine. Tickets to this special village event, @ £18 to include a glass of wine, can be reserved by emailing Frances Yeowart:

francesyeowart@outlook.com

On behalf of St Mary's PCC – we look forward to seeing you!

Coffee and Cake drop in

Upton Grey Village Hall

Monday 9th & 23rd June

11.00-1.00

All welcome



St Mary's Upton Grey
www.moretolife.church

Junior Tennis Coaching: Monday 4th - Thursday 7th August

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 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: slivingstonbooth@gmail.com with your child/children's name(s), age(s), and your contact details.

Payment should be made by the **1st August 2025** by Bank Transfer to Upton Grey Village Tennis Court. Bank Details are 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

Comedy Theatre in Church Meadow, Upton Grey **Sunday August 10th at 4.30pm**

We are delighted that the Rain or Shine theatre company will be staging Sheridan's "The Rivals" on Sunday 10th August at 4.30pm. Gate opens at 3.30pm for you to set up your picnic and settle down to the chaotic comedy of languishing lovers; deadly duels and ... Mrs Malaprop! Get your tickets (£15 for adults and children over 11 years old) at rainorshine.co.uk. See you on 10th August - come rain or shine!

Upton Grey Drama Group

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

In addition to Captain Charles Tyler who fought at the Battle of Trafalgar (see the April edition), other men from our village also fought in the 20-year-long war of national survival against the French forces of Napoleon.

John Henry Beaufoy was aged 4 at the start of the War. He lived at Upton Grey House and worshipped in our Church. Aged 19, he was commissioned into the Royal Fusiliers, with the rank of lieutenant. He joined the British army in the Peninsula under the command of Sir Arthur Wellesley (later the Duke of Wellington). By July 1809 the British Army had forced the French out of Portugal and turned its attention on Spain.

The British army combined with an allied Spanish army west of Talavera and advanced on the French. Unknown to them, the French army had been reinforced, and the Royal Fusiliers were the first to be attacked. As the enemy fell back, the order was given to charge. It seems likely that Lieutenant Beaufoy was at the fore and, with sword in hand, ran towards the enemy, when he became one of the first of his Regiment to die that day. A fine memorial to him appears in our Church.

Thomas Woodman was the son of the landlord of the Hoddington Arms. He fought 6 years later at the Battle of Waterloo on 18 June 1815, serving with 1st Kings Dragoon Guards. He was killed in one of the last cavalry charges made by the Guards on that day. Out of the 530 men of the Kings Dragoon Guards who paraded that morning, only 15 were still in action at the end of the day. Thomas Woodman's widow Ann was provided with a cottage - called 'Waterloo Cottage' - by Lieutenant Beaufoy's Father in the grounds of Upton Grey House, where she lived for many years.

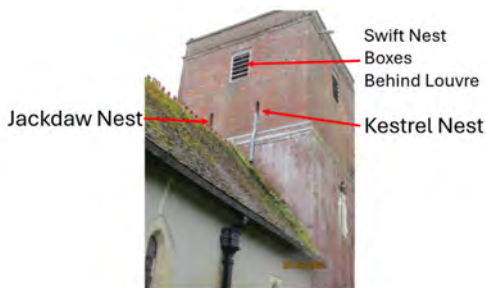
Geoffrey Yeowart

Swift Nest Boxes at Upton Grey

As a follow on to the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust article (see Other News and Events at the end of the Mag), we are very concerned about the rapid decline in Swift numbers. This is almost entirely due to the reduction in available nest sites, and one example is that, in the past, Swifts often made nests of mud under the eaves of houses, attached to the soffit boards beneath the gutters. Unfortunately, most modern houses nowadays use plastic soffits, and mud will not stick to plastic, so Swifts cannot nest on modern buildings.

The answer is to provide Swift nest boxes, and an innovative solution is to put Swift nest boxes in church towers. This idea has been very successful in various churches and cathedrals throughout Hampshire, and last year (2024) we installed Swift nest boxes at three churches in the Benefice, Greywell, Herriard, and Upton Grey. The nest boxes were installed in the bell towers behind the louvres.

However, things at Upton Grey did not turn out as expected, as kestrels and jackdaws nested just below where the nest boxes were installed. So, sadly, we did not get any Swifts nesting last year, but we are keeping our fingers crossed for this year. Nothing wrong with kestrels and jackdaws, indeed, delightful to see them, but let's hope they nest elsewhere this year.



.... But we were not alone. Swifts did not nest at Greywell or Herriard last year either. **Paul Birkbeck, Secretary to the St Mary's Upton Grey PCC** uptongreypccsecretary@hotmail.com

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WEB DIRECTIONS. Websites, Domains , Emails and Hosting Services. Open 0700 to 1900 Mon to Friday. Never Despair Studios, Unit 2, Alton Road, South Warnborough, Hampshire RG29 1RT
Tel 01256 863006
hello@webdirections.co.uk www.webdirections.co.uk

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Internal and external window and conservatory cleaning. Gutter, fascia/soffit, solar panel and greenhouse cleaning. Patio/Driveway cleaning and gutter repairs. Call 01256 704611 or email sales@gopherowen.com

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01256 830676 / 07816 780749
kevin@guttersnipe.uk.com
www.guttersnipe.uk.com

Xtra, Xtra!

UPTON GREY SHOP & CAFE

The shop needs you! **Use it or lose it.**
Great variety of goods. **'Cook'** ready meals

Wonderful fruit and veg

Fresh coffee, hot drinks.

Hours:

8am-6pm Mon –Sat

8am-1pm Sunday

New in-Shop Bakery

New larger CAFÉ

Please encourage reliable local tradesmen or service providers to advertise in the magazine. Can you recommend a tradesman or local service?

If so, please contact Susie Vereker at uptongreymagazine@gmail.com

ADVERTISING RATES DIRECTORY

£8 a line a year

Sorry we cannot accept inserts or posters.

HERRIARD AND WINSLADE NEWS

www.herriard-pc.gov.uk

www.herriardvillagehub.co.uk

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

Herriard and Tunworth Lunch Group

The regular Herriard/Tunworth fourth-Friday lunches restarted in April (12.00-1.30 at the Herriard Hub). **The next date is June 27th.**

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.

North Hampshire Downs Churches - Herriard Youth Hub

6.30-8.00pm on the 1st & 3rd Sundays at The Herriard Hub

For more information contact Helen Chatfield, youth@moretolife.church

Fun Dog Show, Sunday 1st June

Herriard Green & Pavilion

Seven classes plus Best in Show and Reserve Best in Show.

Waggiest Tail • Best Veteran • Best Young Handler • Most Like Its Owner • Best Puppy • Best Party Trick • Best Biscuit Catcher

Entries to be registered 12.00-12.45.

The show will begin at 13.00.

Fee: £3.00 per entry or £8.00 for three entries (cash only).

An invitation to Tea and Cake at Upton Grey Vicarage

On **Wednesday 18th June**, Tea and Cake will be served in the Vicarage garden in Upton Grey (weather permitting) from 3.00-5.00pm. We'd like to extend an invitation to all 'senior' members of Upton Grey, Tunworth, Herriard and Weston Patrick to join us! If you'd like to come please RSVP simon@moretolife.church or suzanne@moretolife.church

Hope to see you there.

Rev Simon Butler & Suzanne Newcombe

If you would like a lift please contact either Suzanne or Fiona.

Winchester Cathedral - Sunday 29th June - 10.00am

Suzanne Newcombe's time in training for ordination is drawing to a close. Suzanne will be ordained as Deacon on 29th June - a very significant moment in her journey of faith and service to God's people. Her ordination service will be in Winchester Cathedral at 10.00am on Sunday 29th June. All are welcome - if you would like a ticket or would like a lift please let Suzanne, Adrian or Fiona know.

SUMMER FETE

Fun Dog Show

SUNDAY 1ST JUNE

12 NOON - 3 PM

**HERRIARD GREEN &
PAVILION**

Join us for lots of fun including teas - table top sales - bbq - bar - tombola - bric-a-brac- produce - Herriard Garden Club - Bentworth School Choir - children's games - teddy tombola - Lucky Dip - Teddy Bear Zip Wire (bring your teddies!) and much more!

And new this year - a display by Kites of Wessex - Medieval Re-enactment Group!



Proceeds to St Mary's Church Herriard with Winslade



more+

St Mary's Herriard and Winslade

Pet Service



Sunday 22nd June at 10.00am
Street Croft Farm, Herriard RG25 2PQ

Please do come and join us for this much loved service and please do bring your well behaved and non dangerous pets for a blessing from Ordinand Suzanne!

Limited parking at the farm; if you are able to please park at the Church and walk across along the footpath

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 !

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. Please see this recent message from the Centre:

A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Supporters

We would like to extend our deepest thanks to everyone who has supported us recently - your generosity makes a real difference.

Special thanks to:

*Frank Bond and Basingstoke West Scouts for their kind donation of cash and underwear; Julie Home for the thoughtful gift of biscuits; **Herriard Church for their generous food donations;** The Tadley Trust for supplying toothbrushes and boxer shorts; Castle Trust Bank staff at Basing View for collecting clothing; David Manning & Co Property Solicitors in Whitchurch, and their wonderful customers, for raising funds over the past few months; Emily Juliff, Elizabeth Marshall, Tina Jordan, and many others for their generous Amazon Wish List donations; Penningtons Manches Cooper Solicitors for a much-appreciated food donation; Rachel and the Hatchwarren Runners for their recent donation; Morrisons, Tesco and their customers for contributing so generously. Your kindness brings comfort and hope to those who need it most. Thank you for standing with us.*

Finally, thanks to you our supporters for being such a vital part of our work. Your continued help, whether through donations, volunteering, or simply spreading the word, helps us provide the care and resources our clients need. We look forward to keeping you updated and working together to make a lasting difference in our community.

From Clare and the Camrose Centre Team

TUNWORTH NEWS

Coffee & Cake: Thursday 5th June 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 regular Herriard/Tunworth fourth-Friday lunches restarted in April (12.00-1.30 at the Herriard Hub). **The next date is June 27th.**

Christianity in Iran: Sunday 8th June 6.00pm

During Evensong on 8th June the missionary Simon Baynham will be giving a fascinating talk about Christianity in Iran.

Tunworth Home Group

The Tunworth Home Group usually meets once or twice a month on Wednesdays from 7.00 to 8.00pm at The Orangery, Hackwood Park, to study Bible passages and Biblical themes. The June dates are the 4th and 18th. If you would like to know more or to join, please contact Gabrielle.

An invitation to Tea and Cake at Upton Grey Vicarage

On **Wednesday 18th June**, Tea and Cake will be served in the Vicarage garden in Upton Grey (weather permitting) from 3.00-5.00pm. We'd like to extend an invitation to all 'senior' members of Upton Grey, Tunworth, Herriard and Weston Patrick to join us! If you'd like to come please RSVP simon@moretolife.church or suzanne@moretolife.church

Hope to see you there.

Rev Simon Butler & Suzanne Newcombe

Tunworth Pet Service: Sunday 22nd June

The Tunworth Pet Service is at All Saints Church on Sunday 22nd June at 9.00am. All pets, with their accompanying adults and children, will be most welcome.

Save the date –

Sunday July 13th Flower Festival 12.00-6.00pm at All Saints' Church, Tunworth. £5 entrance on the door. Refreshments available. To book a place on the corsage, posy and flower crown workshop and to enter the 'Decorate a Welly' competition, please visit

<https://tunworthflowers.eventbrite.co.uk>

*All Saints' Church
Tunworth*

Flower Festival

Sunday 13th July 2025

Come and see our hidden little church bursting with flowers!

DETAILS

Open all afternoon
12-6pm

(£5 donation at the door)

Tea, Coffee & Cakes for sale

Evensong at 6pm
followed by drinks



For tickets go to
<https://tunworthflowers.eventbrite.co.uk>
or click on the QR code

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE CHURCH

EVENTS

(FOR ADULTS & CHILDREN)

WORKSHOP

Make a flower crown, corsage,
buttonhole or posy
10-11.30am in the church
£10 (limited to 12 people)

COMPETITION

Fill a wellington boot with flowers, greenery or
something summery to display in the church
£5/welly

Prizes for best adult and child.
Judging at 5.15pm



WESTON PATRICK & WESTON CORBETT NEWS

We held our first Pet Service in our Churchyard during May. It was a truly joyous occasion with many people, dogs, two ponies and a chicken. We gave thanks for all these animals that bring us much happiness and support and were blessed by beautiful weather.



Our next services are Holy Communion on Sunday 8th June at 10.00 am with our Team Rector, Chris Dudgeon and then Evensong on Sunday 22nd June at 5.00pm with our fabulous choir.

Our Village Barbecue will be held in the garden of The Old Rectory on **Saturday 14th June from 5.30pm**. Please see the poster later in this magazine for details.

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 Friday 6th June. 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 Village Coffee morning will be held on the fourth Wednesday of the month, on 25th June, 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 25th June

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

An invitation to Tea & Cake from the Revd Simon Butler

On **Wednesday 18th June**, Tea and Cake will be served in the Vicarage garden in Upton Grey (weather permitting) from 3.00-5.00pm. We'd like to extend an invitation to all 'senior' members of Upton Grey, Tunworth, Herriard and Weston Patrick to join us! If you'd like to come please RSVP simon@moretolife.church or suzanne@moretolife.church
Hope to see you there. **Rev Simon Butler & Suzanne Newcombe**



WESTON PATRICK & WESTON CORBETT SUMMER BBQ

IN AID OF THE FRIENDS AND THE PCC OF
ST. LAWRENCE CHURCH, WESTON PATRICK

You are invited to
The Old Rectory garden, Weston Patrick,
on Saturday, 14th June, 2025 from 5.30pm

Family and friends are very welcome, the more the merrier!

Tickets: £20 adults
£10 under 12s
£5 under 5s

Please bring your own drinks and glasses

R.S.V.P.

Clare Longfield

clare@longfield.myzen.co.uk

07976 949507

**PLEASE CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE
A.S.A.P. TO ASSIST CATERING**



OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

Cross Barn Odiham – film / theatre / Jazz for June & July 2025

June 20th Film: Juror #2

A fascinating legal thriller about truth, justice (for better, for worse) the American way, directed by an all-American icon, Clint Eastwood. The trial is in progress and the defendant has been charged with murder when Juror #2 (Nicholas Hoult) realizes that he himself might have been the unintentional killer.

June 27th Film: Bridget Jones: Mad About The Boy

Bridget is alone once again, widowed four years ago. She's now a single mother to 10-year-old Billy and 6-year-old Mabel. Stuck in an emotional desert, she goes back to work and even tries out dating apps!

A bittersweet romp about new beginnings with Renée Zellweger.

July 18th Film: Small Things Like These

While working as a coal merchant to support his family, a father (Cillian Murphy) confronts the truth of one of Ireland's infamous Magdalene Laundries.

July 25th Celebrate Summer: an evening of joyous, upbeat jazz: New Orleans, Dixieland and Swing...

... with the Pete Rudeforth Band: trumpet, clarinet, tenor, saxophone, trombone, banjo, double bass and drums - and plenty of vocals.

Tickets - Film: £7.50, Jazz: £20. Doors open at 19.00, Jazz starts at 19.30, Films at 19.45. Coffee/tea, wine and ice cream available. Purchase tickets online at <http://www.thecrossbarn.org.uk>

Basingstoke Choral Society present a Summer Evening of Mozart, Saturday 5th July 2025, 7.00pm, All Saints Church Odiham

The Conductor is Ben Cooper who will be accompanied by professional soloists and organ. Programme: Mozart Requiem and Mozart Solemn Vespers. To book: <https://www.basingstoke-choral.org.uk/events-all>

Strawberries and glass of wine or soft drink included in ticket price, available from 6.00pm.

We present an unforgettable evening of music performing one of the most iconic works in the choral repertoire: Mozart's *Requiem*. This haunting and emotionally charged piece has captivated audiences for centuries with its profound beauty and timeless power. The Solemn Vespers is not performed as often as the Requiem but is a work of emotional range and powerful contrasts making it a truly hidden gem from Mozart's sacred repertoire.

The Jubilee Choir Presents ‘Songs from the Shows’, Sunday 22nd June 7.30pm, All Saints’ Church, Odiham

Music from Rogers and Hammerstein, Gershwin, Lerner and Loewe, Gilbert and Sullivan and much more...

Tickets are £15 (free for 18s and under) and include a glass of fizz. Buy 3 tickets, get an extra half price.

Available from www.jubileechoir.co.uk, Lynn Lymer on 07837 571708, or Katharine Jane in the High Street, Odiham.

North Warnborough and District Garden Club

We do not hold a meeting in the hall in June as we have our annual visit. We look forward to welcoming members and guests as usual in July. For further information please visit our website <https://www.nwdgc.org.uk>

Odiham Open Gardens – Saturday 14th June, 2.00-5.00pm

Entry: suggested donation £7.50, under-16s free.

Tickets are available on the day from participating gardens in the High Street. There will be home-made teas and refreshments available. All proceeds will go to All Saints Church to help maintain the churchyard.

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!

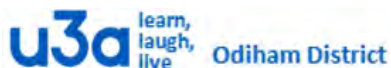


As I mentioned last month, on Saturday June 14th, we will have a stall at Hartley Wintney Village Festival where we plan to sell second-hand books to raise funds for the Mothers' Union campaign to support literacy around the world, particularly for women and girls; 480 million women around the world can't read or write, which means that they can't register the birth of their baby, read the labels on medicine bottles or open a bank account. Literacy is so important as it empowers women and changes their lives and the lives of their community. There is a box

at the back of All Saints Church Odiham for you to leave your donations of books, and thank you for your support.

In June, we will also be holding our Festival Service at St Lawrence's Church in Winchester on Thursday 19th June at 11.00am, and all are welcome to join us for that service. Our next branch meeting will take place on Monday 2nd June at 7:30pm at the RAF Chaplaincy Centre as usual.

**Sue Murphy, 01252 845011 / 07881 828450
or email suemurphymubbranch@outlook.com**



It's Good to Listen!

As a u3a, we try to be self-sufficient, with members running the vast majority of our groups. However, we also enjoy and benefit from hearing from other people and this has been a bumper month!

The May members monthly meeting was a 'sell out' and extremely well received; the topic was 'The Iranian Embassy Siege - the SAS in action'. This took place in 1980 and many of you will remember the SAS assault, codenamed 'Operation Nimrod', being broadcast live at peak time on 5th May 1980. It was viewed by millions of people, mostly in the UK, making it an important moment in British history. The presenter, Guy Bartlett, described the siege using first hand testimony from those present but also showed us actual footage that was broadcast by both the BBC and ITV.



Meanwhile Science & Tech had a tale of two horse powers! Firstly, they heard from Alan Frener about the Bloodhound LSR attempting to break the land speed record. In its tests it generated over 135,000 horsepower.



In complete contrast, at a second meeting, David Throup described the Crofton Beam Engine which has operated for over 200 years and is the oldest working beam engine in the world. It generates a more modest 40 horsepower.

At our Health and Wellbeing Study Day there were a succession of presentations including representatives from Mind and The Macular Society. Both presentations covered the very important support and advice these organisations could provide to people in need.

However, our members have been getting in on the act too! At a recent meeting of the Environment & Climate group, one of the members gave a presentation 'How to save the planet - one bathroom at a time!' The focus was on removing single use plastic packaged products and what could be bought and used instead. The member then spent hours recording her advice as a video so that others could access the information!

To find out more, please visit our website.
<https://odiham.u3asite.uk/>



National Garden Scheme – Hampshire

Community Garden Grants: in 2011 the National Garden Scheme launched its Community Garden Grants - since then £1,202,360 has been donated to over 500 community projects. The 2025 Grants have recently been announced, and I am pleased to say that a total of £8,212 has been awarded to three projects within Hampshire; they are the YMCA Southampton, Dementia Friendly Hampshire (based in Havant), and The Healthy Haven, Southampton. The total amount donated in 2025 to Community Projects was a staggering £294,260. This went to a total of 117 community garden projects across England, Wales and Northern Ireland. To help us raise funds for the Community Garden Grants and our annual Beneficiary Donations, all you have to do is simply visit an NGS garden - just one visit helps. Here are a couple of suggestions for the end of June and July:

Mill House, Vyne Road, Sherborne St John, Basingstoke RG24 9HU. Opening: Thursday & Sunday 26th & 29th June, 2.00pm to 6.00pm. Pre-booking available. Admission £5.00, children free. Cashless Payments available. Refreshments: Home-made teas (in aid of Bramley Church + 10% to NGS). Planted on heavy clay, the gardens of Mill House are relatively young, but occupy an historic site. They surround a recently rebuilt watermill which generates domestic electricity. Rural in feel, despite its proximity to Basingstoke, it features several differing zones. Tended solely by the owners, the structure and planting has been chosen to facilitate easy maintenance (by hand, powered machinery and sheep) to save time. Static and moving water provide interest and a haven for waterfowl, pied wagtails, swans and kingfishers.

If you missed this garden in April, here is an opportunity to visit again. This time around it will look a whole lot different.

Old Thatch & Millenium Barn, Sprats Hatch Lane, Winchfield RG27 8DD. Opening Sunday 6th July 2.00pm to 6.00pm. Pre-booking available. Admission £5.00, children free. Cashless Payments available. Refreshments: Home-made teas in aid of Sebastian's Trust. Who could resist visiting Old Thatch, a chocolate box thatched cottage (not open), featured on film and TV, a smallholding with a 5-acre garden and woodland alongside the Basingstoke Canal (unfenced). A succession of spring bulbs, a profusion of wildflowers, perennials and homegrown annuals pollinated by our own bees and fertilised by the donkeys, who await your visit. Over 30 named clematis and rose cultivars. Children enjoy our garden quiz; adults enjoy tea and home-made cakes.

Hook Cross Allotments, Reading Road, Hook RG27 9DB

Opening: Saturday & Sunday 19th & 20th June, 1.00pm to 5.00pm. Pre-booking available. Admission £5.00, children free. Cashless Payments available. Refreshments: Tea, Coffee and Cake (in aid of local charities). These are 5¼ acre community-run allotments overlooking Hook village. More than 100 plots showcasing different vegetables, fruit and flower growing styles. Plot holders available to chat and give demonstrations of how to grow your own. Community orchard, wildflower meadow, beetle banks, wildlife friendly gardening information.

Happy Garden Visiting!

Pat Beagley (Head of Publicity), NGS Hampshire

North Hants National Trust Centre meeting 27th March 2025

Sex, Scandal and the Royal Court

The North Hants National Trust Centre members were treated on Thursday 27th March, after the excellent Spring lunch, to a very entertaining, in fact quite titillating, lecture entitled "Secrets, Scandals and Salacious Gossip of the Royal Court, 1660-1830" by Sarah Slater, a white-badge guide lecturer at Hampton Court Palace and also a South Central blue badge tourist guide. Sarah spoke very clearly and amusingly, keeping us all so well entertained that there was no risk of anyone nodding off!

Sarah's lecture was supported by excellent slides, and we began with some beautiful pictures of Hampton Court, lived in by every monarch right through from when Henry VIII, who effectively grabbed it off Cardinal Wolsey, to George III. This included pictures of the alterations made by William III and Queen Mary II, so we were entertained by an interesting digression into questions over the sexuality of both of those dual monarchs, about both of whom there was gossip,

but no proof. For the benefit of those with a rather hazy knowledge of the line of succession, after the exclusion of the Catholic descendants of James II, we were also shown a clear family tree making clear how the monarchs after Queen Anne (the four Georges and their descendants) inherited the throne.

Our lecturer then took us forward to the Victorian period (slightly beyond our official timeline), pointing out that the Victorians were not really prudes so much as people simply trying to deal with the inevitable social and economic consequences of casual sex and also of simply having too many children born within marriage. We learned about the many different types of whores, from the lowest to the highest kept mistresses. There was even a book called Harrison's List, which listed all the prostitutes in London, along with their prices and specialities!

Working backward through the time period, we learned of the famously disastrous marriage of the Prince Regent and Caroline of Brunswick, of the sad life of George I's wife Sophia Dorothea and many others. Charles II's busy love life also inevitably received attention, with his many acknowledged mistresses and illegitimate children - though I always feel one should add in his favour that he always treated his wife, Catherine of Braganza, with respect and refused the advice of those telling him he should divorce her and remarry in order to produce a legitimate heir. He was clearly a much kinder individual than Henry VIII! One of history's great "What Ifs?" Had Charles II taken that cruel advice, poor Catherine would have suffered - but we would not have had the disastrous reign of James II, the Glorious Revolution with William III and Mary, the Georgians, the Jacobite rebellions ... and so on.

The lecture was in some ways not for the faint-hearted, as we learned much about the various ways in which people tried to limit their families through some fairly primitive types of contraception - some more effective than others. It was amusing and interesting, and a serious reminder that sex wasn't invented yesterday! I particularly liked the tale of Theresa Constantia Phillips, who had a shop called 'The Green Canister' in Half Moon Street, Covent Garden, now Bedford Street. She sold the very best condoms, which could be washed and re-used - and which even commanded a good second-hand price! The mind boggles!

Wendy Crozier, North Hampshire National Trust Centre.

The NHNTC hosts monthly talks throughout the winter and monthly visits to properties and other interesting places through the summer.

New members always welcome – see website (<https://www.nhntc.com>) for details and application form.

The North Hampshire National Trust Centre (NHNTC) AGM

The NHNTC is the local branch of the National Trust. We provide monthly lectures through the Winter and monthly visits to places of interest through the Summer.

At our AGM in April, the programme of visits was presented and discussed. In May we went to Hever Castle in Kent – the 14th century castle which was the childhood home of Ann Boleyn. In June the outing will be to Kew Gardens. Founded in 1759 these sumptuous gardens remain at the forefront of plant and fungal science and are hugely important for their conservation programmes. In July we have a double event. We start at Beale Wildlife Park, the home of a wide variety of uncommon and endearing species. In the afternoon we visit the nearby Basildon Park House, a fine 18th century dwelling with a chequered past. In August we have a cream tea and in September we will have a tour of The Wakes, Gilbert White's home in Selborne.

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust – New nesting tower gives Swifts and House Martins a Lifeline

A specially designed nesting tower has been installed at Blashford Lakes Nature Reserve to support struggling populations of swifts and house martins.

It marks Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust's first nesting tower across its estate and provides much-needed secure nesting sites for these red-listed bird species.

Swifts and house martins have experienced significant population declines in recent decades, due to habitat loss and a reduction in suitable nesting sites. The UK breeding population of swifts have declined by 66 percent between 1995 and 2022, while house martins have declined by 44 per cent.

Standing five metres tall, the tower features 23 swift boxes and 12 house martin cups, offering much-needed breeding opportunities. It incorporates ventilation to keep the nests cool during warmer months and is equipped with solar panels and speakers to play pre-recorded bird calls, attracting young birds searching for a nesting site to settle into.

"This is the first nest tower of its kind across the Trust's entire estate," said Jack Medley, Reserves Officer at Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust. "It marks a significant milestone in our ongoing efforts to help swifts and house martins, two remarkable species facing serious challenges. The tower is part of our commitment to providing innovative solutions that help these birds thrive."

Swifts and house martins migrate from sub-Saharan Africa to breed in the UK, depending on suitable nesting sites and an abundant insect population. Historically, swifts have nested in the roofs of older buildings, but modern renovations are sealing up access points, leaving them without suitable breeding spaces. The new tower mimics natural nesting conditions, offering a secure, predator-free location, giving these birds a vital lifeline.

Jack says: “Swifts and house martins are remarkable birds that complete incredible migrations from Africa each year. By providing secure nesting spaces at Blashford Lakes Nature Reserve, we’re giving them a fighting chance to stabilise and recover. It’s fantastic to see this conservation effort come to life.”

The tower also provides easy access to a rich supply of insects, their primary food source. The wetlands, reed beds, and woodlands at Blashford Lakes Nature Reserve create perfect conditions for insects to flourish, ensuring the birds have the resources they need to thrive during the breeding season.

Bringing this vision to life required a combination of expert knowledge, skilled design, and generous support, as Jack explains: “I’m incredibly proud of this project and would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who made it a reality. A special thank you goes to Hampshire Ornithological Society for their generous funding, Hampshire Swifts for their expert advice and guidance, and to Peak Boxes for their craftsmanship.

“This tower represents a huge step in our ongoing conservation efforts to protect these vulnerable species, and we couldn’t have achieved it without the support of our partners and the dedication of so many involved.”

Located next to the site’s largest Lake, Ibsley Water, the tower is viewable near Goosander hide. It will be closely monitored, with data collected on nest occupancy each year.

**Helen Skelton Smith, Communications Officer,
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust
Helen.Skelton Smith@hiwwt.org.uk 07880 888577**



Credit: Chris Fairchild

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 – JUNE 2025

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

JUNE DATES

1st June	Sun	Summer Fete and Fun Dog Show, Herriard Green	12.00noon
7th Jun	Sat	St Mary's Upton Grey Fete	2.00pm
14th Jun	Sat	Summer BBQ, The Old Rectory, Weston Patrick	5.30pm
14th Jun	Sat	Odiham Open Gardens	2.00-5.00
18th Jun	Thur	Vicarage Tea Party – Upton Grey	3.00-5.00
22nd Jun	Sun	Herriard Pet Service (Street Croft Farm)	10.00am
22nd Jun	Sun	Tunworth Pet Service (All Saints Church)	9.00am
22nd Jun	Sun	Upton Grey Pet Service (St Mary's Church)	10.00am
22nd Jun	Sun	Concert in St Mary's Church, Upton Grey	6.30pm
22nd Jun	Sun	Jubilee Choir, Songs from the Shows, All Saints, Odiham	7.30pm
29th Jun	Sun	Suzanne Newcombe's ordination, Winchester Cathedral	10.00am

ADVANCE DATES

5th Jul	Sat	An Evening of Mozart, All Saints, Odiham	7.00pm
13th Jul	Sun	Flower Festival, All Saints Tunworth	12.00-6.00
24th Jul	Thur	Tea@3, The Orchard, Weston Road, Upton Grey	3.00pm
4th-7th Aug		UG Junior Tennis	9.00am–12.45pm
10th Aug	Sun	Comedy Theatre, Church Meadow, Upton Grey	4.30pm
21st Aug	Thur	Tea@3, Pond House, Upton Grey	3.00pm

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	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 July issue is 15th June 2025.

Please send news and contributions to uptongreymagazine@gmail.com. Your editors for June were Sheila Stranks and Nick Willmer. The editor for July will be Tess Chevallier.

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