

PARISH MAGAZINE



St. Mary's, Herriard



All Saints', Turworth



St. Mary's, Upton Grey



St. Lawrence, Westcott Parvick

May
2025

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

Letter from the Benefice Ministry Team

As I write this, the sun is shining bright in the sky, grass is being cut, birds are singing and children are playing out in the park. After a fairly dreary start to the year, it is safe to say that this feels wonderful. It brings a real sense of hope to the world around us, and hope it sorely needs right now.



We have just journeyed through Lent, a time of mourning and reflecting, as we carried the story through the joy of Palm Sunday, the sober reflection of Maundy Thursday, the devastation of Good Friday and finally the celebration of Easter Day. That season is one of the most profound for me, as it takes us through such a breadth of human experience, and carries us in the tough and the joyful.

And here we are now, in the Easter season, following that day. It is a season of hope and promise. It is a season where we are fully aware of the promise of resurrection; of life coming out of death. Of light breaking through the cover of darkness. Of the certainty of Jesus in the confusion of life.

Our world is a fairly uncertain one at the moment. Whether through tariffs, political manoeuvring, environmental crises or all-out war, it is hard sometimes to see the solid ground for the chaos and confusion all around. It would be all too easy in these times to fear, to crumble, to panic. But as a good friend of mine once said to me... *'This is what we've been training for'*.

The message of Jesus isn't one of comfort, of ease, of complacency. His isn't a story that tells us that everything is fine, just relax. His is a life lived in the muck. A God who embraced the messiness of humanity and walked with the questions, engaged with the doubting, encountered reality. The message of Easter which we live in today tells us that all will be well... though maybe not as we expect, or when we expect.

The Easter story tells us that Jesus came to equip us, and enable us to engage with life in all its realness. That he invites us to journey with him through the pain, the heartache, the uncertainty. He equips us to live out in precisely the world we find ourselves in today.

His is a real hope, not a false one. A lived, experienced and tested hope. This is what we've been training for... to live confidently today.

If you want to find out more about this life, this faith, why not pop along to one of our services on a Sunday, or get in touch with the clergy in your village. We would all love to meet and chat with you, and explore this together.

Enjoy the sun... whenever we get it!

The Revd Matt Bianchi (Vicar, All Saints Church, Odiham)

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptism: Harry Morris-Eyton at St Mary's Herriard on 23rd March

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 4th May

9.00am Tunworth – BCP Holy Communion
 10.00am Upton Grey – CW Holy Communion
 5.00pm Herriard – Evensong

Thursday 8th May

10.00am Upton Grey – BCP Holy Communion (said)

Sunday 11th May

10.00am Herriard – Rogation Walk
 10.00am Upton Grey – Morning Worship (VE Day 80th Anniversary)
 10.00am Weston Patrick – Pet Service
 6.00pm Tunworth – Evensong

Thursday 15th May

10.00am Herriard – BCP Holy Communion (said)

Sunday 18th May

9.00am Tunworth – 1662 Morning Prayer
 10.00am Herriard – BCP Holy Communion (said)
 10.00am Upton Grey – CW Holy Communion

Sunday 25th May

10.00am Herriard – Family Service
 10.00am Tunworth – Rogation Walk
 10.00am Upton Grey – Rogation Walk
 5.00pm Weston Patrick – Evensong

Thursday 29th May

7.30pm Odiham – Benefice Ascension Day service

CHURCH NEWS

Join us on Ascension Day!

Have you marked your calendar for Ascension Day on Thursday May 29th?

Please do join us for our beautiful Ascension Day service at 7.30pm that day, in All Saints Church, Odiham. As we look ahead to this important date in the Christian calendar, people often remark that they've not even heard of Ascension Day.

But for hundreds of years, Christians have affirmed Jesus' ascension in the words of the Apostles Creed, as part of which we say:

"....I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead...."

The adjacent picture is of one of the earliest remaining sculpted-panels in ivory, dating right back to AD400. It depicts Jesus' ascension, and underlines how important this event has been to Christians right through the centuries.

Today, the Ascension reminds us that Christianity is not only a historical faith, but a faith of the present and future. For the present, Jesus is not just our suffering servant who came and died and rose triumphant, but our actively ruling, actively conquering king, who remains active and engaged in our world and our lives.

And as Christians we have this steadfast hope in a glorious future - with him, forever. This is great news... Please come and join us in All Saints Odiham at 7.30pm on Thursday May 29th to find out more!



Photo courtesy Bayerische Nationalmuseum, Munich

more+

North Hampshire Downs Churches

Revd Chris Dudgeon
Benefice Rector

Come and join us for a Rogation Walk

Rogation gives us the opportunity to praise God, give thanks for our food and those who produce it; to pray a blessing on the communities we share together.

Rogation is a time of asking, asking God's blessings on emerging crops. In times gone by when everything depended on the local harvest, this was vital. A failed local harvest meant starvation, so asking God's Blessing at various points was seen as important.

We still depend on farming today for our food but can draw on harvest from all over the country and beyond. It can be easy to feel disconnected from where our food comes from. Which makes this still a good time to pray for farmers who are at the mercy of the weather. The pandemic has reminded us that farmers are key workers and need our support.

The Rogation Walks for our local churches are: **Herriard at 10.00am on Sunday 11th May, Tunworth & Upton Grey at 10.00am on Sunday 25th May.**

Revd Simon Butler

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 May 1st.**
- Coffee and cake drop-in at **Upton Grey Village Hall**, 11.00am-1.00pm on **Monday May 12th.**
- Coffee morning at **Weston Patrick Village Hall**, 11.00am-12.30pm on **Wednesday May 28th.**

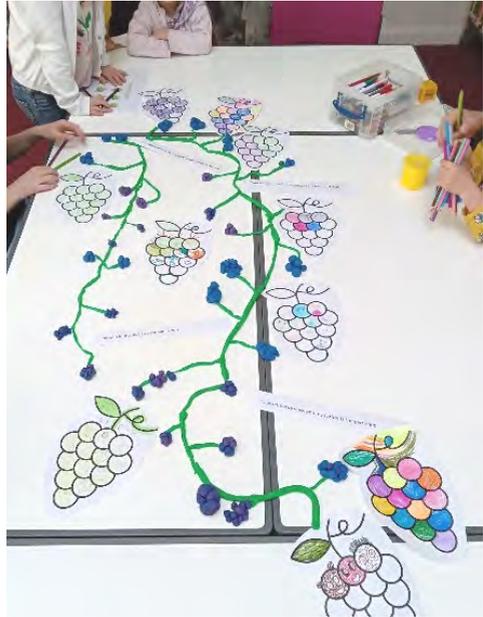
Tea or coffee, slice of cake, chat. Open to all, very informal, no need to book, just turn up. All ages welcome!



KidsZone

Recently at our Sunday children's programme at All Saints, Odiham, we explored the words of Jesus and his wonderful invitation to us to remain connected with him like a branch is connected to a vine (John 15). And as we stay connected with Jesus, we stay connected to God, the source of life.

How do we stay connected to God? Identifying the things that help us to remember and celebrate God's faithful presence with us is really important. What does that look like for you on a daily, weekly, monthly, seasonal and yearly basis?



Maybe it involves some of the following...

Daily

- Thanking God for a new day before you get out of bed in the morning.
- Naming one thing for which you can be grateful before you go to sleep at night.
- Sharing a prayer of gratitude at the dinner table.
- Going for a walk or run.

Weekly

- Going to church or other faith gatherings
- Meeting with a friend or family member who encourages and inspires you
- Attending a Kid's or Youth Club

Seasonally/Yearly

- Special church services, school assemblies

- Observing Lent and Advent in your home
- Camp or holiday club
- Pilgrimage or mission project

Our connectedness to God isn't dependent on just one of these things, but we find our lives are nurtured and nourished through the regular rhythms and habits of all of them. Why not have a go as a family or household at tracking the things across your days, weeks and months that keep you connected to the things that really matter? Who are the people who encourage and inspire you and help you to see how what you do day by day gradually broadens out into what you might grow into year by year?

If you are looking for some ways to help you connect, you might like to consider one or more of the following below. Get in touch if you want to find out more.

In all we do, may we learn to live more truthfully; becoming more ourselves - more like the person who God made us to be.

Blessings.



Paul Dadd

Children & Youth Pastor
All Saints Parish Church, Odiham
paul@moretolife.church

- **Toddlers - Tuesdays 10.00-11.30am**

'Tuesday Toddlers' at St Andrew's South Warnborough on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays.

'Get OWT' - Get O(ut) W(ith) T(oddlers) - outside St Mary's Church Upton Grey on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays.

For more information contact admin@moretolife.church

- **Kids & Youth Groups – Thursdays, All Saints Church Odiham**

'More4Kids' – School Years 4-7, 4.30-6.00pm.

'More4Youth' – School Years 7-11, 5.30-7.30pm.

From 5.30-6.00 we'll share a simple meal together.

- **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



NEWS FROM THE VILLAGES

Farming News

Twice recently as I drove down Bagmore Lane just before sunrise, a barn owl has flown out from the trees opposite the old Herriard station. He/she has then flown alongside me at about 20mph all the way to the farm where they drop into the old hay barn. I get a wonderful tracking view of the owl in flight. It's amazing what you see and hear in the countryside in the early hours.

I find, with Christmas being the same time every year and all the cows and heifers being in the barns for winter, that our work at that time of year is predictable and formulaic. We make sure all the cattle feed is in the right place before the holidays, the work rota is up together, everyone's family commitments are covered, and we all try and have some decent time off. Easter, on the other hand, is very different. We never know what the weather is going to throw at us, whether we will have cattle out or in, or if we'll be planting maize. Add to that that Easter moves around by nearly a month from late March to late April (over to you to explain that and the links with the moon please Simon!) and organising farm work and planning time off becomes tricky. This year for example has been the complete opposite to last. Whereas last year was wet, this year, as all you gardeners are well aware, has been drought like ...in March. I'm writing this in early April, sitting outside listening to the multitude of birdsong and it's gorgeous.

For the first time since 2022 we have managed to roll all our grassland with our heavy flat roller. The ground was too wet the last two years, but this year has been perfect, so finally we've managed to roll in all the flints (Hampshire Diamonds!), mole hills and cattle hoof prints and prepare our grass fields for grazing and silage making. Flat rolling also pushes the earth and the roots together after frosts lift the ground, this accelerates growth and in a dry spring like this, retains water.

We've been out removing fallen trees and limbs from the field borders which has the added side benefit of restocking our log sheds ready for next winter. Fences and gates have been mended where assorted winter wildlife have broken them. Our three teenagers have had fun dismantling an old, barbed wire fence around a large tree clump by removing the staples and attaching the old wire to the back of our battered Ford Ranger pickup and driving off pulling the wire out of the

brambles. Not sure how well my health and safety briefing was adhered to mind!

We need the fences and gates to be in really good order, especially in the young stock fields because the 8 month old heifers have never been out of the barns before having been housed all autumn and winter. When we open the barn door and usher them out into the paddock it's such a joy. Some leap out of the barn and race off around the field straight away, the more timid ones, we have to literally manhandle out of the barn and once in the field it takes them a while to figure out their newfound freedom before they too are off around the field at a rate of knots. We'll feed them a 21% protein nut once a day when they are out at grass. When they are in the barns for winter, we feed them with the nut twice a day and bed and feed them with straw as well, so it's much more labour intensive and costly when they are in.

We are currently planting our maize into some very good seedbeds. Normally we are trying to obtain a nice dry seedbed but this year we are trying to retain as much moisture as possible. As soon as it is planted, we will spray with a pre-emergence herbicide to take out any weeds as they start to poke through. Rain is forecast midweek, and this will activate the herbicide, so fingers crossed our timing for planting has been spot on. Maize hates any kind of competition from other plants or soil compaction that inhibits its roots going deep, so we try to get it off to the best start we possibly can. Like most things in life, the care and attention spent that goes into the preparation, pays dividends later on.

The Skylarks have been in full song above our wheat fields this Easter and with the maize and grass growing, some of the cows out, the sun shining and warm rain forecast, we are looking forward with optimism.

Joe Ives

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

Upton Grey Village Hall 100 Club Winners

April 2025 100 Club Winners: 1st - Rosie Reid £100; 2nd - Tom Seabrook £45. Congratulations to the winners! **Sam Clough**

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 **Thursday 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.

Jill Lestrille 862131, Viv Anscombe 862455

VE Day

Thursday 8th May 1945 was 'Victory in Europe Day'. St Mary's Upton Grey will be marking the event, 80 years later, at the 10.00am service on **Sunday 11th May**.

Coffee and Cake drop in

Upton Grey Village Hall

Monday 12th May

11.00-1.00

(not on 26th May Bank Holiday)

All welcome



St Mary's Upton Grey
www.moretolife.church

Rogation Walk, St Mary's Upton Grey, Sunday 25th May

Everyone is warmly invited to join us for a Rogation Walk with readings and hymns on Sunday 25th May. We will meet at the church at 10.00am and the walk will last an hour, returning to church at 11.00am for refreshments. For those who might find an hour walk too much, there will be a shorter rogation ramble around the churchyard led by Paul Birkbeck, also with readings and hymns, ready to meet the returning walkers at 11.00am for refreshments.

St Mary's Church Fete: Saturday 7th June 2.00-5.00pm

Coming your way next month! 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. 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.

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. Car parking next door in Church Meadow.

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.

Thank you so much for your support which is much appreciated and helps the fete raise lots of money for St Mary's church.

Please see the pages later in this magazine on how you can help!

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 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.

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

Many of you were at the opening concert held in St Mary's church last year to celebrate the installation of the new pipe organ. It is looking and sounding so beautiful.

We are delighted to say that Andrew Sackett, former organist at Tewkesbury Abbey and St Pauls' Knightsbridge, will be returning to present a programme of well-known works for the organ as well as directing a quartet of young professional singers. The power of such voices in our little church must be heard to be believed!

Everyone is very welcome, but we are limiting the audience to 80. Hopefully the weather will be at its glorious midsummer best so drinks can be served outside after the concert, which will last an hour.

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!

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

Report on Safari Supper 2025

Dear Villagers,

Thank you to all of you who took part so generously in this year's Safari Supper. It was a huge success with a record breaking number of over 80 participants!

Between 7.15 and midnight on the 22nd March there was lots of movement around the village, on foot and by car as people circulated between courses on Upton Grey's Safari Supper night. Many survivors made it to the village hall at the end for the traditional glass of port or cup of coffee and tea. This year we had some sponsorship from Summerdown mints and so there were also delicious chocolates and mint tea as well. The chatter and laughter rang out and we did not leave the hall until midnight. Apparently there were even some after parties!

A special well done to all former members for being so welcoming and to all new members for giving this hugely fun village event a try. We felt proud to live in Upton Grey. There was a true spirit of neighbourliness and positivity very much needed in today's world. Several of the newbies wrote to Viv and me after the event to say that they had really enjoyed their first Safari Supper and it really was a great way to meet people in the village.

Most couples hosted one of three courses. Occasionally due to the number taking part there are a few people who are asked to be 'extras' which means that they do not end up hosting anything. A new member made a suggestion that next year we should try offering this as a sort of 'golden ticket' so watch this space!

Thank you for helping to raise in the region of £1300 for St Mary's Church by supporting this event. Look out for next year's Safari Supper which is likely to be on Saturday 21st March 2026. We will confirm nearer the time.

Best wishes, **Julia Harker and Viv Raven**

Educational Grants available to ALL Upton Grey Residents

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

The Trust can use the income from the investment twice yearly "for the advancement of education". The Trust meets in June and December each year to consider applications for assistance with educational needs, **from any age group and with no means testing.**

Since the Trust was set up, it has awarded grants to over 100 applicants and 16 groups in addition to Long Sutton School.

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

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

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

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

Please submit your application in writing **by the end of May 2025** to be in with a chance for the application to be put forward at the June meeting.

to:

The Secretary to the Trustees
UPTON GREY EDUCATIONAL TRUST
Clock Cottage
Cleves Lane, Upton Grey
Basingstoke RG25 2RG

or via email to: debbie@debbie-bridle.com (requesting a read receipt) – please ensure child written application is attached to the email sent by parent or guardian.

(NOTE) that any late applications received after the deadline will automatically be carried over to the next meeting)

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NGS Garden Open Day, Saturday 10th May 2025 11.30am–3.00pm
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Homemade cakes, pots of tea, homemade lemonade, textile loft open, toilet, parking, dogs on leads please due to our nervous peacock and cat. Entry £6 Children free. Proceeds to Marie Curie, Hospice UK, Carers Trust, The Queens Nursing Institute and Parkinson's UK which are currently the charities benefiting from National Garden Scheme donations nationwide.

We are also open as above on **Sunday 18th May 2.00-5.00pm**, with proceeds going to Alton Cardiac Rehabilitation Centre. Do come for afternoon tea.

St Mary's Church Herriard with Winslade

ROGATION WALK

Sunday 11th May 10.00am

Rogation Sunday is when traditionally The Church walks round parishes and blesses the crops.

Everyone is very welcome to join us on our Rogation Walk, starting at the Church at 10.00am and walking across to Nashes Green, then down past Golden Dell to Lee Farm, up past Hale Farm, and then ending up at Brick Kiln Cottage for refreshments.

Well-behaved dogs very welcome too!

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!

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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.

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Cricket

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

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

Herriard Parish Council AGM

The Herriard Parish Council AGM will be held at Herriard Village Hub on **Monday 19th May** at 7.30 pm. **Gill Hill**

Herriard Hub AGM Wednesday 21st May at 7.00pm

To all Residents, we are delighted to invite you to the Herriard Village Hub's Annual General Meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, 21st May at 7.00pm at the Hub. This meeting is an excellent opportunity for you to

learn about the various organisations that currently support the Village Hub and our community.

We are eager to hear your thoughts and suggestions on how we can improve and shape the Hub for the future. Your feedback is invaluable, and we would love to know what activities you would like to see at the Hub and any other ideas you may have.

So, mark your calendars and come along with your thinking caps on! We look forward to seeing you on the 21st May at 7pm and sharing our news from the past year, as well as discussing plans for the future. Thank you for your continued support, and we hope to see you there.

Jennifer Falconer

Herriard and Tunworth Lunch Group

The regular Herriard/Tunworth fourth-Friday lunches restarted on April 25th (12.00-1.30 at the Herriard Hub). **The next date is May 23rd.**

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.

Birds in our Churchyard – 13th April 2025

Whilst in our Palm Sunday Service this morning a bird identification app heard the following birds:

Blue Tit • Rook • Wood-pigeon • Robin • Coal Tit • Carrion Crow • Barn Swallow (early this year!) • Wren • Chiffchaff • Chaffinch • Jay • Great Tit • Firecrest • Goldfinch • Song Thrush • Blackcap

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).

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



An Evening with the Odiham Military Wives' Choir – Saturday 22nd March

It was a joy to welcome the Military Wives' choir from Odiham to Herriard last month.

The concert was absolutely amazing. During the evening, we learnt about how it all began in Catterick, where a choir for military wives and girlfriends was set up in 2010 by Nicky Clarke and Caroline Jopp. Nicky had written to Gareth Malone about the benefits that a choir could bring to military wives during a deployment to Afghanistan. There are now 70 choirs, connecting with nearly 2000 women in the military community and creating a support network through the power of singing.

The Choir sung a fantastic mix of Military Wives Choirs songs like 'Home thoughts from abroad' and songs like 'Only You' and 'Empire state of mind' – and Choir members were so brave to tell us their incredibly moving stories.

We raised £800 to be split between St Mary's and the Military Wives' charity. Thank you to everyone who supported this event and to those who worked so hard to make the evening such a success – and of course our most especial thanks to the brilliant Choir!



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.

TUNWORTH NEWS

Coffee & Cake: Thursday May 1st

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 on April 25th (12.00-1.30 at the Herriard Hub). **The next date is May 23rd.**

Prayer Hour: Saturday May 3rd

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.

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 next date is **Wednesday 21st May**. If you would like to know more or to join, then please contact Gabrielle.

Rogation Walk: Sunday 25th May

Everybody and their dogs are invited to our Rogation Walk on Sunday 25th May. We'll meet at the church at 10.00am and finish with coffee.

Robert Hardman's talk on 3rd April

Many thanks to Amanda and Christopher Aldous for hosting a very successful fundraising evening for the church. Robert Hardman gave a fascinating talk about the beginning of King Charles III's reign, and everybody enjoyed the party at the Aldous' beautiful home.

Bridge Tea fundraising afternoon

We are also most grateful to Anna McNair-Scott for hosting a wonderful bridge tea fundraising afternoon.

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

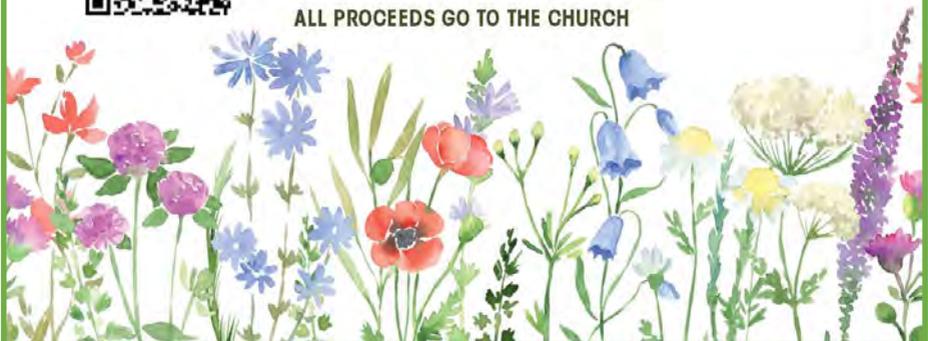
(FOR ADULTS & CHILDREN)

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

St. Lawrence's first service in May will be a **Pet Service** at 10.00am in the Churchyard on **Sunday 11th May**. All types of pets are welcome to come along and join in the fun.

We then have our regular Evensong service at 5.00pm on **Sunday 25th May** with our wonderful choir leading the singing.

We held a really successful and fun Quiz evening led by Quiz Master Lewis Scard and an impressive amount of money was made for the maintenance of our Church.

Our next event run by the Friends of St. Lawrence and the PCC will be on **Saturday 14th June** when the Village Barbecue will take place at The Old Rectory.

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 2nd May. 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, 28th May** 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



**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 for May

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 our Members to our May Meeting which will be held on **Thursday 22nd May** at 2.30pm in the North Warnborough Village Hall. Doors open at 2.10pm for the talk at 2.30pm.

This gives plenty of time to view our Plant Stall and to buy some seasonal plants.

Margaret Lennard will be giving her talk 'Forage for Pollinators' and hopefully giving us hints on encouraging pollinators to our gardens.

Visitors are always welcome to attend for the small entry of charge of £3.00. For further information please view our website at <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!



Due to the Bank Holiday on Monday 5th May, our branch meeting will take place on the second Monday, 12th May, at 7:30pm. We will meet at the RAF Chaplaincy Centre as usual.

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. If you would like to donate some books to support us, then please contact me for more details.

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

Longer days, warmer weather, more opportunities to do exciting things!

As we move into our summer term, despite having seventy activity groups already meeting during the week, our members have been organising even more to choose from. When places for a Neil Diamond tribute evening at Winchester Theatre were offered, they were seized upon with a speed that rivalled Glastonbury!

Our new activities for May include Ballroom Dancing and Chess!

Our **Ballroom Dancing group** will be waltzing their partners in weekly sessions across the floor of North Warnborough Village Hall. Guiding them through their steps will be a professional dance duo, Thomas and Hayley, who will keep members on their toes with a two-hour session of ballroom and Latin dancing.

With fewer sequins but still plenty of practised moves our **Chess group** is also taking to the boards! This new group is just beginning, as interested members come together to make arrangements for regular play dates.

Croquet makes a return for the summer season - always a favourite amongst members. The Odiham & Greywell Cricket Club are kindly hosting us again, providing three courts for us to use. Sessions here are fun and light-hearted but we can also provide for the more serious player too.

Summer also means our U3a **Annual Picnic**, organised to coincide with Odiham RAF Families Day which allows us to enjoy a free air display – weather permitting!

And, we also start planning for our fast approaching ... Open Day: Wednesday 13th August, Robert May's School

Our Open Day is a unique opportunity for members and non-members alike, to come and see what our u3a is all about, to see the wide range of activities we offer, and to meet socially over tea and cakes. Our groups will be there, with “stalls” which will both showcase their activities and above all provide an opportunity for visitors to talk and learn about what they actually do.

Why don't you make a note of the date so you can keep it free and come along? To find out more, please visit our website. <https://odiham.u3asite.uk/>





National Garden Scheme – Hampshire

Three gardens are 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](https://www.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

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust – The vanishing call of Britain’s lapwing

Spring in the British countryside once echoed with the distinctive, trilling call of the northern lapwing (*Vanellus Vanellus*), a striking black-and-white bird with a shimmering green back and a wispy crest. Also known as the peewit - after its haunting call - lapwings were once a common sight, but today their numbers are in serious decline.

Lapwings are an unmistakable part of the UK’s natural heritage. Their dramatic, tumbling flight displays in early spring are a spectacle, as males perform acrobatic dives to impress potential mates. But while they may be bold in the air, they are incredibly vulnerable on the ground.

As ground-nesting birds, lapwings lay their well-camouflaged eggs in simple scrapes in mud or sand, on short grassland and arable land. This makes them highly susceptible to disturbance from people, livestock, and, crucially, off-lead dogs. A single frightened bird taking flight may not seem particularly noticeable, but if lapwings are repeatedly disturbed, they abandon their nests - leaving eggs or chicks exposed to predators and the elements.

Habitat loss has already pushed lapwing numbers into steep decline. Since 1967, the UK population has decreased by 55 per cent, earning them Red List status as a species of conservation concern. Loss of mixed farming, spring coppicing and the intensification of grassland management have all contributed to their struggles.

Many nature reserves managed by Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust provide nesting areas for various species of ground nesting birds, including Testwood Lakes Nature Reserve, near Southampton, which is home to breeding lapwings.

As a nation of dog lovers, we all want to enjoy the great outdoors with our furry companions. But we must also remember that we share these spaces with wildlife that depends on them for survival.

One of the biggest challenges is how difficult these nests can be to spot, even for trained eyes, in open locations where you would expect to see them. Their natural camouflage makes them blend seamlessly into their surroundings, increasing the risk of accidental disturbance.

By keeping dogs close by and under control during the ground-nesting bird season, which lasts from now until late summer, we can help protect vulnerable birds and other species. Small changes in our behaviour can make a big difference, ensuring that future generations can continue to enjoy the sights and sounds of nature in our beautiful landscapes.

For more information on lapwings and how to help protect ground-nesting birds, visit hiwwt.org.uk/news/paws-thought-dog-owners-urged-play-their-part-protecting-wildlife

**Helen Skelton-Smith, Communications Officer – PR & Media
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust
Helen.Skelton-Smith@hiwwt.org.uk**

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 – MAY 2025

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

MAY DATES

1st May	Thur	Tea@3, Spindle Wood, Weston Road, Upton Grey	3.00pm
10th May	Sat	Garden Open Day, Brick Kiln Cottage, Herriard	11.30-3.00
11th May	Sun	Pet Service, St Lawrence, Weston Patrick	10.00am
11th May	Sun	VE Day 80th Anniversary, St Mary's, Upton Grey	10.00am
11th May	Sun	Rogation Walk, St Mary's, Herriard	10.00am
14th–17th May		Return to the Forbidden Planet, Alton Assembly Rooms	
16th May	Fri	<i>Maria</i> film, Cross Barn, Odiham	7.00pm
18th May	Sun	Garden Open Day, Brick Kiln Cottage, Herriard	2.00-5.00
19th May	Mon	Herriard Parish Council AGM, The Hub, Herriard	7.30pm
21st May	Wed	Herriard Hub AGM, The Hub, Herriard	7.00pm
23rd May	Fri	<i>A Complete Unknown</i> film, Cross Barn, Odiham	7.00pm
25th May	Sun	Rogation Walk, All Saints, Tunworth	10.00am
25th May	Sun	Rogation Walk, St Mary's, Upton Grey	10.00am

ADVANCE 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
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
13th Jul	Sun	Flower Festival, All Saints Tunworth	12.00-6.00
4th–7th Aug		UG Junior Tennis	9.00am–12.45pm
10th Aug	Sun	Comedy Theatre, Church Meadow, UG	4.30pm

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 June issue is 15th May 2025.

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

UPTON GREY VILLAGE SHOP AND CAFE

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shopuptongrey@btconnect.com

"Serving the Community"

"Supported by all who care for Village Life"



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