The Villager

June 2025 Volume 54 No 5

The community newsletter for Mapledurwell Up Nately, Nately Scures and Newnham

NEWNHAM 900 HISTORY TALKS

Join us for our summer series of history talks on Tuesday evenings at 7pm in Newnham Clubroom

PART OF NEWNHAM 900 CELEBRATIONS

TUESDAY 3RD JUNE – CIVIL WAR Alan Turton from Basing House TUESDAY 1ST JULY – THE TUDORS Presented by Terri Reid

Refreshments provided







THE RIVER LODDON IS 'RARER THAN A PANDA'?

A talk by Dr Joe Huddart, internationally renowned Aquatic Ecologist with a specialty in Chalk Stream restoration.



Thursday, 10 July, 7-9pm

Mapledurwell & Up Nately Village Hall Tickets £19

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-river-loddon-is-rarer-than-a-panda-tickets-1376354014909?aff=ebdsshios

Ward Clirs Onnalee Cubitt, Sheena Grassi, and Kate Tuck invite you to join them for drinks, sausages, and a fascinating talk on globally rare Chalk Streams.

This is a Fundraiser to support your local Ward Councillors with their future campaigns and leaflets



The draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Hampshire is now out for public consultation until 23 June.

www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyour-say/consultations/LNRS-2025

LOCAL CONSERVATIVES' OPEN SOCIAL EVENING Everyone welcome

at Mapledurwell Village Hall, Friday 20th June, 7pm

to hear a talk by Rhydian Vaughan on the Sinking of the Bismarck

Refreshments provided To help with catering rsvp 07790 493195 paulclbirkbeck@hotmail.com



All Saints' Church Tunworth Flower Festival

Sunday 13th July

Come and see our hidden little church bursting with flowers!

For tickets go to https://tunworthflowers.eventbrite.co.uk

Mapledurwell & Up Nately

NOTES FROM THE MAY PARISH ASSEMBLY

Introductions; apologies from PCSO Andy Jones; brief Parish Cllr updates.

Village Hall Committee report from chairman, Tim Lewis:

To thank the Parish Council as a group for ongoing support. The Village Hall is doing well for events and bookings – in addition to the regular daytime booking for Monkey House nursery. Refurbishment is ongoing – this year the kitchen, the toilets next year.

From the floor – Thank you to all the Village Hall Committee for all events and activities; they do very good job.

Updates and discussion with BDBC

Council Leader, Cllr Paul Harvey, Cllr Andy Konieczko, cabinet member for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure, and Ward Cllr Onnalee Cubitt, cabinet member for Major Projects.

Comments on progress / projects to date – Have a really strong team; now a majority of Independents supported by Lib Dems.

Talking to investors who want to come to Basingstoke. A really good signal for progress after only two years in administration. So many things have been put in play, different things beginning to gain momentum.

'Three unwanted hand-grenades before Christmas from Government...'

NPPF and Local Plan Update

Cllr Andy Konieczko gave a recap on the Local Plan position before publication of the December NPPF.

At that time we were planning for *c*700 new homes per year for the first five years of the Plan (average 828 per annum over the life of the Plan). And pushing Government for means to encourage developers to build out the c7K housing permissions outstanding. With the new NPPF, the borough's housing figure is close to 1,250 homes per annum for every 15 years of the Plan to 2040. With this figure imposed on us, we had to abandon our Draft Local Plan proposal consulted on at Reg 18 – and go back to the drawing board with a new call for sites.

A new Reg 18 Draft Plan is due to be published for consultation in Autumn. Unfortunately going to be very tough difficult choices; will be unable to avoid concreting over greenspace. Will increase density in Basingstoke town centre, this the most sustainable location. Basing View a logical choice for high rise, there is a demand for

this in the town centre; but there will also be impacts on rural communities.

We are unable to take control by selecting locations best suited. Have to choose from sites put forward.

A warning now that we are forced by Government; if we don't deliver their housing numbers, will lose our planning powers. This the worst of all worlds as we had something that worked; a credible Reg 18 Plan with positive consultation feedback from residents.

Water is hugely important – the impact of how much we take – and how we dispose of foul water – no getting away from this. Historically to present day have never managed to catch up with the water infrastructure deficit from housing growth.

New NPPF housing figure equates to over 21K by 2040; that total looking more like 23K with increased numbers for 'buffers'/penalties. An annual figure of c1,150 new homes is totally artifical, totally beyond our needs; an evidenced 'natural' growth figure is near the 700 p/a originally planned.

This just as all is changing in Local Government in the next few years.

Devolution 'Hampshire & the Solent Combined County Authority' will cover the areas of the two City unitaries (Portsmouth and Southampton), the Isle of Wight and the rest of Hants as covered by Hampshire Council Council.

The post of Mayor will be very important – will have strategic governance of all the combined area, including planning.

Local Government Reorganisation is different. Involves redesigning the structure of all Local Government abolishing the two-tier structure where this is in place - to form Unitary councils. Agree brings possibilities in marrying all services. BDBC is pushing for four mainland Unitaries; all the 15 councils have to agree. HCC is talking a different line that it wants to bring all current district/borough areas together under one roof - keeping Portsmouth and Southampton separate as they are now. So two city-based Unitaries and one for the rest of Hampshire.

At 1.5M population, this would be the largest Unitary council in the country, bigger than Birmingham. If it does end up as a wider Hants unitary, we will have little say, little democratic representation, the Hampshire power base will remain in the south.

UP NATELY COFFEE MORNING

Up Nately coffee and chat will take place on Friday 4th July, 10-12 at Beavers, call Jane for more information, 01256 763649

VILLAGE HALL DIARY DATE

Line Dancing on Saturday evening 6th September

6.30/7pm. There will be a bar and snacks, further details tbc.

NOTES FROM THE MAY PARISH COUNCIL AGM

Parish Council Chairman Hugo Cubitt re-elected for 2025/26.

The Parish Council continues with Councillors Hugo Cubitt, Suzie Horsey, Kevin Rafferty, Colin Robertson and Alison Stent.

Non-councillor roles include Tree Warden, Colin Robertson; Footpaths Warden, Martin Carfrae.

Thank to all the above for their work throughout the year.

Finance Accounts and audit forms for 2024/25 internal and external audit agreed and signed. Accounts available on Parish Council website.

A Northern Unitary is the only way to deal with this. Already have joint services, collaborative working, with Hart. Rushmoor on the edge of the county is bound to Hart, all its other borders are with Surrey. Farnborough and Aldershot have an economic base which works with that of Basingstoke. Will continue pushing for this solution, can create a reasonable business case, County will have to share all its data. The County Council says only they have the expertise to deal with education and health and social care. We have people with expertise in these areas.

The issue of dealing with social care will not be easy. There has to be concern over finances. BDBC is gold standard of local authorities because we have a strong financial base. Can see a future where some of this is diluted, cannot see a future where council tax is not going to rise

So this – and how to deal with NPPF housing figures – on top of day job.

'Important to let us have your opinions, let us shape the debate'

The Chairman thanked council leaders

The Chairman thanked council leaders for giving their time to engage.

PARISH PLANNING APPLICATIONS

24/02682/FUL (Validated 28 March) Hungry Lodge, Down Lane. Change of use of agricultural land to residential use and erection of a greenhouse (part retrospective).

25/00304/HSE (Validated 26 February) 6 St Stephens Close. Erection of part first floor, two storey side and rear extension and single storey rear extensions.

24/02283/ROC (Grant 10 April, ref DC 09 April) Nunnery House, Tunworth Road. Variation of con 13 of 21/00427/FUL (Erection of four-bed dwelling etc) to change from septic tank or cess pit to water treatment plant.

24/02002/FUL (Grant 10 April, ref DC 09 April) Nunnery House, Tunworth Road. Demolish barn and one new dwelling.

24/01354/FUL (Grant 16 May, ref DC 14 May) The Gamekeepers. Laying of hardstanding etc; provision of 4 No. low-level, bat-friendly downlighters within the landscaped margin. (Reduced scheme to 21/01777/RET.)

24/00756/FUL (Pending 16 April) Land North of Parrotts, Greywell Road. Four detached new dwellings, garages, access, parking, amenity space etc.

22/02210/RET (Pending 05 Aug 2022) Priory Farmhouse. Variation of Con 2 of 15/04301/FUL for continued use Class E children's nursery to 2032.

PLANNING APPEALS

APP/H1705/W/25/**3362558** APPEAL IN PROGRESS Land Adjacent To Twine Rose Cottage, Heather Lane. Demolition of existing outbuilding and erection of residential dwelling with garage. (Refused BDBC 25 Feb 2025.)

APP/H1705/W/24/**3347575** APPEAL IN PROGRESS Brockwell Paddock and Stable, Andwell Lane. Erection of three dwellings and landscaping. (Refused BDBC 18 Jan 2024.)

PARISH TREE APPLICATIONS

T/00239/25/TCA (Validated 12 May) Addison Cottage, Tunworth Road. To Leylandii trees: fell.

T/00238/25/TCA (Validated 12 May) The Old Orchard, Tunworth Road. T1 to T5 and T7 Leylandii: reduce to approx 12m with a crown spread of 4m and crown lift over road to 6m. T6 Lawson cypress: reduce to approx 12m with a crown spread of 2.5m crown lift over road to 6m.

T/00166/25/TCA (Approve 06 May) Manor Farm Barn, Tunworth Road. T1 Ash: fell. T2 Fruit tree: fell.

T/00156/25/TCA (Pending 31 March)
Hill Cottage, Greywell Road, Up Nately. T1
Oak Reduce in height by 5-6m to suitable
growth points and shape to balance to
leave a finished height of 16m with a
crown spread of 12m.

T/00153/25/TCA (Approve 29 April)
Mapledurwell Bungalow, Tunworth Road.
T1 Leaning Acacia tree: thin crown by 30% and reduce height by 2m leaving a finished height of 7m.

RIGHTS OF OUR RIVERS (CHALK STREAMS)

Extracts from Motion to Full Council of 15 May from Ward Cllr Kate Tuck

'Our globally rare and ecologically fragile chalk streams are exceptionally vulnerable to over-abstraction and habitat degradation, given numerous pressures from unabated pollution and accelerating urbanisation.

'There is broad consensus among nature NGOs including The Wildlife Trusts and the World Wildlife Fund that the rarity and ecological significance of these streams should earn them a special protected status. 'With only 14% of UK rivers in good ecological health and 0% in good chemical health, it is clear that our environmental laws and regulations need urgent revision.

'Consultation with residents of the Borough has revealed significant concern about the increasing pressures of over-abstraction, wastewater pollution and road-runoff which degrade local rivers.

'While degradation of these waterways continues, there is hope in an emerging global movement of governments recognising Rights of Nature, in particular Rights of Rivers.

'The Universal Declaration of River Rights establishes that all rivers shall possess, at minimum, the following fundamental rights:

- 1 The right to flow,
- 2 The right to perform essential functions within the river's ecosystem
- 3 The right to be free from pollution
- 4 The right to feed and be fed by

sustainable aquifers

5 The right to native biodiversity 6 The right to regeneration and restoration.'

Cllr David Conquest from Kingsclere seconded the motion... 'Over abstraction from increased development and excessive water use is reducing water levels, pollution is killing our rivers, endangered habitats are being lost... It might seem idealistic to give a river rights or to call it alive. But to consider the alternative... it's all too easy to picture a dead river, no fish, birds or other wildlife... no plants to filter or clean it... if we can call a river dead then we can call it alive too, and if it's alive then surely it has rights.'

The motion detailed recommendations to Cabinet and was supported unanimously bar one abstention. See https://democracy.basingstoke.gov.uk or view Council meeting on YouTube



Andwell-based – All gardening work plus small engine (mower, strimmer etc) maintenance and repair; mole trapping

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION (LGR) UNITARY COUNCIL PROPOSALS

Hampshire councils submitted a joint 'Interim Submission' to Government for its 21 March deadline for initial proposals on Unitary organisation.

Governments's response to this Interim Submission, dated 07 May, is now posted on the Hampshire County Council website

www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/governmentinhampshire/future-hampshire-solent/local-government-reorganisation

The request for a time extension to November is refused, and...

'For the final proposals, each council can submit a single proposal for which there must be a clear single option and geography and, as set out in the guidance, we expect this to be for the area as a whole...'

BDBC continues to be clear on its prefered option for four mainland unitaries, with a 'Northern Hampshire' Unitary comprising BDBC, Hart District Council and Rushmoor Borough Council.

Timescales

- 26th September 2025 for full proposals on Unitary organisation across the whole area of 'Hampshire & the Solent Combined County Authority'.
- May 2027 Shadow elections for new Unitary Councils.
- May 2028 New Unitary Councils take over.

Newnham & Nately Scures NEWHAM 900



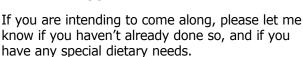
ST NICHOLAS' NEWNHAM **900TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE**

Please join us at St Nicholas' church Sunday 15th June at 3pm

for a service of Thanksgiving to celebrate the life and ministry of the church 1125-2025

led by The Right Reverend Bishop Philip Mounstephen Bishop of Winchester,

> followed by afternoon tea **ALL WELCOME**



RevDebz 07399 129 210 debbie@moretolife.church

St Nicholas Church Newnham

HISTORY TALKS

Please join us for our summer series of talks held in Newnham Clubroom, refreshments available.

7pm Tuesday 3rd June, Alan Turton on THE IMPACT OF THE ENGLISH CIVIL WAR ON NEWNHAM AND THE SURROUNDING AREA



The Sieges of Basing House (1643-45) were among the most significant military actions of the English Civil War. The events affected the whole of North Hampshire with villages being taxed by both sides, raided for provisions and horses, billeting soldiers and, in Newnham's case, becoming a parliamentarian outpost to keep watch on royalist Basing House.

Alan Turton is a military historian who specialises in the English Civil War and was curator at the civil war site of Basing House for 24 years.



CLUBROOM HIRE Wifi available https://newnhamclubroom.org.uk/ To book tel 07802 972722 or email bookings@newnhamclubroom.org.uk

MESSAGE FROM THE CLUBROOM COMMITTEE - PLEASE NOTE

'To remind everyone that the Newnham Clubroom and grounds is private land.

'When we let the Clubroom for an event, the hirers rent the hall, car parking, outside space etc. The public have no access.

'On several occasions dog fouling has occurred (and not picked up) particularly around the back, the grassed garden area. This area is used by for children's parties and other events, so it is not acceptable behaviour by those dog owners.

'No one has the right to walk their dog on the property.

'The Clubroom has CCTV cameras surrounding the entire property and these will be used to evidence any trespass that takes place.'

Chris Alliston, Clubroom Committee Chairman and Secretary



ST SWITHUN'S **NATELY SCURES**

Please join us for Patronal Evensong followed by Pimm's and Summer Snacks

Sunday 6 July 5pm

Everyone welcome

more*



Diary date - Rowan Lodge Classic Car Event Sunday 27 July 2-4pm Held at Rowan Lodge and open to the local community with cream tea refreshments.

NOTES FROM THE MAY PARISH COUNCIL AGM

Parish Council Chairman Paul Gaskell re-elected for 2025/26.

The Parish Council continues with Cllrs Paul Gaskell, Paul Ghent, Pauline Hedges, Sue Symons, Nick Walker.

Thank to all the above for their work during the year.

Newnham has six member places allocated by BDBC, so one Parish Councillor vacancy - see below.

Finance Accounts and audit forms for 2024/25 internal and external audit agreed and signed. Accounts available on Parish Council website.



Newnham Parish Council has one Councillor vacancy. Please send expressions of interest to clerk.newnham@gmail.com

NEWNHAM **COMMUNITY'S**



May draw results are

£100 - Nic and Andy Lowe (28)

£50 - Linda and Robin Dixon (52)

£25 – Richard and Fiona Fouracre (78)

PARISH PLANNING APPLICATIONS

25/00758/GPDMA (Withdrawn 21 May) 1 Crown Lane. Application for prior approval of change of use from building used as bed & breakfast accommodation to Class C3 dwellinghouse.

25/00554/ADV (Pending 19 March) B/stoke Country Hotel. Regularisation of display of 12 no. signs. Comprising two internally illuminated totem signs; eight internally illuminated post signs and two non-illuminated post signs.

25/00548/FUL (Pending d 07 March) Land adjacent to Blackstocks Lane) Erection of 1 no. dwelling, creation of new access and associated landscaping.

25/00486/HSE (Pending 03 March) Tally-Ho, Newnham Road. Demolition in part of rear flat roof aspect, erection of single storey extension with new crown roof to both, exterior sauna, window replacement, pond, landscaping and exterior hot compost system.

24/02978/ROC (Pending 20 December) Land at Blackstocks Lane. Variation of Condition 1 and discharge of Con 4 of 22/02643/FUL (one dwelling with landscape and parking); addition of rooflights dormer window, additional rooms in roof, changes to elevations and site layout (part retrospective).

24/02797/FUL and **24/02798/LBC** (Pending 29 Nov) Newnham House, Ridge Lane. To form a separate dwelling with extention to the Coach House plus amenity space, car parking etc.

24/00882/LBC (Pending 16 April 2024) Nightingale Cottage, Heather Row. Demolish south entrance porch, changes to fenestration; new porch with access ramp in revised position. Alterations to conservatory, replace glass roof with tiled. Internal / external alterations.

23/02722/FUL (Pending 02 Nov 2023) Land East Of Keepers, London Road. Three new detached dwellings with new access, parking, drainage, landscaping.

PLANNING APPEAL

APP/H1705/W/25/3366255 BDBC (Start date 23 May, Interested party comments due 27 June) Collingwood, Newnham Road. Erection a 1.8m high closeboard fence on the repositioned west boundary and change of use of land to residential.

PARISH TREE APPLICATIONS

T/00212/25/TPO (Pending 25 April) Nately Scures House. Fell: G1.2 Maples, 1 Douglas fir,1 Scots Pine,3 small holly, 1 small sycamore,1 small yew.

T/00190/25/TCA (Approve 05 May) Fir Tree Cottage, Newnham Road. T1 Ash – dismantle to ground level and replant. T2 Conifer – dismantle to ground level.

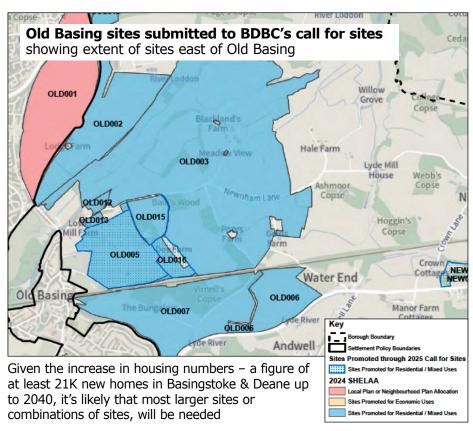
T/00474/24/TCA (Pending 24 September) Newnham Lodge Tylney Lane. Acacia: fell and remove stump.

BOROUGH COUNCIL CALL FOR SITES

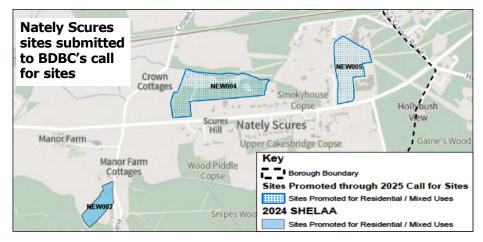
Following Government's December NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework) and the imposed increase in housing numbers, BDBC issued a new 'call for sites'. A full list of submitted sites is now published on the BDBC website – including those previously published and new sites added.

www.basingstoke.gov.uk/cfs-2025-publication

All sites will be evaluated by officers and considered by Cabinet as to whether they will be included in the new Regulation 18 public consultation in Autumn.



OLD001 OLD002	Land E of B/stoke (LP Allocation) Lodge Farm	68.02 Residential SHELAA 2024 52.69 Residential (including mixed uses)
OLD003 OLD005	Poors Farm Land South of Newnham Lane	Re-promotion 253.43 Residential SHELAA 2024 35.24 Residential (including mixed uses)
OLD006 OLD007 OLD012 OLD013 OLD015 OLD016	Land North of London Road Land at Hodds Farm Paddock Land at Lower Mill Land at Newnham Lane Wildwood Farm Doe Farm	Re-promotion 25.18 Residential SHELAA 2024 69.81 Residential SHELAA 2024 2.22 Residential SHELAA 2024 1.70 Residential Re-promotion 11.42 Residential SHELAA 2024 8.07 Residential (including mixed uses)



NEW002 The Old Rectory 1.43 Residential Re-promotion NEW004 Land to the east of Crown Lane 5.56 Residential New promotion NEW005 Land Adjoining B/stoke Country Hotel 3.36 Residential New promotion

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Church Notices

'Journeying together, we worship God and serve the community' www.united-parish.org.uk https://www.moretolife.church

From the Parish Registers

Funeral: Beryl Nye at Basingstoke Crematorium on April 23rd

Funeral: William Edward 'Ted' Wilson at St Mary's Greywell on April 29th



FROM THE BENEFICE MINISTRY TEAM

In Church, in the season of Easter, we are looking at

the resurrection appearances of Jesus. For Christians now, and over the last 2,000 years, these 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 a pyramidic number and the sum of the first five factorial numbers. In Biblical times 153 was apparently believed 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 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

If we so consider this resurrection encounter on the shore... 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 that the Gospel was for the whole world. The disciples took heed. Peter spent the next 30 years as the first Bishop of Rome.

record Jesus as saying that they

and lead them to faith.

would be 'fishers of men'... they would point men and women towards Jesus,

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, All Saints' Tunworth

CHURCH SERVICES JUNE INTO JULY

Sunday 01 June 9am St Mary's Mapledurwell, CW Holy Communion 11am St Mary's Greywell, Morning Worship 5pm St Swithun's Nately Scures, Evensong. Sunday 08 June 9am St Stephen's Up Nately, BCP Holy Communion (said) 10am St Nicholas' Newnham, 1662 Morning Prayer Sunday 15 June 9am St Mary's Greywell, CW Holy Communion 11am St Mary's Mapledurwell, Informal Service 3pm St Nicholas' Newnham 900th Anniversary Service (with Bishop Philip) 10am St Nicholas' Newnham, BCP Holy Communion (said) Sunday 22 June 11am St Stephen's Up Nately, Morning Worship Sunday 29 June 9am St Mary's Mapledurwell, Benefice CW Holy Communion 11am All Saints' Odiham, Benefice Informal Service Sunday 06 July 9am St Mary's Mapledurwell, CW Holy Communion 11am St Mary's Greywell, Morning Worship 5pm St Swithun's Nately Scures, Patronal Evensong

COME AND WORSHIP TOGETHER! Sunday 29th June

Please join us as we gather from across our 12 benefice churches, for special 'all together' worship services, on Sunday 29 June.

This is a '5th Sunday' when we normally have just two services in the benefice – a traditional service and an informal service – and worship all together.

A further reason to gather this 5th Sunday, is that Revd Luke Augustyn will have been ordained priest in Winchester Cathedral the day before. We will be celebrating his ordination and he will be presiding at communion for the first time.



Helen Chatfield Youth Outreach Worker More to Life network of Churches North Hampshire Downs Benefice

KIDZONE

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 Hadia (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.

MORNING SERVICES ON SUNDAY 29TH JUNE

This 5th Sunday our two morning services will be:

9am, St Mary's Mapledurwell, a traditional service with Common Worship Holy Communion.

11am, All Saints' Odiham, an informal service, including children's church.

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

Revd Chris Dudgeon Rector, North Hampshire Downs Benefice **PICKUPS FOR PEACE** 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



They had a big Hope that the small thing they could do, could make a massive difference. The young people named their vehicle 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 C



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 the 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! They heard from Alan Frener about the BloodhoundLSR attempting to break the land speed record. In its tests it generated over 135 000 horsepower.



In complete contrast, 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. Hours were then spent recording the advice as a video so that others could access the information!

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



CROSS BARN, ODIHAM CINEMA

June 20 FILM: Juror #2 A fascinating legal thriller about truth, justice (for better, for worse) the American way, directed by Clint Eastwood.

June 27 FILM: Bridget Jones: Mad About The Boy Bridget is four years' widowed. She's now a single mother to 10-year-old Billy and six-year-old Mabel. A bittersweet romp about new beginnings with Renée Zellweger.

Doors open at 19.00, Films at 19.45 Coffee/tea, wine, ice cream available. Tickets £7.50 www.thecrossbarn.org.uk



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THE JUBILEE CHOIR presents

'SONGS FROM THE SHOWS'

Sunday 22nd June, 7.30pm, All Saints' Odiham

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

Tickets £15 (free for 18s and under) include a glass of fizz.

Buy 3 tickets, get an extra half price. Available from Lynn Lymer on 07837 571708, or Katharine Jane in the High St, Odiham, or www.jubileechoir.co.uk

BASINGSTOKE CHORAL SOCIETY presents

A SUMMER EVENING OF MOZART

Saturday 5th July, 7pm All Saints' Odiham

Conductor: Ben Cooper Accompanied by professional soloists and organ.

Programme: Mozart Requiem, Mozart Solemn Vespers

To book: www.basingstokechoral.org.uk/events-all

Strawberries and glass of wine or soft drink available from 6pm, included in ticket price.



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PAINT & POT

Paint a plant pot
Fill with soil and seeds to take home
Play friendship bingo and meet new
people!

22 JUNE 2025 2:00 - 3:30 PM Elizabeth Hall, Hook, RG27 9HH

ONLY 24 SPOTS AVAILABLE!

This event is <u>FREE</u> as we're testing the concept.

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