

The Ampfield Messenger



*The Parish Magazine of
St. Mark Ampfield*

November 2020

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Editors Letter

This month's Messenger has been delayed due to the second lockdown which came as we were about to roll the printing press. We have tried to bring you up to date information although we have come to realise that there is no such thing these days. We have strived for accuracy but much is still up in the air at the moment, so forgive us if some information is wrong or changes.

We hope to produce a bumper edition for Christmas so please submit any articles, reviews, or information you think might be of interest to others. If you know of any babies that have been delivered over this last year then please let us know with a 'photo so we can celebrate new life in the parish.

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Letter from Vicar Victoria

I love Autumn it has to be my favourite time of the year. The reds, golds and orange of the trees, the frosty bright mornings, the sunny days, they just make my heart sing.....and only my heart as obviously I can't sing out loud!

When your heart is singing it is the best time to count your blessings. I have a roof over my head, a warm cosy house, enough food to eat. My family are all well, I have a purring cat on my lap. These and God who created them all, are the things that will sustain me through the next month.

We can do it, the most important thing is that we all come out of this alive, for this reason I will not be fighting the government as some clergy and Bishops are, to keep the churches open, you are all too precious to risk it. It is sad but St Mark will remain closed, but for private prayer for the time being. But do enjoy the beautiful woodlands that surround it – God resides there too!

I wish you a quiet, peaceful, restful month and we'll leave the worry in God's hands. See you online and sometime soon for real.

God bless

Victoria



The Parish Church of St Mark, Ampfield

Our vision: To be channels of God's love in the world

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Contributions to this magazine are always welcome, however it may be necessary to edit or shorten articles. Note that the views and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the editor or the Parochial Church Council. Advertisements in this publication do not carry the endorsement of the editor or the Parochial Church Council.

Online and In-Person Worship

Remembrance

As I mentioned last month, All Souls and Remembrance day will be different this year. To mark both, there will be a churchyard trail for prayer and reflection open at St John the Baptist from Halloween (All Hallows Eve) to the 12th November, the day after Remembrance Day. There will be four special places to reflect and pray in the churchyard during this season of Remembrance. At each station, there's a way to reflect or pray with words and a way to do the same with your senses. We invite you to take a pine cone and a poppy with you on the trail. The cones are packed full of seeds: hope for new life, a powerful sign at this dark time. The poppy reminds us of remembrance, and life lost in war and emergency. Each one was knitted as part of the poppy cascade on this church tower that marked the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI in 2018.



Fir cones and poppies provided for the prayer trail



Please note there will be no 'Communion to go' on Sunday 1st and Sunday 8th November.

Advent

Advent is fast approaching and again it will be rather different for all of us this year. Reflecting these uncertain times, we look forward to our Advent Sunday service on 29th November, which will be a reflective service of readings, music and prayer on the Advent themes of anticipation, light and hope. The service will be available online at 9:30am. There will be further reflections available on the benefice website throughout Advent.

Compline or Night Prayer

Compline or Night Prayer is a service of quietness and reflection before rest at the end of the day. It ends the daily cycle of prayer and invites God's protection for the night. Join Ian online on a Tuesday evening for a compline service with visual meditations; space to think and pray. Available on the benefice website from 5:15pm every Tuesday. **Abbie West**

Dogs of Ampfield

Gracie is a rescued Wire Haired Fox Terrier and was born with one eye. She moved to Ampfield in 2019 from Fort Lauderdale, Florida in the States. Her favourite past-time in Florida was searching for lizards on trees. She loves walking in the Ampfield Woods and seeing the deer and rabbits, but she still occasionally looks for lizards!

□



Heather & Lee

Send us a photo and a few words about your dog.

Following the cancellation of the fete this year, next month The Messenger will hold a **Virtual Dog Show!**

All dogs featured in previous issues will be included

An autumnal robust soup or '*Bung It All In Soup*'

One wet, dull day with no desire to leave the house and a hankering for a lunchtime bowl of soup I looked in the 'fridge only to find very sad bits of old floppy and heavily wrinkled veg which comprised a couple or three onions, half a cauliflower (head, stems and leaves), a disgustingly crinkled and nearly solid half cucumber, spinach, leek trimmings, wilted tenderstem broccoli, half a celeriac very brown, flaccid manky celery, carrots and potatoes on the threshold of being binned.

All this was cut up roughly and gently sautéed in olive oil and a little butter for 15 mins or so before adding a handful of garlic cloves, 2 or 3 dried chillies and a good chunk of chopped ginger sizzled for a bit longer. A cup of pearl barley and brown lentils were dropped in with bits of broken pasta from the spaghetti jar then the usual saltings and ground black pepper to taste.

After sautéing in went a litre or two of veg stock and brought to rolling simmer for 30 / 40 minutes then left to cool before liquidising

and serving it with a good sprinkle of parsley with buttered soda bread on the side, which was made the day before.

It was certainly one of the best tasting soups I've made (confirmed by others) which brought back happy memories of our Lent lunches.

It clearly demonstrated that perfect ingredients or measurements are sometimes not needed. Not only did it clear out a stuffed up 'fridge but it prompted a rare self righteous glow that I hadn't wasted what would otherwise have been chucked out. There was enough left over to freeze for a future lunch or two. A fine result all round!

Robert



A DIFFERENT TYPE OF LOCKDOWN

The word “lockdown” must have been mentioned several million times a day since March. We will all have our own varying memories of the experience. One positive one was that we were at home, feeling relatively safe. Within the constraints of “the rules”, we had some control of our lives, even if our normal “freedoms” had been curtailed.

Whilst researching Portchester recently, I began to wonder what life was like for those French prisoners, all officers, once they had been released on parole into eleven of Hampshire’s towns and villages during the Napoleonic wars. They were subject to lockdown of a very different nature. They would have encountered suspicion and a different language. Their religion would have been Roman Catholic rather than Church of England. They could not venture more than a mile from the town/village centre, and had to observe a curfew after dark. The local residents with whom they were billeted were made aware of the stipulations and were required to ensure that they were upheld. Relative proximity to France would always have made escape attempts an attractive proposition. And a few were successful. Financial worries were also prevalent.



Cont...The prisoners received an allowance of 1s. 6d per day for food, clothing and lodging. That sum was never enough. In order to increase their income, they made model ships, and dominoes, for sale in local markets.

They must have often felt as if they were living in an alien world. Thankfully, civility sometimes prevailed. Some were eventually joined by wives and families; others were repatriated in exchange for English prisoners held in France.

In Alresford, it appears that there were good relationships between inhabitants and their “guests”. This may have stemmed from prisoners from a previous era helping local residents extinguish a large scale fire. In the town’s churchyard, sandwiched between the Watercress Line and the splendid Broad Street, there are five large, legible, gravestones for four soldiers and one sailor who died there. Towards the end of the war, when a French invasion was feared, many prisoners were removed to Scotland so that they could not join any incursion. However, at the end of the war, all were able to return to France.

Alan



*Hairdressing is
harder than I thought*

By Sue Goldsmith

I had my hair done just before
Enforced incarceration.
How it will be in 12 weeks time
Gives no cause for elation.

Perhaps I'll trawl the internet
Superdrug or Boots
To find a shade to hide the grey
Appearing at the roots.

It could be quite a challenge
To tart it up this way.
I may have to resign myself
And let it all go grey....

Dyeing

I think the hair dye turned out
well
As far as I can see,
And as the back is out of sight
It doesn't bother me!

They call the colour Hazelnut –
It has a hint of red.
You comb it in and rub it through,
Wrap tinfoil round your head.

Ninety minutes later
The grey has gone away.
I try not to remember
'Twill be back another day.....

Fringe benefits

Now there's the matter of the
fringe -
I can't see out the front.
It calls for DIY skills
And could be quite a stunt!

I'm going to find some
scissors –
I'm sure it will be fine.
I'll Sellotape it to my head
And cut along the line!

Oh dear...

I think like Burns's mice and men
My plans have gone a-gley,
Because with all that snipping
My fringe has gone away.

Now I have a crew cut.
It isn't very smart.
I know that it will soon grow out,
But I have quite lost heart.

I'll try to smooth it down with gel
To get it to lie flat,
But think that the solution
Will be to wear a hat....



Cont...

Cont...

July

Today was my appointment
And the salon is still shut.
I've done my best with colour
But it really needs a cut.

I've brushed the whole lot
forward
The fringe is shorter, but
I'm rather like a Beatle
With a pudding basin cut.

I thought today I'd risk a look,
I'd scrutinise the back.
It's trailing on my collar,
Maybe it needs a hack?

I sat before the mirror
And gave it lots of thought –
If I were double jointed
I'd use scissors as one ought.

Then came the light bulb
moment,
A really smart brainwave,
With my head hanging upside
down
I'd give my neck a shave!!

So here I am, my neck is nude,
I'm feeling quite a draught
The bob I think I have achieved
Will make the stylist laugh...

It's good that I don't really care
About my glorious mane.
I'll just look forward to the day
I visit the salon again!!

Hair we go again ...

I've visited the hairdresser
My neck is now on show,
The ginger bob adjusted –
The henna had to go.

I had to wear my floral mask,
And I could not sit down
Until the chair was sanitised
And I'd a plastic gown.

So sheathed in plastic I sat there,
The stylist plastic shielded,
But we still managed to catch up
While cutting tools were wielded.

The colour's worked out very well,
The stripes are blonde and pink.
Everything was fine except
There was no tea to drink...

Now, even if there is a spike
And we're locked in once more,
I'm confident I'll muddle through
just like I have before!

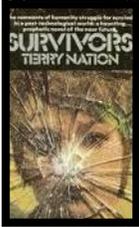


Sue Goldsmith's poem was selected to be performed as a video by the Maskers Theatre Company as part of their 'Between the Lines' project. You can see it on their website: <http://maskers.org.uk/>.

Congratulations Sue!

Book and DVD Review

Survivors Terry Nation



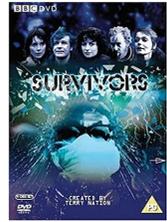
Earlier this month I was forced into self-isolation for ten days. I was staying near our son and had no TV, only a DVD and few books. I decided to read again an old favourite - Survivors by Terry Nation.

Written in the early 70's, it is the story of a pandemic which left few survivors. 95 per cent of the world's population died. Perhaps not the best thing to read during Covid! It was made into a popular television series, which I also binge-watched.

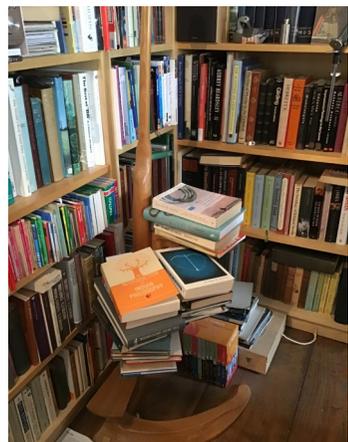
The story focuses on two women, Abby and Jennie, and Greg an ex-engineer. Abby becomes the leader of the group and after a while they create a small commune and embark on a life without any of the amenities we take for granted. When the virus struck, Abby's husband died and her son Peter was away at boarding school. Her search for Peter is a strong

theme throughout the book.

The T.V. series (still available on D.V.D) introduces Charles, an architect who would like to create a self-sufficient community and forge links with similar groups. Many difficult issues are tackled – law and order, euthanasia, leadership and re-establishing the population are some of them. Packs of dogs and lack of medical expertise provide challenges. Some people wanted a new world, others replayed past mistakes and wanted to recreate the industrial revolution. The T.V. series has a different ending from the book but for me, both were compelling.



Chris



In response to Covid-19

AMPFIELD

NEIGHBOURS

working with

unity

The Test Valley Borough Council Volunteer Support Group

A group of Ampfield residents have come together to help as volunteers working with Unity during the Covid-19 pandemic. Unity is the Test Valley Borough Council Volunteer Support Group.

If you live in Ampfield and need help with collecting prescriptions or shopping
contact

**Unity on the Test Valley Community Helpline -
0330 400 4116**

or

UnityC-19@unityonline.org.uk

Who's who in Ampfield School 1939?

I was shoehorned into Ampfield school in 1939 having been rejected by the kindergarten at La Sagesse Convent in Romsey. This was quite an achievement at four and a half and I have always had an immense sense of pride in managing to attain such notoriety.

I have come across the Year Picture for 1939 and can remember quite a few of the Faces and some of their subsequent lives and careers. I wonder if there are folk in the area who can add any further details?



LEFT TO RIGHT

Row 1: ??????; Eileen Kynaston?; Betty Gould?; Ada Wellstead; Ishbelle Campbell.

Row 2: Den Wellstead; Inness Campbell; Eric Day; Ken Kebby; ??????; Roy Witcher; Derek Collis; Alec Yates; Stan Morgan; Brian Gould.

Row 3: Norman Kimber; Unknown; Joy Kimber; ??????; Peggy Yates; Denis Kynaston.

Row 4: ??????; Brian Hemstrich; Guess who! David Marks.

Steve White

Potters Heron getting festive!



The Potters Heron is looking forward to opening into a festive December, full of new ideas and seasonal cheer!

We have had a great autumn with lots of coffee and cakes, pub dining lunchtime and evenings, some small but special weddings, a whole new world of staycationers who have discovered what a great place Ampfield is, and most important of all lots of happy smiling faces that really make our days. Thanks Ampfield!

We will reopen following our government-enforced break with our decorations up and our festive menus in place. There may be restrictions on party size but there will be no restriction on having a lovely time and as well as festive dining we have a first for us... festive afternoon teas. In fact they will be available all day with the option of adding a glass or two of the local Hambleton fizz for those who like a bit of the sparkling stuff. As a warm-up we had a great day cooking-off some of the dishes as you can see from these pictures!

Christmas Day is selling really well and this year will be on both The Garden Room and The Potters Pub & Restaurant and we are expecting lots of family bookings for Boxing Day as always. New Year's Eve will take on more of a dining than dancing approach and will be a great way to see in 2021. If you would like to read more and to book then please visit our website

www.potters-heron.co.uk

Ted



Friends of Chapel Wood

Similar to the previous few meetings, the arrangements for the working party in October had all the hallmarks of a covert operation. The need to social distance was paramount. Planning commenced a couple of weeks beforehand. It was necessary to establish who was going to be involved, the tasks that needed to be undertaken, who was going to do what, whilst ensuring in the process that the activities would occur in geographically separate areas in the woodland.



It was decided that for this particular working party there were four important tasks. The Friends who were available were asked to 'volunteer' for their favourite task. They were also asked to bring along their own tools because, during the pandemic, the communal tool chest was strictly out of bounds.

It was a perfect October morning, some sunshine, slightly chilly but no wind. The trees were just starting to change into their autumnal colours of yellows and orange. (Technical note: this happens because the colder weather patterns of autumn will break down the green pigment in the leaves, known as chlorophyll, exposing the more fiery underlying pigments beneath.) One by one, the friends arrived, each carrying their weapons of choice, after an exchange of greetings, each disappeared to their own designated area.

... Cont

One group went towards the pond area, intent on continuing the tasks of clearing out the summer's growth of brambles, ivy and other assorted unwanted plants. A second team resumed the never-ending task of keeping the rhododendron from enveloping the wood totally. This time we were concentrating on the slope between the west wall of St. Marks and the pond. A third group undertook the regular scout around to clear any litter that had found its way into the woodland over the past few weeks. Once this had been done, this group went on to try to consider the evidence that the moles in the glade area were seemingly totally oblivious to the principle of social distancing. The final team continued the task of tidying up the bonfire area, which, over the summer, had been taken over by bracken.

For the nine Friends who joined in the work party this month there was certainly a very full programme. Some stuff had to be left over for another time, but an awful lot was cleared before the whistle went for tea and bickies. Finally, it was time to call it a day and return to the real

world. But for a couple of hours we had enjoyed some magical moments, where all we had to think about was brambles, thorns, bracken, rhododendron, litter, moles, aching limbs.....

Roll on next month!

Graham



Report of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday 25 October in St. Mark's Church (18 attended)

Victoria opened the meetings with prayers. She explained that the APCM was well overdue because of Covid. We needed to elect a new Churchwarden, and were very happy to welcome Mark Braund to the post. As some of you will know, Mark has been a very active member of The Friends of St. Mark's. Happily, Daryl is remaining as our other Churchwarden. The Annual Report was accepted and includes details of all that occurred at St. Mark's in 2019.

The Messenger

Rob and Chris Kerr would like to know your views/ideas/ thoughts on The Messenger, which is only available on-line at present. If you have any views on the content, whether it should stay on-line and/or have copies printed and also if you have any ideas on how we could raise money to fill the void in subscriptions, they will be pleased to hear from you.

A meeting to discuss how we move forward with The Messenger is to be held shortly.

Treasurer's Report

Pam spoke about how expensive 2019 had been with lots of work being carried out. She expressed her thanks to the congregation and the "Friends", who this year have ensured that their donations to St. Marks have been paid, either on-line or by cheque. Pam is, therefore, keeping more or less up-to-date with paying the Quota and our bills. She was thanked for all her hard work.

Covid 19-Emergency Heritage At Risk Response Fund

Mark Braund announced that he had received an email inviting St. Marks to submit a full application for funds to repair the stained glass in the West Window. He had previously submitted an Expression of Interest, and this is the next step. The deadline for full applications is Friday 27 November 2020.

The Fund requires much information, and Mark will be in touch with various people for their help.

Cont.

Thanks were expressed to Mark for his continuing hard work on this project. We wait to hear if we have been successful.

Thanks

were expressed to Anne Taylor who has worked so hard over the years, organising the flower arrangers throughout the year, including all the major occasions e.g. Christmas, Easter and Harvest. Anne has always cleared away all the large arrangements too, a big job! It was agreed to send a thank you card and token to Anne.

Also, we wish to thank Elizabeth Pickard who for many years has been on the cleaning rota, and has also been busy growing plants and managing the garden stall at the annual Fete for over twenty years. It was also agreed to send a thank you card and token to Elizabeth.

New Kitchen

It is hoped that this may be fitted towards the end of the year. The money for this project has already been raised.

Jennie Edwards
(PCC Secretary)

Next month we will feature 'Covid Babies' - please send us photos of any babies born this year - including grandchildren, friends and family.



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Deanery Report

The quarterly deanery meeting was held through zoom. Each parish gave a report and were asked to state one negative and one positive on how the pandemic is affecting them. Sally and Jo gave the report for our benefice.

It was uplifting to hear more positives given of churches lockdown experiences than negatives. Nearly all regretted in particular the lack of fellowship, church opening and singing. Many have had difficulty in reaching some in their parishes who may need support at this time and fearing that the winter months will be difficult for many to endure.

Most reported that technology has been used extensively in communicating to a wide 'audience' and how much online services have meant to so many. It was gratifying to know that our Benefice has been particularly ahead of the game in its use. The pandemic seems to have brought out the best in people.

If the meeting was typical of others around the country then it gave one hope that the church is rising to the challenges of the time. It was noted that we are fortunate to live in an area such as here and although poverty and hardship do exist many parishes around the country will be facing much greater challenges. The church has not lost sight of this and is striving to do all it can

Robert

How much does it cost to run St Mark's Church?

Daily £97.40

Weekly £704.20

Monthly £2989.75

Without the support of congregation and friends we would not be able to pay our costs. This year is proving very difficult as we have no income from fundraising.

Pam

Parish Council Meeting 12th October 2020

At this meeting the **Planning Committee** also met to agree comments for Test Valley Borough Council on various applications.

On the recreation ground, the tarmac for the new carpark has been laid, and fencing installed. We are looking forward to completion in the next few weeks, with lighting, CCTV, line-markings and gates.

High winds caused damage to a few trees at Chapel Wood. The urgent work is finished, and we continue to prune a few damaged trees. An annual meeting of the Friends of Chapel Wood is to take place shortly (details will be circulated among the Friends).

There are a large number of wild ducks at large in the Hook Road area of the parish, and we have contacted Hampshire County Council to ask whether they can install a warning triangle to help protect the ducks from road accidents.

We continue to meet online, in

accordance with guidance. Our next Meeting is at 7pm on Monday 9 November 2020. Agendas will be published on our website and noticeboards. The public are welcome to attend online or by telephone: please let the Clerk or Chairman know before noon on the day of the Meeting, and we will send you the details.

Ampfield Parish Council,
clerk@ampfield.org.uk



©Charlie Allen 2020

A Latvian Odyssey

We said our goodbyes in London on the 26th September with a truck full of our possessions and a baby in the back. We started our journey to Latvia by road, Eurotunnel and ferry.



I am 35 years old and I have embarked on an adventure with my husband Tom and our 15-month-old daughter Kaija. Tom's heritage is half Latvian, so we are going to repair and restore the family farmhouse in rural Latvia for one year. A sabbatical, living off limited funds and learning how to live with the land – growing vegetables, picking, pickling and preserving.

The journey to Calais was pretty seamless – and only full of tears on my part as saying goodbye to my mum and dad (even at this ripe age) was a huge wrench. However, by the time we reached Calais I felt excited to be travelling through Europe with new scenery to digest. France was grey and windy – not much different from Blighty at this time of the year but by the time we reached Belgium the sun was shining. We stopped off for some famous Belgian chips (about the only thing we could understand) and 'spaghetti' for Kaija.

Our first night stopover was just outside Antwerp in a place called Zoersel. A lovely, converted barn with horses, dogs and a short bike ride away from a Trappist brewery selling Belgian beer. The advice was to mix half a pint of their darker brew with half a pint of their lighter brew which seemed very good advice!

From Zoersel we drove six hours to a place just outside [Lübeck](#) called Grönaun in Germany. It was an arduous drive to do in a day with a baby. When Tom accidentally took a wrong turn when we were only two minutes away (adding twelve minutes extra to the journey) it took all my might not to scream along with Kaija. We arrived at a lovely Airbnb host with a big white fluffy dog who cheered Kaija up and we all slept well in a big bed in their garden room next to the garage.

Cont...

The next day we embarked on the ferry from Lübeck to Lieapia, Latvia. A 26 hour journey alongside truckers from Germany, Russia and Latvia. I was one of the only three women passengers on board. Kaija spent her time coyly smiling at big, gruff, silent men, trying to crack them into smiling back, which they often did. One Latvian trucker bought her an apple, amongst the two bottles of wine he acquired for an afternoon drinking session with his friend. Got to make the most of not being on the road!

The night was spent in our little cabin with bunkbeds and a view to the sea. There was a faint smell of cigarettes, and even though the sea was very calm, I spent the night in a waking dream – we were on the Titanic. Perhaps constantly being faced with the open sea made it hard to ignore we were far from home.



The final part of the journey driving through Latvia was around four hours. Kaija had had enough by this point and there wasn't much that could placate her. We avoided Riga and drove through rural scenes. Latvia is very beautiful in its simplicity. People have their homes and vegetable patches and trees for privacy – surrounded by vast fields to grow whatever they are in business to harvest. There are so few people here that nature thrives. It feels unique and special in that way and very different from tamed countryside vistas.

We arrived safely at sunset. And as Katija stepped out into a new patch of land, we all had a feeling of belonging and arrival. The adventure begins here ...



Elly



ROMSEY YOUNG CARERS CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2020

This year has seen many of the 'Romsey Young Carers' spending months shielding with the person they care for. They have been supported with care packages and craft kits throughout this time, and it is hoped that soon some of them will be able to meet-up again at their clubs - albeit in small numbers only. As with everything, clubs will not be the same as they were, and the children will be unable to share things. For this year's appeal, therefore, we are requesting individual sets of stationery/equipment which the children can use at the clubs when they resume. We would like people to fill a suitable container - for example a large pencil case, zipper bag, tin, other type of bag - with a few basic items. This should include:

- A pair of child-proof scissors
- Glue stick
- Small roll of Sellotape
- Paint brush
- Pens & pencil
- Small hand sanitiser and/or pocket pack of tissues
- Plus any other craft/stationery items you wish to add

The only request is for containers which a name tag can be affixed to in some way. They will need to be suitable for boys or girls aged 5-9 and 9-12 years.

If anyone is willing to put together a set, this will need to be done by the first week in December to allow for a period of quarantine and to arrange delivery etc. Please contact Pamela on Pamela@shadow26.plus.com / 01794 501605 to find out more.



Smiles of the Month



Are zebras cream animals with black stripes or black with cream stripes?



Comic Sans and **Times new Roman** walk into a bar. “Get out of here!” the bartender shouts “we don’t serve your type”.

Times New Roman

Aa Ee Rr **a**
Aa Ee Rr

Publisher

abcdefghijklmnop
nopqrstuvwxyz
0123456789

Oldest Computer

The oldest computer can be traced back to Adam and Eve. Not surprisingly, it was an Apple. But it had an extremely limited memory: just one byte, and everything crashed!



How well do you know Ampfield?

1. Population?

The estimated 2016 population of Ampfield parish is 1,490. This is expected to rise by 2021 to 1,592 (an increase of 6.8%). (TVBC)

2. Who owns Chapel Wood?

The Parish Council bought the land in 1996 as an amenity for the parish. The Friends of Chapel Wood meet on the 2nd Saturday of the month.

3. Which churches are included in the benefice with St. Mark?

All Saints North Baddesley, St. Denys Chilworth and St. John in North Baddesley.

4. What is the name of the Cricket Club's home team?

The Ampfield and North Baddesley Cricket team, once known as 'The Crusaders'. They play on the recreation ground next to the White Horse. What a way to spend a summer afternoon!

5. Which famous children's author lived in Ampfield?

The Revd. Vere Awdry was vicar of St. Mark's from 1895-1917. His son, Wilbert Vere, was the author of the 'Thomas the Tank Engine' books.



6. What are the days and times of Ampfield Market

Our market is usually on the first Saturday of the month from February- July and September to December, from 10am to 12 noon in the Village Hall. The village hall has undergone improvements ready for re-opening when the pandemic allows. It is a popular meeting place and a great source of local produce, plants, bric-a-brac, gifts, cards and delicious cakes and coffee.

7. On which Saturday in June is St. Mark's Fête always held?

The second Saturday in June. Let's hope we will all get together to enjoy the popular Fete and Dog Show on Saturday June 2021! Look out for our virtual dog show in next month's Messenger.

8. What is the par rating of Ampfield Golf Club?

Par 3, 18 holes. The Golf Club also offers lunches, drinks and snacks to non-members and serves pizza on the terrace during summer months.

9. Name the publicans of the White Horse.

John and Gaynor Armstrong run our village pub. Their large garden overlooks the cricket ground and at this time of the year it is a great joy to sit beside their inglenook log fire and enjoy grand chats with those around.



After lockdown, throughout December there will be Christmas fayre available daily, including traditional turkey dinner as well as the usual favourites.

Through most of December there will be no deposits, no set menus and and no pre-ordering.

10. What is the name of Ampfield's new café?

Café Bingham's can be found at what was not long ago the legendary Keats restaurant.

11. Why is the Potters Heron so called?

"Many of you will be wondering why there is no apostrophe in Potters. This is a question that has vexed great and not so great minds over many years, but no one seems entirely sure why. The Land Registry shows it without an apostrophe on deeds going back to the earlier part of the last century. So, it has always been thus.

The distinctive name is taken from an old settlement on the site and 'Heron' probably derives from the old English word 'hyrn' meaning corner. Whether it should have an apostrophe even in this context is a moot point as it has been The Potters Heron for so long and liking the tradition we will keep it that way!"

12. Where is the parish Harvest Lunch held?

In the Village Hall. Let's hope we will be able to gather there in October 2021 and share the traditional lunch of turkey, salads and baked potatoes followed by crumble or trifle, all provided by parishioners.

13. Where can you see a memorial to American airmen?

In Chapel wood a memorial to five American fighter pilots who died in 1944. Their plane crashed in Chapel Wood, avoiding the nearby houses.

*Thank you to whoever placed the 5 Remembrance crosses at the memorial.



14. In which year was the 'new' Ampfield Primary School opened?

In 1896 the school moved from its site in Knapp Lane (now Old School House) to its current site at the entrance to the Lane. David Faber, of Ampfield House, donated the land and the school was opened by the Bishop of Winchester.

Cont.

15. Which famous walk that starts in Worcester and ends in Shoreham, W.Sussex runs through Ampfield?

The Monarch's Way is a 625-mile long-distance footpath that follows the escape route taken by King Charles II in 1651 after his defeat in the Battle of Worcester. In Ampfield, it runs from Slackstead to Hursley through Ampfield Wood.



©Charlie Allen 2020

16. What is the shape of the hedge in the parish burial ground in Chapel Wood?

The hedge is in the shape of a cross - cruciform.

17. What time is the last collection from the postbox in Winchester Rd.? (opposite the Village Hall)

4.30 pm

18. How much is a family annual ticket for Hillier's Arboretum?

A joint membership of the Sir Harold Hillier Gardens for 2 people costs £68. Children under 17 are free but must be accompanied by an adult. Single membership is £38. The gardens are open throughout lockdown but you must book in advance.

19. How often does the bus run between Winchester & Romsey through Ampfield?

The 66 runs every half hour from early morning to late evening.

20. Who is our local M.P.?

Caroline Noakes (Conservative) has been our local MP since 2010.

Thought for the Month

I am in a time of transition.

If someone asks me to do something, I will give it a go (apart from bungee jumping!) and give it my best shot, even if I really don't know how I will achieve whatever. I have undertaken many different work roles over the years, but they have always been as an employee, so the risks have been limited, and if I am honest, that is probably the way I liked it. However last year, just before Christmas, I had to make a decision which would really be different, and far more risky; I was offered voluntary redundancy.

For many years I have been juggling two careers: one as an employee of a local government organisation, and, on a part time basis, one of counsellor. I have loved both roles but I was aware that counselling was something that I wanted to have more of. So, staring in front of me was an opportunity to make this a reality - to focus all my energies on counselling. Gosh, the questions that ran through my head; the "what ifs" were endless, but deep down, in my gut, I felt "yes," this was an opportunity I should take; it was what the Lord wanted me to do. So, I completed the application and hit the "send" button!

On 30th September I completed my last day as an employee and waved a virtual goodbye to all my dear colleagues, many of whom had become friends. It was a day full of emotion, but there was still a frisson of excitement, buried amongst all the tears. As I write this, it is nearly a month since that day, and my goodness has the Lord presented me with so many opportunities; I feel very blessed. It is still early days, but in the last few weeks there have been many phone calls, emails and opportunities, which have kept me busy and inspired.

I really thought there would be some, or even, many days where I would question my decision and feel as if I had lost my sense of direction but no, so far, it has been a great transition, as each new day seems to bring something else for me to undertake or contemplate. I thank the Lord for all He has done; for creating so much excitement for me, especially at such a difficult time for the world and our communities. This might be a time of transition, but with the Lord walking beside, I am confident I am going in the right direction.

The reading I have on the desk in my study:

“The human spirit can endure a sick body, but who can bear a crushed spirit?”

Proverbs 18:14

Jo Hooper

The picture shows Jo celebrating her last day of work on a family day out.



 *From the St. Mark's Register* 

The funeral of Kenneth Legg took place at St. Mark on
the 28th October 2020
Please remember him in your prayers

Information

If you need any Zoom meeting links, would like to join in with readings or intercessions, would like prayers said for you or someone you know, or would just like to comment, please email or joinin@acnb-church.org.

Hampshire public libraries are currently closed for browsing for the remainder of the national lockdown however, they are offering many services. Check their website for details.

Romsey News and Information Group

The original Facebook Group for Romsey.

Romsey Garden, Nursery & Plants, Info. Sharing etc.

Good source of local plant delivery and availability, seeds and growing information.

Nextdoor.co.uk

Neighbourhood hub for connecting with local services.

Recommended online suppliers:

Donald Russell (meat): hello@donaldrussell.co.uk;
www.donaldrussell.com

Regal Fish: info@regalfish.co.uk; www.regalfish.co.uk

Local Representatives

Member of Parliament: Caroline Nokes; Phone: 01794 521155

County Councillor: Alan Dowden; Phone 02380 266458

TVBC Councillor: Martin Hatley; Phone: 02380 254040

Ampfield Parish Council: Chair Bryan Nanson; Phone: 02380 267760

Contributing to the Messenger

Contributions to this magazine are always welcome, however it may be necessary to edit or shorten articles.

Copy should reach the editors by the 15th of the month please.

As a guide, one page = approx. 325 words (fewer if you would like to include a photo).

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AMPFIELD VILLAGE HALL

Bookings taken for private parties and receptions. Clubs and other organisations are welcome.

Good parking.

**For bookings ring
Martin Hatley**

**Tel: 023 8025 4040/07970 501050
Email:- villagehall@ampfield.org.uk**


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