

# The Ampfield Messenger



*The Parish Magazine of  
St. Mark Ampfield*

**September 2021**

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**£1**

# **The Parish Church of St Mark, Ampfield**

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

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## **DEADLINE: The third Friday of each calendar month.**

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.

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**I, for one, like Roman numerals.**

**I broke my finger the other day, on the other hand, I'm okay.**



**Q. What's the difference between a well dressed man on a bike and a poorly dressed man on a unicycle?**

**A. Attire**

## *Letter from Vicar Victoria*



This will be my last letter for the Messenger, it feels quite sad to be doing this for the last time, I will miss (!?) the regular promptings from the editors!

What can I say about Ampfield and St Mark? I have no fear that whoever next comes as Vicar will be cared for and welcomed. You are an amazingly welcoming community. You work well together and whether you come to church or not you display the Greatest Commandment – to love one another. All families have a tiff now and again, but they are soon mended over a cup of tea and slice of cake – there are some tremendous bakers!

The church is a big part of the village, and I have been privileged to join with the community in many celebrations, whether it's been a sad one, when we've said goodbye to a much-loved resident, or commemorated the death of young Airman from the US, or whether we have come together to enjoy a very British afternoon tea or summer fete. Or perhaps we have brought our children to celebrate Christmas and sing Carols together, whatever the reason it has always been a warm community feel.

I know that for many the 'religion' or faith of the Church is not particularly relevant in life – and why should it be? We are so lucky not to have to rely on something outside of our control in this country and in our area, we are all quite well off, able to manage on our own, why would we need God?

Cont. ...



...Cont.

But maybe that is just the point ... we are so lucky to live in this beautiful area, to enjoy a few luxuries, like free health care, abundant food and a welfare system that although could do with some revising, is there to catch us when we fall. So maybe it's not so much about what God can do for us, but what we can do for God. A man once asked Jesus 'Who is my neighbour' – his answer you can read in Luke 10:25-37, the parable of the Good Samaritan. It turns out, our neighbour isn't the one next door, or someone we already love, but rather the one whom we see living rough on our streets or running from war torn countries and crossing the channel on flimsy boats. We may need some help in loving those sorts of people – this is why the church exists, this is what 'religion' is in action.

The church in England is dying, and yes, it is probably our fault there is much to lay at the door of the established church, but don't let our Church here in Ampfield die. If no one comes it will be turned into flats, or a Pizza Express (I do like pizza! – other brands are available). What we have here is too special – don't think of religion as old and stuffy, a church full of pious people looking down on others. Think of it more as a group of people of all ages, struggling to do their best, coming together to give thanks for their many blessings, and asking for the strength and help from God to help those in much greater need. It is a Church for all people, with no judgement. Come and find out what it is all about, come and join in and keep this Church a living, breathing example of all that is good.

The first commandment is this; love God with your whole heart, mind and strength, the second is like; love your neighbour as yourself.

You will always be in my prayers,

***With every blessing***

**Victoria**

## ***Dear Readers***

**A**s summer (do you remember it?) fast decays into winter hibernation and we drift into the 'season of mists and mellow fruitfulness' we, in this issue, dwell upon the changes which too are happening over the next few months in our church. After 7 years at the helm Victoria will be moving on in her vocation. We are sad that she will be leaving us and particularly after the last two years when she has had to juggle with so much and cope with sadness within the benefice. We will remember fondly her help and support and that of Andrew's too, during their time with us. We wish them every joy and happiness in their lives beyond.

In this issue we show in pictures some of the many happy times that we have enjoyed with Victoria. Regrettably space prohibits including them all. Some have disappeared into the ether or were never recorded ... Victoria's induction; an enlightening inter-faith tea with local Muslims (how much more that they knew of their faith than we do of ours); happy times with Ampfield School; bacon sarnies when the bells were renovated; Tony's caretaking; a Burn's night supper when the addressor of the Haggis lost his kilt; Advent reflections with beautiful music; fêtes and dog shows. The Lent lunches and Friends for Lunch were started — I'm sure there are many things we have forgotten. Victoria has had to cope with roof lead robbers, sagging stained glass windows and decrepit boilers. Not to mention diocesan machinations that belong in a novel by Anthony Trollope. We hope to see many of you at her farewell service (St. Mark 26 Sept. at 09.30).

You will also read of the changes to the face of Chapel Wood which are all down to the dedication and brawn of its Happy Woodlanders. We feature follow-on articles on the history of Ampfield church and its people together with many of our regulars.

Onwards and upwards!

**Rob and Chris**

## Online and Onsite Worship



**I**n principle the existing service pattern will continue unchanged. However, the service for Victoria's final Sunday in the benefice will be at St. Mark on the 26th September in order to enable as many people as possible to attend. This means that the Sunday services for September will be slightly different from the usual pattern and will be as follows:

Sunday at 09:30

5<sup>th</sup> Sept - Worship for All, online only

12<sup>th</sup> Sept - Communion at St.Denys

19<sup>th</sup> Sept - Communion at All Saints and online

26<sup>th</sup> Sept - Communion at St.Mark

The rest of the regular service pattern remains unchanged:

**Sunday at 11:30: Morning Prayer** using the Book of Common Prayer (on Zoom)

**Sunday at 16:00: This Week With God** discussion group (on Zoom), 2nd and 4th Sundays

**Tuesday at 10:30: Communion in the glade** at St Mark's, bring a picnic chair

Last month we provided details of the way we are managing COVID in light of the government changes on the 19<sup>th</sup> July - in particular strongly advising mask wearing and retaining socially distanced seating. The full details are available [here](#). This will be reviewed in mid-September.

**Abbie West**



# What's on

**Sunday 5th September 2-5pm**  
How Park Barn, Kings Somborne

**Sunday 12th September 2-4pm**  
Bramdean House, Bramdean Arlesford

**Sunday 19th September 2-5pm**  
Terstan, Longstock, Stockbridge



## Plaza Theatre Romsey

Visit [www.plazatheatre.com](http://www.plazatheatre.com) for more details and booking.



**Sounds of the 60s**  
**By The Zoots**  
Thursday 2nd September at 19.30

**Fleetwood Mac**  
**Tribute**  
**By Fleetwood Mac**  
Friday 10th September  
19.30



**Romsey**  
**Comedy Club**  
With Jen Brister and Luisa Omelian  
By Chuki  
Saturday 18th September at 19.30

**Bull**  
**By Mike Bartlett**  
A RAODS production  
Tuesday 28th September - Saturday 2nd October  
20.00



# RIPE + STRIDES

**11th September 2021**

**Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust**

A small group of walkers will be taking part in this event on 11th September, you are welcome to join us for all of the route, a part of the route or alternatively sponsor us, please contact the office for more details of who is walking and how to sponsor.

- ***Start at All Saints, Hursley meeting at 10.30 (expect to leave 10.40)***
- ***St. Mark, Ampfield for brief stop at 12.00 - 12.15***
- ***White Horse for lunch 12.30 - 1.30***
- ***Walk 5 km through Ampfield Wood to St. Swithun's, Crampmoor***
- ***3.5 km across Emer bog to St. John the Baptist, North Baddesley arriving at 4pm.***
- ***Back to All Saints, North Baddesley 1.5 km on the road to finish (or for those who have a little more energy left 3.5 km off the road!)***

Half the money raised on this walk goes to the church of our choice and the other half to The Hampshire and Islands Historic Trust. This charity gives grants to churches and chapels in the area and helps keep the buildings in good order for future generations.



**Sally Kerson**

## The Ampfield Market (Est. 2000)

The Market is always held on the first Saturday of the month excluding January and August which are holiday months. It takes place in Ampfield Village Hall (SO51 9BJ), between 10am and 12 noon. Parking and admission are free.



The Market has become a very popular meeting place, offering the best value, most delicious refreshments in Hampshire! Every effort is made to keep the sales tables lively and interesting. There are

top quality, locally sourced items for sale including cakes, biscuits, savoury foods, honey, fresh bread, eggs, plants, fruit and veg, crafts, books, cards, wrapping paper, jewellery and collectables. We order our fruit and veg from a very reputable local supplier and endeavour to sell a good variety of fresh, seasonal produce every month.

The Market generates £1500 a year towards Village Hall funds. The Market team, Claire, Diane, Janet and Sue generously volunteer their time and baking skills to provide a delicious seasonal selection of cakes every month, which are served with coffee throughout the morning. The last market was on March 7th 2020, due to the Covid 19 pandemic. We are all very excited about welcoming you back and celebrating a new beginning together.



...Cont.

We have decided that the Market will re-open on:

**Saturday 4th September 2021**



We will make every effort to ensure that your visit is Covid safe, but we would be grateful if you would please wear a mask for the safety of others. I still have a waiting list, but if you would like to rent a table in the future or would just like more general information, then please contact Julie Trotter:

[julie@ampfield.org.uk](mailto:julie@ampfield.org.uk)

**Julie Trotter**



# VICTORIA IN PICTURES:











***AND - not forgetting that  
Andrew is leaving us too ...***



***We thank Victoria and Andrew for their time with  
us in the benefice and wish them well as they  
move on.***

## Restoration during the 1980's

**D**r. Arthur Moore arrived as our new Vicar in 1983. He was Ampfield's fourteenth vicar and his incumbency lasted until 1992, during most of which time he was also Vicar of Hursley.

By now the very dilapidated vicarage had been sold and a new clergy house built opposite the school in Knapp Lane on part of the original glebe field, the first family to live there being the Revd Ifor and Margaret Evans.

By the 1980s the church also needed extensive repairs so in 1984 a major appeal for £34,000 was launched under the chairmanship of Lady Jean Mackenzie. The entire church roof needed to be replaced, both tiles and asphalt, and the heating and lighting systems had also reached the end of their lives. The whole parish rose to the challenge in the most remarkable way, greatly encouraged by the Vicar, who was a bundle of energy and prepared to work at least as hard as everyone else on whatever the current project was. The funds were raised in just fourteen months by means of covenants and an enormous range of fund-raising activities of all sorts.



*Instead of a traditional 'thermometer' appeal board, Arthur suggested a 'jigsaw' with the shape of the church actually filled in - not obvious in black and white. Here the £34,000 had been reached.*

Under the skilful guidance of Barry Permain and Brian Vear the restoration began. First the vestry roof and some stonework was replaced and then the apparently insurmountable problem of heating the church was tackled. The existing boiler was moved from its damp underground boiler-house to a new position above ground and the original cast iron pipes were supplemented by two efficient convector heaters, which made an immediately-noticeable difference. *Cont...*

... Cont

Next came the lighting, with new fixtures which almost doubled the level of illumination. The biggest project was left till last, and the church was finally re-roofed with Welsh slates, the old slates being used where possible. This work was absolutely essential - I can remember being at the baptism of the organist (Chris Pritchard's) son Philip when the rain was dripping through the roof straight into the font! St Mark's became so smart it was almost unrecognisable, and the final touch was repainting the walls inside, including whitening the area between the roof beams, which greatly enhanced the general effect. It was hard to keep everyone happy though - I often did the flowers for weddings in the church and one (non-churchgoing) bride, who was getting married while the south wall was covered in scaffolding, was most indignant: "You will take that down for our wedding day, won't you" she asked me.



*View from the steeple taken by Geoff Wood*



*The interior very smart with white roof showing between the beams*

Actually, sorry, no!

The parish had proved it could rise - with energy and even delight - to the challenge of fund-raising on this massive scale, and we were to use this enthusiasm for the next great project. More about that in future articles!



**Liz Hallett**

# Friends of Chapel Wood



Sadly, our original working party scheduled for July was rained off. Normally, this would not have mattered too much but our lovely woodland will be acting as host to the powers-that-be in October, when a tree, commemorating our Queen's 75 anniversary, is to be planted in the area adjacent to the pond. At approximately the same time, we will be organising a small ceremony to open formally the new dipping platform. Those readers who have been following exciting adventures of the Friends may recall that the area was a total mess following the felling of a large oak tree that was shedding limbs in the vicinity of the overhead electricity cable.

With these events pending, and only a very limited opportunity for the scheduled working parties, the Friends decided to arrange some additional meetings. The felling of the oak had left a great deal of debris on site, as well as a collection of useful lengths of wood that could not be accessed. The first thing we needed to do was to clear everything up and sort out what was what. Despite our demonstrated success using simple ingredients like rope, blocks and winches and



our boundless optimism, we felt this time it was beyond our abilities. We asked a local firm of arboricultural contractors to come in and give us a head start. We had the worst of the brash shredded and the large chunks of stem piled in an orderly fashion on the other side of the footpath. the site was now in a state where the Friends could (relatively easily) take

it on.

Cont....



...Cont.

The last Saturday in July was ideal. The weather was benign, and it was dry underfoot. Our first job was to move the remaining small bits of woodland debris, thus clearing the site to provide easy access. We had a good number of willing hands. We decided to create some small,



ecologically friendly piles of woodland brash to the rear of the pond in the 'wild' area. Not only would this remove them from our area, but it would also create a benefit for the wildlife that inhabits the wood. Once this was completed, we were able to redistribute the shredding material across muddier parts of the area. This was beginning to look good. Our final job in reclaiming this part of the woodland was to reduce an old overgrown holly that was only being held up by straggling vines of ivy. Looking at the before and after



photos, we hope you can share the sense of achievement we felt when the work had been completed, the tea drunk and the last bit of cake eaten. It had been a terrific morning. We had taken a big step forward in our ambition to create a community 'wild' wood for everyone to enjoy, relax and learn.

With this in mind, we have been in touch with the local primary school to let them know about the dipping platform.

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Increasingly, primary schools across the country are making use of dipping platforms to explain the importance of ecology and biodiversity and we wanted ours to be used similarly. We plan to build an outdoor 'classroom' around the platform. So, whilst we were clearing the site, one of our chainsaw specialists was busy cutting up some of the logs into sections. These were then carefully levelled off on site. We will then get some planking, smooth the edges so that it cannot hurt anyone sitting on it, and make the equivalent of a small auditorium in which lessons can be held.

In addition, we have also been in touch with a group called Team Wilder. This is part of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, <https://www.hiwwt.org.uk/team-wilder> . Team Wilder is very much about creating and caring for 'wild' spaces for the benefit of both the natural world and the communities that live locally. There is also an active school's programme. We look forward to seeing how this progresses.

Our regular work party in August concentrated more on routine maintenance. The excitement of the past few months had meant some programmes had to take a bit of a back seat. The hedges in the burial ground were beginning to take over, indeed it was getting a bit difficult to even enter the burial ground. It was time all of this was dealt with and by the time we had finished, there was a huge improvement. Apart from overgrown hedging, We had not walked the boundaries for a while, looking at fences and calculating what repair work was now urgent and what materials we needed to buy.

Our next work party is on Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> September, at 09:45. We will be preparing the site in readiness for the various ceremonies that will take place over the next few months. All are welcome.



**Graham Roads**



**Next  
PCC Meeting  
*Monday*  
*13 September 2021***



Charlie Allen

'The saddest aspect of life right now is that science gathers know;ledge faster than society gathers wisdom.'  
**Isaac Asimov**

'Typical - you wait ages for a coronavirus vaccine then three come along at once.'  
**Sarah Vine**

'Some days you just have to accept that you are the pigeon, and some days you are the statue.'  
**David Brent from The Office.**

'Nobody can rescue us from other people.'  
**Pablo Neruda**

If you want to truly understand a man, you should look at what the world was like in the year that man turned 21.'  
**Napoleon**



*From the St. Mark's  
Register*



***Baptism***

We recently welcomed into the church by Baptism  
Valentina Hampton-Trim who was baptised at St. Marks on 8th  
August.

We send our congratulations to her family.

***Marriage***

We send our congratulations to  
Nathan Bailey and Katy Brereton who were married at St. Marks  
on 31st July.

We wish them a very happy married life together.

***Funeral***

The funeral service of Jose Skitt took place in St. Marks church  
on 10th August followed by a burial in the churchyard  
We remember Jose and her family in our prayers.

'The more wrong a man does, the more indignant is he at  
the wrong done to him.'

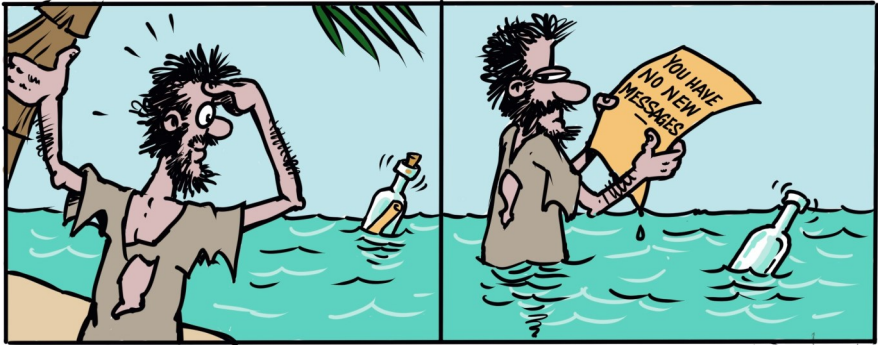
**Anthony Trollope**

'Once you can accept the universe as matter expanding into  
nothing that is something, wearing stripes with plaid comes  
easy.'

**Albert Einstein**

'There are worse crimes than burning books. One of them is  
not reading them.'

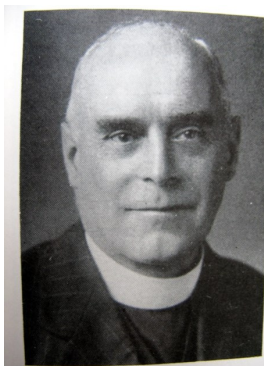
**Joseph Brodsky**



Derek, our organist, has retired. We would like to thank him for his loyal and steadfast commitment to St Mark's over some 30 years. We shall miss him and his ready humour.

A collection has been set up. All donations should be sent to Pam Morphew, our church treasurer. Please see details of how to make payments on page 39.

Thank you.



## Memorials of Ampfield 10

### by The Reverend Lake.

I can gain no information re the origin of the furniture of the church, which appears to me to be unduly large and heavy for the building of the size, suggesting as in the case of Otterbourne, that it was purchased second hand, having once had a place in a church of larger dimensions. It is believed, however to have been a gift of Mr J. White, of Ampfield House. The sounding board over the pulpit is said to have been added later.

Three significant changes have been made in the arrangements of the interior since the church was built. In 1904 the gallery in the transept was removed, and the choir vestry enlarged by the extension of the oak screen. This work was carried out by Mr Targett of Hursley, the cost being defrayed by Mr D.Faber, of Ampfield House. At the same time both Mr Faber and Captain Suckling consented to give up their seats in the Chancel for the accommodation of a surpliced choir, seats being provided for them in the Nave. In 1924 two seats were removed from the transept, and the space thus cleared enclosed by curtains, to provide a vestry for the clergy, of greater convenience than the one designed for that purpose over the porch. The cost of this work was also defrayed by Mr Faber.

A pipe organ, placed in the church some years previously, was formally presented, under the custody of the Vicar and churchwardens, by the Rev V Awdry in 1923, to supplement an American organ given by Mr D Faber. The organ bears the following inscription:-

“This organ, a present to the Vicar, is placed here by him for the worship and service of Almighty God in remembrance of his son and the other former members of the Ampfield Choir, who served their King, Home and Empire (especially those who suffered death or wounds) during the great German war”.

...Cont.

The church is well endowed with silver communion plate which bears the following inscription:- linking it in memory with the founder of the Church :-Chalice, two Patens and Flagon:- “ Dedicated to the service of God in the Church of St Mark’s at Ampfield, by Elizabeth Heathcote, widow 1841”.

Chalice and Paten:- “ Ecclesiae sponso fedei ergo et spei desponsata. Maria Trench. MDCCCXLV11”. (Maria Trench was Mrs Wilson, wife of the first vicar, and was related to Mrs Moore wife of the second vicar, also niece of Sir William Heathcote`s first wife).

Chalice:- “ Ecclae : sti: Marci in Ampfield legavit moriens Charolus Thornton, MA DDCCCXXXIX.”

## Contributed by Nick

You are warmly invited to take part  
in the ‘World’s Biggest Coffee Morning’



Thursday 23rd September  
10.00 - 12.00 noon  
All Saints Church, Rownhams Road, North Baddesley

Please support this amazing charity

## **Ron and Stella's Quiz Night**

1. Which novel from Richard Adams starts with the words "The Primroses were over"?
2. In what year was the Channel Tunnel finally opened?
3. Who was the lead singer with the 1970's pop group Slade?
4. What is Sir Alex Ferguson's middle name?
5. In what year was the first contraceptive pill made available for women?
6. In what year was William Shakespeare born?
7. Which actor played James Bond before Daniel Craig, making four films as 007?
8. Which board game is played with teams of players trying to identify specific words, from their teammates' drawings?
9. What is the most common colour of toilet paper in France?
10. Which bird is nicknamed "The Laughing Jackass"?



*Answers on page 36*

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**

Someone from **Ampfield Neighbours** will be in touch.

## **Romsey Food Bank in the Pandemic**

During the COVID-19 epidemic the food bank is now more important than ever. ACNB churches can also help you access the Food Bank service if you need it.

The epidemic puts Food Banks under great strain. Please donate as much food as you can to support their work at this time.

***Donations can be taken to any of these collection points\****

**Romsey Foodbank**

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

1030 - 1230.

**Waitrose donation point for customers**

(shop opening hours)

**Community Life Centre,**

**Flemming Avenue, North Baddesley**

10 - 12 Mon - Fri

\*All church collection points are now closed, until restrictions are lifted.

## A Kitchen Garden (G4G)

**A**ugust in the kitchen garden is reminiscent of the opening to A Tale of Two Cities: "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times,...". There is an abundance of things to eat -



beans (french, broad and runner), courgettes, cucumbers, potatoes, kale, leeks, even tomatoes. The difficulty being that a lot of it will not keep. If we are not careful, we either end looking like a courgette, buying another freezer or wearing our imagination to a pulp as we try to think of a different way to eat broad beans. In this connection, have you thought of a 'samoasty' ? - see p. 30.

However, vegetables are not the only things that find August a month conducive to being out and about.

Pests and diseases are also at their most prevalent. Wildflowers, colloquially known as weeds in the wrong place, have a field day. In the kitchen garden, it is important that all competing species are kept under control. It might look nice to see the white flowers of convolvulus bobbing along side the red or purple flowers on the beans, but there will be only one winner - and it won't help the taste of Sunday lunch! The insect world also finds August to be out and about.



All the butterflies look wonderful but the caterpillars ....?

It is truly a time to be vigilant. A lot of pests can be picked off by hand and diseased foliage removed. For the more resilient pests, a strong jet of water can often do the trick. Sadly, however, to date no effective cure has been discovered that will stop a springer spaniel from decimating the mangetout!

Cont. ...



...Cont.

On a different subject, after the extreme weather conditions we have experienced, only the most sceptical amongst might still think climate change a figment of the imagination. We have heard a lot about plants bolting and, sadly, there is not a great deal that we can do. The most

powerful driver in a plant is to set seed to enable a future generation is secured. this has been very much a feature of the salad-type plants. As a plant switches to seed producing mode, its chemical balance can alter, changing the taste. The best way to accommodate this is by a steady succession of plantings. In that way, there should always be some fresh salad or herbs available throughout the season.



For more information on pest control, please refer to the RHS website. For what to do this month in the kitchen garden, paste into your browser <https://www.rhs.org.uk/advice/in-month/august>. Please contact Rob and Chris K to exchange ideas with your own stories, tips and particularly your own recipes?

**Graham Roads**

## Recipe of the Month

### ***Samoasty : a cross between a samosa and a pasty***

Makes four.

#### **For the filling:**

Pick a handful of french beans, top, tail and cut into 1" lengths. Boil for one minute. Refresh.

Pick two handfuls of broad beans, remove husks. Boil for one minute. Remove outer shell.

Dig a few new potatoes, clean, skin and par boil for 2 minutes. Cut into 1" cubes.

Grate a courgette.

Finely slice ½ an onion and 2 garlic cloves. Fry gently until translucent.

Place all the ingredients into a food processor. Add ½ tsp cumin powder, ½ tsp coriander powder, ½ tsp, curry powder, pinch of dried chilli, 1 tsp garam masala, pinch salt, pinch black pepper and 2tbsp vegetable oil.

Mix in the food processor, until vegetables are about the size of tiny dries peas.

#### **For the pastry:**

6 oz plain white flour

2 tablespoon vegetable oil

½ tsp turmeric

½ tsp nigella seeds

pinch salt

Mix in a food processor until formed into a ball, gradually adding water.

Cover in cling film and place in a refrigerator for one hour.

Cut dough into four and roll into a 6" diameter circle.

Place mixture in the centre

Fold up the edges, seal with water.

Cook

Place on a baking tray and put onto middle rung of top oven in Aga, (about gas 6), for 15 minutes. Place on floor of hot oven for 5 minutes and back on middle rung for 10 minutes.

Allow to cool.



**Susan and Graham**

## A Prayer for Afghanistan

All-loving God, Your hands have fashioned every lovely corner of this treasured planet, and the beautiful land of Afghanistan is as precious as every other place Your children call 'home'. By its rivers and mountains, its fields and gardens, its busy towns and ancient villages, it is the heart's desire of its people and the place where their lives and loves are nurtured.

We grieve today with those who grieve over Afghanistan, the people who call it home indeed, the people exiled or suddenly having to leave, and the men and women from other countries who have made sacrifices in recent years in the cause of that country's future.

We remember with renewed sadness the loss of lives of military personnel during the years of this country's involvement in Afghanistan, conscious of the questions that must today be troubling the minds of those in our community who were bereaved, those who were wounded on operations, and those who were forever changed by experiences suffered there.

We pray for peace, dignity, freedom and confidence for the men, women and children of Afghanistan; for courage, vision and generosity within the international community responding to such need; and for tranquillity of mind amongst our own Service community and its wider family.

In the name of Jesus Christ, the peace-giver, we pray, **AMEN.**



Rev Dr Marjory MacLean, convener of the Committee on Chaplains to Her Majesty's Forces, wrote this prayer for the Church of Scotland's website.

## ***AUTUMN Dementia Services in Romsey***

**I**n September Greenbuttercup CIC will be re-starting their 'Dementia Services' in the Green Room of the Plaza Theatre, Romsey. The room is accessible and COVID-secure. Parking is behind the theatre in the non-numbered spaces, entry the side entrance via the ramp. Volunteers are Dementia Friends and CIC will continue to adhere to some COVID-19 precautions for these sessions.

### ***Fun 'Arts & Crafts' session***

*10.30a.m. - 12.30p.m., 1st Friday of the month.*

*£3.00 per person, covers materials, instruction and tea/coffee with biscuits*

For anyone living with Dementia and their relative/carer. No experience is necessary, and each month we will have a different activity for you to try, suitable for all abilities. Why not come along and have a go – the first session is free.

### ***Themed Reminiscence Sessions***

*10.30a.m. - 12.30p.m., 3rd Friday of the month.*

*£3.00 per person, covering all activities, and tea/coffee with biscuits.*

Again, for anyone living with Dementia and their relative/carer.

Pre-pandemic we ran monthly multi-sensory sessions, but we need to modify the format, to avoid any sharing. We will incorporate sensory work where possible. These sessions will be a mix of reminiscence, games and an activity or talk, suitable for all abilities and stages of Dementia.

Places are limited, so please contact Pamela to book a place or request further information, on:

01794 501605 or

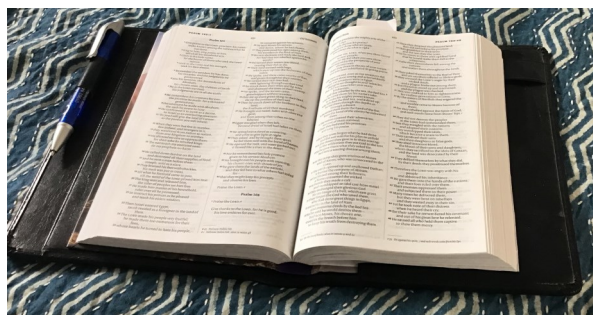
[Pamela@shadow26.plus.com](mailto:Pamela@shadow26.plus.com) .



# THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

**A**s I sit down to write the US and UK are winding down their rescue missions in Afghanistan, the day after the horrendous suicide bombings in Kabul. The pandemic continues to wreak havoc with peoples' lives, and we are busy vaccinating as many as possible against Covid-19. There are shortages in the supermarkets, a shortage of HGV drivers and many other things which we are told are caused by Brexit, Covid and everything that can possibly be blamed for our woes. There is so much turmoil going on in the world around us and I wonder what the rest of the year has in store.

One thing I know is that God is in charge of everything and he has plans for us all. I find myself praying for answers and looking for comfort from the Bible. I spend a short time reading from the Bible and reading the notes that come with my Bible reading guide every morning. Often the readings are very apposite to my problems and worries, as are the notes, and they give me the strength to face the day ahead. A good range of Bible reading aids can be found at Oasis, Church Street, Romsey.



**Jean**





# The wedding of Nathan Bailey and Katy Brereton

Nathan and Katy were married at St. Marks on 31st July. This was the first wedding since Lockdown.



*We wish them a very happy married life together.*





## The Baptism of Valentina Hampton-Trim

Valentina's baptism took place within the service of communion at St. Marks on Sunday the 8th August. Valentina sat in the font, as a way of being totally immersed. Valentina is the granddaughter of Mark Braun, a Churchwarden at St. Marks.



*We send our  
congratulations  
to her family.*

# ***Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2021***

## ***Raise funds for your chosen Charity***

*The real walk is back on this year. This year you have the opportunity to walk down the Test Way without having to walk back!*



Join in now for one of the best walks in Hampshire, choosing one of five distances, from 5 miles up to a marathon 26 miles.

### ***Dogs welcome.***

This sponsored Walk is managed by The Rotary Club of Romsey Test, with buses from Romsey to take you to your chosen start point. The route is fully sign-posted and marshalled with St John Ambulance in attendance.

You can make it a family or group event and collect your medal at the finish line in the Memorial Park Romsey.

Please see website for registration and more details.

**[www.walkthetestway.org.uk](http://www.walkthetestway.org.uk)**

**The Rotary Club of Romsey Test**



**service above self**

## **Answers to Ron and Stella's Quiz Night**

1. Watership Down.
2. 1994.
3. Noddy Holder.
4. Chapman.
5. 1960.
6. 1564.
7. Pierce Brosnan.
8. Pictionary.
9. Pink
10. The Kookaburra



## The New Testament in 50 words

**A**ugust's Worship For All ([catchup online here](#)) finished the theme of the Bible with a look at the New Testament.

In conclusion, the Gospels tell us the story of Jesus - the big miracles and the small encounters and are very important but to really understand what it means to follow Jesus, to really know what Jesus has planned for us - you need the whole of the New Testament.

The New Testament is a 'build a Christian' kit. Not in the Ikea or Lego sense of "put prayer A in service B". But in the sense of a set of stories of people who struggled, who made mistakes, who sometimes did amazing things, and above all grappled with what it meant to live as children of God; as Christians. We learn from these stories. God uses them. So read them! Mark's gospel is a good place to start and the Acts of the Apostles is a roller-coaster story. Read and understand how all that happens relates to the Old Testament story, to God's big plan for us all; recognise how they are stories of their time and place - and yet they speak to us across the centuries. Every time we read these stories, we find something new in them, because that, it seems, is how God likes it! Read the stories and hear God speak. Hear God speak and learn!

### *The New Testament was summarised in 50 words...*

Gabriel announced	Mary bore	Jesus taught
Disciples followed	Jesus crucified	Hope gone
Jesus risen	Christ ascended	Spirit flowed
Peter spoke	People saved	Churches grew
Saul persecuted	Peter imprisoned	Saul envisioned
Paul travelled	Faith spread	Churches planted
Paul wrote	Leaders supported	John saw
Jesus revealed	Death defeated	God honoured
	New Jerusalem	

**Abbie West**

## 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 [joinin@acnb-church.org](mailto:joinin@acnb-church.org).

### **Nextdoor.co.uk**

Neighbourhood hub for connecting with local services.

### ***Online Facebook groups:***

#### **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.

**Hampshire Coronavirus Helpline - 0333 370 4000**

**Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults - 0300 555 1386**

**Romsey Community Pantry - 01794 522106**

**Romsey Foodbank - [www.romsey.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.romsey.foodbank.org.uk)**

**Frontline Debt Advice - 02380 552866**

**Southampton Basics Bank -**

**[www.southamptoncitymission.co.uk/basics-banks](http://www.southamptoncitymission.co.uk/basics-banks)**

### ***Local Representatives***

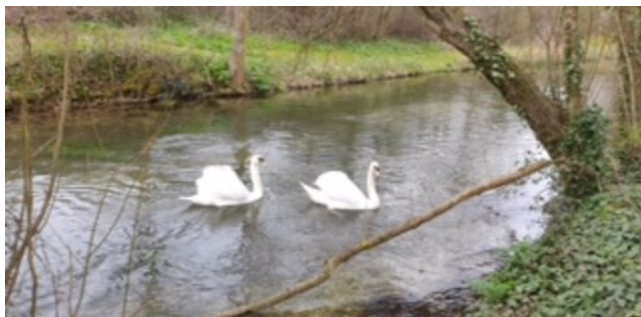
Member of Parliament: Caroline Nokes; Phone: 01794 521155

County Councillor: Alan Dowden; Phone 02380 266458

TVBC Councillor: Martin Hatley; Phone: 02380 254040

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

\*\*\*\*



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'THE MESSENGER MAGAZINE'.

Or paid directly:

Sort code: 30-92-94 Account No: 01254722

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Reference: Magazine

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[Kathleen.mccallum@icloud.com](mailto:Kathleen.mccallum@icloud.com)

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