

The Ampfield Messenger



*The Parish Magazine of
St. Mark Ampfield*

April 2022

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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.

A prayer for Refugees

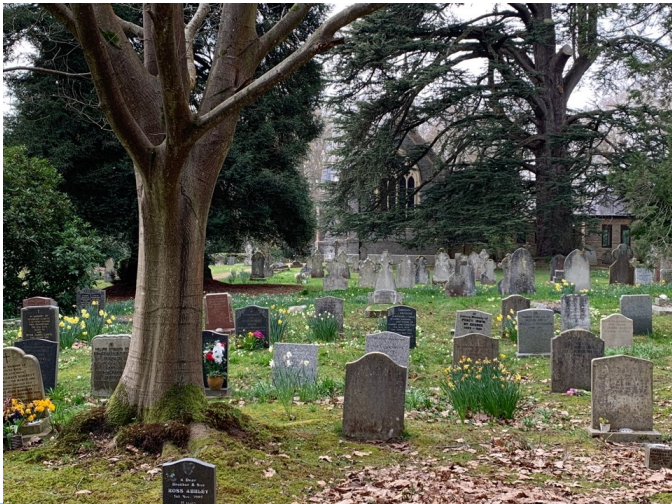
**Almighty and merciful God,
whose Son became a refugee and had no place to
call his own;
look with mercy on those who today are fleeing
from danger,
homeless and hungry.**

**Bless those who work to bring them relief;
inspire generosity and compassion in all our
hearts;
and guide the nations of the world towards that
day when all will rejoice in your Kingdom of
justice and of peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

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Letter from Vanessa

Dear Friends

A bishop once told me a funny story about a church where in the entrance procession of clergy and choir, everyone had to make a big step at a certain point round the church. He could not work out what this elaborate ritual was all about, and much investigation ensued after the service. Sometime later, it came to light that there had once many years before been a leak in the church and the choir had to step over it to avoid their robes getting wet... Despite the leak having long since dried up, the ritual had never changed!

As we come out of the pandemic, and into the sunshine of spring, many things have changed in the world. Many people have been evaluating their lives; changing jobs, retiring, taking up new things that they have never before found time to do. Perhaps now is a good time for us all to look again at some of the stuff we just “do” because we’ve always done it that way and think again about the reasons why.

Perhaps we need to allow the things that are a distraction to wither away. To focus on the light and liveliness of the Resurrected Jesus who conquered even death itself that we might have life in all its fullness. We are an Easter People. We carry the light of the resurrection with us in everything we do - let’s allow that light to shine in new and unexpected ways this spring.

Vanessa



April Services in the Benefice

Sun 3rd April :

Worship for All Online

BCP Evening Prayer on Zoom

Tuesday 5th April:

10.30 Communion at St. Mark's

Thursday 7th April:

7pm: Communion at All Saints

Sunday 10th April :

9.30 Palm Sunday Communion at St Marks

Tuesday 12th April:

10.30 Communion at St. Mark's

Thursday 14th April:

7.30pm: Maundy Thursday evening Service at All Saints

Friday 15th April

2pm Good Friday Service at St John's

Sunday 17th April:

9.30 All Saints Easter Day Communion

11am St Denys Easter Day Communion

Tuesday 19th April

10.30 Communion at St. Mark's

Thursday 21st. April:

7pm: Communion at All Saints

Sunday 24th April — New service pattern begins

(details next month, please see ACNB website in the meantime)

9.30 Communion at St. Mark's

11am Communion at All Saints



Benefice News

Friends for Lunch

On Wednesday 16th March 16 diners returned to St. Mark's Room for a lunch of cottage pie, followed by profiteroles, on the 16th March. It was good to see our regulars back and catch up with everyone's news, and lovely to welcome Nancy back from hospital after almost 3 months of confinement! See p.19 for details of April's meal.



St. Mark's Stall at Ampfield Market

Thank you to all those who contributed items for us to sell on the stall. This month we raised £145.00 which was donated to the Ukrainian Humanitarian Appeal. We are situated just inside the door and welcome your donations. Thank you to Julie and her marvellous team. Next market is Saturday 2nd. April

Jubilee Fete and Dog Show

Plans are going full steam ahead. (see p18).

Fete enquiries :

Tel.: 02380 737617, email: office@acnb-church.org

Dog Show information and entry: Tel. Kate: 07738467350

Raffle tickets for amazing prizes, including an iPad, will soon be on sale.

From the Winchester Diocesan Newsletter:

We are actively looking at ways to offer accommodation to refugees arriving in the country and are working with different organisations to ensure that this can be done safely and appropriately. One piece of good news is that we have offered housing to one Ukrainian family in a diocesan property and we have some others ready when a similar need arises.

Benefice News

Welcome Vanessa!
Revd. Vanessa Lawrence was formally instituted to our benefice in a short service on Thursday 10 March. However, we wanted to properly celebrate God calling her to serve as our vicar, and to give thanks for the ministry of all Christians, therefore a service was held on Sunday 18th March in All Saints Church.



It was a joyful service attended by congregations from our benefice and by Revd Mike Griffiths and friends from East Winchester



Benefice, which is where Vanessa has been part of the team for the last nine months. Mike preached an inspiring sermon and led worship with us. Our Area Dean, Revd James Pitkin, welcomed us all and prayed for Vanessa and our benefice.

Many of you will remember Vanessa when she served as an Associate Priest in this benefice but if you have not met her before, please stop and introduce yourself, she would like to get to know as many people as possible. We look forward to finding out what God is calling us all to do in this place so continue to pray for Vanessa and the benefice of Ampfield, Chilworth and North Baddesley.

Benefice News

Thank you

Vanessa wishes to pass on a big thank you to everyone for a warm and enthusiastic welcome she received. Also thanks to all who helped in any way to make it happen, not forgetting the marvelous array of wonderful cakes that were donated!

Pray for Ukraine

We continue to pray for Ukraine, and for those who are fleeing their homes in fear and terror, families separated and those who have lost loved ones. To help us pray, and to encourage our community to pray, we have set up stations outside each of our churches, please do feel free to pause a moment and pray as you tie a Blue or yellow ribbon. There will also be an opportunity to cut out blue and yellow hands after the service in All Saints in the morning, adding to the ones pre-school have already put on the window in the church hall.

God of peace and justice,

we pray for the people of Ukraine today.

We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.

We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,

that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.

We pray for those with power over war or peace,

for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.

Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.

We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

Amen

Craft afternoon for adults

With Easter not very far away another Craft afternoon is going to be held on Thursday 7th April at All Saints Church, starting at 12.30pm - 2.30pm, more details next week and how to book.

ALL ABOUT A WREN



The day started bright and sunny. Not a cloud in the sky. And so we decided to leave home and go for an early walk. However, we were detained. The garden was full of bird activity - a flotilla of noisy sparrows who had taken up residence for months in our Japanese japonica, a male and female blackbird, a robin, and five pigeons (where did they all come from?). So it seemed all quite normal. Except for the wren, which after skulking along the ground, flitting to and fro gathering minute items of food from the plants and shrubs, and occasionally the bird feeders, rose to the bird box. It was clearly feeding. Unlike blue tits, only one was active. In the past, we had enjoyed families of blue tits. But, upon taking temporary care of a family cat - it lasted for about a year - blue tit activity in the garden ceased. After the cat's departure, to be cared for by a lady who was terribly lonely after losing her husband (the arrangement has proved beneficial to both), blue tits, coal tits and long-tailed tits returned to the garden in the unseasonally warm New Year period. It was too early for the blue tits to show any interest in the box, but as time wore on, they continued to shun it.

Wrens have rarely been sighted in our garden. The nearest location for finding them has always been alongside the Itchen at Allbrook. And so, a wren utilising the bird box was unique in our experience.

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We turned to Simon Barnes' *A Bad Birdwatcher's Companion* to confirm that we had identified the wren correctly. (Barnes, whether he is writing about all things birds, horses and sport in his former columns in *The Times* or his books, has provided hours of endless pleasure over the years).

We left home with a spring in our steps and drove to Compton. Even the wheels of the car seemed jaunty (tyre pressures are ok). We undertook a walk which has provided much needed solace and therapy during Covid; from the recreation ground, west along Shepherds Lane, then south to Lower Slackstead Farm, before returning north to Compton Way and then east to return to the car park. We saw a pair of wrens and a chaffinch and heard a woodpecker. Celandine and primroses abounded. In winter, all colours tend to be monochrome. But with the Spring Equinox approaching, and the sun shining, colour had returned to the landscape. There are few finer views within three miles of our house than that overlooking Winchester from the Downs, with Compton in the valley below and St.Catherine's Hill and Cheesefoot Head atop my beloved South Downs in the medium and long distance.

When we returned home, the busy wren was still feeding. We hope it stays for a while.

NB

Simon Barnes covered Wimbledon each year for *The Times*. Nobody has ever written more felicitously on Roger Federer. Every year, he would bring his binoculars into the press box, and record the different birds he saw during the fortnight. Readers were always apprised of his rarest finds.

Alan Edwards



A Retiring Nature - 1

by Lynda Emery

When I look at a photo of me as a child, standing next to my parents, I can be there with them. My big, strong Dad, my loving Mum are there, and I can be that child again, even feel it “inside”. Remembering the scene, where it was taken, how I felt at the time, the colour of my dress or cardigan and what we were doing. If any of that makes sense to you then you are probably of a similar age to me - seventy plus - and enjoy reminiscing.

HOWEVER, very dear as all that is, we can only live in the present and plan for the future. To me, that is what retirement is all about! It may be completely different for you but this is my “take” on how things are. If it interests you to read on, then do, if not, there are many other interesting articles in this magazine!

My retirement began about 12 years ago when I left Cupernham Junior school, after over 20 years, having been the Special needs teacher and, latterly, Special Needs co-ordinator there. I had enjoyed my work tremendously. It’s a cliché, but true, that every day was different. It was often necessary to “think on your feet” but, also, planning ahead was a prerequisite. Keeping staff and children involved and optimistic about what was going on in school. Listening to and advising parents about their children was also key, altogether a balancing act but one to which I gave my full care and attention.

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So when it all ended with a whole school picnic (my choice) to celebrate the event, I wondered how retirement would be. I needn't have worried. My daughter announced that she was pregnant and within a few months I was helping with our first grandchild. Another 3 followed, 2 from our son and another from our daughter. They all lived within 5 miles of us, so I could be as hands-on as I liked and my pleasure at being with children could be continued .

Grandchildren, however, are only part of what constitutes my retired life. I have hobbies and interests, other family, many dear friends, a dog, and last but definitely not least, a husband !! My days pass, and are framed by, all these various facets of daily retirement living. I hope they will continue to do so for many years but, as I age, contemplation about change, health, well-being and the future in general also fills any moments that are not occupied by activities. Sometimes this is disquieting but it is not a "bad" way to spend some time. My Mum said she had never thought about dying until she was well into her 80s. It seemed to come as a shock to her that she would eventually not lead the life to which she was accustomed. The ageing and death of parents, older friends (and some younger ones) focuses my attention on these aspects and on the randomness of it all.

Oh dear, re-reading this, it all sounds very deep and meaningful! Not my intention, just encouraging myself to be realistic amidst the fun times that I am enjoying on a daily basis. I shall try in the next few articles, to take each aspect of my life in retirement and write a few words about it. Hopefully it will be an entertaining read.



Lynda Emery

Friends of Chapel Wood

Once again, our original day for the March working party turned out to be a wash out. Once again, we had to postpone operations until the following weekend - and aren't we pleased we did so! It was the very first day of our current hot spell. The weather was fantastic Which was probably a good thing as we had a lot to get through.

Our first job was to clear some large conifer branches that had blown down during the recent storms and were sitting on top of the laurel hedge that borders the path leading up to the church.



What appeared to be a relatively straightforward task turned out to be a bit more difficult than we imagined. These were large chunks of wood and could only be reached by a feat of skilled mountaineering and a considerable amount of brute force. Just the sort of things the Friends of Chapel Wood were invented for!

Eventually, all the fallen wood was successfully retrieved and transported back to the area around the bonfire. Unfortunately, we will not burn conifer arisings as there is an enhanced risk of sparks, which is something we definitely do not want in our lovely woodland. Instead we use the broken branches to strengthen the natural fence we have built between the glade area and the rest of the wood. Because it comprises only woodland arisings, the hedge will degrade over time and so requires constant renewal if it is to do its job.

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This provides a good link with the second half of our woodland party. We have permission to coppice holly and silver birch throughout the wood. However there is one area that is badly in need of attention and that is the holly/birch copse to the left of the path as you enter from Knapp Lane.



This has become very overgrown. Many of the trees cannot grow properly and have become starved of space and light. This area has also suffered damage in previous storms.

Armed with a collection of saws, we set off to thin out many of the worst offenders. To start with, it was a bit like hacking your way into a jungle. Before we could cut anything back, we had to work out exactly where the various branches were growing; and it was not always where you might expect. After an hour or so, we could see an appreciable difference. There was sunlight reaching the floor of the copse (it will be interesting to see what grows). There was a mass of foliage that would further supplement the hedge and a good pile of future fence posts. But all of this is for another day.

For the March working party, there was time only for coffee, a chat, making plans for the future; oh, and a few homemade ginger flapjacks. We also managed to dismantle the large dinosaur skeleton, which was a remnant from a previous storm.



Graham Roads

The Friends of Chapel Wood meet in the church car park on the second Saturday of each month at 09:45. All are welcome.

What's on - save the dates



A great Village Occasion !

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Weekend Thursday June 2nd - Sunday June 5th 2022

I am compiling a diary of special events to mark this momentous occasion which will hopefully involve all the village groups and will be as inclusive as possible.

Friday 13th May

A Village Hall 'royal' themed Quiz

to herald the start of the celebrations, featuring a bar and a raffle. 7.00 for 7.30pm. Tickets £5 and we welcome teams of 6.

Friday 3rd June

A Fun Day in and around St Marks Church,

11.30am - 3pm. This event will replace the annual Church Fete and will feature a dog show, barbecue, Pimms tent, various stalls and cream teas. To enter the dog show will be £2 per class. Free admission to the Fun Day, but donations are always warmly welcomed.

Cont. ...

What's on - save the dates

...Cont.

Saturday 4th June

The Ampfield Market 10-12.

Many sales tables and delicious refreshments.

Ampfield Cricket Club League home match against Cadnham

Starts at 1pm in the Recreation Ground.

Sunday 5th June

Martin Hatley will lead a village walk

Possibly including a woodland trail and/or treasure hunt in Chapel Wood. The walk will start promptly at 10.30am. Details to follow soon. The walk will be free.

Picnic on Morley's Village Green 1pm — 4pm

An open and free invitation for everyone to get together on Morley's Village Green to share a picnic with family, friends and neighbours. Please bring your own food and drink, there will be music to enhance this special Ampfield celebration to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Next month there will be more details and hopefully even more events to share over this special weekend

What's on

St Mark's Church Ampfield
3rd June
11.30am to 3pm



JUBILEE CHURCH FETE & DOG SHOW



In the church
grounds and
Chapel Wood

 Raffle

 Fancy dress for all

 Side shows for
the children

 BBQ

 Afternoon tea

Fete Enquiries: Tel **02380 737617** email **office@acnb-church.org**
Dog Show Information and Entry: Tel Kate on **07738467350**

What's on



FRIENDS FOR LUNCH

Wednesday 20th April

At 12 noon

If you would like to attend, please ring Kate
on 07738467350



LENT LUNCHES

Fridays 1st & 8th April

12 noon—2pm

Please contact Chris and Rob on 01794 367104 for bookings
and information

*Numbers for the above will be limited and Covid
precautions will be in place.*

Welcome Café

All Saints Church,

Rownhams Road, North Baddesley SO52 9EQ



The Welcome Café is for any and everyone in the community to come and meet friends for a catch-up and enjoy great coffee. There is no charge for coffee but donations are welcome.

We particularly welcome those who find themselves lonely or who have been bereaved. There are trained 'listeners' who will be happy to talk, befriend and empathise with you and if appropriate signpost to other helpful organisations, all in complete confidence.

10am – 12 noon on

Thursdays 14th & 28th April

Contact joinin@acnb-church.org ☎ 023 8073 7617

What's on

The Ampfield Market

**Saturday 2nd. April
From 10am to 12noon**



in Ampfield Village Hall

Our Market has a great reputation, we regularly sell:-
Fresh fruit and veg, Fairtrade foods, jams, chutneys and pickles,
cakes, biscuits and scones, plants and fresh flowers, cards and
wrapping paper, books, antiques, unusual crafts, jewellery,
children's clothes, toys, honey, seasonal surprises, bric a brac
and much much more.

***Fresh coffee and a wonderful selection of cakes will be
served all morning in the Garden Room***

Parking and admission are always FREE

All proceeds support the Village Hall

Registered charity no.1057353

Contact Julie:023 80254587 for table bookings and info

What's on

Evening Concerts at Romsey Abbey

Saturday 2nd April 7pm

Messiah

Southampton Choral Society with Southampton Baroque

Join Southampton Choral Society for a wonderful evening of uplifting music.

Saturday 9th April 7.30pm

Stainer "The Crucifixion"

Romsey Singers

Romsey Singers perform Stainer's popular choral work, with the second half of the concert comprising five works by local composers.

Friday 22nd April 9.15pm

Strauss Metamorphosen

Romsey Chamber Music Festival

In this special late night concert Romsey Chamber Music Festival returns to Romsey Abbey to perform Strauss Metamorphosen for String Septet. Join RCMF's internationally renowned musicians for this haunting late romantic work for strings. **Free entry**

Details of all the Romsey Chamber Music Festival events can be found at www.romseychambermusic.com

For ticket purchases and enquiries (unless stated otherwise) please contact Romsey Visitor Information Centre, 13 Church Street, Romsey, Tel 01794 512987 (*no booking fee*)

Or

[book online for Music in Romsey Abbey concerts in Romsey Abbey](#)
(*booking fee applies*)

AN AFTERNOON IN WINCHESTER

There is a new statue to view in Winchester. Located outside of the Discovery Centre, now called the ARC, is an elegant life-sized sculpture of a Jewish lady, Licoricia, and her son. The statue is intended to promote tolerance and diversity and to inspire women. Licoricia was a uniquely influential woman in 13th century England; through marriages, she inherited several fortunes, and was so wealthy that she was a financier to monarchs. She was murdered in her home, with her Christian servant, in Jewry Street in 1277. Three men were charged for the murders but none was convicted. All Jews were eventually expelled from Winchester shortly after her murder. Her story, too extensive to be described in this piece, can be found on Wikipedia, which mentions that a book on her life is due for publication. It should be a most compelling read.



In the refurbished Gallery in the Discovery Centre is an exhibition on the work of the mid - 20th century artist Eric Ravilious. His range of work was varied and prodigious: paintings - abstract and conventional - lithographs, woodcuts, ceramics and book illustrations. All are featured in the exhibition, which is very well curated.



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He possessed the happy knack of making the mundane look interesting (for example: a ship's funnel, farm wagons and machinery, marine paraphernalia, spartan interiors of a pub and train carriage, decorating mugs and egg cups).

The title of the exhibition "Extraordinary Everyday" is most apt. There is something for everyone. He moved between Sussex, where he was born, London, Wales and Essex. One house to which he often returned, Furlongs, near to Glynde under the South Downs, is not far from Charleston Farmhouse, home to the Bloomsbury Set, who were his contemporaries. His lifestyle and art was, though, far different from theirs. He became a conscientious war artist. In August 1942, he opted to join an air sea rescue search off Iceland, but failed to return. He was only 39 years old, and left a wife and three children. His career was a brilliant one, but it is only since the Millenium that his work has been fully recognised.

***The Exhibition continues until the 15th May.* Alan Edwards**



"People used to think about a new car or iPhone, but nobody was thinking about peace. Now, we are dreaming of it. When old people used to wish each other peace, we didn't understand what they meant. Now we do." Natalia Balasynovych, the mayor of Vasytkiv, near Kyiv.

"There are decades where nothing happens and there are weeks where decades happen." Lenin.

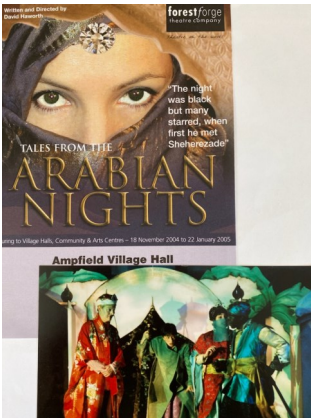
"The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present." Abraham Lincoln.

The History of Ampfield Village Hall: 5

2005 - 2007

2005

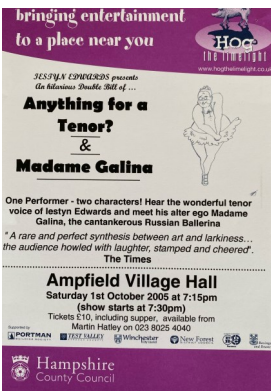
In January the Forest Forge Theatre company performed 'Arabian Nights'. In February Chris Packham came to talk about 'The Back Garden Nature Reserve'.



He gave a lively and well illustrated talk inspiring the audience to transform their own back gardens into wildlife havens. There was still a slight problem of condensation in the hall, but an extractor fan was



fitted in the kitchen and trickle vents were fitted in the windows and that seemed to improve the situation. A new cooker and splash back was installed using donations in memory of Joan Hatley. Thought was given to extending the lease from 35 to 99 years to ensure the future of the Village Hall as an important venue in the community. In October



2005, Iestyn Edwards, a well known tenor came to the hall and presented his alter ego, Madame Galina, a cantankerous Russian ballerina, to a surprised but delighted audience - participation was feared but encouraged !



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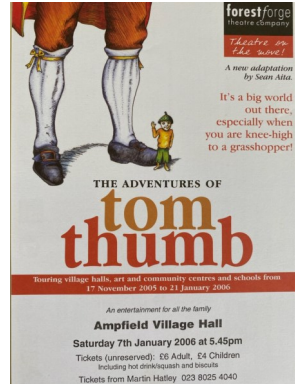
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2006

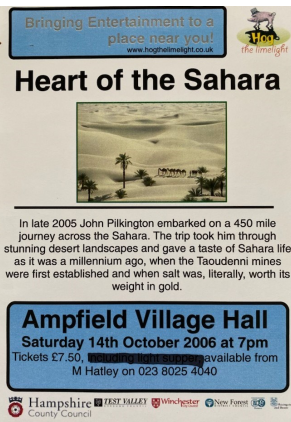
The pantomime 'Tom Thumb' launched the new year in January. On March 6th the London Philharmonic Orchestra brought fun and great music to the Hall. For a



complete change there was an afternoon of scrabble and a cream tea in May. A Country Harvest Supper and Quiz evening followed in September and a special two course meal was served. In October John Pilkington came to give an



entitled 'Heart of the Sahara'. Over the Christmas holiday period an extractor/ heat exchange unit was installed in the main hall to deal with the condensation problem. It cost £6806 plus VAT to install, the cost was shared between TVBC grants and generous help from the Parish Council.



2007

The Pantomime, A Christmas Carol took place on January 6th. There was a French

evening on March 10th, the setting was a French cafe, the food was French themed and the band was called the Mike Piggot Trio, providing the music which was a celebration of Stephane Grappelli.



Julie Trotter

A Local Life - 3

Margaret (Meg) Rothwell

A pioneer for women in the Diplomatic Service



W

ashington
Meg was posted to Washington in 1972.

She arrived as Nixon was elected and left during Watergate. She found Nixon's presidency "erratic" and evidence of racism noticeable. There were many signs saying 'No Blacks' around the city, however her department was comparatively multi-racial. Meg was given a flat in Van Ness Street where she started entertaining and widened her circle of friends and contacts.

Meg travelled frequently to the UN in New York, where she was responsible for answering questions about UK affairs. Once again, she was unusual being a female diplomat. However, there were some perceived benefits:

[She] found her femininity to be a definite advantage: "men being men, they'd much rather have a fairly personable female coming in to call on them than just any old little Third Secretary male. So doors did open to you, which you milked to the maximum, if you had any sense"
(McCarthy)

The 'Me Too' movement was far in the future. Most female diplomats were not feminists despite the rising 'Women's Liberation' movement. Another focus of Meg's work were Afro-American affairs, informed by her previous experience in Africa. She travelled around the USA and Canada lecturing "A good excuse to see America and Canada", visiting Atlanta, Texas among many other places and travelled across Canada by train. Meg particularly enjoyed her time in Canada and "loved the friendly Canadians."

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Helsinki

Helsinki was Meg's next posting as Head of Chancery, no. 2 to the Ambassador. This is 'An important position in British embassies ... usually head of the political section, charged with coordinating the substantive and administrative performance of the embassy' (from eDiplomat). Initially, the Ambassador refused to have Meg as he believed that most diplomatic business was conducted in the male sauna. His Swedish wife ("not a good recipe in Finland!" - the two countries did not get on well) was in poor health and Meg was appointed on the condition that she ran the Diplomatic Wives' Association.

"...the ambassador finally agreed to her posting on the express condition that she take on the running of the Diplomatic Service Wives Association, a job traditionally carried out by the wife of the head of chancery, the post Rothwell was filling. It was inconceivable that such a demand would have been made of an unmarried male officer, Rothwell chose magnanimity over aggravation and concurred with his demands (which, on arrival, she discovered extended to working as his unofficial chauffeur on a regular basis)."
(McCarthy)

Despite finding the Ambassador's wife extremely difficult, "Awful, unequivocally awful!" this was a happy posting for Meg. The Finns, in general, were very open minded and Meg experienced little discrimination as a female diplomat. She was allocated an attractive house with a garden that reached down to the edge of the sea. She would see osprey in the garden and red squirrels would feed right up to the house.

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An important part of the job was entertaining and Meg hosted receptions, lunches and cocktail parties. Many of her colleagues spent much of their time “Soviet watching”, the Cold War was at its height and spooks abounded.

Finnish was an extremely difficult language to grasp, “more difficult than Chinese”. However, Meg managed to master the language for her farewell speech. All in all, this was Meg’s second favourite posting and left her with many happy memories.

Next month Meg returns to London.



This article is written from interviews with Meg.

Chris Kerr

Quotations in italics are from:

McCarthy, Helen. Women of the World Bloomsbury Publishing. Kindle Edition.



Ron and Stella's Easter Quiz



- 1) Who plays Hannah Brown in the 1948 American musical film Easter Parade?
- 2) Easter Island belongs to which country?
- 3) In 1873 which company introduced the first chocolate Easter egg in Britain?
- 4) Which poet wrote the poem Easter, 1916? (It describes the poet's emotions regarding the events of the 1916 Easter Rising.)
- 5) Which light fruit cake, with two layers of almond paste or marzipan, is traditionally eaten during the Easter period?
- 6) At the Last Supper, which food did Jesus liken to his body?
- 7) How many pieces of silver did Judas trade the life of Jesus for?
- 8) What was Sinon of Cyrene made to do by the Romans?
- 9) Who directed the 2004 American biblical film drama The Passion of the Christ?
- 10) At Easter the British monarch distributes small silver coins known as what?



St. Mark's PCC Meeting 14 March 2022 Via Zoom

It was lovely to welcome Revd. Vanessa Lawrence, our new Vicar, to her first meeting of our PCC. She happily chaired the meeting.

Security cameras - we hope soon to be installing more cameras in the car park to try and deter problems there. Martin Hatley is donating some of his Councillor's grant giving for this work. We are very grateful to Martin.

Organ - woodworm has been found again in the organ cupboard, and also in a storage cupboard near to the vestry. Spraying has happened and we hope that we will be rid of them for a while!

Sound System - thank you to all those who donated towards this system - it is working very well.

New Pattern of Services - Vanessa is proposing to hold a service each week in each church in the Benefice. There will be more information elsewhere in The Messenger and a note from Vanessa.

Safeguarding - Jo Hooper, our Safeguarding Officer is kindly updating all policies in

connection with safeguarding, and all PCC members will do on-line training. Vanessa emphasised how important it is that we get this issue right, and create a safe space for everyone.

Ampfield School - Vanessa is looking forward to visiting the school soon to meet the new Head teacher, David Ware, and the children.

Fete/Dog Show - will be held in the Church Glade and Chapel Wood on Friday 3 June, the weekend of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, from 11,30am - 3.00pm. There will be lots happening, do look out for details. And also, if you would like to volunteer to help with this event please get in touch with Mark Braund, Churchwarden, or anyone at Church. It is hoped that the school will also be involved.

APCM - the Annual meetings will be held at 11am after our Palm Sunday Service on 10 April, in St. Mark's Room and everyone is welcome.

Jennie Edwards
PCC Secretary



Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Queen Elizabeth ascended to the throne on the 6th February 1952, so on the 11th of March, she will have reigned for 70 years and 70 days. Test Valley is important in the Queen's life for it was at Broadlands she spent her honeymoon and then visited many times to rest and recuperate and fly fish on our River Test.

To celebrate the Platinum Jubilee Deputy Mayor Cllr Alan Dowden is planting an oak tree in Test Valley Council's Head Quarters in Andover, to add to the thousands that the Borough is planting this year. The tree will add to the Queen's Green Canopy - an U.K. wide initiative. It is a memorable concept as it helps restore the country's verdant landscape and, at the same time, is a practical response to the Climate Emergency to which most local Councils, including Test Valley, have signed up.

That we are planting an oak tree is apposite not just because it is stout symbol of the nation but because at the Coronation, which took place on 2nd of June 1953, acorns from the oak trees of Windsor Great Park were shipped around the Kingdom and the Commonwealth and planted in parks and school grounds. They have now grown into what have become known to some as the Royal Oaks and to others as the Coronation Oaks.

With the Platinum Oaks we plant today we celebrate her ongoing reign and thank Her Majesty the Queen for her continuing commitment to duty and her devotion to a life of service to her people.



'The Story of St Mark's, Ampfield'

by Liz Hallett

St Mark's 150th Celebrations



After months of hard work and with great expectations we finally reached 21st April 1991, the church's 150th anniversary. The new St Mark's Room had been completed, with all the costs either met or promised and the church looked spick and span with new needlepoint kneelers at the end of each row and on the altar step. The highlight was a very special Communion service, when the Bishop of Winchester, the Rt. Rev. Colin James preached to a packed church. (I do remember that he made what I felt was a rather derogatory comment that the church was perhaps not to everyone's taste though it was looking very good! Perhaps he did not appreciate the early Tractarian simplicity of style.)

The congregation included the Rev Ifor Evans and his wife Margaret, and members of the families of ten of Ampfield's fourteen earlier vicars: among them the Rev Wilbert Awdry (born in the Vicarage in 1911) with his family, Bishop Philip Ridsdale and his wife Deaconess Lucy, Verity Brown, Winifred Slater and Joy Hobbs. Afterwards the Bishop formally opened St Mark's Room, coffee was served for the first time from the new kitchen and there was time for lots of photos. Then the PCC entertained all these special guests to lunch in the Village Hall.



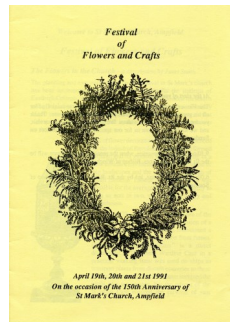
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Afterwards the families of past clergy were invited by Sir Niall and Lady Lynch-Robinson to visit the Old Vicarage, which for many of them had been their home, and which evoked many memories. The day ended with a special Songs of Praise at 6pm led by the Vicar and Bishop John Perry.

From Friday to Sunday we held a huge Flower and Craft Festival, the flowers in the church and the crafts in St Mark's Room. Both activities deserve a bit more description.

The Flower Festival was directed by Janet Smith, one of the top flower arrangers of the Wessex area and who lived in Hookwater Close and the arrangements were done by her students from Eastleigh College. Having a Victorian theme, many of the arrangements used harsh reds, purples, mauves, greens, yellows and maroon, favourite Victorian colours. At that period there was a lavish use of foliage and pot plants, and again this was a feature of the festival, together with preserved plant material as well as flowers. Highlights included the west window filled with exotic foliage and plants as seen in a typical Victorian conservatory, arrangements of dried plant materials were used on the pulpit, the lectern and the altar, green swags decorated the base of the east window and the entrance. As a special tribute to Wilbert Awdry the font display featured Thomas the Tank Engine, interpreted in flowers. The pew ends displayed tussie-mussies, posies of dried herbs popular with the Victorians and used since Tudor times to ward off disease and bad smells. The children of the Fourth Sunday Club filled seed trays with flowers to resemble kneelers, and these decorated the lobby of St Mark's Room.



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In the new Room, a wide selection of the work of the Craft Group was for sale. This group of some 15-20 ladies met mostly at my house (I was a craft teacher) and our work included patchwork quilts and cushions, quilting, sewing, knitting, pot-pourris, toys, needlepoint, crochet, salt dough, and even (with help from the men, notably Leighton Morton) woodwork items. Renate Moore's speciality was knitting mohair jumpers and doing patchwork and quilting. It all made a really good display and sold like hot cakes. In one corner of the room the flower arrangers were making and selling tussie-mussies. Copies of our new book, *The Story of St Mark's, Ampfield*, which had had its launch a few days earlier, were also on sale. Some 1100 people had visited by the end of the three-day festival.

The 150th Anniversary was a really major event, which everyone living in the parish at the time will remember. And the celebrations did not stop there - next month I will tell you something of how they continued for the whole year, with the huge street fair being just one of the additional events.

Before I end, I must share something which made us all laugh, somewhat ruefully! We had also decorated the churchyard by putting flowers on the graves of past clergy and/or their families (Frewen Moor, Ridsdale, Hobbs) and also the graves at the end of each row nearest to the main paths. During the Saturday night deer came and had a good breakfast on these flowers. Meanwhile, as we discovered next morning, the church mice had made a wonderful midnight feast on some of the very special dried plant materials on the altar - so that we had the turn the arrangements round back to front to hide the damage. Oh the joys of a country parish!

Liz Hallett



The Greening Campaign

Late last year Ampfield Parish Council was invited to a meeting introducing The Greening Campaign to parishes across Hampshire.

The Greening Campaign has been set up to engage individuals and communities with the concept of global warming and to help them begin combating climate change at home. Whilst most people accept that global warming is a real and serious problem for everyone, the enormity of the subject can deter people from acting individually.

The Greening Campaign produces a specialist pack that helps individuals set out practical everyday measures, which, taken as a whole, can make an identifiable impact within the community, e.g. reducing CO² emissions. Once the initial community group has been established, it is encouraged to move further. The objective is to create a more sustainable future for everyone, which protects the environment, reduces energy use and supports human health. For more information, please see www.greening-campaign.org.

Ampfield Parish Council has reviewed this specialist pack. It concludes that the Campaign is a worthwhile initiative but believes, to be successful, rather than a council-led project, the Campaign should be led from within the community. The Council can provide support with initial meetings and with disseminating information but volunteers will be sought to lead the campaign and encourage the wider community participation.

If you have any interest in being a part of the Ampfield campaign, please contact Graham at graham@ampfield.org.uk. As soon as there is sufficient support, Graham will organise a meeting in the village hall, which will explain more, appoint leaders, etc. to take the Ampfield Campaign forward.

Graham Roads

Service Rota St. Mark's

10 April	<i>Sides</i>	Daryl Pugh	Ron Cobb
Palm Sunday	<i>Coffees</i>	Stella Cobb	Cathy Suter
	<i>Intercessions</i>	Ron Cobb	
	<i>Readers</i>	TBA	
24 April	<i>Sides</i>	Sally Carter	Chris Kerr
	<i>Coffees</i>	Jennie Edwards	Heather Claxton
	<i>Intercessions</i>	TBA	
	<i>Readers</i>	TBA	

Answers to Ron and Stella's Quiz Night

1. Judy Garland.
2. Chile.
3. Fry's (J.S. Fry & Sons).
4. W. B. Yeats.
5. Simnel cake.
6. Bread.
7. 30 pieces of silver.
8. Carry the cross for Jesus.
9. Mel Gibson.
10. Maundy money (distributed on Maundy Thursday, the day before Good Friday).

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.

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

Frontline Debt Advice - 02380 552866

Southampton Basics Bank -

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



The Blue Lamp Trust is a Hampshire based registered charity (charity number 1137786). It is a unique partnership between Hampshire Police, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service, business and the community. The Trust promotes community safety and security in Hampshire through two schemes The Bobby Scheme and the Cyber Bobby Scheme:

The Bobby Scheme

The Bobby Scheme operates throughout Hampshire. It provides practical help with home safety and security to those over 65, vulnerable due to circumstance, disabled (over 18) and victims of burglary and domestic abuse.

A full crime prevention and fire safety survey is carried out by one of our trained, police-vetted fitters. They will provide both general and specific crime and fire prevention advice to improve home safety. When appropriate our fitters will fit such items as locks, spy-holes, door chains and smoke alarms, etc. This service is completely free. The Trust can also supply and fit the Supra C500 Key Safe, an ACPO Police Accredited Key Safe. The cost to supply and fit is £75 inc VAT.

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The Cyber Bobby Scheme

One of our police checked and trained Cyber advisors will visit the client in their own home and give advice and guidance on basic IT security and how to avoid being affected by a cyber crime or a cyber enabled crime. The service is open to those over 65, disabled (over 18) and victims of cyber crime.

They will cover such things as; What is cyber crime, cyber and scam prevention advice, how to check privacy settings, signposting to other advice and resources, how to report issues and how to recognise scam emails and text messages. As with the Bobby Scheme the service is completely free.

As well as visits the team can do talks about both schemes to local community and social groups.

If you would like visit for either scheme or to arrange a talk, either go to our website

<https://www.bluelamptrust.org.uk/bobby-scheme-choice/>

You can email the team at info@bluelamptrust.org.uk or call 0300 77

Theresa Pratt
CEO

The Blue Lamp Trust, c/o Hampshire Police & Fire and Rescue
Service HQ, Leigh Road, Eastleigh, Hampshire SO50 9SJ



A prayer for Spring

God, give us eyes to see
the beauty of the Spring,
And to behold Your majesty
in every living thing -
And may we see in lacy leaves
and every budding flower
The Hand that rules the universe
with gentleness and power -
And may this Easter grandeur
that Spring lavishly imparts
Awaken faded flowers of faith
lying dormant in our hearts,
And give us ears to hear, dear God,
the Springtime song of birds
With messages more meaningful
than man's often empty words
Telling harried human beings
who are lost in dark despair -
Be like us and do not worry
for God has you in His care.

Helen Steiner Rice



CONTRIBUTIONS and CONTENT

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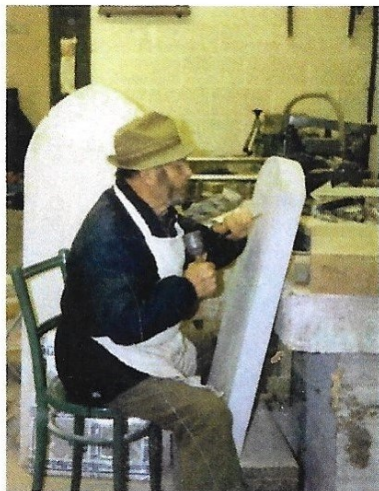
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