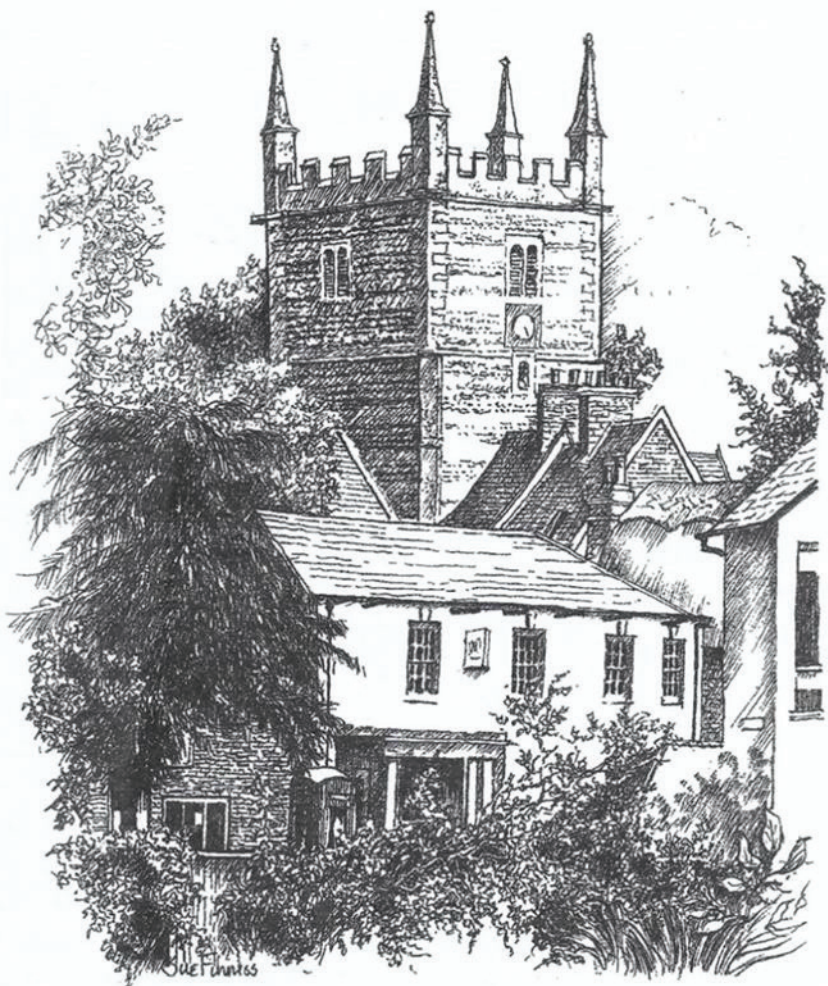


# Downton Parish News

May 2023



St. Laurence Church

50p

## **St Laurence Church Downton**

Enquiries for Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals,  
or requests for pastoral visits, should be made to  
the team vicar Revd Veronica Batchelor.

Tel. 01725 513878

Email: [veronicaforestandavon@gmail.com](mailto:veronicaforestandavon@gmail.com)

**Churchwarden:** Mr Ken Parsons 01725 512738

**Parish administrator:** Mrs Jo Parsons 01725 512738

**Director of Music:** Mrs Elaine Hicks-Arnold 01722 710341

**Sunday School:** Dr Janet McGee 01725 513869

**Church Flowers:** Mrs A Gates 01725 514674

& Mrs G White 01725 476024

**Church website:** [www.stlaurencedownton.co.uk](http://www.stlaurencedownton.co.uk)



[www.facebook.com/stlaurencedownton](https://www.facebook.com/stlaurencedownton)

Anyone is welcome to come and look round this beautiful, ancient church or just take time to reflect and pray in peaceful surroundings. The church will usually be open daily from 9.30 am till 4.30pm



*"St Laurence Church explores & builds the Kingdom of God  
through prayer, learning together & serving the local community"*

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St Laurence is part of the Forest and Avon Team of Churches,  
together with St Birinus, Morgans Vale; St Mary, Redlynch;  
St Andrew, Landford; St Peter, Bramshaw; St Peter, Plaitford.

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Downton Parish News is published 10 times a year, and is also currently online. Information for contributors and advertisers is at the back of the magazine, together with details of home delivery.

From Rev David Bacon  
Team Rector, Forest and Avon Team



Dear Friends

### **Called to Serve**

At this time of year, I often talk with couples preparing for marriage. “What difference will it make to be married?” I ask; and sadly, many reply. ‘It won’t make any difference at all’. They simply assume that their Wedding will be a celebration of what already exists. No wonder they pay so much attention to the Wedding Day (24 hours) and so little to the hopefully many years that will follow.

And, in a sense, we could ask the same question about the forthcoming Coronation. After all, the King became the king at the moment of his mother’s death. That won’t change when the crown is placed on his head.

But the Coronation is not just about the receiving of the crown, the opportunity for us all to celebrate and in doing so to add an estimated £1 billion to the UK economy. The Coronation is first and foremost a public declaration of commitment and service made before God and the people.

Words like commitment and service feel rather out of place in post-Covid Britain where so many of us have re-evaluated our priorities around ourselves and reduced our commitment to things outside.

King Charles clearly hopes that as we witness his words of commitment, we may be challenged to review our own commitment to one another, to our communities – and perhaps to God too?

For followers of Jesus, our sense of commitment is rooted in His willingness to be a servant King. He ‘did not come to be served, but to serve and to give up his life as a ransom for many’. (Mark 10:45)

In one of the prayers written to celebrate the Coronation, we pray that “we, with Charles our King, may give ourselves to the service of God and others, that our communities may flourish and be places of trust and friendship.

May we all be ready to say “Amen” to that.

With my love and prayers

David,  
Bramshaw Rectory

## ST LAURENCE CHURCH SERVICES

## May

<b>7<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>10.30am</b>	<b>Fifth Sunday of Easter</b> <b>Holy Communion</b> <b>Gospel</b>	<b>John 14:1-14</b>
<b>14<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>10.30am</b>	<b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b> <b>Café Church</b>	
<b>21<sup>st</sup> May</b> <b>10.30am</b>	<b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b> <b>Holy Communion</b> <b>Gospel</b>	<b>John 17:1-11</b>
<b>28<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>10.30am</b>	<b>Pentecost (Whit Sunday)</b> <b>Holy Communion</b> <b>Gospel</b>	<b>TBA</b>

We ask that you continue to sanitise your hands on arrival. Wearing a mask throughout the service is **optional**. During Communion the common cup will be offered to those who wish to receive.

We ask people to respect those who still wish to distance, but please feel free to sit with others if you wish.

Recorded services within the Forest and Avon Team are available each week from St. Mary Redlynch and St. Andrew Landford. Salisbury Cathedral also offer recorded services.

**The Church is open every day from 9.30am until 4.30pm for visitors and private prayer.**

'Celebrating the Coronation'  
Join us at the Service on Sunday May 7th  
as we celebrate the Coronation  
and pray for King Charles.  
All welcome

**Woodfalls Methodist Church**

The Ridge, Woodfalls, SP5 2LH

**Service details overleaf****All enquiries to Graham Tanner** (01725 512648);email [gtanner.gtanner@btinternet.com](mailto:gtanner.gtanner@btinternet.com)**Roman Catholic Services****Church of the Good Shepherd. Barford Lane, Downton, SP5 3QA**

The Catholic chapel is now available for private prayer.

At 6.30 pm on Tuesdays the congregation hold a

Service of the Word by Zoom.

There is a Mass in the chapel on the third Thursday of the month.

The next Mass will be on 18<sup>th</sup> May at 6.30 pm.

If you would like to join the Zoom services,

or use the chapel for private prayer

please contact John Elliott on 07980 921558.

St Osmund's Church TV system

can be accessed at: <https://salisburycatholics.org/church-tv>**Downton Baptist Church****South Lane, Downton, SP5 3NA Tel: 01725 512971**[www.downtonbaptist.org](http://www.downtonbaptist.org) | [office@downtonbaptist.org](mailto:office@downtonbaptist.org)**Sunday Morning Worship at 10.30 am:**

including groups for young people.

Services can be found on the Church website.

**Thursday Morning Worship at 10.30 am:**Followed by a two-course community lunch 2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> weeks of the month.**Little Club Toddler Church: Wednesday Morning at 9.00 am:**

Free groups for Toddlers and their adults.

**The LARDER: Food for the Community.**

9.00 am to 10.00 am Wednesday and Thursday

6.00 pm to 7.00 pm Monday and Thursday

Pastors: Rev Philip Rhoades and Rev Katy Ulliyatt

Tel: 07468 491143 or 07786 248880.

[Philip@downtonbaptist.org](mailto:Philip@downtonbaptist.org) | [Katy@downtonbaptist.org](mailto:Katy@downtonbaptist.org)

## Services in the Forest and Avon Churches – May 2023

### Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

10.45am Service at Woodfalls Methodist Church followed by lunch

### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May

9.30am Coronation Celebration at Bramshaw

10.30am Parish Communion (Celebrating the Coronation)  
at Downton

10.30am Gathering at Landford (Methodist)

11am Coronation Celebration at Redlynch

### Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May

10am HC at Morgans Vale

10.30am Café Church at Downton

10.30am Gathering at Landford (Methodist)

4pm Rogation Service at Plaitford

### Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May

10.45am Service at Woodfalls Methodist Church followed by lunch

### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May

9.30am Morning Worship at Bramshaw

10am Morning Worship at Woodfalls

10.30am Parish Communion at Downton

10.30am Morning Worship at Landford (Methodist)

### Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May

9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) at Redlynch

### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May – Pentecost / Whit Sunday

9.30am Parish Communion at Bramshaw

10am Holy Communion at Redlynch

10.30am Parish Communion at Downton

10.30am Gathering (Café-style) at Landford (Methodist)

11am Holy Communion at Landford (St Andrew's)

4pm "Wild Sparks" at Redlynch churchyard

## Prayer Diary for May

- 1 All hoping to get married this year
- 2 Bishop Stephen and his family
- 3 Our Church School
- 4 Our Witness to the Faith
- 5 Archbishop Justin Welby
- 6 Our Churchwarden
- 7 Peace in the World
- 8 Our Parochial Church Council (PCC)
- 9 Our Team Rector and family
- 10 All key workers
- 11 Charities struggling to continue their work and fundraising
- 12 Those made redundant or unable to find work
- 13 Bishops Karen and Andrew
- 14 Our Team Vicar and family
- 15 Those who are ill and their families
- 16 Politicians and their advisors
- 17 Young people
- 18 Ascension Day – Christ the King
- 19 Medical staff: in hospitals, GPs, Care homes, research labs
- 20 Church groups
- 21 School Governors
- 22 The Bereaved
- 23 Those who produce our Parish magazine
- 24 Our Lay Pastoral Assistants (LPAs)
- 25 All who minister to the sick
- 26 Archdeacons in our Diocese
- 27 Those alone and depressed
- 28 Those involved in manufacture, distribution, and sales of food
- 29 Those at University and College
- 30 Those in Residential and Nursing Homes
- 31 Volunteers helping others in their community



Please use this diary as a part of your own prayers. In this way we can pray together as a parish for our common concerns.

If you have any suggestions for inclusion in this diary, please have a word with Jo Parsons.

## A Tribute to Michael Turner

It is with deep sadness that we announce the death of Michael John Turner of Saxonhurst, Downton. He died peacefully in Salisbury Hospital on Monday 20th March. Michael, or 'Gramps' to his seven grandchildren, provided guidance and leadership as the head of our family. He has left a lasting legacy not only to our family but to many others.

A broker for the Stock Exchange for over forty years, Michael moved with his family to the new development of Saxonhurst in 1981, to direct his family's business, H.V Vintners. He managed the group of off-licences and a post-office-greengrocery shop in the New Forest area, before returning as an Investment Trust specialist to the Stock Exchange in 1985.

Michael and his late wife Pauline became great and lasting friends with both the developer of Saxonhurst and their neighbours, and were soon involved in village life. Michael became a prominent figure in The Downton Horticultural society, organising flower shows, workshops, plant sales, trips, and newsletters over three decades. He joined the Fordingbridge Rotary Society, becoming president in 2006, raising funds for good causes and assisting in coordinating the annual fireworks display, attended by two thousand local families.

Always accommodating, generous and welcoming hosts, Michael and Pauline delighted friends and family from around the world with their sensational garden. Together, they travelled widely - they were best of friends. Michael continued to devote himself to his family after Pauline's death, his determination and integrity influencing all.

Spirited, generous and witty, Michael was a credit to his family; he will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered.

Abigail Wallace (Abby, Mike's eldest daughter)



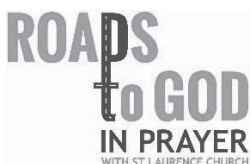


**18<sup>th</sup> March – William Frederick Thomasson and Kerry Jeanne Middleton**

## Funerals:

**9<sup>th</sup> March – Sandra Ann Moody (74)**

Jesus said “come to me and I will give you rest”



In our cycle of prayer for all living and working in our community during **May**, we will be offering prayers for:

**Everyone who lives or works in Downton  
and all visitors to our beautiful village.**

Requests for particular prayers can be made:

by telephoning Reverend Ron Hart on 01725 514772 or if unavailable by contacting Mrs Jo Parsons (01725 512738) or

emailing [info@stlaurencedownton.co.uk](mailto:info@stlaurencedownton.co.uk)

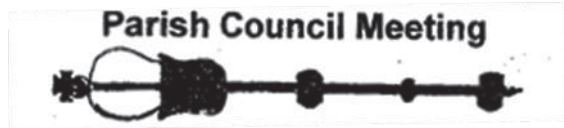
Any such requests will be kept confidential.

You can request prayers at any time – not just when your road is on the monthly list.

For more information, please see our Roads to God page on our website:  
[www.stlaurencedownton.co.uk](http://www.stlaurencedownton.co.uk)

## Roads to God Prayer Group

The next Roads to God Prayer Group will meet on Wednesday **24<sup>th</sup> May 2023** at 10.30am in St. Laurence Church, and will be led by Rev Ron Hart. We will pray for both the particular roads in our prayer cycle together with the whole village. All are welcome to join us.



### **Some excerpts from the Council Chair's annual report:**

This year has been very much influenced by changes to the Parish Council's staff. At the end of June 2022, we sadly received the resignations of both our long-standing Clerk Mrs Bev Cornish and our Administrative Officer Mrs Alison McGowan. However, we were delighted to have Ms Mel Camilleri join us from December 2022 as our permanent Clerk. We have had three Admin Officers, with two having to leave after short periods for personal reasons but we are now pleased to welcome Naomi Defriend as our Admin Officer.

In September 2022 we were all affected by the death of our late Queen. The Parish Council performed the required civic duties to both recognise the loss and to greet the new King. A recent planting of a tree in memory of the late Queen will hopefully be a lasting commemoration of the Queen's reign.

The Council recognises the benefits of working with members of the community.

- A group of residents, ably chaired by Mr Lawrence Burr, has reviewed and re-written parts of the Downton Neighbourhood Plan which was agreed as ready for submission by the Parish Council, and we are now awaiting comments from the Wiltshire Council Neighbourhood Plan team.
- The Council has also worked with the Downton Society to achieve 'heritage signs'. A member of the Society also maintains the planters on the Borough greens while the planters in Moot Lane have benefited from maintenance by residents of Moot Lane and Avon Dyke.
- We also continue to work with the primary school to understand the impacts of parking and an increased number of children now using the school.

The Council has maintained good working relationships with the police and it is during this year that a public space protection order has come into force in this area to give police greater powers over the misuse of catapults.

*Cont >>>*

Progress on the Playground refurbishment project has been achieved with a reviewed application for a public works loan and the project plan and outline specification now ready for advertising for playground equipment providers to undertake the project.

We are also pleased to be part of the Wiltshire Towns Programme, an initiative led by Wiltshire Council to help promote the retail environment of local large villages and towns.

Recent poor performance by our contractor for bin collection and grass cutting has proved a sore point for both residents and the Council as commissioner. This is now being closely managed and, with the deterrent of not paying for the work, we are confident that this will be improved. The council has made several grants to local causes and maintained its routine and ongoing responsibilities.

The Council understands the impact of the current cost of living problems and worked hard to limit the increase in the Parish element of the precept for the current year to just below inflation levels. Due to increases in contract prices, utility costs and other responsibilities, it was felt that an increase was unfortunately unavoidable.

The Chair thanked all colleague councillors and several members of the community, and looks forward to a new year.

Contact details: [clerk@downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)



*Save the date !*

**Suite Jazz Picnic**

*on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July at 7pm.*

*in St Laurence's Churchyard*

*(or in church if wet)*

*More details next month.*

## The LARDER for our community



Everyone is welcome to come and share from **The LARDER**, situated in Downton Baptist Church. You will find a wide variety of food donated by our local community, including the Co-op and Bidfood. Our hope is that **The LARDER** will reduce food waste and make food available to everyone who

would like it. It is absolutely FREE and anyone can come and access one bag of food per week.

**We welcome donations from individuals as well, of items of unopened food, cleaning and hygiene products. We also welcome fresh food. Any financial donations received will go to purchasing more food.**

There continue to be many locations where food can be taken. The Co-op have a collection point, along with Ashley Grange, the Primary School and The Trafalgar School in Downton. The Cedars at Landford will be participating soon. You can also bring fresh food and any other items to the church during Larder open times or church office hours. (9.00 am to 1.00 pm Monday to Thursday),

Please see Downton Baptist Church website for further information.

[www.downtonbaptist.org/Groups/384889/The\\_Larder.aspx](http://www.downtonbaptist.org/Groups/384889/The_Larder.aspx)

**The LARDER** is open each week on Monday and Thursday evenings from 6pm to 7pm, and Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9 am to 10 am.



### Calling all knitters!

Could you, would you, be willing to knit a Bobble Hat(s) to donate to my daughter Rachel Noble to sell in the autumn? The Sale is to raise funds for The Brain Tumour Charity, in memory of her daughter Zoe, who passed away last November aged 29 years.

For more information, call me, Julia Whitmarsh, on 01725 510601, or my daughter Rachel on 07960767598.

*You may receive your magazine before Cuckoo Fair - come and see us in the Memorial Hall when you are feeling hungry!*

## **St Laurence's Larder at Cuckoo Fair**

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

St Laurence church members and friends will be providing home-made food and a warm welcome!

You will be able to come inside the Memorial Hall to sit down and enjoy your choice of refreshments all day from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm. We will be serving a range of savoury and sweet options (from meals to snacks), as well as hot and cold drinks.

You can also purchase bacon rolls and hot drinks, at the front of the Memorial Hall, from 7.30 am.

If any of you would like to help the Larder in any way, eg by preparing food or serving on the day you will be warmly welcomed:

please email [janet6656@aol.com](mailto:janet6656@aol.com).

Looking forward to seeing you on the day!

Go to <https://cuckoofair.co.uk/events> to see Saturday's programme.

*And why not join us on Sunday morning for a united Service, attended by the Cuckoo Fair princess, with members of Downton Band providing the music.*



## **Cuckoo Fair Service**

with all the Downton churches

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April at 10.30 am  
in the Memorial Hall**

*All are welcome to join us for an informal Service*

*Refreshments to follow*



**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May**  
**Downton Coronation Celebration**  
 In the Memorial Gardens, 3-8pm

Come and celebrate this occasion with friends and family. The programme of entertainment is planned so that there is something for everyone:

- 3pm start
- 3-3.45pm Childrens Disco (Disco Dion)
- 3.45-4pm Downton Band
- 4-6pm Concert – Charles's Life in Dance, Song and Words
- 6-6.30pm Downton Band
- 6.30-8pm Ceilidh with the band, Black Sheep
- 8pm Finish

Please bring your own chairs or blankets and refreshments. Pizza van, ice cream van, Pimms stall and hot drinks available.

For further details, please see Facebook or posters in the coming weeks. If raining the event will move to the Memorial Hall.

**Tickets cost £10 for adults, free to children 16 and under.**

No unaccompanied children please.

Available from the Borough Cafe from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April -  
 cash only please

or phone Malcolm on 07776 511221

or buy on the gate (cash or card).

## Kerbside recycling

There has been a lot of talk recently about recycling, with more items being collected by Wiltshire Council. Look on their website to check in detail what can, and can't, be collected in the black box and blue-top bin.

[www.wiltshire.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/recycling)

### **What you can put in your blue-lidded bin**

Plastic bottles, pots, tubs and trays (but no black plastics)

Tins, cans, empty aerosols and clean foil

Cartons, Paper and cardboard of any colour. Wash and squash bottles, and keep the lids on.

Keep items loose; don't put them inside each other, and never put them in a carrier bag inside your recycling bin. Make sure items are clean.

### **What you must not put in your blue-lidded bin**

Black plastic - plastics are sorted using laser technology that can identify different plastic types. Black plastics are difficult for the equipment to detect so these cannot be separated for recycling from other materials managed at the facility, so are rejected.

Cardboard contaminated with foodstuff e.g. takeaway pizza boxes

Film lids from pots, tubs and trays, Cling film, Crisp/sweet packets

Plastic bags, eg, carrier bags, sandwich bags, freezer bags, bin liners

Pet food pouches, Disposable drinks cups and plastic straws

Compostable plastics (including cups, trays, films, and cartons)

Plastic packaging and polystyrene

Plant pots (including black) - these can be taken to most household recycling centres or returned to garden centres for reuse

Rigid plastic eg toys, garden furniture

Boxes with plastic windows, please remove the window first

Foil-lined cardboard tubes (eg Pringles tubes)

Dirty cans or tins - please rinse all recyclables first, Clinical / medical products

Batteries, Scrap metal, Books, Textiles, Shredded paper, Coffee pods

Plastic tubes (including toothpaste, hand cream tubes)

### **What you can put in your black box:**

Clean glass bottles and jars (leave the lids on)

### **What you must not put in your black box:**

Flat glass, Pyrex or any oven proof cookware, Lightbulbs.

## **Chelsea Flower Show Plant Sale**

**Horatio's Garden announces special plant sale featuring plants  
from the charity's RHS Chelsea Flower Show garden,  
at Longford Castle Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June, 10.00 am – 2.00 pm**

Stunning and rare large perennials, including contemporary favourites such as Geums, Sanguisorba, Rodgersia, Baptisia, irises and lilies, as well as unusual species of Aquilegia, Ranunculus, and Thalictrum will be available. Grass species will also be for sale, alongside unusual hydrangeas and roses. All the plants have been grown in the UK especially for Horatio's Garden Chelsea.

Everything will be available to purchase on a first-come first-served basis. All profits will support Horatio's Garden, helping the charity to continue nurturing the wellbeing of people after spinal injury. Light refreshments, artisan crafts handmade by the charity's volunteers, and a full collection of the charity's bespoke merchandise will also be on sale.

Although the formal gardens will not be open, visitors will have the unique opportunity to enjoy the stunning grounds of the Longford Estate, the private ancestral seat of the Radnor family for over 300 years.

Horatio's Garden South West was created by six-time RHS Chelsea Gold Medal winning landscape designer Cleve West at Salisbury District Hospital in 2012. Since then, Horatio's Garden have opened a further six gardens across the UK.

**Admission £5 per person on entry (parking included). For more about the event, visit [www.horatiogarden.org.uk/longfordplantsale](http://www.horatiogarden.org.uk/longfordplantsale)**

Horatio's Garden nurtures the wellbeing of people after spinal injury in beautiful, vibrant sanctuaries within the heart of NHS spinal injury centres. The gardens are vital places for reflection and adjustment for people facing life-changing injuries and long stays in hospital. The charity's vision is to sustainably grow thriving communities and biodiverse gardens in all 11 NHS spinal injury centres in the UK.

For more information about Horatio's Garden, or for images please contact Alex Geaney on [alex@horatiogarden.org.uk](mailto:alex@horatiogarden.org.uk) / 01722 326834



## **Downton Horticultural Society**

**We are holding our Plant and Table-top sale in the Memorial Hall  
on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 2.00 pm.**

A wide range of plants will be on sale. Refreshments will be available. There is still time for anyone to book a table-top, these being free for charities or £5 for non-charities. Please contact Chris Parry (514511) to reserve one.

We will be pleased to receive plants to sell on the day of the sale, so if you have any spare plants or are dividing established plants etc then please bear us in mind. All that we ask is that they are both rooted and labelled so we know what they are.

Our March presentation on 'Gardens of the Rich and Famous' was excellent, and the accompanying music was well chosen. The gardens included Exbury, David Austin Roses, a number of National Trust properties in Sussex, and the private gardens of Mary Berry and Cameron Macintosh.

Gordon Bishop (01725 511475)



## **Community Café in the Memorial Hall**

**This regular event takes place at Downton Memorial Hall on the last  
Friday of each month, from 10.00 am - 12 noon.**

Tea, coffee and homemade cake - plus the opportunity to chat to old friends and make new ones. There is a book share and it is hoped that people will bring and share excess garden produce and flowers.

Everyone is welcome – pop in for a few minutes or stay all morning.

There is no charge, but leave a donation if you wish.

If you know anyone who would like to come but needs a lift  
please contact [stephaniejalland1@gmail.com](mailto:stephaniejalland1@gmail.com).

## Good Companions

We meet in Downton Memorial Hall on Tuesdays from 2.00 - 4.00 pm. Regulars pay £2; visitors, who are always welcome, pay £2.50; cup of tea and biscuit included. Contact Julia Whitmarsh on 01725 510601.

### Speakers to look forward to:

**2<sup>nd</sup> May** - Bobby Sartin – ‘The Labourers Lot: the Tolpuddle Martyrs’. Bobby was one of the Yetties, so is very knowledgeable about Dorset and its history.

**9<sup>th</sup> May** - Alan Jones - he is one of our regular speakers. ‘Tales of a Roving Reporter’. Alan is entertaining and amusing.

**23<sup>rd</sup> May** - Looking forward to a visit from Ann, who brings out our artistic abilities! She brings the paints, brushes and paper.



### Goldies Sing-Along Social Group at Downton Memorial Hall

Goldies takes place upstairs at Downton Memorial Hall on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month from 10.00 am, led by Carole Still. The next session is on 24<sup>th</sup> May. Walk down the side of the Hall, and enter through the door on the left.

At Goldies we chat and laugh with friends, whilst singing along to the hits of the 50's onwards, with artists such as Sir Cliff Richard, Tom Jones, Elvis, Dusty Springfield, Petula Clark and many more. Goldies is not a choir, you don't have to be able to sing to join, just love music and socialising. Goldies Sing&Smile sessions are open to everyone, but particularly aim to reduce isolation with older adults. We ask for a £3 donation to attend.

For further information go to the website: [www.golden-oldies.org.uk](http://www.golden-oldies.org.uk)  
Or ring Carole Still on 01722 337880

**Downton's Mobile Post Office - Every Friday Morning**

**Moot Lane near to Recreation Ground: 9.00 am - 10.00 am**

**The Bull car park: 10.05 am till 11.05 am**

## Hearing Aid Clinic

**Downton Baptist Church, South Lane**

**First Thursday of the month from 10.00 am to 12.00 pm.**

Drop in and get your hearing aids retubed and cleaned  
and obtain new batteries.

We will only be able to let a maximum number of clients into the room at any one time. Please respect social distancing measures. This service is for NHS Salisbury hearing aid users. Please bring your battery issue card.



*We are RNID and together, we'll make life fully inclusive for deaf people and those with hearing loss or tinnitus.*

Contact: Gill Drayson 01722 580014 or 07570 670 643  
[gillian.drayson@rnid.org.uk](mailto:gillian.drayson@rnid.org.uk)



## The New Forest Tour

The New Forest Tour will return for the summer season, from 1st July to 17th September 2023, with three interconnecting bus routes. Get on and off wherever you like and catch the next Tour bus, or switch between routes, all on the same ticket. Hear the stories of the people, places and animals of the New Forest on the audio commentary – with characters, sounds and music, bringing the view to life.

Information about the routes, ticket prices and timetables can be found on the website: <https://www.morebus.co.uk/tickets-NFT>.

Leaflets should be available nearer the time from the Tourist Information Centre.

### Why not buy a Downton Cuckoo Fair bag or tea towel?

**Good value, and unique to our village**

Contact Edna Pike on 01725 511332

Cotton shopping bags	£3 each
Jute Shopping bags	£4 each
Tea towels	£2.50 each



**Not a Ghost but a Gift***By Canon David Winter*

We used to call it Whitsun - White Sunday because long ago children marched to church in white on that day. No processions nowadays, and we've even changed its name. It's now 'Pentecost', which is more accurate but needs explaining.

This year Whitsun/Pentecost is on Sunday May 28<sup>th</sup>. Pentecost marks a vital event in Christian history. It is a celebrated 50 days after Easter. On the year Jesus was crucified (which took place at the Passover), the remnant of His followers, just 120 of them, were together in an upper room in Jerusalem. They were afraid to show their faces in case the authorities arrested them. But on the day of Passover they had an amazing collective experience.

They described it in terms of wind and fire, a great surge of spiritual energy and confidence. Afraid no longer they burst out on to the streets where crowds were gathering for the festival, led by Peter they began to tell them about Jesus and His resurrection. As they did so, although many of the people in the crowd were foreigners who spoke other languages, everyone heard them in their own tongue. Peter told them that what they were seeing was the fulfilment of an old prophecy when God would pour out His Spirit on the human race, men and women, young and old.

As a result of His words and the extraordinary spectacle, 3000 people believed and were baptized in the name of Jesus. They were the nucleus of what in 100 years would be a Church that would turn history upside down. For Christians Pentecost is in effect the birthday of the Church.

I realise many people find the whole idea of the Holy Spirit mysterious and elusive. It wasn't helped by the earlier title 'Holy Ghost'. The spirit is not spiritually a 'ghost' but a precious gift.



## Lover Repair Cafe

"DO NOT BIN IT, WE MAY FIX IT"

### Latest News:

- **Gardening Season:** May has come, the cuckoo's cuckooing and the grass is growing. Don't forget we are here to help with any garden tool problems be it sharpening or mechanical repairs.
- **Helpers:** Our new helpers appear to be settling in very well (once they are used to the flippant remarks being bandied around). We are now in a position to offer a complete service on domestic items.
- **Chat-a-Techie:** Martin, our IT Geek, has been very busy with the Computer, Tablet, and Mobile-phone service recently, so he would appreciate anyone prepared to join him & help in offering this service. If you need help with training sessions or repairs **Contact the Techies** or book in (preferably) Email [loverrepaircafe@gmail.com](mailto:loverrepaircafe@gmail.com) or phone 01725 510753.
- **Financial Support:** No new needs have been noted recently; however we continue to support many local organisations with regular giving. If you are aware of any local organisations in need of help please let us know.

Pictures of two of the 'Back Room Boys', John B & Len, furniture polishing & garden seat



refurbishing, but they can turn their hand to many different crafts. Centre picture - "Back to School": Martin & John M running a Repair & Recycle Session

Don't forget, we are at Lover Village Hall to help you with any repairs or serve you 'a hot cuppa tea' every Wednesday or Friday morning 10.00 am to 12 noon. Contact:

[loverrepaircafe@gmail.com](mailto:loverrepaircafe@gmail.com) or phone 01725 10753 (If urgent)

## Redlynch and District WI

The April meeting was held on a stormy day, but 15 members turned up. Unfortunately three members of the committee were recovering from Covid. Instead of a speaker we had a 'getting to know you' afternoon; it was interesting to hear where members came from, and their interests and the things they hoped to do in the future.

The next meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> May will be a few days after the Coronation, so we are planning to have a celebration lunch in the hall before the meeting commences; this will be for members only. Our speaker in the afternoon will be Alan Jones – 'Roving reporter'.

For more information please contact Rosemary Pugh (01725 510335)



### Talkabout

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May**  
**in Woodfalls Methodist Hall**

Liz Priest with a talk entitled 'A pop of colour'  
 Coffee served from 10.00 am and the talk starts at 10.30 am

*Everyone Welcome*

### **Saturday 6th May Coronation Live Broadcast.**

Come and join us watching on an 85 inch TV.

*Drinks and cake all morning.*

*Jacket potatoes with fillings for lunch.*

**Woodfalls Methodist Church - A warm welcome awaits you.**

## Forest Edge Flower Arranging Society



All the participants got creative at our April practical evening, led by Heather, one of our members. Beautiful spring-themed floral hoops were created in various colours and styles.

Do join us at our practical evening on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 pm (refreshments from 7 pm) – our President, Martina, will inspire you for creating 'Petite and miniature' arrangements (Please contact us to find out the instructions). The techniques will be useful for arranging for future competitions.

All meetings/events are held at Morgans Vale & Woodfalls Village Hall, Redlynch (SP5 2HU). A full programme for 2023/24 is displayed on the notice board in the hall, on our facebook group, and via the following weblink: <https://tinyurl.com/FEFAS2023-24>. We look forward to welcoming you!

Contact: Julie Bottone 01725 514875

Email: [forestedgeflower@gmail.com](mailto:forestedgeflower@gmail.com)

Facebook group: [www.facebook.com/groups/forestedgeflower](http://www.facebook.com/groups/forestedgeflower)

View full programme for 2023/24: <https://tinyurl.com/FEFAS2023-24>

### Upcoming meetings:

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| 8 May  | Practical Evening 'Petite and miniature' 7.30 pm                                     |
| 5 June | Cream tea and Talk by Pip Bensley 'Snippets' 7.30 pm                                 |
| 3 July | Club Competition (Staging only from 7.00 pm / Judging and Refreshments from 7.30 pm) |



### Social Evening on Saturday 13th May Woodfalls Methodist Hall

Starting with a meal at 5.30 pm followed by a Beetle Drive.  
To help with catering please phone 01725512648 if you hope to come.

**Everyone Welcome.**

## **Redlynch and District History Society April meeting**

### **The New Forest Verderer's Court by Peter Frost**

Peter, as a leading conservationist, artist and former Verderer, gave a great insight into the workings of the Court and its purposes in managing the open forest for the benefit of the Commoners, the landscape and the habitat in general.

The Verderers are a group of unpaid individuals whose primary objective is to regulate and protect the interests of the New Forest Commoners, and to “preserve the natural beauty and good traditional character of the Forest” under the 1877 New Forest Act; prior to that time, they represented the interest of the Crown.

They comprise 10 members, the Official Verderer, 5 elected verderers who own land or interests within the forest, and four representatives for DEFRA, Natural England, National Park and the Forestry Commission respectively. The verderers comprise the Verderers' Court, a body originally authorised by the crown to deal with those who offended against Forest Law.

In 1388, a building in which the New Forest courts could meet was constructed within or beside Lyndhurst's old manor house, the building which later became King's House. The current Verderers' Hall is believed to occupy the same site as the original, and the floor is believed to be original although most of the structure was renewed in the 18th-19thC.

The Verderers have a veto on activity on the open forest so no development can take place there without their agreement, thereby ensuring inappropriate misuse of the area is avoided. Peter reminded us that the woodland pasture and lowland heath is amongst the rarest and most important habitat in Europe. He showed a range of slides to illustrate key points and informed those present that anyone can attend the Court which takes place on the third Wednesday of most months in the Verderers Hall, which stands at the top of Lyndhurst High Street.

Our next meeting is “Put your best face forward”, by actress and historian Jane Glennie, providing an interactive talk on helpful hints for the wartime housewife. Venue is Morgans Vale & Woodfalls Village Hall at 7.30 pm Tuesday 2nd May.



## Redlynch Players: Backstage News

### Full Steam Ahead for The Titfield Thunderbolt!



It isn't long now before the Titfield Thunderbolt pulls into Redlynch Village Hall for performances of this fun 1950's era story about a small group of villagers hoping to run their own railway! It has been a joy to rehearse this comedy - some members of our cast are playing up to three different characters! As I write in early April, we have already sold over 60% of our tickets so I am not sure if any will be left by the time you read this! But in case there are, here are the details:

**Email:** [tickets@redlynchplayers.co.uk](mailto:tickets@redlynchplayers.co.uk) **or call the Station Ticket Office (01725 510283).** Tickets are £12 and we will be performing at Redlynch Village Hall at 7.30 pm on:

**Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> May**

Doors open for the buffet car at 7pm.

We can't wait to welcome our audiences!

### We won an award!

#### NODA DISTRICT 'PRODUCTION OF THE YEAR' WINNERS 2022!

Redlynch Players, with Fordingbridge Players, are proud to announce they are the winners of this prestigious award for their joint production *Lark on the Wing* by Ron Perry, which we performed in Redlynch Village Hall in May 2022. This is the second successful joint production between Redlynch Players and Fordingbridge Players and shows the versatility and importance of this type of collaboration between two long standing drama groups. Both groups will be sending representatives to the South West National Operatic and Dramatic Association (NODA) Regional Awards event in Plymouth later this month to collect the award!

We particularly wish to congratulate Ron Perry who both wrote this charming play and directed the production.

***"..I thought that it was a magical production that was totally enthralling, very entertaining and a wonderful history lesson."*** - Brian Oliver, NODA

**Find out more!** To be included on our emailing list to hear our latest news, please email [info@redlynchplayers.co.uk](mailto:info@redlynchplayers.co.uk) Or see our website for recent reviews, buying tickets and past productions: [www.redlynchplayers.co.uk](http://www.redlynchplayers.co.uk) We post regular updates on our Redlynch Players Facebook page. Why not follow us? Or you can follow us on twitter! @RedlynchPlayers

*Ali Silver* Chair of Redlynch Players

## Downton Clubs and Societies

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Barford Day Centre.....	Jeremy Parsons.....	01725 512963
BWSC Association Chairman .....	Mr Simon Bromilow .....	07785 265019
Downton Bowling Club .....	Mr Mike Hallam.....	01725 513359
Cuckoo Fair Committee .....	Mr T Pike .....	01725 511332
DCT Links Youth Group: School years 7/8/9+.....	Mr P Rhoades .....	01725 514792
Downton Band Secretary .....	Danie Williams .....	07535 994164
Downton Community Choir .....	Kate Edgar .....	01725 512635
Downton Community Pre-School .....	Naomi Hawker .....	01725 511178
Downton Football Club .....	Dan Newman .....	07900 370600
Downton Green Group .....	Jane Brentor .....	01725 510504
Downton History Group .....	Mr Dave Webber .....	01725 513759
Downton Horticultural Society .....	Mr Tony Ashford .....	01725 510656
Downton Lace Group .....	Mrs Judi Brown .....	01725 511649
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Downton Millennium Green Trust .....	Sue Larkin .....	01725 511209
Downton Parish Council Clerk .....	clerk@downtonparishcouncil	
Downton Society .....	Susan Barnhurst-Davies .....	01725 512963
Downton Society Footpath Group .....	Susan Barnhurst-Davies .....	01725 512963
Downton Tennis Club .....	Kevin Burns.....	07720 209753
Forest Edge Flower Arranging Society .....	Mrs Martina Coleman .....	01725 512556
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Goldies Sing & Smile .....	Carole Still .....	01722 337880
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	<a href="mailto:1stdowntonguides@gmail.com">1stdowntonguides@gmail.com</a>	
Guild of Ringers (Church Bells) .....	Mr R Plaskett .....	01725 511258
Longwater Tai Chi .....	Jane Launchbury .....	01725 514546
Memorial Hall Bookings .....	Mrs Hilary Mace .....	07760 415818
Parochial Church Council .....	Mrs Jo Parsons .....	01725 512738
Royal British Legion .....	Mr Paul Hammond .....	07710 425983
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Scouts .....	Kevin Hill .....	<a href="mailto:downtonscouts@gmail.com">downtonscouts@gmail.com</a>
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(Amended January 2023)***



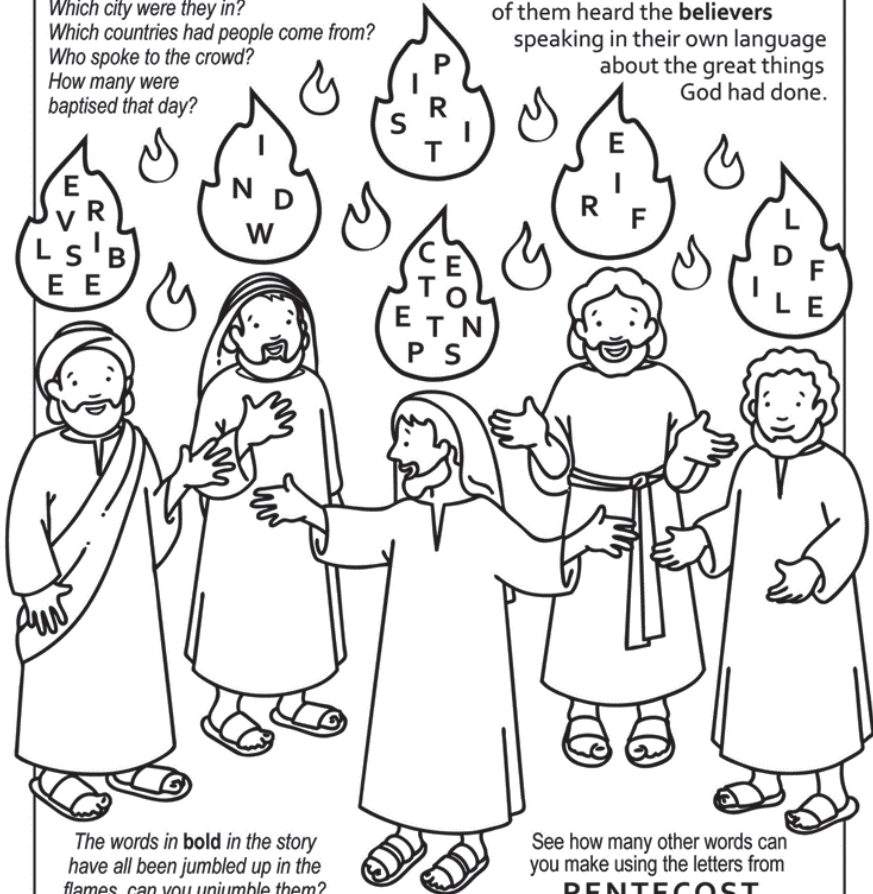
## Mouse Makes

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A crowd gathered outside, they were excited and confused because each of them heard the **believers** speaking in their own language about the great things God had done.



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### **Sending editorial copy**

Articles and notices of events for **June**  
to be emailed to the Editor by **10<sup>th</sup> May.**

Please contact the Editor if you wish to submit a paper copy.  
Articles will be shortened if space is limited; any received late may  
not be used. Please use black and white clipart rather than coloured  
items. Word documents are preferable to pdf's or jpg's.

**Editor: Angela Jones (01725 512204)**

**Email: [alovelockjones@waitrose.com](mailto:alovelockjones@waitrose.com)**

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responsibility can be accepted for any errors of fact published in the  
Parish News.*

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**If you would like the Parish News to be delivered to you  
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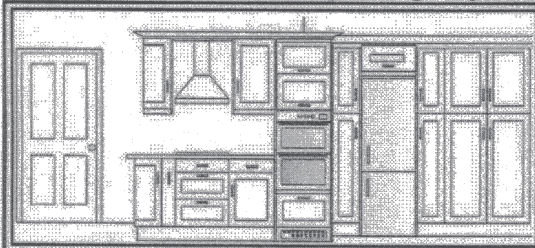
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Tuesday	2pm to 5pm (volunteer session)
Wednesday	2pm to 5pm (volunteer session)
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- Private chapels of rest
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- Memorial Masonry
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**[www.chriswhitefunerals.co.uk](http://www.chriswhitefunerals.co.uk)**

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