

April 2022

Downton Parish News



St. Laurence Church

50p

St Laurence Church Downton

Enquiries for Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, or requests for pastoral visits, should be made to

Priest in Charge, Rev David Bacon

Tel. 01794 390256 Email: davidbramrec@aol.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



www.facebook.com/stlaurencedownton

At present St Laurence Church is not open on a daily basis, but we hope to resume this at some time in the future. Currently the church is open on Wednesdays from 11.00 am – 12 noon for those who wish to reflect and pray in peaceful surroundings.



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

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.

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, Bramshaw Rectory
Team Vicar in the Forest and Avon Team
Dear Friends



“But ... dead guys don’t come back to life”

One day, many years ago now, Julian was sitting in my study with a cup of coffee, pouring out his frustration. He was fascinated by Jesus but he was bored by the church and had decided to give up faith for good.

But then, in a moment that I’ll never forget, he stopped ranting and said, very slowly, “But ... dead guys don’t come back to life.” And in that moment, he hit on what is the golden nugget of the Christian faith – the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. This is where our faith *must* stand or fall.

Writing less than 30 years after Jesus’ Crucifixion, St Paul realised that the whole of the Christian faith depends on the answer to this one single question – Did God raise Jesus from the dead? If the resurrection is true, then Jesus *is* the Son of God, to be worshipped and adored; but if Jesus didn’t rise from the dead, then Christians are, says Paul, “most to be pitied”. (1 Cor 15:19).

For, without the resurrection there is no Gospel. If the resurrection did not happen, Jesus was nothing more than (at best) a great moral teacher, a good person who came to a cruel end at the hands of the Roman authorities. Many people (if they think of Him at all) see Jesus as just that – and nothing more.

But if the Bible’s accounts of the Resurrection are true, if Jesus Christ *really* is risen today, everything changes because the resurrection is the ultimate proof that Jesus of Nazareth was not just a good person; He *was* who He claimed to be – the Son of God!

As we read in the Book of Acts about the preaching of the early apostles, we find a single phrase being repeated. **“But God raised Him (Jesus) from the dead”.**

“But” isn’t a very big word but like “love,” it changes everything. And down the ages, people who have come to share this faith have seen their lives changed. Believing in the resurrection is not just about a ticket to heaven when we die; Jesus promises us that eternal life can begin here and now and that living our lives with Him will mean “life in all its fullness” (John 10:10)

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I wish I could tell you that Julian's struggles with faith came to an end on that day in my study, but they didn't. Life following the Risen Christ isn't easy – He never said it would be. But the truth that Jesus is alive today challenged and changed Julian's life that day, and it can change your life too.

The fact is "Dead guys don't come back to life". But Jesus *did*!

With my love and prayers for a very happy Easter.

David

PS – I thought you should know that my spell-checker didn't like it that I'd written "The Book of Acts"; it suggested it should be, "The Book of Facts" – makes good sense to me! 😊



ST LAURENCE CHURCH SERVICES

3rd April 10.30am	5th Sunday of Lent Holy Communion Gospel	John 12:1-8
10th April 10.30am	Palm Sunday Holy Communion Gospel	Luke 23:1-49
17th April 10.30am	Easter Day Holy Communion Gospel	John 20:1-18
24th April 10.30am	2nd Sunday of Easter Morning Worship Gospel	TBA

You no longer have to reserve a seat or 'sign in' for services but we ask that you continue to sanitise your hands on arrival. Wearing a mask throughout the service is **advised**. Communion will still be by wafer only. Hymns will be sung behind masks.

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We ask people to respect those who still wish to distance, but if you would like to sit with another member of the congregation, and they are willing, this will be fine.

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 will continue to open each Wednesday from 11am until 12 noon for private prayer. A member of the Church will be present at all times as a steward and again we encourage you to sanitise your hands and wear a mask on arrival.



Woodfalls Methodist Church

The Ridge, Woodfalls, SP5 2LH

Services for April:

Sunday 3rd April 10.00am St Birinus Holy Communion

Wednesday 6th at 10.45am Cafe style worship at Woodfalls Methodist led by Rev Bryan Coates, followed by lunch.

Sunday 10th at 10.00am Woodfalls Methodist. All Age Worship for Palm Sunday led by Rev Bryan Coates

Friday 15th April 11.00am Good Friday Service led by Rev Bryan Coates after walk from St Mary's, via St Birinus. Followed by coffee hot cross buns.

Sunday 17th at 10.00am St Mary's. Holy Communion

Wednesday 20th at 10.45am 10.45am Cafe Style Worship for Easter at Woodfalls Methodist. Please bring Easter poems and reading to share. Followed by lunch.

Sunday 24th at 10.00am Praise and Worship at St Birinus

Sunday 1st May 10.00am Woodfalls Methodist. Holy Communion led by Rev Bryan Coates.

All enquiries to: Graham Tanner, telephone 01725 512648;

email atanner.gtanner@btinternet.com

Online Services at: www.salisburymethodist.org.uk



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 21st April at 6.30 pm

If you would like to join the Zoom services
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

Current Services: Sunday Mornings at 10.30am:

Services are being held indoors.

The Service will be live streamed.

Online Services are on the Downton Baptist Church website.

Ministers: Rev Philip Rhoades and Rev Katy Ulyatt

More details of all events from Rev Philip Rhoades:

Telephone: 07468 491143. Email: rhoades470@btinternet.com

Church Office: 01725 512971 or **Email:** office@downtonbaptist.org

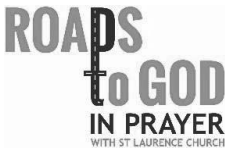
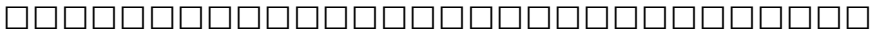
Website: www.downtonbaptist.org



Good Friday – April 15th

**There will be a joint Service from 2.00 – 3.00pm
at Downton Baptist Church, South Lane**

Join us if you can outside St Laurence Church at 1.15pm
to walk along the Borough, with hymns and readings,
as we make our way together to the Baptist church

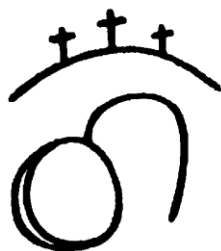


www.stlaurencedownton.co.uk

The next Roads to God Prayer Group will meet on Wednesday 27th April 2022 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.

Prayer Diary for April

- 1 All who work in medical research
- 2 Peace in the world
- 3 Churches together in Downton
- 4 Teachers and students at Trafalgar School
- 5 Our Witness to the Faith
- 6 Our Bellringers
- 7 Those who are ill and their families
- 8 Politicians and their advisors
- 9 Growing through God's Word
- 10 All key workers
- 11 Our Churchwarden
- 12 Our Team Priest and family
- 13 Our Parish Administrator and church officials
- 14 Maundy Thursday – Those alone and depressed.
- 15 Good Friday – All who deny God
- 16 Easter Eve – The Bereaved
- 17 Easter Day – Thanksgiving for the Resurrection
- 18 All ministers in the village
- 19 Financial worries: business owners who have had to close, and
workers who have been laid off
- 20 Those who produce our Parish magazine
- 21 Those involved in manufacture, distribution, and sales of food
- 22 Volunteers helping people in their community
- 23 Young people worried about their exams
- 24 Our Church School
- 25 School Governors
- 26 Our Church life and mission
- 27 Our Forest & Avon Team
- 28 Our Bishops
- 29 All visitors to our Churches
- 30 Our Lay Pastoral Assistants (LPAs)



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 our parish administrator, Mrs Jo Parsons (01725 512738).

St. Laurence Annual Parochial Church Meeting
will be on Sunday 10th April at 11.30 am
in the Church

There will be elections for Church wardens
 and members of the PCC
 All parishioners are invited to attend

St Laurence Church, Downton

Gail and Anne are looking for volunteers to join the Flower rota for St Laurence Church, Downton.

Usually people on the rota work in pairs for two consecutive weeks in the year, meeting on a Friday to arrange their flowers in church. Alternatively you can bring an arrangement you have made at home to be placed in the church.

Also, if you are free, we would enjoy your company and help over the holiday periods ie Easter, Harvest and Christmas.

Please contact either Gail White on 01725 476024 or Anne Gates on 01725 514674 and we would be happy to chat to you and give you a little more information.

We look forward to hearing from you.



Save the date!

Thursday 19th May at 7.30 pm at St Laurence Church

‘An evening of Music and Poetry with Bishop Andrew’

Tickets £10. To include refreshments.

Proceeds towards our Deanery Mission charity Morning Star Salisbury.

Further details in the May magazine



The Parish Council meeting was held at the Downton Memorial Centre on Monday 14th March 2022. Four members of the public were present.

Before starting the meeting, the Chair said that the Council's thoughts were with everyone caught up in the war between Russia and Ukraine and thanked the community for the time, goods and services given so generously in support of those in need.

Unitary Cllr Richard Clewer:

Cllr Clewer reported that:

- There had been an extraordinary effort across the County regarding support for Ukraine and the best way to support those in need was through the DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.
- The Council was awaiting information from HM Government on how the scheme to house refugees from the conflict in Ukraine would work. It would issue a press release once this was known.
- The striking of waste collection staff due to a pay dispute with Hills Group was ongoing.

Annual Parish Meeting: The Council decided to invite the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable of Wiltshire Police to attend the Annual Parish Council meeting at 7.00 pm on Monday 11th April 2022 at a venue to be agreed.

Neighbourhood Plan Review Working Group: Cllr Brentor gave a brief report on a recent meeting at which the:

- Timing of the traffic survey to be carried out in May or June had been agreed.
- Date for the meeting to form the Strategy Group to revise the Neighbourhood Plan was set at Tuesday 5th April 2022 at 6 pm.

Vacancies: There are currently 7 vacancies for councillors on the Parish Council. If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a councillor, please contact the Clerk.

The next meeting is on Monday 11th April 2022 at 8.00 pm at the Downton Memorial Centre, The Borough, Downton.

Bev Cornish. Clerk to Downton Parish Council, West View, Slab Lane, Downton, SP5 3PS. Tel 01725 513874

Email: clerk@downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

www.downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

For more information please email Carina
c.saywer@magnalearningpartnership.org

Interested in becoming a school Governor?

SEND or Secondary School experience
valuable

**THE TRAFALGAR
SCHOOL AT DOWNTON**

We're looking for you.



Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Monday - April 18th

4000 Eggs* to Find!

In Downton Moot, SP5 3NB

at 11.00 am (gates open 10.30 am)

For children 11 or under

Entry £3 per child (adults & under 2's free!)

Refreshments available -

If possible please bring your own mug to save single use plastic

No dogs or unaccompanied children please!

Proceeds to Downton Moot Preservation Trust

If wet, please check event is running

on www.downtonmoot.co.uk and social media

** May contain traces of nuts*



The Queen's Jubilee

Downton is thinking of putting on a concert for the Queen's Jubilee on June 2nd – venue to be decided.

If anyone is interested in joining in, either performing or helping out in some other way, please contact Jane Seden on 01725 510122.

Kate Edgar is also involved in creating this special evening.

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The Moot has decided to hold a Jubilee celebration and picnic on Sunday June 5th in the Moot from 2.00 pm to 7.00 pm.

This will include the concert mentioned above, at 5.00 pm.

There will also be children's games, music and refreshments etc.

Again, details to be confirmed.

Downton Neighbourhood Plan – the sequel!

Just when you thought that our Neighbourhood plan was secure until 2026, changes in government policy have moved the goalposts. There is now an urgent need to update the plan that was agreed in 2017 in order to provide further evidence to argue our community's vision for the future of Downton.

To do this we need your help!

Volunteers are needed who can spare some time over the next few months to revise certain features of the 2017 Neighbourhood plan. No experience is necessary other than being willing to be part of a local team.

We had a great response from our stall at the Parish council public consultation on 4th - 5th March, but we still need a few more people with energy and drive to update this document in the next few months.

Interested?

Then please come along to an open neighbourhood planning meeting at the Memorial hall on Tuesday 5th April at 6.00 pm with our District Councillor, Richard Clewer, to hear more.

Be a part of Downton's vision for the future!



Celebration Organ Recital - Friday 6th May at 7.00 pm

In 2017 St Laurence Church started the restoration of its pipe organ, which is a fine example of the work of the Victorian organ builder Willian Sweetland. Progress has been much delayed by the deaths of both of the original contractors and by Covid. It is now almost complete.

To celebrate this completion and to allow us to hear the organ at its best after many years the Assistant Director of Music from Salisbury Cathedral, John Challenger, has agreed to come and give a concert of organ music on Friday 6th May at 7.00 pm. The concert will include pieces by Bach, Elgar, Lefebure-Wely and Wesley.

**Tickets £12 - available on the door.
Also from the Borough Café from 4th April.**

Downton Memorial Centre Update

The Memorial Centre is now fully up and running following the various lock down periods during the past two years. The main hall is getting very booked now with old favourites, such as Tai Chi and Good Companions, plus new regular bookings including the community café ('Fridays') on the last Friday morning of each month. The latter is proving very popular and although it is not a replacement for the much-missed Country Market it will go a long way to help. Children's parties continue to be popular at the weekends particularly in the colder, wetter months.

There are also several new regular bookings in the extension – Seated Yoga , Pilates and Golden Oldies (sing along session for everyone). We are pleased that the Health Visitor drop in clinic is returning this month for the first time in two years. The two meeting rooms, as well as for classes, are suitable for all types of business meetings whether public or private. Please see the diary on the website to find out 'what's on' and, if you are looking to book one of the rooms, when free slots are available.

The Small Office – in addition to the Centenary and Bonvalot rooms, there is also a small office, suitable for one or two people, which can be booked either for a couple of hours or on a longer term basis. This may suit someone who is 'working from home' but would like an alternative space.

Children's Party-Ware – the Centre has a 'no single use plastic policy' where possible and so for children's parties multi-coloured plates, bowls and mugs are available to use at no extra charge.

Crockery, Glasses and Cutlery for hire – in addition to the crockery kept in the kitchen, that all hirers can use, the Centre possesses good quality crockery, cutlery and glasses (including champagne flutes) that can be hired for special events regardless of where they are being held. For more details, please contact the booking secretary.

During the period of the pandemic the electrics and fire alarm system have been brought up to date so with Wi-Fi throughout, a lift to the meeting rooms and a great stage, the Memorial Centre is well suited for meeting the needs of the growing community of Downton.

For more information on any of the above contact Hilary on 07760 415818, bookingsecretary@downtonmemorialcentre.co.uk or see www.downtonmemorialcentre.co.uk. 13 CFair

Downton Cuckoo Fair – 30th April 10.00am – 4.00pm

We are looking forward to getting back to fulfilling the purpose of the Fair - to support our local community and organisations by facilitating their fundraising at the Fair. We estimate that since 1980 the Fair has helped raise in excess of £1 million by local organisations, creating a very important source of income for them. Any money raised over and above running costs is offered back into the local community, for example covering the costs of a Christmas tree which is gifted to the village, or goes towards running the Fair the following year.

We understand that there will be concerns about us holding the Cuckoo Fair in 2022. We'd like to reassure everyone that we have direct contact with Wiltshire Council's Event Safety Advisory Group and take account of Industry wide guidance on holding safe events. We have highly qualified and experienced health and safety people on the Cuckoo Fair team as well as people who are on the front line of managing the impacts of Covid. So we have been very well placed to make an informed and measured decision about the Fair based on the latest information.

The FAQs on the front page of our website highlight the things we have considered in making decisions about holding the Fair in 2022
<https://cuckoofair.co.uk/>

On the day of the Fair one of the highlights is the crowning of the Cuckoo Fair Princess, which takes place outside The Goat Inn at 10am, and signals the official opening of the Fair. This is followed by the procession which begins at The Bull Hotel and ends at The Maypole. There are hundreds of different stalls located on the greens as well as the Produce Market which can be found in the car park behind the Co-op, with lots of bands to listen to and a variety of entertainment to enjoy throughout the day..To ensure the safety of visitors the B3080 through the village is closed from 08.30am to 6.00pm.

The Fair relies on a team of volunteers to organise and manage it. If you'd like more information, or to get involved and help us, please contact the Cuckoo Fair Committee on info@cuckoofair.co.uk or

Joanna Ramsay, Communications Manager - jokramsay@yahoo.co.uk
 07790 587941

Website www.cuckoofair.co.uk

Facebook www.facebook.com/Downton-Cuckoo-Fair/

What's in a name? Green Group or Green Network



Downton Green Group has been in existence for many years but isn't really a group. A 'group' could feel exclusive, meaning people have to be members, whereas it is more of a focal point for promoting local sustainability projects and for coordinating activities that reduce damage to the environment. For this reason, we feel it is more of a 'Green Network', for example coordinating a website for sharing ideas; undertaking events that promote healthy living whilst encouraging reduced waste and greater recycling; sharing articles that might make people think of their own ways of being 'greener' and bringing together other local organisations that promote the principles of repairing, reducing waste, recycling, reusing and general well-being.

So....is a name important when we are going to carry on doing all that? We think it is if it helps local people to feel that we all play a part in promoting such a lifestyle rather than feeling excluded from 'the group'! Anyone who has ideas, who wants to share if they have found information about something that works to promote a greener way of life or who just wants to find out about a local resource that helps to do this, can be part of a Green Network.

For more information go to <http://www.downtongreengroup.org.uk> (yes....it is still called the green group on our website!!)

Community Café in the Memorial Hall

To fill the hole left by the Country Market, this new regular event has been launched at Downton Memorial Hall on the last Friday of each month, from 10.00 am - 12 noon. There is tea, coffee and homemade cake plus the opportunity to chat to old friends and make new ones. There is a book share and, as the year goes on, it is hoped that people will bring and share excess garden or allotment produce and flowers. Everyone is welcome – pop in for a few minutes or stay all morning.

The first café at the end of January was a great success with both the hall and kitchen area being packed with happy visitors. There is no charge, but if you wish you may leave a donation towards costs.

If you know anyone who would like to come but needs a lift please contact stephaniejalland1@gmail.com.

Hearing Aid Clinic at Downton Baptist Church

Third Tuesday of the month

- Drop off hearing aids between 10.00 am and 12 noon for re-tubing.
- Batteries will only be issued with hearing aid repairs, not on their own. Continue to ring for batteries.
- Hearing aids must be placed in an envelope with a name and contact details.
- A member of the RNID team will collect the envelope from the client outside the church.
- Please wear a mask if possible.
- Clients can either wait in their car or return later to pick up their hearing aids. They will not be allowed to wait inside with the volunteers.
- In addition to the new distanced service RNID continues to support hearing aid wearers by phone, email and text.
- Hearing aids must be collected before 12.30pm
- This service is for Salisbury audiology hospital patients.
- Please bring battery issue card - most important.

Contact Gill Drayson: 01722 580014; 07570 670 643;

Gillian.Drayson@RNID.org.uk www.rnid.org.uk



Cuckoo Fair Service

with all the Downton churches

Sunday 1st May at 10.30 am
in the Memorial Hall

All are welcome to join us for an informal Service

The Downton Society - Moviola

Many thanks to all those who are supporting Moviola. Just to reiterate that entry to the films will be on a first come, first served basis at the door of the Memorial Hall on the night, as Moviola are no longer providing paper tickets. We will merely keep a tally of the number of people attending on the night for audit purposes. As we normally cater for about 50 people and to date we have only had around 30 attending, this should not be a problem. Tickets will not be available at the Borough Cafe in advance.

Our next film:

Saturday 23rd April “French Dispatch” (*this is in place of “The Courier” which has been withdrawn by the film distributor!*). From the director of *The Grand Budapest Hotel*, and sharing its idiosyncratic visual and narrative style, *The French Dispatch* is a portmanteau film. It brings to life a collection of stories from the final issue of a fictional American magazine published in Ennui-Sur-Blasé, a fictional 20th-century French city. Starring a host of Anderson regulars - Adrien Brody, Tilda Swinton, Léa Seydoux, Bill Murray, Saoirse Ronan – it’s an eccentric delight.

**The Memorial Hall doors will open as usual at 7.00 pm
for a performance start time of 7.30 pm.**



Downton Open Gardens

This will take place on Sunday June 26th from noon to 5 pm. We shall be raising money for the DEC appeal for Ukraine, and Downton 4 family.

Ten gardens in the village will be open for you to explore and enjoy, including an exhibition of “glass in the garden”. A CASH donation of £5 or £10 will be requested at the first garden you visit. You can enjoy the surroundings and help to raise even more for the charities by treating yourself to tea and cake, strawberries and cream and summer punch, or by entering the raffle to win one of Lyn Purcell’s fused glass plates.

We are sure the sun will shine, so plan to spend time on 26th June visiting some lovely gardens in our village.

Downton Horticultural Society

Our talk on the River Stour (From Stourhead to Stanpit) at the end of February was well received and the history of some of the places along the river was fascinating. The speaker's light hearted approach and excellent pictures made it a very enjoyable evening.

We do not have an event in April, but are currently accepting table bookings for our Plant and Table-top sale which is being held in the Memorial Hall during the afternoon of Saturday 7th May. Tables are 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, 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. We will also be grateful for help on the day, both setting up and manning the refreshments and the plant stall as we always get asked for advice on growing the various plants. New members and visitors are welcome at all of our events.

Gordon Bishop (01725 511475)

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

Are you looking for a fun daytime social group? Why not join the NEW Goldies Sing&Smile session, upstairs at Downton Memorial Hall?

**Goldies takes place on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month from 10.00 am, led by Carole Still. 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 £2 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 01725 337880

## News from Downton Band

The Band is now busy preparing for our Spring and Summer engagements and we are very much looking forward to once again performing at the Cuckoo Fair. You can catch all four bands performing outside the Memorial Hall during Saturday's Fair.

A small group will accompany the Churches Together service in the Memorial Hall on Sunday morning at 10.30am. Many of our bands will give a Sunday afternoon Cuckoo Fair concert (1st May 3.00 pm) – this year it's entitled 'Planes, Trains and Automobiles' exploring a variety of transport themed music from Those Magnificent Men, to Ticket to Ride to the beautifully peaceful Mid All the Traffic. Hopefully this will be held in the Memorial Gardens, but in the Hall if wet.

All four bands are also looking to recruit musicians – if you are around Grade Five standard and play cornet or tuba the senior band would love to hear from you. Our training band also has vacancies, especially on cornets whilst we are always open to new starters to come along and learn with our Beginners Band. We provide the instrument, music and tuition for just £1 per week. For more information contact [paul@downtonband.org.uk](mailto:paul@downtonband.org.uk)

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Love Repair Cafe

You are always welcome to join us with a repair or a query or simply for a chat at any Wednesday or Friday Cafe morning.

We meet at Redlynch Village Hall from 10.00 am – 12 noon.

We phone you when your item is ready for collection and simply ask you to pay for material costs and make a donation to our Local Projects when you pick your item up.

Enquiries: Paul 01725 510753 or preferably write to us at loverrepaircafe@gmail.com

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## Rainfall report for February



Although it was not 'Fill dyke February' we still had 2.92 inches, although this was below average for the month.

M.C.

## Downton Community Pre-school



Everyone at Downton Pre-school has been super busy this term!! We have started teaching the children Makaton sign language, we have done lots of baking, we have gone on some lovely nature walks and made various structures in our construction area from go karts to towers!

We are looking forward to Spring coming so that we can start doing some gardening in our playground and plant some fruit and vegetables to eat at snack time. We believe in fully immersing ourselves in the children's play and that is when the best learning/teaching opportunities are born.

We are extremely excited that our famous Duck race will be back at the Cuckoo Fair this year! Come and visit us to buy your ducks.

We still have some limited spaces available for after Easter, or if you would like to join our list to start in September please contact us on 01725 511178 or [admin@downtonpreschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@downtonpreschool.co.uk). We are open Monday - Friday from 8.00am-5.30pm (term time only) and we accept children from 2-4 years old. The Pre-school is situated in the Downton Memorial Centre, The Borough.



### Downton Cuckoo Fair bags and tea towels

Attractively produced items, unique to Downton.

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



Contact Edna Pike (01725 511332)

### Woodfalls Methodist Church

**Saturday 9th April 5.30 pm**

Social starting with a meal at 5.30pm

Followed by games and activities on the theme of Easter.

*Everyone welcome.*

*To help with catering please book on 07816542204.*

## Royal British Legion



The Downton Branch commenced a new year of activity on 2<sup>nd</sup> March in preparation for the Poppy collections and Remembrance programme.

A big thank you for your support of last year's Poppy Appeal. With your help we have raised £3038.49

### **Future dates for our meetings during 2022:**

Wednesdays at 7.30 pm on 4th May, 6th July, 7th September and 2nd November (AGM) at the Brian Whitehead Sports and Social Club.

**LIVE ON** - The Royal British Legion provides lifelong support for the Armed Forces community - serving men and women, veterans, and their families. Maybe you could help support your colleagues or friends who are not faring so well by joining the Downton Royal British Legion or even volunteering for our community activities such as Poppy collections etc.

For more information, please contact us at [thankyou@britishlegion.org.uk](mailto:thankyou@britishlegion.org.uk) for details or come to one of our committee meetings to meet members.

**The next Branch meeting is on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at the Brian Whitehead Sports and Social Club.**

Paul Hammond (07710 425983)



## **Redlynch and District WI**

The March meeting was attended by several guests, including a brave gent! The speaker was Dr Paul Borrelli; he spoke about his concerns that people aren't keen to join clubs these days, although there are lots of lonely souls who would benefit from the social aspect. He generated a lively discussion on the subject.

Our annual outing on July 13th will be a boat trip from Poole to Swanage with time for lunch and a look round the town or a sit on the beach.

The April Meeting will be our AGM, and after the business Maurice Caustick will give a talk about the very successful Lover Repair Café. This will be on April 13<sup>th</sup> at 2.15pm at Morgans Vale and Woodfalls Village Hall, We hope to see you there.

For more information please contact Rosemary Pugh (01725 510335)

## Good Companions

We enjoy many different activities at Good Companions! Recently we had a wonderful afternoon of watercolour painting with Anne, giving our own interpretation of a jug of daffodils and tulips on each table. It was the quietest of afternoons and there was an amazing and lovely variety of paintings.

On another occasion we enjoyed a fun and entertaining session of exercises with June Phillimore.

### Phyl has arranged the following events:

|       |                  |   |                                        |
|-------|------------------|---|----------------------------------------|
| April | 5 <sup>th</sup>  | - | Games                                  |
| "     | 12 <sup>th</sup> | - | Martin from the Fire Service           |
| "     | 19 <sup>th</sup> | - | Games                                  |
| "     | 26 <sup>th</sup> | - | Alison Ayling, Volunteer Forest Ranger |
| May   | 10 <sup>th</sup> | - | Fordingbridge Bell Ringers             |

We meet in Downton Memorial Hall on Tuesdays from 2.00 to 4.00 pm. Regulars pay £1.50; visitors, who are always welcome, £2.00; cup of tea and biscuit included. Contact Julia Whitmarsh, 01725 510601.

~~~~~

Downton Bowling Club

We are seeing out the winter and welcoming the Spring in anticipation of the Lawn Bowls Season which starts on 16th April at our Club with a fun Charity Match.

Throughout the last few months, we have managed some social events, which have included the normal fortnightly coffee mornings on Wednesdays, our Short Mat bowls in the Sherwood room every Thursday, an excellent fun Race Night and a Quiz Night. So Downton Bowling Club is not all about bowls - please join us for a good social life with old and new friends.

From the start of the season in mid-April we welcome new bowlers, or folk who are interested in finding out about the sport. We have our own Open Day on May 1st and another on May 28th as we join in with the 'Big Bowls Weekend'.

Details can be found on our website, or contact Mike Hallam on 01725 513359, email 107mh@live.co.uk about any of the events. There is no need to wait for these dates though - contact us anytime for a summer bowls experience at your convenience.

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01725 513807**

Redlynch & District Historical Society March Meeting

Over 60 members and guests enjoyed a first rate talk - 'New Forest Commoning, Past, Present and Future' by Dr Gale Pettifer, an active Commoner. Her knowledge of the subject and the thoughtful illustrated presentation was well appreciated and brought out a lot of questions. The first part was devoted to the history of commoning from earliest days, through the Roman Period, and the impact that William the Conqueror had in imposing Forest Laws. It is mainly this process of leaving the Forest open for hunting that has left it for us to enjoy today.

The Commoners, unable to fence land for agriculture, had to make use of the area as woodland pasture, which included heath and mires, in order to survive. Together with their stock, mostly ponies, cattle, pigs and donkeys, they maintain the landscape through a natural process. This was nearly lost in the 19th century when a national enclosure movement which had changed most of the country was attempting to do the same for the Forests. In 1871 the government put forward a Bill to enclose appropriate land for timber enclosures and sell off the remainder. This was resisted by one of the world's oldest conservation bodies - the New Forest Association (now called Friends of the New Forest), in a nationwide and ultimately successful campaign resulting in the 1877 New Forest Act.

As late as 2011 the government attempted to sell off the New Forest but eventually a Minister admitted they had 'got it wrong'.

The various forest rights that Commoners hold were explained, showing that all the stock is owned and that the rights go with the land that the Commoners occupy. Ponies and Cattle pasturing are the most important with Pannage (pigs foraging in the autumn) and fuel rights (Estover) enduring to a limited extent.

Forest stock is semi-feral; they are rounded up in 'drifts' once a year to check their condition and for tail marking, but most of the year they are self-sufficient. They eat holly and gorse in winter, use the latter for shelter when needed and know how to self-medicate. Despite this Commoners check their stock regularly as they know the 'haunts' that their stock frequent. Commoners work together in much the same way as they have for hundreds of years, as was the norm in much of the country until the 18th century when enclosures changed everything.

continued >>>

Redlynch & District Historical Society *continued*

It is still the commoning system that provides for the social, cultural and economic basis today, but care is needed now and in the future so that it is not 'loved to death' by visitors and locals alike.

Our next talk is on Tuesday 5th April at 7.30 pm in Morgans Vale & Woodfalls Hall and is entitled 'Who nominated our General Election candidates in the 1920's?' by Jane Howells.



Forest Edge Flower Arranging Society



At our meeting in March we were thrilled to welcome Sue Swaby, who took us to a 'Summer Journey' with her gorgeous designs, making all of us want to visit the Isle of Wight (where she is based) in summer. It was an informal and enjoyable evening.

On Saturday 26th March, we hosted an exhibition event to celebrate 'The Joy of Spring'. We had a good turnout with a cross section of ages enjoying the exhibition. Cake and refreshments added to the occasion, as did the Mother's Day posies which could be made or purchased.

Monday 4th April sees us meet from 7.00 pm for refreshments, followed by a demonstration with Martina Coleman entitled "Footlights and Clapperboards". Visitors are most welcome for a fee of £6 or you can become a member for just £35 for the year.

All meetings/events are held at Morgans Vale & Woodfalls Village Hall, Redlynch (SP5 2HU). We normally meet on the first Monday of the month (except bank holidays). Our programme is displayed on the notice board in the hall, or simply visit our facebook group:

Facebook group: www.facebook.com/groups/forestedgeflower

We look forward to welcoming you!

Future meetings:

30 th May	FEFAS Jubilee Celebration	7.00 pm
4 th July	FEFAS Cream Tea and Talk by Gill Pelton	7.00 pm

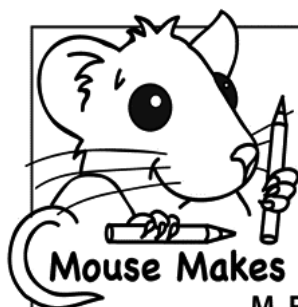
Martina Coleman 01725 512556

Email: forestedgeflower@gmail.com

Downton Clubs and Societies

Allotments Association	Susan Barnhurst-Davies	01725 512963
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 Angling Society	Mr B Hayward	01425 476908
Downton Art Group (Mondays)	Mr Roy Powell	01725 511324
Downton Art Group (Wednesdays)	Mrs Heather Borrelli	07826 754615
Downton Band Secretary	Danie Williams	07535 994164
Downton Community Choir	Kate Edgar	01725 512635
Downton Community Pre-School	Naomi Hawker	01725 511178
Downton Country Market	Mrs D Rochefort	07733 363041
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
Downton Leisure Centre	Dave Taylor	01725 513668
Downton Link	Co-ordinator	01725 513807
Downton Millennium Green Trust	Sue Larkin	01725 511209
Downton Parish Council Clerk	Mrs Beverley Cornish	01725 513874
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
Gallipoli (D) Company, Wilts, Army Cadet Force.....	SSI J Burton	07788 975846
Good Companions	Mrs Julia Whitmarsh	01725 510601
Guides: Rainbows	Sam Bennie	07866 318497
First Downton Brownies	Kirstie Penton	07824 898611
First Downton Guides	Liz Jennings	
	1stdowntonguides@gmail.com	
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
Scouts: Beavers	Jon Edwards ... downtonbeavers@gmail.com	
Cubs	Jonathan Borwell.. downtoncubs@gmail.com	
Scouts	Kevin Hill downtonscouts@gmail.com	
St Laurence Sunday School	Dr J McGee	01725 513869
The Moot – Friends of the Moot	Mrs J Greville-Heygate	01725 511755
The Moot – Moot Preservation Trust	Mr Dave Webber.....	01725 513759
Wessex Cancer Trust	Mrs Enid Crook	01725 511196

***Please notify the Editor of any changes, additions or deletions
(Amended March 2022)***



HAPPY EASTER!

Jesus has risen!
Jesus is with us!
Jesus will come again!



What did Jesus send the disciples to find?

What did the crowd do?

Read
Matthew 21:1-11



Who betrayed Jesus?
Who denied Jesus?

Read Matthew 26:17-75



What did the soldiers put on Jesus at his crucifixion?
What time did Jesus die?
Whose tomb was Jesus buried in?

Read

Matthew 27



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Find these words from the Easter story in the word search:

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 PASSOVER • ROOM • BREAD • WINE • CUP • MEAL • BODY • BLOOD
 KISS • MESSIAH • CHRIST • JESUS • CRUCIFY • CROWN • THORNS
 ROBE • TREE • NAILS • CROSS • DARKNESS • QUAKE • DEATH • LOTS
 TOMB • LINEN • STONE • BODY • BURY • THREE DAYS • MORNING
 MARY • ANGEL • HEAVEN • GOD • RAISED • JOY • GO TELL
 GOOD NEWS • PEACE • SPIRIT • SAVIOUR • PRAISE • EASTER



What did Jesus do at Passover?

Read Matthew 26:17-30



On the third day who rolled away the stone covering the tomb?

What had happened to Jesus?

Read

Matthew 28



To advertise goods or services in this magazine:

Block advertisements: Details from Gordon Bishop (01725 511475) **Email:** g.bishop551@btinternet.com

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Sending editorial copy

Articles and notices of events for the **May** issue to be emailed to the Editor **by 10th April.** 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

Opinions expressed or implied in this publication are not necessarily those of the Editor or Parochial Church Council, and no responsibility can be accepted for any errors of fact published in the Parish News.

If you would like the Parish News to be delivered to you each month, please contact Mrs Jo Parsons (01725 512738).

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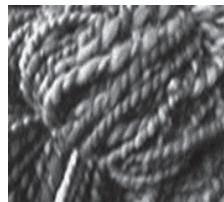
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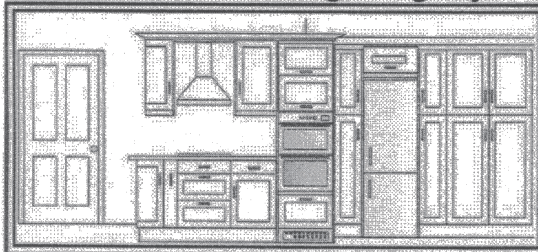
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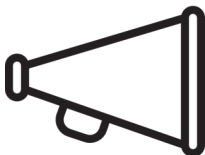
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