

Downton Parish News

April 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

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

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"*

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 Veronica Batchelor,
Team Vicar, Forest and Avon Team



Easter can be about chocolate!

Easter and chocolate eggs are synonymous with each other. Chocolate is the perfect end to a 'sweet free' Lent and eggs represent the new life Jesus experienced after death. However, for some, chocolate eggs simply mean it's Easter time with the addition of baskets, bonnets, bunnies and cute lambs! One of my childhood memories is decorating a yellow plastic waste paper bin with scrunched up tissue paper and adding a ribbon, before turning it upside down to make the perfect Easter bonnet...or not!

I'm sure there are many reasons why the resurrection of Jesus doesn't appear in many of our Easter celebrations but I suspect one may be disbelief. Well, disbelief is nothing new. You may have thought that Jesus' friends wanted so much to believe that he'd risen from the dead that they didn't ask questions but they did and surely his enemies would have loved to have found and produced his dead body but they didn't. So, our questions and doubts are nothing new. How can Jesus be alive? Belief in the truth can sometimes be hard but after their initial confusion and disbelief Jesus' disciples and many followers since have believed that the guarded tomb was empty and Jesus was and is alive. Below is a short retelling of that first Easter morning.

Christ is Risen.

He is alive!

Or maybe you've got it wrong?

Christ is Risen. He is Risen indeed.

Or maybe they just moved his body away?

Listen, we've seen him and heard his voice.

Are you sure it was really him?

This is the truth, Jesus is alive.

Enter the tomb and see for yourself.

Let's enjoy our Easter eggs and when they're hollow remember the truth of the empty tomb and that it's okay to ask questions about Jesus' resurrection. You may even find CHOCOLATE in the story of Easter!

Veronica x

ST LAURENCE CHURCH SERVICES

April

2nd April 10.30am	Palm Sunday Holy Communion, Passion Reading and Blessing of Palms Gospel	Matthew 26:14-27
7th April 2.00pm	Good Friday Downton Churches Together united service	
8th April 8.00pm	Easter Eve – Service of Light	
9th April 10.30am	Easter Day Holy Communion Gospel	TBA
16th April 10.30am	2nd Sunday of Easter Café Church	
23rd April 10.30am	3rd Sunday of Easter Holy Communion Gospel	Luke 24:13-35
30th April 10.30am	4th Sunday of Easter Cuckoo Fair Service in Memorial Hall	

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 9.30 am until 4.30 pm for visitors and private prayer.

Woodfalls Methodist Church

The Ridge, Woodfalls, SP5 2LH

Service details overleaf

All enquiries to Graham Tanner (01725 512648);

email 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 20th April 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://salisbury Catholics.org/church-tv>



Downton Baptist Church

South Lane, Downton, SP5 3NA Tel: 01725 512971

www.downtonbaptist.org | 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 2nd/4th 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 | Katy@downtonbaptist.org

Services in the Forest and Avon Churches – April 2023

Sunday 2nd April

- 9.30am Parish Communion at Bramshaw
- 10.00 am Morning Worship at Morgan's Vale
- 10.30am Parish Communion at Downton
- 10.30am Gathering at Landford (Methodist)
- 4.00 pm 'Wild Sparks' in Redlynch Churchyard

Holy Week Services

Monday-Wednesday + Saturday 7pm Compline at Redlynch

Wednesday 5th April - 10.45am Service of Easter poems and readings at Woodfalls followed by lunch

Maundy Thursday

7pm Holy Communion at Morgans Vale

Good Friday

- 9.30am Service at Bramshaw
- 10am Walk of Witness from St Mary's, Redlynch
- 11am Service at Woodfalls
- 1pm Walk of Witness in Downton
- 2pm Service at St Laurence, Downton

Easter Eve

8pm Service of Light at Downton

Sunday 9th April is EASTER SUNDAY

- 9.30am Family Communion at Bramshaw
- 10am Easter Celebration + HC at Redlynch
- 10.30am Parish Communion at Downton
- 10.30am Gathering (HC) at Landford (St Andrew's)

Sunday 16th April

- 10.00am Morning Worship at Woodfalls
- 10.30am Café Church at Downton
- 10.30am Morning Worship at Landford (Methodist)

Wednesday 19th April

10.45am Service at Woodfalls followed by lunch

Sunday 23rd April

9.30am Morning Worship at Bramshaw + APCM

10.00am Holy Communion at Morgans Vale

10.30am Parish Communion at Downton + APCM

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

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

Wednesday 26th April

9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) at Redlynch

Sunday 30th April

9.30am Holy Communion at Bramshaw

10.00am Holy Communion at Woodfalls

10.30am Cuckoo Fayre Service at Downton Memorial Hall

10.30am Gathering at Landford (Methodist) + APCM

6.00 pm Evensong at Redlynch



Service of Light

Easter Eve - Saturday 8.00 pm

St.Laurence's Church Downton

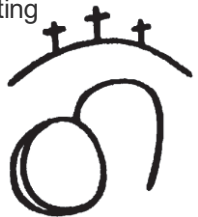
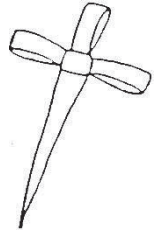
Worship will begin outside. As darkness falls, the fire will burn;
as the doors open we will wander and wonder....



***All are welcome to watch, listen
and feel the wonder of Easter!***

Prayer Diary for April 2023

- 1 Growing through God's Word
- 2 Palm Sunday – our witness to the Faith
- 3 Our Churchwarden
- 4 Our Team Rector and family
- 5 All who minister to the sick
- 6 Maundy Thursday – Those alone and depressed
- 7 Good Friday – All who deny God
- 8 Easter Eve – the Bereaved
- 9 Easter Day – Thanksgiving for the Resurrection
- 10 Sides people and Lesson Readers
- 11 Those who produce our Parish magazine
- 12 Organist and Choir
- 13 Churches Together in Downton
- 14 All ministers in our village
- 15 Young People in the Church
- 16 Those at University and College
- 17 Those made redundant or unable to find work
- 18 Our Lay Pastoral Assistants
- 19 Charities struggling to continue their work and fundraising
- 20 Our Forest and Avon Team
- 21 Peace in our world
- 22 Trafalgar School at Downton
- 23 Our Church life and mission: Our Church Annual Meeting
- 24 Our Church School – Downton Primary
- 25 School Governors
- 26 Our Bishops
- 27 Those taking exams soon
- 28 Our PCC
- 29 All visitors to our Churches
- 30 Village life and activities



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 the Team Vicar.

The next Roads to God Prayer Group will meet on Wednesday **19th April 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.

The Parish of St Laurence, Downton Church Electoral Roll

**The Church Electoral Roll is being updated between
12th March and 2nd April 2023**

If you are already on the Church Electoral Roll and your details have not changed, you need take no action.

- If you are not on the Electoral Roll and would like to be included, please complete an application form.
- If you are currently on the Roll but your name, address or telephone number has changed, or
- If a member of your family is on the Roll but their name, address or telephone number has changed, you should notify the Church Electoral Roll Officer.

Church Electoral Roll application forms are available at St Laurence Church (on large table by main door) or from:

Linda Ricketts, Church Electoral Roll Officer
2 The Sidings, Downton, SP5 3QZ. Tel: 01725 513162

Application forms must be returned and amendments notified by Sunday, 2nd April 2023. The new Electoral Roll will be presented at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Sunday, 23 April, when those whose names are listed will be eligible to vote.

Being on the Church Electoral Roll is a way of saying that you are a member of a church. To be eligible you should be baptised and aged 16 or over, a member of the Church of England (or a Church in communion with the Church of England) and resident in the Parish. If you are not resident in the Parish you will need to have attended the church regularly for six months prior to enrolment.

St. Laurence Annual Parochial Church Meeting

**will be on Sunday 23rd 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

The Oddments Theatre Company present

The Road to the Cross

After the success of 'Amazing Grace' and 'The Hiding Place', Oddments Theatre are proud to bring a new production on the road. 'The Road to the Cross' written by Barry Boyton, tells the story from Palm Sunday through to Pentecost; following Jesus and his disciples as they embark on a journey together through the highs and the lows.

This contemporary style show is brought to you by a team of five actors who will make you laugh, cry, and reflect whilst performing alongside an exciting, innovative stage set.

Oddments are one of the few full-time Christian theatre companies in the UK. Based in Yeovil, Somerset, they are a registered charity reaching out to churches and prisons across England.

Join us through a powerful and passionate story of the message of God's love to humanity. Palm Sunday to Pentecost is a time of importance in the Christian life and Oddments truly capture the message in a new and encouraging way. This play will not disappoint.

Good Friday – 7th April 2023 at 7.00 pm
At Bramshaw Village Hall

Tickets are £12 in advance (£14 on the door)
 (Please note that this production is not recommended
 for those under 12 years of age)

To book tickets please contact David Bacon
davidbramrec@aol.com or 01794 390256

Tickets are also available for sale in each of the Team Churches,
 and online at oddments-theatre.co.uk



Good Friday – April 7th

**There will be a joint Service for all the churches
 from 2.00 – 3.00pm at St Laurence Church**

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

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.



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

Parish Council update March 2023



Members of the public attending the Parish Council meeting expressed concern about the state of the Borough Greens following works by SSE. This was followed up by the Council and SSE having agreed to rectify the area. Concern was also expressed about local rubbish bins not being emptied and this has also been followed up with the contractor.

PC Jung gave an update about crime and follow up actions in the Parish, saying that there has been a spate of thefts and shop lifting as well as sheds broken into. He stated that, due to his upcoming retirement, PC Harry Murphy will be attending Parish Council meetings in the future.

Downton's revised Neighbourhood Plan draft has now been submitted to Wiltshire Council for views and comments. We await comments from the Neighbourhood Planning team to know whether more work is required in order to make our plan fit for the future.

A meeting was held on 7th March with presentations from Wessex Water, the Environment Agency and the Drainage team from Wiltshire Council. The meeting was attended by approximately 60 residents who were able to learn the complications of different responsibilities between the agencies and the work that is being undertaken to combat future flooding.

An Amenities committee meeting was held on 27th February with the main purpose of moving forward the project to refurbish the local play parks. The outlines for the project were agreed and the Council will now approach interested providers of equipment and it is hoped that work will begin in the late Summer.

Following successful interviews, a new Parish Administrative Officer has been appointed who will begin her contract on 11th April.

Subject to full documentation, the Parish Council granted permission for the use of the Memorial Gardens on 8th May for a celebration of the King's coronation. This will include bands, dancing and a show.

It was agreed that an apple tree will be planted in memory of the late Queen Elizabeth II and the Parish Council agreed on wording for a plaque. The tree planting will take place at midday on 16th April on the Beacon Green – all welcome

Easter Egg Hunt
Easter Monday - April 10th
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 free!)

Refreshments available - If possible, please bring your own mug
to save single use plastic
And don't forget a basket or bag to put your eggs in!

No dogs or unaccompanied children please!

If wet, check event is running on Facebook
(Downton Now and Then, Downton Parents)
Reserve date is Thursday 13th April

Proceeds to Downton Moot Preservation Trust

*** May contain traces of nuts**



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.

Soft plastic recycling at the Co-op

In the blue bin by the tills

Information from the Co-op website



There are a number of plastic items which can now be collected for recycling at the Co-op. The basic principle is: If you can ***scrunch*** it, you can ***recycle*** it! BUT **not** compostable bags

General

- Thin plastic lids of all types
- Wrappers from kitchen towel, toilet roll, nappy bag, cotton wool etc
- Pouches – microwave rice, pre-cooked mussels, petfood, etc
- Fruit & veg nets, bags and wrappers
- Plastic sauce sachets

Bags

- Ordinary carrier bags and bread bags
- Crisps, nuts, snacks bags
- Bags from:
 - Cereal and porridge
 - Dried goods – dried fruit, pasta, rice, sugar, pulses, etc
 - Frozen foods and ice cubes

Wrappers & Film

- Chocolate, sweets bags and wrappers, biscuit wrappers
- Cling film, pizza wrapping film
- Bread product wrappers, eg loaves, croissants, fresh pasta
- Wrappers from:
 - Cheese, pastry, cakes, Yorkshire puddings
 - Baby wipes, etc
 - Tea and teabags, ground coffee, etc
 - Pies, pastries, sausage rolls,
 - Household textiles, scourers, rubber gloves, etc
 - Giftwrap, greetings cards, etc
- Flower wrappers and pet food wrappers

Don't forget Seedy Sunday – 26th March, 2-4pm at the Memorial Hall.

St Laurence's Larder at Cuckoo Fair

Saturday 29th 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.

Looking forward to seeing you on the day!



Wild Sparks

W a n d e r a n d w o n d e r



Join us for an evening of hot chocolate, marshmallows and activities around a campfire

ALL AGES WELCOME

Sunday 2nd April at 4pm

St.Mary's Churchyard, Lover

Downton Community Pre-school



It is nearly that time of year again for our famous annual Duck race during the Cuckoo Fair!! The Duck race will be held at the Iron bridge near the Co-op at 3.00 pm on Saturday 29th April. Ducks are £2 each and there are prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place! We have been overwhelmed with the support from our local community businesses offering to help us sell the ducks. Ducks can be purchased from...

The Co-op, Downton Leisure Centre, The Goat at Downton, Skinner and Osment Garage, The Bull Inn Downton, Carter's Barber Shop, Hair Art, Hair Design, Downton Community Pre School, Downton Football Club, Downton Tyre and Autocare Ltd

This year we are very excited to be able to announce we will be running a Toddler Quiet Zone from the Pre-school throughout the Cuckoo Fair. Families can enter via the gate in the Memorial gardens where their children can enjoy some quiet time away from the fair. Under 5's only (siblings welcome) £2 per child for a 20 minute session. (Children will remain the responsibility of their adults throughout their session). Tea, coffee and cake will also be available to purchase.

We still have spaces for children to join us at Pre-school from September. We accept children from as soon as they turn 2 years old until they go to school. We are open Monday - Friday 8.00 am - 5.30 pm in term time. Please call us on 01725 511178 to book a visit or for more information.

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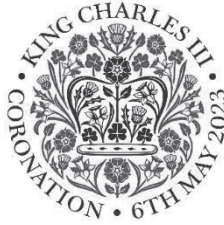
Cuckoo Fair Service

with all the Downton churches

**Sunday 30th April at 10.30 am
in the Memorial Hall**

All are welcome to join us for an informal Service

Refreshments to follow



Monday 8th 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 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. No Bar but a pizza van and ice cream van will be there. For further details, including ticket price, please see Facebook or posters in the coming weeks. If raining the event will move to the Memorial Hall.

Contact: Malcolm Dean on 07776 132775

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

Downton Horticultural Society

We are very excited about our next event in the Memorial Hall on Thursday 20th April at 7.30 pm when our flower judge, David Bassil, will be giving a 'Practical Demonstration on the Process and Pitfalls of Hanging Basket Creations'. Also, David has asked that the Hanging Baskets he has created are auctioned off at the end of the evening. David is chairman of 'Poole in Bloom' and show manager of 'Bournemouth in Bloom' so this promises to be an excellent evening. New members and visitors are welcome at this and all of our events.

We 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 13th 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 of the sale, so if you have any spare plants or are dividing established plants etc please bear us in mind. All that we ask is that they are both rooted and labelled so that we know what they are.

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.

Good Companions

At our meeting on 21st February our speaker Mike Webber took us on a wonderful photographic journey in the USA, travelling through the mountains and canyons with their beautiful variety of rock face colours. The journey, which began in Colorado, took us to Utah, Arizona, the Grand Canyon, the Hoover Dam with its Angel statues, and on to Death Valley, the hottest dry place on earth, and finally to San Francisco, journey's end.

Speakers to look forward to:

4th April - Ken Wells: he talks about the Police Force and this time it will be Forensics. He is an amusing speaker, not to be missed.

18th April - Carol Watson: she will be talking about her visit to Switzerland, illustrated by wonderful floral and scenic, 'off the beaten track', photographs.

9th May - Alan Jones: Tales of a Roving Reporter. An entertaining storyteller.

We meet in the Downton Memorial Hall on Tuesdays from 2.00 to 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 for details.



Goldies Sing-Along Social Group at Downton Memorial Hall

Goldies takes place upstairs at Downton Memorial Hall on the 4th Wednesday of the month from 10.00 am, led by Carole Still. The next session is on 26th April. 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
Or ring Carole Still on 01722 337880

Downton Bowling Club – 40 Years Young

This year marks the 40th Anniversary of Downton Bowling Club at their site in Wick Lane. This is something to celebrate within the new season, which starts on 15th April. If you have always wanted to have a go at bowling on our pretty Green near the Leisure Centre, then just get in touch with any of the contacts below. An Anniversary offer of a free session and free coaching awaits, either at your convenience or during our Open Days in May (13th, 14th, 26th, 28th) when you can just turn up if you wish.

Do not forget that the Bowling Club is not sleeping during the winter. We have just had a very successful Race Night, regular Coffee mornings, and short mat bowling indoors.

For further information contact Mike Hallam on 01725 513359, or Alan Waters, 01725 512531, or downtonbowls@gmail.com. We are also on Facebook and twitter, and our website is www.downtonbc.co.uk.



Saturday 6th May Coronation Live Broadcast.

Don't sit at home watching it on small screen.

Come and join us watching on an 85 inch TV.

Coffee, tea and cake all morning.

Jacket potatoes with fillings for lunch.

Woodfalls Methodist Church - A Warm welcome awaits you.

See next month for exact timings as the start time hasn't been published at the time of typing this. Apparently Queen Elizabeth's took place 11.15am.



April 22nd from 8.30am - 12.00 noon

Up to 50 locations in and around

Lover, on the Green,

in the Old School and people's drives

Village Hall open for bacon butties and refreshments

Fun for all ages, a free event

Please park sensibly

Use SP5 2PW Church Hill/School Road for location

Lover Repair Cafe

There are usually between 12 and 15 helpers present on Wednesday and Friday mornings at The Repair Cafe, handling approx 20 – 30 jobs per week. They all deserve a medal for dedication.

“DO NOT BIN IT, WE MAY FIX IT”

Latest News:

a. Seedy Sunday: We would like to thank old customers for popping in at Seedy Sunday, and also new people who we were able to assist with repair problems.

b. Gardening Season: We are aware that Spring is upon us and it is time to get out and prepare the gardens for summer. So if you have any tools to sharpen or broken tool handles to repair don't forget to bring them along for us to refurbish for you.

c. Thanks: We would like to thank Tesco's Superstore, especially Gilbert (Gillie) Scammel the Community, for his and their generous support by way of tea, coffee, biscuits etc. that enables us to run a successful Cafe every Wednesday and Friday morning.

d. Welcome: We are very grateful for three new members on the repair team: Ben McIntosh (Clocks), Gary Hawke (Electronics/Electrics) and Robert Houseman (Chair Caning and Weaving). Their support allows us to offer a full service at present.

e. Chat-a-Techie: Please consider this service as it offer help with any Computer/Tablet/Mobile-phone needs and can give you training sessions if you require.

Contact the Techies, preferably by booking in by emailing loverrepaircafe@gmail.com or phone 01725 510753.

f. Support to worthy Charities: We have added 'Home-Start South Wilts' to our list of regular monthly charity supports for their wonderful work amongst those families in special need.

Come and see us on Wednesday and Friday mornings in Redlynch Village Hall with your repair problems, or just for a warm chat. Open from 10.00am until 12 noon.

Hamptworth's Croquet World Champion

In previous editions, Hamptworth Croquet Club have celebrated Club member Aston Wade's achievements – British Open Croquet Champion and European Croquet Champion. In February this year, in New Zealand, Aston went a stage further and became Under 21 Croquet World Champion.

Aston joined Hamptworth Croquet Club at the age of 15, and although already playing one version of croquet, he learned to play an alternative version of the sport, which he took to and excelled at. While Aston has gained most of his successes with the newer version of the game, he is an England international player in both forms of croquet. As Aston himself said, in a recent televised interview, his remaining challenge is to become the full World Champion.

For details of how to play croquet at Hamptworth (SP5 2DU) please visit: croquet-websites.org.uk/Hamptworth/

Redlynch and District W I

The AGM fell on the day we had snow, so we were a few members short. In the absence of any nominations or volunteers the existing committee members were all voted back on, and Rosemary was returned as president. It was decided that from November to February we would start meetings at 1.45 pm so that members could leave before it gets dark.

We then listened to an enlightening talk about the Salisbury Street Pastors. They have been going out for 13 years on a Saturday evening at 10.00 pm helping mostly young people on the streets who are suffering problems from alcohol and drugs for example. The street pastors are Christians who are dedicated to helping others; they care for the young people's needs, often providing flip flops for young women who are having difficulties walking in very high heeled shoes, and also give out foil blankets for warmth. They will listen to any problems the youngsters may have and stay out until the clubs close at around 3.00 am on a Sunday morning.

Our next meeting will be on 12th April at 2.15 pm at Morgans Vale and Woodfalls Village Hall, entitled 'Getting to Know You'. We hope to see lots of members and guests. For more information about the WI group contact Liz Tanner - telephone number 07720255137.

Forest Edge Flower Arranging Society



What a fun and entertaining evening! We all enjoyed the March demonstration by Carolyn Vanstone entitled 'Cartoon Capers' - her imaginative floral creations in association with famous cartoon characters were so inspiring. I certainly learned that multiple vivid colours of flowers can be put together for a stunning centrepiece!

Do join us at our practical evening on 3rd April at 7.00 pm (refreshments from 6.30 pm) – one of our members, Heather will teach us how to create a floral 'hoop'. Please contact us to find out the instructions and what materials to bring.

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

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

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

Events in Woodfalls Methodist Hall

Talkabout

Thursday 6th April

Ron Burrows talking about flying fast jets.

Coffee served from 10.00 am and the talk starts at 10.30 am

Social Evening on Saturday 15th April

Starting with a meal at 5.30 pm,

followed by our version of 'Dragons Den'

To help with catering please phone 01725512648 if you hope to come.

Everyone Welcome.

Redlynch Local History Society

This month James Holden came to give a talk entitled 'Nonconformist Chapels in Wiltshire'. James is an architectural historian whose recently published book documents chapels within Wiltshire.

James' talk, illustrated with photos to show the variety of chapels built, traced 300 years of Nonconformist chapel design from the Cromwellian, Charles II and William & Mary periods, finishing with a closer look at chapels in the Redlynch area.

James spoke about the range of chapels, from small rural meeting houses to large town churches for congregations of 1500 people. One of the oldest and smallest was Monks Lane Chapel in Corsham, dating from 1662, built in a cottage style. One of the largest was Zion Hill Chapel in Tisbury, a substantial stone building opened in 1842.

After the Restoration in 1660 Nonconformists were more persecuted and services more disrupted. It became dangerous for Nonconformists such as Baptists, Methodists, Quakers and Puritans, to practise. In order for chapels to be inconspicuous they were then built in a simple style with interiors arranged in a symmetrical layout with galleried seating for the poorer members of the congregation and boxed pews on the ground floor for those able to afford to rent them.

Nonconformist Chapels in Redlynch included:

- Chapel Cottage in Chapel Lane, which closed in 1975 and was converted to a house in the 1980s
- Hamptworth Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, built in 1876, with school rooms, which closed in the 1970s and has been converted to a house
- Nomansland Primitive Methodist Chapel, built in 1901 and still in use
- Redlynch Ebenezer Primitive Methodist Chapel, Morgan's Vale Road, dating from 1877 and now in residential use.

Our next talk is "The New Forest Verderers Court" by artist, conservationist and ex-verderer Peter Frost at Morgans Vale & Woodfalls Hall at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 4th April.

Our web site is <https://www.redlynchlocalhistory.org/>

Redlynch Players: Backstage News



All Aboard for The Titfield Thunderbolt!

Don't delay and let the train take the strain for an evening of fast paced fun! Redlynch Players are proud to announce that we will be performing 'The Titfield Thunderbolt' by Philip Goulding next month. This fun packed play is based on the classic Ealing comedy of the same name by T.E.B. Clarke.

The Titfield to Mallingford line is losing money and British Rail have announced its imminent closure. In desperation, the villagers, led by Lady Edna Chesterford and vicar, Sam Weech, decide to take charge and run it themselves – with a train resurrected from a local museum! As well as convincing the railway authorities that they are competent to work the line, they have to face problems from local chancer Vernon Crump who is set on providing a competitive bus service. Lloyd Perry is directing us and we are pleased to welcome new member Jenny Mason to the cast.

So...book your tickets, hop on board the train, and join Redlynch Players as they perform this farcical play.

Tickets are £12 and on sale from Monday 3rd April.

To purchase tickets please email: tickets@redlynchplayers.co.uk or call the Station Ticket Office 01725 510283

We will be performing at Redlynch Village Hall, at 7.30pm on:
Wednesday, 24th May, Thursday, 25th May, Friday, 26th May, Saturday, 27th May

Doors open for the buffet car at 7pm.

It's full steam ahead for an evening of madcap merriment in May! Suitable for young and old, do join us!

Find out more about us!

If you would like to be included on our emailing list to hear our latest news, please email info@redlynchplayers.co.uk

Alternatively, see our website for recent reviews, how to buy tickets and past productions:

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**

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Barford Day Centre.....	Jeremy Parsons.....	01725 512963
BWSC Association Chairman	Mr Simon Bromilow	07785 265019
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Cuckoo Fair Committee	Mr T Pike	01725 511332
DCT Links Youth Group: School years 7/8/9+.....	Mr P Rhoades	01725 514792
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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
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Downton Link	Co-ordinator	01725 513807
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Downton Parish Council Clerk	clerk@downtonparishcouncil	
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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
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Guides: Rainbows	Sam Bennie	07866 318497
First Downton Brownies	Kirstie Penton	07824 898611
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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 January 2023)***

To advertise goods or services in this magazine:

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(01725 511475) **Email:** g.bishop551@btinternet.com

**All box and line advertisements in this magazine
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Sending editorial copy

Articles and notices of events for **May** 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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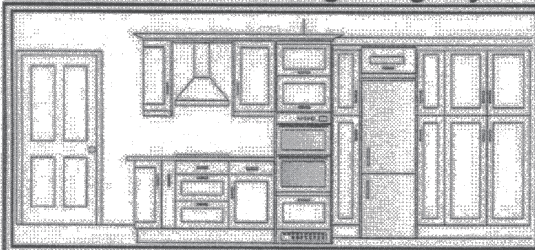
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