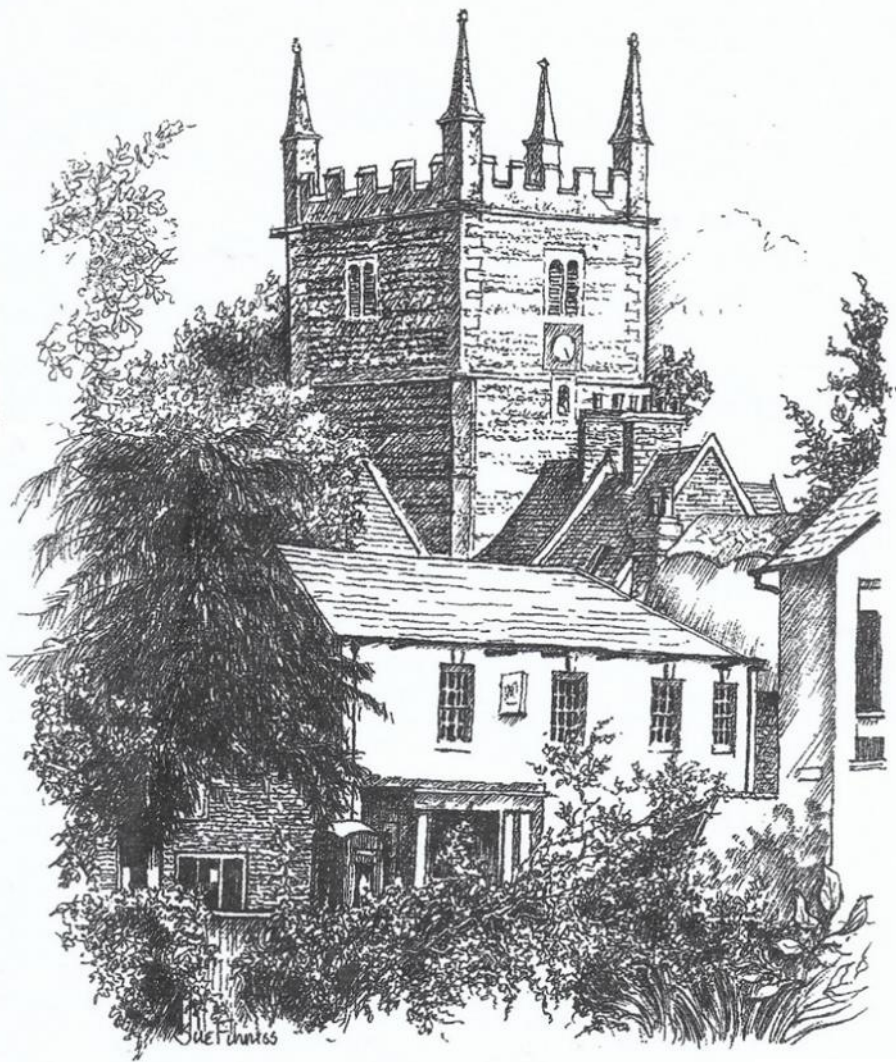


Downton

February 2023

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

Team Rector, Rev David Bacon

Tel. 01794 390256 Email: davidbramrec@aol.com

Our Team Vicar is Rev Veronica Batchelor.

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 David Bacon, Team Rector, Forest and Avon Team

Dear Friends



Our Greatest Need

I love the (probably) true story of a mother and child in a supermarket. In every aisle, the child would say, "Mummy, I want ..." The mother reminded her that "I want doesn't get" and all went quiet ... until they turned the corner into the next aisle. "Mummy, I NEED ..."

It isn't only children who struggle to recognise the difference between what we need and what we want. A Bishop tells the story of a conversation with two Churchwardens during a vacancy, "Well, he said, I have two possible candidates; one is just what you want – and the other is what you need."

One of the wonderful things about coming to God in prayer is that He knows exactly what we need, so we don't always get what we want. This can however, leave people disappointed with God and with prayer.

But God is used to human disappointment and nowhere is this more obvious than in the life and ministry of Jesus. At the beginning of February we remember in church the time when Jesus was presented in the Temple, 40 days after He was born. (Luke 2: 22-40). Even on that occasion, Simeon spoke of Him as one who would be rejected. Jesus wouldn't grow up to offer people what they wanted – but He was and is just what we need.

The author and Pastor Max Lucado writes this:

If our greatest need had been information, God would have sent an educator. If our greatest need had been technology, God would have sent us a scientist. If our greatest need had been money, God would have sent us an economist.

But since our greatest need was forgiveness, God sent us a Saviour.

With my love and prayers
David

26th February The First Sunday of Lent

10.30am Holy Communion

Gospel Matthew 4:1-11



All are welcome.

More details soon – please save the date.

Woodfalls Methodist Church

The Ridge, Woodfalls, SP5 2LH

Service details overleaf**All enquiries to Graham Tanner** (01725 512648);email atanner.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 16th February 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 watched via the Church website.

Thursday Morning Worship at 10.30 am:

Followed by a two-course community lunch.

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 Thursday

Pastors: Rev Philip Rhoades and Rev Katy Ulliyatt

Tel: 07468 491143 or 07786 248880.

Philip@downtonbaptist.org | Katy@downtonbaptist.org

Regular Services in the Forest and Avon Team February 2023

Wednesday 1st February

10.45am Worship at Woodfalls Methodist Church
(followed by lunch)

Sunday 5th February

9.30 am Parish Communion at Bramshaw
10.00 am Holy Communion at Morgans Vale
10.30 am Gathering at Landford (Methodist Hall)
10.30 am Parish Communion at Downton

Sunday 12th February

10.00 am Morning Worship at Woodfalls
10.30 am Café-Style Service at Downton
10.30 am Gathering at Landford (Methodist Hall)
6.00 pm Evening Prayer at Redlynch

Wednesday 15th February

10.45 am Worship at Woodfalls Methodist Church
(followed by lunch)

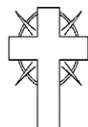
Sunday 19th February

9.30 am Parish Communion at Bramshaw
10.00 am Holy Communion at Redlynch
10.30 am Parish Communion at Downton
10.30 am Morning Worship at Landford Methodist

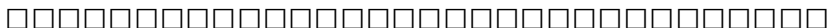
Sunday 26th February

9.30 am Morning Worship at Bramshaw
10.00 am Morning Worship at Morgans Vale
10.30 am Holy Communion at Downton
10.30 am Gathering (Café) at Landford (Methodist Hall)
11.00 am Holy Communion at Landford (St Andrew's)

7th December – Margaret Eileen Jeffery (95)
Service held at Salisbury Crematorium.



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 **February**, we will be offering prayers for: Church Leat, Mesh Pond, Marie Avenue and Barnaby Close.

Requests for particular prayers can be made by telephoning Reverend Ron Hart on 01725 514772; if unavailable please contact Mrs Jo Parsons on 01725 512738 or email 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

Roads to God Prayer Group

The next Roads to God Prayer Group will meet on Wednesday 15th February 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. All are welcome to join us.

Prayer Diary for February

- 1 Our Lay Pastoral Assistants (LPAs)
- 2 Peace in the World
- 3 Downton Parish Council
- 4 St. Laurence clergy team
- 5 Trafalgar School at Downton
- 6 The Bereaved
- 7 Politicians and their advisors
- 8 Those made redundant or unable to find work
- 9 Those in Residential & Nursing Homes
- 10 Growing through God's Word
- 11 Visitors to our church
- 12 Bishops Stephen, Karen and Andrew
- 13 Our Deanery Synod
- 14 The hungry and homeless
- 15 All ministers in the village
- 16 Organist and Choir
- 17 Sunday School
- 18 Our church bellringers
- 19 Downton Primary School
- 20 Those who produce our Parish magazine
- 21 Our Parochial Church Council (PCC)
- 22 Guides and Brownies: Thinking Day
- 23 Our Forest & Avon Team
- 24 Churches Together in Downton
- 25 All who assist with our services
- 26 All who minister to the sick
- 27 Flower Arrangers
- 28 Those alone and depressed



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.

Christmas Thanks

Christmas Tree Festival: The Downton Christmas Tree Festival this year was a great success; we raised £2,200, half for the Salisbury Samaritans and half for the St Laurence repair fund. This success was down to all the many people who helped us: those who prepared and cleared up the church, who brought their trees and wreaths to exhibit, who baked cakes, who collected and contributed items for both our re-gifting stalls, those who manned the stalls and servery, and the musicians who kept us all entertained. We are very grateful to the Samaritans' volunteers who attended to chat about their work with visitors.

Many thanks for the contributions from the hundreds of you who came to enjoy the spectacle, music and refreshments, as well as those who attended the Choral evensong with the Farrant singers on the Friday evening. We look forward to another successful event in 2023



Crisis: We are grateful to all who supported our Christmas Charity – Crisis. I am delighted to report that we raised £111.

Salisbury Food Bank: Thank you to all who donated to the foodbank whether by donation at church or through a supermarket. I was able to deliver 28 kgs of food items to the foodbank before Christmas. This brings our grand total for the year to over 60 kgs.

Tuesday Pop-in: Our 'warm space' initiative during November and December was much appreciated by those who visited. They were grateful for a warm drink and biscuits and to be able to 'chat' with our ministry team.

Christingle: We were able to hold our Christingle Service this year following the enforced break because of Covid. The service was very successful with a full church of adults and children. We are very grateful to the Venerable Alan Jeans for all his work in ensuring the service could take place. £295 was collected for the Childrens' Society. It was a delight to see again the faces of children glowing in the light of the candles.



Ken Parsons (Churchwarden)

Elizabethan Evening

Friday 10th February in St Laurence Church at 7.30 pm

An opportunity to bring some cheer to a dark winter evening!



Come and join the Tudor fun for an evening of music, drama, readings and entertainment from the time of the first Elizabeth.

Paul Borrelli will be leading a troupe of local performers to give us a taste of Elizabethan fun and culture.

Come and join them on Friday 10th February in St Laurence Church and enjoy the spectacle, as well as some refreshment in the interval.

Tickets are £15 and are available in the Borough Cafe and from Mark Merrill on 01725 512175. The proceeds of the evening will go to the fund to keep the church in good repair.

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Snowdrops in the Moot



If you visit Downton Moot in February you will notice a wonderful display of snowdrops in flower, and the daffodils starting to emerge, which can be seen from the easier paths.

On a sunny day there should be plenty of birdsong too. Stout footwear is advised, as the whole area is likely to be muddy at this time of year, and care should be taken on slippery slopes.

The Moot is a beautiful place to spend time in at any season of the year, thanks to the hard-working volunteers who mow the grass, trim vegetation when necessary, and tidy up. At present they need more people to come and help – please contact the Site Manager, Jeremy Parsons, on 01725 512963, mobile: 07762 218409, or parsons@lcb.uk.com for more information.

Parish Council update January 2023



Firstly a very Happy and Peaceful New Year to you all from Downton Parish Council.

At this time of year flooding becomes more of a problem and we are actively monitoring the situation, whilst liaising with the Flood Wardens and the Environment Agency. We are also in contact with Wessex Water regarding the flooding in Wick Lane.

We are pleased to confirm that the broken panel in the bus shelter located at A338 Salisbury Rd (opposite The Bull PH) has now been repaired.

Preparations are starting for the Downton Cuckoo Fair 2023.

Training is being given to a small team of local residents to be able to put up and take down the Speed Indicator Device so that this can be fitted on the Borough to try to help manage traffic speeds. The Device is to be shared with Redlynch and it is hoped that this will come to Downton soon.

The Parish Council is meeting to set the budget which will inform the precept (or local element of the council tax). Unfortunately, just to carry on, means that our contracts for such things as grass cutting are subject to a higher level of inflation but we will try to keep the increase to a reasonable level whilst still providing services.

Sadly, due to personal reasons, Janie de Lang has tendered her resignation from the post of Admin Officer. We are therefore now actively seeking a replacement. In the meantime, if you need to contact the Parish Council, you can phone on 01725 510504 between 10.00 am and 3.30 pm or email clerk@downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

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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



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 and the Primary School. The Cedars at Landford and The Trafalgar School in Downton 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 9am to 10am.

We hope and pray that this will bring hope to the hearts of many.

As we come to the end of the season of Epiphany

We do not have a separate magazine for the month of January, unlike the other churches in our Team, so we miss the chance to read the 'Vicar's letter' for that month. This year, Archdeacon Alan Jeans, in his role as our Associate priest, shared some thoughts about the meaning of Epiphany – a long season in the church's year, which we tend to celebrate along with Christmas, but then put to one side.

The following extract from Alan's letter encourages us to think about the gifts brought by the wise men, and goes on to challenge us about what we offer to God.

We are all familiar with the last verse of 'In the bleak mid-winter.'

'What can I give him, poor as I am, If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.

If I were a wise man, I would do my part, yet what I can I give him, give my heart.'

At the start of a new year, it is a good time to take another look at our response to God:

How well do we give ourselves to God in response to his wonderful gift to us?

How readily and regularly do we spent time with God in worship, in prayer, in reading his Word?

How readily and regularly do give of ourselves and our time to someone who needs love and compassion?

How do we care for the earth and work to ensure its sustainability?

How readily do we give to God, not second best, but the best of what we have to offer?

The wise men went home by another road, we too can walk a different road this year, a road where we can make the king of kings the living, active centre of everything we are and do as individuals and as a church.

World Day of Prayer Service

Woodfalls Methodist Church, Friday 3rd March at 2.00 pm.

A Service prepared by Christians from Taiwan

People from Downton are very welcome!

St Laurence Church Flower Rota

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.



Friends of St. Laurence 100 Club

The 4th quarterly draw was made in December. Those who were successful are:

1st prize - £50 – Mr M Chandler

2nd prize - £35 – Mr G Bishop

3rd prize - £25 – Mrs Baines

The 100 club was set up many years ago as a fundraiser to help contribute to the very large maintenance expenses of our Grade 1 listed building. There are four draws a year with three prizes. The balance of monies is passed on to the Church.

St. Laurence is, of course, very much a religious centre, but over recent years it has become a social centre as well, featuring concerts, Goose Fair, Christmas Tree Festival and other events. If you would like to help maintain the building by becoming a member of the 100 club – there are some vacancies – please contact Ken or Jo Parsons on 01725 512738. It only costs £12 a year. Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you.

Churchyard News

Enjoy a foretaste of Spring in the churchyard!

Back in the Summer of 2022 some members of Friends of St Laurence and of the bell ringers got together to rebuild the church path leading from the lower lychgate into Church Leat. Take a walk down there in the next few weeks and there will be a carpet of snowdrops and then primroses to delight the eye. A careful look at the tiny strip-bed in the wall to the north of the lychgate will reveal the dedicated work of Liz Batterbury, who has created a lovely little garden there.

Over the last few years, since the large, rotten trees along the bottom wall were felled and replaced with new ones, volunteers have been clearing overgrown areas and gravestones, leaving some parts of the churchyard wild for nature. This is an ongoing, quite satisfying task and more volunteers are always welcome. If you would like to join us in the churchyard contact Mark on 01725 512175.



Hold the date for Seedy Sunday!

Sunday 26th March

The Green Network is holding its annual **Seedy Sunday** event on 26th March this year between 2.00 and 4.00 pm in the Memorial Hall. At the heart of the event will be the seed and plant swap. Many of our regulars will also be there – look out for the Tool Sharpening service, More Veg seeds, honey and beeswax products plus much more.

We will also be having some interactive displays for children and adults – children will be encouraged to 'plant a pot' to take home!



<http://www.downtongreengroup.org.uk/>

More information will be available next month.



Good Companions

At our meeting on 6th December 2022 Alan Jones gave a very entertaining talk on worldwide historical and current wedding traditions: customs, jewellery, wedding attire, and so many other related happenings too numerous to relate here.

On 20th December we had a wonderful Christmas singalong celebration with Kate Edgar and the delightful Community Choir, and great fun singing and enacting the Twelve Days of Christmas. Thanks to Edna we and the Choir were able to quench our thirst with a very welcome cup of tea, and tuck into the wonderful variety of cakes.

Phyl has been busy arranging the following speakers for us:

February 7th - June Phillimore: Seated Exercise with a lot of laughter!

February 21st - Mike Webber: Illustrated talk on The Mountains, Rocks and Canyons of the USA

March 28th - Steve Hera, who was a Purser for Cunard Liners. This time his talk will be "The TITANIC"

April 4th - Ken Wells, with a talk about the Police Force; this time it will be Forensics. He is a very amusing speaker - not to be missed.

April 18th - Carol Watson: Talk and scenic slides of Switzerland; always a pleasure to be taken on the journey.

May 9th - Alan Jones, Tales of a Roving Reporter; always entertaining and humorous.

We meet in 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.

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



Downton Horticultural Society

As many people are reluctant to turn out on dark evenings when the weather is poor, we have decided not to hold an event in February this year. Our first event will therefore be in March and details will be in next month's magazine. However, the committee are busy making arrangements, in particular for the Summer Show on 10th June and the Autumn Show on 2nd September.

Gordon Bishop (01725 511475)



RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch

There may still be time to take part in the biggest wildlife survey in the world, which has been taking place since 1979. Just pick an hour over the weekend of **27th – 29th January 2020** and record the birds and certain animal species you see in your garden. Go to www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch for full details of how to do the survey, and to enter your results. Identification guides and advice on wildlife gardening are also there – helpful at any time of year.



National Nest Box Week

National Nest Box Week runs from 14th – 21st February each year and we are all encouraged to put up nest boxes in our gardens. It seems that natural nest sites for birds such as holes in trees or old buildings are disappearing as people tidy up their gardens or repair old houses. So putting up a nest box is helping to support the conservation of our breeding birds.

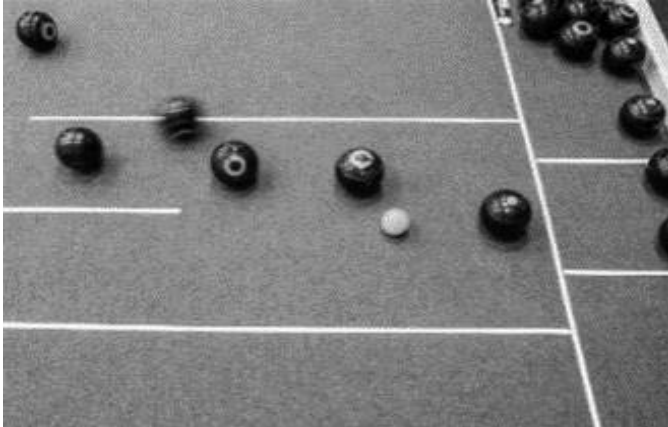
You can find advice on www.nestboxweek.com on how to make a nest box, what to look for when buying one (not all designs for sale are suitable), and where to place a nest box in your garden. Further advice can be found on the website of the British Trust for Ornithology – www.bto.org



Downton Bowling Club

Downton Bowling Club looks as if ducks should be enjoying themselves on the Green this winter with the rain that has lain on the surface.

But we can still enjoy ourselves with the indoor Short Mat Bowling in the Sherwood Room every Thursday!



Have you tried short-mat bowls?

At The Clubhouse, Sherwood Suite, Wick Lane, Downton.

A warm welcome awaits you!

**Thursday afternoons between 2.15 pm and 4.15 pm
until 30th March 2023.**

Only £2 per session, including tea & biscuits.

All equipment & tuition provided.

For more details visit www.downtonbc.co.uk or ring Mike Hallam
on 01725 513359. Email - downtonbowls@gmail.com

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/DowntonBC/>
or just turn up to give it a try.

The Club is still running a very successful Coffee Morning every other Wednesday. The company is super and the cake is yummy.

Please contact us if you are thinking of trying outdoor bowls in the Spring; use the above number or the contacts on our website, and Facebook page.

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.



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 4th Wednesday of the month from 10.00 am, led by Carole Still. The next session is on 22nd February. 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.

Goldies holds twice-weekly sessions under the www.goldieslive.com banner. Why not join in online if you cannot get to the Memorial Hall?

For further information go to the website: www.golden-oldies.org.uk
Or ring Carole Still on 01722 337880

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 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



*'Reflections', a book of old photographs of Downton, was compiled
many years ago, and provides a fascinating record of village life in
times past.*

Copies are still available from
84 The Borough - contact Enid Crook (01725 511196).
Books sold in aid of Wessex Cancer Trust. Price £3.



Talkabout

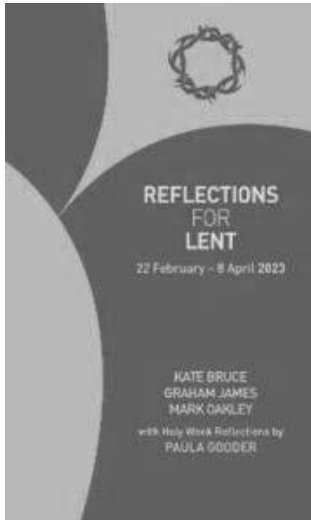
Thursday 2nd February

'Dad's Army - Fact and Fiction' - by Steve Roberts

Starting with coffee from 10.00am and talk at 10.30am

Woodfalls Methodist Hall All welcome

A book which may be helpful during Lent



Reflections for Lent 2023

By Kate Bruce, Mark Oakley and Graham James, CHPublishing, £4.99

Reflections for Lent are designed to enhance your spiritual journey through the forty days from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday.

Covering Monday to Saturday each week, it offers reflections on readings from the Common Worship Lectionary, written by some of today's leading spiritual and theological writers.

Each day includes: full lectionary details for Morning Prayer; a reflection on one of the Bible readings; a Collect for the day.

This volume offers daily material for 22nd February to 8th April 2023. It is ideal for individuals and groups seeking Lectionary-based reflections for use during Lent and Holy Week, or for anyone wishing to try Reflections for Daily Prayer before committing to a year's worth of material. It also features a simple form of morning and night prayer, a guide to keeping a good Lent and an introduction to lectio divina by Stephen Cottrell.



Saturday 18th February Social in Woodfalls Methodist Hall.

Starting with a meal at 5.30 pm followed by games and activities on the Valentine's theme.

If you hope to come please phone 01725512648.

Everyone Welcome.



Lover Repair Cafe

The 4000th job taken in has now been completed and we all celebrated with Gordon Naish as he collected Donald and Mickey to brighten up his garden and add some colour.

'DO NOT BIN IT, WE MAY FIX IT'

Latest News:

Volunteers – As our work load appears to keep expanding we are continually looking for people who would like to come and join our happy team. It does not matter if you have a particular skill or none at all as we are happy to help you pick up new skills. We are particularly looking for people with an interest in Clock Repairs, Ceramic Repairs, Wood-work Repairs and Chair weaving. Please call or pop in if you have an interest.

Seedy Sunday 26th March – The Lover Repair Cafe will once again be having a stall enabling you to **drop in your damaged goods**, chat about your **repair needs** and offer many **donated goods** at basic costs. Book in a visit to Downton Memorial Hall.

Chat-a-Techie: This service continues to offer help with any Computer/Tablet/Mobile-phone needs & to give you training sessions if you require. Please contact the Techies or book in (preferably) Email loverrepaircafe@gmail.com or phone 01725 510753.

Support to worthy Charities – This service continues, no exact details this month but as a result of your generous support we have been able to provide in excess of £22k to needy causes since Repair Cafe started.

The Repair Cafe has a mystery to resolve!!

At the end of September last year this Table Lamp in a poor condition was found at Brambles (our Covid home) asking for repair. However there was no name or phone number with it. If you recognise it please contact us to arrange for collection.

Don't forget – We are open every Wednesday & Friday from 10.00 am till noon and we look forward to seeing you. The Building is a "Warm Space" and all are welcome to drop in for repairs or a chat and hot beverage.



Redlynch Local History Society

Peter Roberts and Georgina Babey stood in, at very short notice, for our indisposed scheduled speaker for our January talk. This talk was well received by an audience of 71.

John Pern Tinney (1779-1832) a solicitor, writer of political pamphlets, and Mayor of Salisbury (1805) planted the 60 acres site in the village to commemorate his marriage to a widow Charlotte May (née Tayler) in 1822. The plantation was sold to the Newhouse Estate in 1849 who felled and replanted the site over more than a century including during the two World Wars.

Gerry Munday, a retired diver who worked with the pioneer underwater conservationist Jacques Cousteau, purchased the woodland in 1980. He built a house within the wood for his personal use. He was a keen animal and plant lover; he hybridised plants, some of which bear his and Tinney's name and appear in the Royal Horticultural Society's listings. He gifted the wood to the Woodland Trust in 1989 on his death. Unusually he is buried within the wood with his cat in a private garden bearing the inscription 'In life and death they guard the wood'.

All in all a very successful evening due to the speakers and the efforts of various committee members to publicise the change of subject. The scheduled talk on Redlynch House will be held at a later date. Our talk for 7th February is "Life in a medieval village" by Mary Harris, at 7.30pm at Morgans Vale and Woodfalls Hall.



‘Keep Warm’ Lunch

The Catholic church in Fordingbridge is operating a ‘Keep Warm’ Lunch every Thursday. People can turn up from 11.00 am and leave around 3.00 pm. In between they will get lots of tea and coffee, and a soup and bread lunch.

There is no charge and everyone is welcome, including anyone from Downton, of any or no denomination, who wants to keep warm.

Any enquiries, please contact John Elliott on 07980 921558.

Forest Edge Flower Arranging Society



In December, we thoroughly enjoyed our festive treats - demonstrations by Allison Finch entitled 'Winter Draws On'. The flowers were gorgeous with baubles, glitter and Brussel sprouts!

Our next meeting on 6th February will be an AGM followed by a talk on 'Dance' by Bronda Dosset. Please note the AGM starts at 7.00 pm (Refreshments from 6.30 pm).

This year will mark our 50th anniversary and we look forward to welcoming members and newcomers to enjoy upcoming events. Membership renewal/subscription for 2023-24 is available until end of February – for joining information, please visit: <https://tinyurl.com/FEFASsubsc2023>

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). 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>

Upcoming meetings:

6th March Demonstration by Carolyn Vanstone: 'Cartoon Capers' 7.00 pm

3rd April Practical Evening: 'Spring/Easter' 7.00 pm



Redlynch Players: Backstage News



A time to look back...

2022 was a brilliant year for Redlynch Players. It marked the anniversary of us forming 65 years ago. We still hold the first minute book declaring that 'on 1st May, 1957, a meeting was held to form a local drama group in Redlynch.' We have certainly come a long way since then, performing every year – even online during the recent pandemic!

The year was marked by two very successful productions. In May, we performed 'Lark on The Wing', the premiere of Ron Perry's play about the life of Flora Thompson in collaboration with Fordingbridge Players.

More recently, at the end of November, our production of 'Talking Heads' by Alan Bennett was also a resounding success.

We have certainly come a long way since then, performing every year – even online during the recent pandemic!

Thank you to all our audiences, Patrons and friends who supported us.

...before looking forward!

We have begun to rehearse our first production of 2023, as soon as the new year has begun! Lloyd Perry will be bringing his experience to the Director's chair for this production and we will be performing during the week beginning 22nd May, so please make a note in your new diary now!

Why not join us?

We are always looking for more members to join us. Do please get in touch to find out more – we need people on and off stage!

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 more details: www.redlynchplayers.co.uk

We post regular updates on our Redlynch Players Facebook page. Why not follow us? Or find us on twitter! @RedlynchPlayers

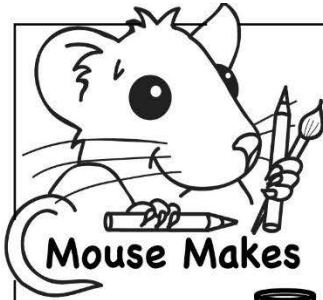
Ali Silver, Chair of Redlynch Players



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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
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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 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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Longwater Tai Chi	Jane Launchbury	01725 514546
Memorial Hall Bookings	Mrs Hilary Mace	07760 415818
Parochial Church Council	Mrs Jo Parsons	01725 512738
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Cubs	Jonathan Borwell... downtoncubs@gmail.com	
Scouts	Kevin Hill downtonscouts@gmail.com	
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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)***



What was the special meal
Jesus was preparing to eat?

Matthew 26:18



What did Jesus take,
bless and break?

Matthew 26:26

What did Jesus give
thanks for and share?

Matthew 26:27

What did Jesus say
this represented?

His _____
Matthew 26:27-28



What did Jesus say
this represented?

His _____
Matthew 26:26

Jesus instructed his disciples to continue
to break bread and share the cup "in

of me."

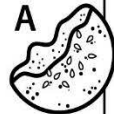
1 Corinthians 11:24-25



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Find the words from the questions too!



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Sending editorial copy

Articles and notices of events for **March** to be emailed to the Editor **by 10th February**. 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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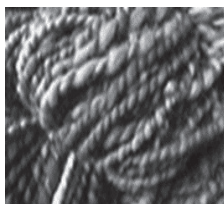
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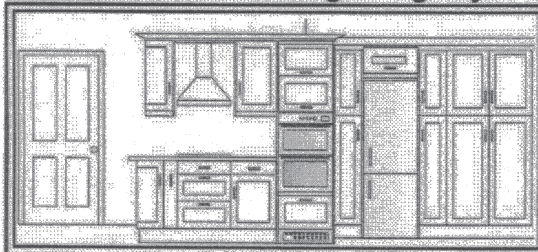
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