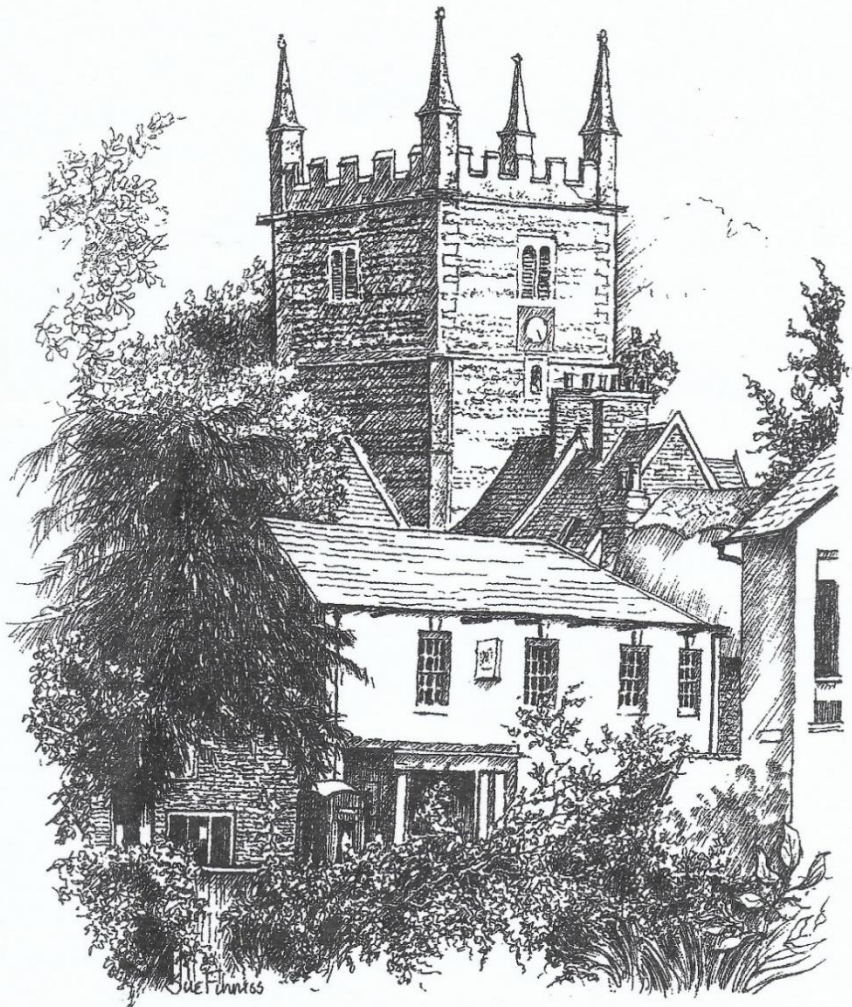


October 2021

# Downton Parish News



St. Laurence Church

## **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](mailto: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](http://www.stlaurencedownton.co.uk)



[www.facebook.com/stlaurencedownton](https://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"*

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

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

**From Rev David Bacon,  
Team Vicar of the Forest and Avon Team**



Dear Friends

**Making plans for Christmas (DV)**

Until last year, the autumn season was one of wonderful predictability. Back to school. Harvest Services. The annual discussion about when to put the heating on. Remembrance Sunday. Advent and Christmas. I have always been struck by how quickly this last third of the year goes and by now, my diary up until December would be filling up with well-laid plans.

This year it is all much harder. Locally we are looking at how we can manage the six churches of the Forest and Avon Team without a Team Rector. But everywhere people are waiting to see what life will look like as the autumn progresses and the NHS faces an expected rise in Covid cases alongside winter flu and the usual seasonal pressures.

So, we are very conscious that when making plans, we are having to make them more tentatively than usual. We have put "Plan A" in place recognising that we may need to move to Plan B or even C.

Few of us actually like this sort of uncertainty. We want to know what will happen next and we simply have to accept that we don't. I'm very sorry for all those who have asked me what is going to happen in the team only to be told, "I don't know"; but that is the only honest answer that I can give.

I don't remember much about my grandmother, who died many years ago, but I do remember that she would often conclude a statement with the letters DV. Years later, I discovered that DV stands for (in Latin) Deo Volente, which means "God willing"; and years after that I found out that according to the New Testament letter of James, this is a phrase that we should all be using on a regular basis.

"Now listen, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.' Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, 'If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that.' (James 4:13-15)

*Continued on next page >>>*

## **Making plans for Christmas (DV) *Continued***

James' letter is thoroughly practical, full of straight-forward advice for Christian living and part of this advice is that it's good to make plans, but that when we make those plans, we should recognise that God's will and plan for us may be different from our own. And if God is good (and the Bible tells us emphatically that He is) His plans are going to be better than ours by far.

So, as I put those Carol Services in my diary, maybe I should be adding "DV" and maybe you should too.

With my love and prayers  
David (Bramshaw Rectory)

### **ST LAURENCE CHURCH SERVICES**

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> October</b>	<b>Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity</b>	
<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Harvest with Holy Communion</b>	
	Reading 1	Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12
	Gospel	Mark 10:2-16
<b>10<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity</b>	
<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	
	Reading 1	Hebrews 4:12-end
	Gospel	Mark 10:17-31
<b>17<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Twentieth Sunday after Trinity</b>	
<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>	
	Reading 1	Hebrews 5:1-10
	Reading 2	Mark 10:35-45
<b>24<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Last Sunday after Trinity (Bible Sunday)</b>	
<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	
	Reading 1	2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
	Gospel	John 5:36b-end
<b>31<sup>st</sup> October</b>	<b>All Saints Sunday</b>	
<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	
	Reading 1	Revelation 21:1-6a
	Gospel	John 11:32-44

As we move into October, we are still cautiously moving ahead with our services. You no longer have to reserve a seat but we will still ask you to 'sign in' and sanitise your hands. Wearing a mask throughout the service will now be personal choice. Communion will still be by wafer only.

As we move into autumn, we will sing our two hymns in church. Coffee will then be served at the end of the service.

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

There will no longer be recorded services from St. Laurence, but within the Team there are online services available each week from St. Mary Redlynch, St. Andrew Landford and of course from Salisbury Cathedral.

**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 everyone will be asked to leave their contact details.

For latest news & any changes log onto  
[www.stlaurencedownton.co.uk](http://www.stlaurencedownton.co.uk)



### **Woodfalls Methodist Church**

The Ridge, Woodfalls, SP5 2LH

**Sunday 3rd October** 10.00am St Mary's

**Wednesday 6th** 10.45am Rev Philip Luscombe. Followed by lunch

**Sunday 10th** 10.00am St Birinus Holy Communion

**4.00pm** Church in the Woods from Tinney's Firs Car Park in Whiteshoot, Redlynch. Why not come and try something different.

**Sunday 17th** 10.00am Woodfalls Methodist Rev Bryan Coates

**Wednesday 20th** 10.45 Rev Richard Avery. Followed by lunch.

**Sunday 24th** 10.00am St Mary's Holy Communion

**Sunday 31st** 10.00am St Birinus.

**All enquiries to** Graham Tanner, telephone 01725 512648;  
email [atanner.gtanner@btinternet.com](mailto:atanner.gtanner@btinternet.com)

**Online services at** [www.salisburymethodist.org.uk](http://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 Thursdays 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 Masses will be on 21<sup>st</sup> October and 18<sup>th</sup> November

If you would like to join the Zoom services  
please contact John Elliott on 01722 711665.

St Osmund's Church TV system  
can be accessed at: <https://salisbury Catholics.org/church-tv>



## **Downton Baptist Church**

South Lane, Downton, SP5 3NA

**Sunday Mornings:** Service at 10.30am  
in Church or Church Field and online.

**Thursday Mornings:** 10.30am Refreshments  
followed by 11.00am Service.

Details of online Services can be found on the Downton Baptist  
Church website

**Ministers:** Rev Philip Rhoades and Rev Katy Ulliyatt

More details of all events from Rev Philip Rhoades:

Telephone: 07468 491143. Email: [rhoades470@btinternet.com](mailto:rhoades470@btinternet.com)

Church Office: 01725 512971 or Email: [office@downtonbaptist.org](mailto:office@downtonbaptist.org)

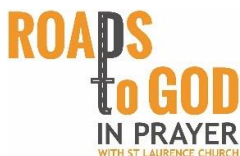
Website: [www.downtonbaptist.org](http://www.downtonbaptist.org)



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

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

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

[illegible]

**Squarey Close, The Sidings,  
Batchelor Way, Moody Drive, Keeley Close,  
Bundy Grove and Haydon Close**

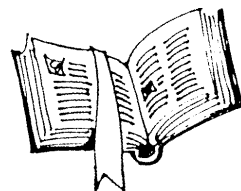
Any such requests will be kept confidential.

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

The next Roads to God Prayer Group will meet on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021 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 and indeed the whole village.

# Prayer Diary for October

- 1 Our Churchwarden and Deputy Churchwardens
- 2 Our Forest & Avon Team
- 3 All key workers
- 4 Harvest: giving thanks for all God's goodness
- 5 Growing through God's Word
- 6 Those made redundant or unable to find work
- 7 The Gimsoms, as they settle into their new home in Suffolk
- 8 Our children and young people
- 9 Those who produce our Parish magazine
- 10 Medical staff: in hospitals, GPs, Care homes, research laboratories
- 11 Our Parochial Church Council (PCC)
- 12 Barford Day Centre
- 13 Our Church School
- 14 Churches Together in Downton
- 15 Those at work worried about social distancing
- 16 The Bereaved
- 17 Charities struggling to continue their work and fundraising
- 18 St Luke: All who minister to the sick
- 19 Those responsible for appointing a new diocesan Bishop
- 20 Peace in the World
- 21 All ministers in the village
- 22 All visitors to our Churches
- 23 All who assist with our services
- 24 Politicians and their advisors
- 25 Bible Sunday: Growing through God's Word
- 26 Trafalgar School at Downton
- 27 Those in Residential and Nursing Homes
- 28 All who rely on food aid
- 29 School Governors
- 30 Our Lay Pastoral Assistants (LPAs)
- 31 Those training for ministry



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 Parish Administrator.



## Thank You

I am writing to say a truly heartfelt thank you for all your good wishes, generosity and prayers over the last few weeks of my time as Team Rector and at my final service on 22<sup>nd</sup> August. Judy and I, and Emily and Hannah too, will greatly miss our ministry and home here - and all of you. We take with us many happy memories and will be sustained by the love you have shown.

Our last month was full of many heart-warming highs but was also emotionally draining. From my farewells at both schools whose lives I have been privileged to share, to our daughter Hannah's wedding in St Laurence at the end of July, many individual conversations and finally the Team Service.

Our grateful thanks to all who came, helped and contributed to these - and to everyone in the parishes and community for their very generous gifts and the many good wishes we have received. It was wonderful to be able to celebrate together after such a long time of restrictions. We have been most touched and really rather humbled by it all.

We have had 19 wonderful years here and, as I have said before, it has been both a joy and a privilege for me to minister in the Forest and Avon Team. We will miss the welcoming churches and wider community and the many friends we have made here.

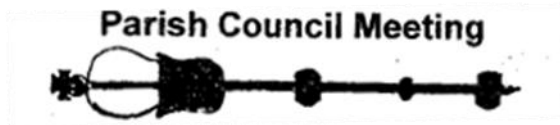
We will be very sorry to leave and will always remember our time here with great affection. However we believe that it is now right for us to move on, and we are looking forward to new ministries and adventures in Suffolk.

We will continue to bear you all on our hearts and in our prayers.

God bless,

Frank Gimson





The Parish Council meeting was held in the Bonvalot Room at the Downton Memorial Centre on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Five members of the public were present.

**Unitary Councillor Richard Clewer:** Cllr Clewer gave a brief report as follows:

- The police have been doing some encouraging work on anti-social behaviour. However, he said he still didn't have any news on the Public Space Protection Order for Downton and Redlynch.
- The housing of refugees from Afghanistan was in progress and MOD housing was being considered as there were over 1,000 empty houses in Wiltshire.

**Road Closure for Remembrance Sunday:** The Council approved a temporary road closure from the Memorial Gardens to Church Hatch from 10.00 hours to 12.00 Noon on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2021. Depending on Covid-19 restrictions at the time, the service will be held either outside the Memorial Centre or at St Laurence's Church.

**Amenities:** Various works to install additional dog bins, install fencing at the Cemetery and a new noticeboard in Moot Lane were approved.

### **Memorial Centre**

The final work to the drainage system was approved and the work to reinstate the Memorial Gardens will follow the completion of these works.

**Vacancies:** There are currently 4 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 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 7.30 pm at the Downton Memorial Centre, The Borough, Downton. With Covid-19 restrictions still in place at the Memorial Centre only 21 people can be present at a meeting, any written questions for the Council can be sent to the Clerk by 12 noon on the day of the meeting.

***Bev Cornish, Clerk to Downton Parish Council.***

***West View, Slab Lane, Downton, SP5 3PS Tel 01725 513874***

***Email: [clerk@downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)***

***[www.downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)***

**The Downton Society****MOVIOLA****Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October****‘Supernova’ (15)****7.00 pm for 7.30 pm in the Downton Memorial Hall.**

“Sam and Tusker, a musician and a novelist, partners of 20 years, are travelling across England in their old camper van visiting friends, family and places from their past. Since Tusker was diagnosed with early-onset dementia two years ago, their time together is the most important thing they have.”

Here are two brilliant actors at the top of their game in this remarkable film. Colin Firth and Stanley Tucci carry this 15 rated, Drama/Romance by the actor-turned-movie maker Harry McQueen with lovely, heartfelt performances portraying conversations and choices facing us all in future years..

Tickets £7.00 available from the Borough Cafe from 2 weeks before the screening or can be reserved from Sue or Lawrence Burr; any remaining tickets will be sold at the door on the night.

Refreshments will be available.

Further information from Sue and Lawrence on 07825 745 246.

Future showing: **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November – ‘Sound of Metal’**

**Action on Hearing Loss****Hearing aid maintenance drop in service – batteries and information**

Our hearing aid maintenance drop in clinics are suspended for the time being due to the corona virus, but I can still post hearing aid batteries to you if you are a Salisbury hospital audiology patient. This is a free service. At this time I'm not posting out tubing but I can help you with information on how to get the best from your hearing aids, including daily cleaning and information on hearing loss. Please don't hesitate to contact me.

Gill Drayson. Telephone 01722 580014, mobile 07570 670 643,  
or email [Gillian.drayson@hearingloss.org.uk](mailto:Gillian.drayson@hearingloss.org.uk)

# Harvest Celebration

with Holy Communion

## All-Age Worship

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 10.30 am  
at St Laurence Church  
with Downton Band**

Your own garden produce is welcome  
as well as gifts of tinned and dried groceries

**all proceeds go to Salisbury Food Bank**

**Don't forget:** we also have a regular collection of dried and tinned goods for the Food Bank throughout the year. Donations may be brought to St Laurence Church on Sunday mornings.



### **Downton Co-op temporary closure**

The Co-op will be closed for six weeks from 10.00 pm on Saturday 9th October to 6.00 am on 19th November. During this time there will be a small 'pop up' shop in the car park offering a range of essential items. open from 8.00 am to 7.00 pm daily and 10.00 am to 4.00 pm Sundays. Further details on the village website: [\*\*www.downtonvillage.co.uk\*\*](http://www.downtonvillage.co.uk)

## Ride and Stride for Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust (WHCT)

Our treasurer, Mark Merrill, took part in 'Ride and Stride' on 11<sup>th</sup> September, a sponsored walk to raise funds for WHCT. He walked between eight Salisbury churches starting in Harnham, through Salisbury to St Francis and ending up at St Peter's in Britford. Thank you to all who sponsored him and, if you think you missed out, there is still time to add your name and money to the cause. Just contact Mark before 10<sup>th</sup> October.

St Laurence Church was also open all day to welcome other Riders and Striders raising funds for WHCT. The Trust has provided two substantial grants for urgent repairs to St Laurence Church in recent years.



### **Downton Link**

#### **Notice is given that the Annual General Meeting**

will take place on

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

Details of time and venue (or Zoom) will be notified to all officers, members and volunteers, and will appear in the November issue of this magazine.

For further information or if interested in supporting Downton Link as a volunteer driver, coordinator or to serve on the Committee, please contact **[info@downtonlink.org.uk](mailto:info@downtonlink.org.uk)** or phone **01725 513807**.



# Stay Local

*Repair Reuse Recycle*

**SUNDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2.00 – 4.00pm**

**Downton Memorial Hall**

## Outside

**TOOL SHARPENING SERVICE – [thesharpening.co.uk](http://thesharpening.co.uk)**

Bring your blunt garden tools to be sharpened ready for next spring

## Inside

**FRUIT, VEG and PLANT SWAP: Bring your spare produce**

**LOVER REPAIR CAFÉ: Bring hand-held items for repair,  
collect at a later date**

**Display INFORMATION includes**

**Plastic Free Downton**

**LOCAL Shopping**

**Clothing Exchange**

**Mask Tree**

**Allotments**

**Making Bees wax wraps**

**What can be recycled and where in Downton**

**[www.downtongreengroup.org.uk](http://www.downtongreengroup.org.uk)**

# Open Art Exhibition

**Downton Memorial Hall SP5 3NB**

**Friday November 12<sup>th</sup> 1 – 4 pm**

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> 10 am - 4 pm**

**Paintings, Greeting cards,  
Raffle, Jams and Gifts**

*Raising funds for Home-Start Hampshire.*

Contact [charlotte.dooley@hshants.org.uk](mailto:charlotte.dooley@hshants.org.uk) for further information.



Charity No 1144661.

Sponsored by

Dorset 2020 Art Society



## Hampshire Open Studios Art Trail

Lynn Purcell is delighted to report that she received over 300 visitors to The Corn Mill during Hampshire Open Studios in August, which made it a huge success. She wishes to thank them for their kind comments and generosity in donating the staggering amount of £870 for the tea, coffee and cake that was consumed. This has been passed on to The Salisbury Hospital Breast Care Unit. A sincere and huge thank you to you all!



## Friends of St Laurence – FOSL

FOSL was set up with the aim of sharing the grade 1 listed building and its churchyard with the wider community. Its aims were to organise working parties, hold social events and, occasionally, to send out a newsletter. FOSL now have an account with Easy Fundraising as a simple way of raising funds for the church when you make a purchase online. Easy Fundraising works by taking a small percentage of the price the retailer charges you and giving it to St Laurence. It does not add anything to the cost of your purchase.

It works as follows:

- You go to [Easyfundraising.org.uk](http://Easyfundraising.org.uk) and search for the cause 'Friends of St Laurence Downton FOSL'
- Follow the simple instructions to register yourself as a donor.
- When you want to make a purchase, go first to [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and search to see if the retailer you want to use is there (there are thousands of them including all the major ones) and make your purchase by using the link from EasyFundraising. The retailer will automatically make a donation to FOSL of between 0.5% to 4% of the value of your purchase.

After an enforced break of nearly two years churchyard working parties have resumed. If you would like to help with a variety of tasks **just turn up at 10.00 am on the first Saturday of every month** for a companionable couple of hours of gardening and basic maintenance tasks.



## Downton Cuckoo Fair

**Are you looking for the ideal present for birthdays or Christmas?**

***We have for sale:***

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



Contact Edna Pike (01725 511332)



## Downton Horticultural Society

We were delighted with the success of our recent Autumn Show. Although the number of entries were lower than our last show, we had a number of new exhibitors some of which were doing so for the first time. We had exhibitors from Christchurch, Andover, Devizes and Hedge End alongside those from the local area, so the competition was sometimes quite tough, particularly in the Dahlia classes, which made the judges' jobs very difficult.

Local winners included Andy Savage who won the Avon Cup for the highest points in Dahlia classes and the Coronation Cup for the best exhibit of flowers. Dave Long was judged to have the best exhibit of Chrysanthemums, Heather Borrelli won the Iris Sherman Memorial Trophy for her floral art and Jenny Shutler won the President's Cup for her Dundee Cake.

We were also pleased that so many people came along to view the exhibits and sample the refreshments, probably the most we have ever had.

**Our next event will be our AGM at 7.30 pm on 18<sup>th</sup> November**  
- more details in next month's magazine.

Gordon Bishop (511475)



Fordingbridge Friends of Cancer  
Research UK

### Annual Autumn Fair

Gifts • Clothing and Accessories • Produce • Café

**Friday 12th November 9.00 am - 1.00 pm**

Damerham Village Hall, SP6 3HD

Entry by Donation

email: [crukfordingbridgefriends@yahoo.com](mailto:crukfordingbridgefriends@yahoo.com)

Cancer Research UK is a registered charity in England and Wales (1089464)

## Good Companions

At our meeting on September 7<sup>th</sup> Rev Ron Hart came to talk to us about the three months that he and his wife Creddie chose to spend in a black South African township during the time of Apartheid. They were allocated a small bungalow, and the first morning after they had settled in Ron went walkabout.

He was invited by a group of ladies to have a prayer time with them, which was the start of Ron and Creddie getting to know the people, their daily lives and stories. Two-roomed dwellings had been built for each family with a modest plot for cultivation of plants, and there were strong Christian communities of different denominations within the township.

Ron read to us a descriptive poem of a walk he had done in the surrounding area, describing the buildings and shops he saw, and showed us photographs of the township and beyond. There were two other townships nearby: one was for the Muslim community and the other for the Asian community.

We meet in the 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, for details.

### Visits to look forward to:

- 5<sup>th</sup> October** - Alan Jones: 'Your body, part two'; Alan's talks are great fun.
- 19<sup>th</sup> October** - Carol Watson: lovely pictures on wide screen 'Road to the Rockies' - America and Canada.
- 26<sup>th</sup> October** - Alex Boot: 'The history of Punch and Judy', with puppets
- 23<sup>rd</sup> November** - Steve Herra: "Sweeney Todd. Not the usual story of the demon barber.
- 7<sup>th</sup> December** - Stephanie: Always a surprise!

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### Rainfall report for August



This was a month of two parts – in the first nine days we had 2.42 inches of rain and for the rest of the month we had only 0.13 inches. This makes a grand total of 2.55 inches, which was below average.

M.C.

## Remembrance in Downton



Remembrance Sunday, which this year falls on 14<sup>th</sup> November, is a national opportunity to remember the service and sacrifice of all those who have defended our freedoms and protected our way of life.

Nationally there will be the Poppy Appeal from 30<sup>th</sup> October to 13<sup>th</sup> November, the Festival of Remembrance on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November and on Sunday, the Cenotaph Parade. Here in Downton the events are:

### Poppy Appeal 2021

We are hoping that this year's Poppy Appeal will see our volunteer collectors out and about in force once again, subject to any future Covid-19 restrictions. We will be offering several ways to donate to the Poppy Appeal including:

- Cash
- Text
- Web (via a QR code quick link)

The appeal runs from 30<sup>th</sup> October to 13<sup>th</sup> November – poppies will be on sale at many locations in Downton, there will be some door-to-door collections, and a collection table will be outside the Co-op on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> October, 6<sup>th</sup> November and 13<sup>th</sup> November.

### Remembrance Day

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November – the actual Remembrance Day – crosses will be planted at the graves from 10.00 am, and a small ceremony will be held outside The Goat at 11.00 am.

### Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November – the Official Remembrance Day – a wreath laying Parade will take place at The Memorial Hall starting at 10.00 am with a march along The Borough and the High Street to St Laurence's Church for a service of Remembrance led by the Archdeacon Alan Jeans.

The Parade will be led by the Downton Band and will include members of the Royal British Legion, Parish Councillors, and Youth Organisations. It should be noted that seating in the Church will probably be restricted due to Covid.

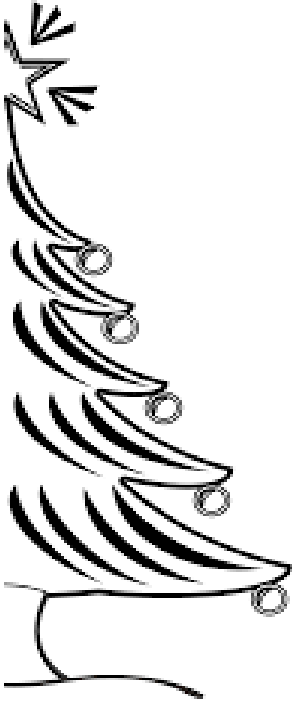


# **Downton Christmas Tree Festival**

**St Laurence Church**

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December**



**Entries Welcome  
from individuals, schools,  
families, businesses, charities  
and community groups of  
Christmas wreaths and trees of  
your own design.**

Let your imagination run riot with unusual  
or traditional decorations, with a theme, as  
a tribute or just decorative - whatever  
inspires you!

Entry forms will be available in the Downton Library, the  
Borough Cafe and St Laurence Church or can be downloaded  
from the church and village websites from 20th September at:

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

[www.downtonvillage.co.uk](http://www.downtonvillage.co.uk)

**Final entry deadline: 26<sup>th</sup> November**

**Any funds raised during the festival will be divided  
between the Wiltshire Family Counselling Trust and St  
Laurence Church**

**10.00am till 12 noon**

**at Woodfalls Methodist Hall**

(Car Park access by side Band Hall, disabled access)

## Coffee, Cake, Crafts, Crosswords, Construct a jigsaw.

Organised crafts or bring your own craft or call in for coffee, cake and chat.

## All welcome.

No set charge - tin for donations

Crafts and toys for toddlers if requested.

Enquiries to Anita or Graham (01725512648)

or Veronica Batchelor (01725513878)

## The Churches of

St.Birinus Morgans Vale, St.Mary, Redlynch and Woodfalls Methodist

## Saturday 30th October: Social in Woodfalls Methodist Hall

Starting with a meal at 5.30pm

followed by Channel Island Cricket (No running or ball involved!)

Please book on 01725512648.

## Lover Repair Cafe

We are now operating from Redlynch Village Hall every Wednesday and Friday morning, from 10.00 am – 12 noon, with minor restrictions. There are two Weekly Cafes for you to drop into in the village, Wednesdays run by Repair Cafe & Fridays run by Friday Café; repairs or not, you are all welcome in for tea or coffee and a chat.

When you bring items for repair leave us your name & telephone number. We phone you when your item is ready for collection, and simply ask you to pay for material costs and a donation to our local projects.

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

**COMMUNITY CAFÉ**  
and  
**FOOD EXCHANGE**

You, your friends and neighbours are invited  
to drop in for hot drinks and cake.

(Voluntary donation)

***Thursdays , 9am—11.30am***  
***starting 2<sup>nd</sup> September!***

**Woodfalls Methodist Church Hall**

(Come in via the car park off Vale Road)

**Waste not—Want not**

If you have surplus ingredients -

(eg BOGOF / package too big for your needs/  
glut of tomatoes or apples etc?)

*- Bring them to share*

If you are short of a few ingredients -

*- Come, as you might find them there!*

The Churches of Morgan's Vale, Woodfalls and  
Redlynch welcome you.

## Forest Edge Flower Arranging Society



Our first proper meeting back in the hall saw us gather to watch Irene Hickson demonstrate two designs, with members then creating the meadow style for themselves. It was so good to get back together and reconnect with our members and our lovely flowers again. Everyone had a wide range of simple flowers from their own gardens and yet each piece was individual and so colourful. It was a joy to behold and all enjoyed the evening.

Next month we will hold our In House competition and members will get the chance to create exhibits to be judged by Debbie Wadge and hopefully gain an award. Debbie will also spend some time talking about our designs, giving us comments and advice as a way of learning and improving.

In November we will welcome Jo Richards to demonstrate, so perhaps you might come along and see us. Visitors are most welcome at a charge of £6. We meet in Morgan's Vale and Woodfalls Village Hall, Redlynch at 7.00 pm for refreshments, starting at 7.30 pm. Hope to see you there.

Martina Coleman (Chairperson) 01725 512556



## Redlynch and District WI

We celebrated our 105th birthday on 8th September with a party; we are the oldest remaining WI in Wiltshire, and though our numbers have decreased we held a party to celebrate. Our speaker Jim Pearce played Happy Birthday and Jerusalem on his saxophone for us and then gave us a talk about his life in a Military Band. He left us in suspense at the end as he said he had more instalments. We all enjoyed tea and cake before having our photograph taken.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 13th October at Morgans Vale and Woodfalls Village Hall at 2.15 pm, when our speaker will be Dr Tean Michael, talking on coppicing and associated crafts. Guests will be very welcome.

For more information please contact Rosemary Pugh (01725 510335) or Jill Bowen (01725 511173).

## Redlynch Local History Society

More than forty people gathered - for the first RLHS meeting in 18 months due to the Coronavirus pandemic - at the Morgan's Vale and Woodfalls Hall on September 7th, for a talk entitled *Strawberry Fields Forever?* by Dr Mary South. The speaker, who spent most of her career at Hillier's, looked at the development and heyday of the Strawberry growing industry in Hampshire which developed in the late 19th century to supply soft fruit to the burgeoning urban markets. For weeks every summer horses and carts would queue at local stations, waiting for the 'strawberry special' trains to take their produce to London and elsewhere.

So lucrative was the 'Strawberry Coast' trade that a new station at Swanwick was built in 1888 to accommodate it, and other station platforms, such as those at Bursledon, Botley and Bishops Waltham, were lengthened to allow room for stacking the huge number of strawberry containers. Strawberry growers in Shirley often used liners as transport. The philanthropic Garnier family of Rookesbury Park, near Wickham Common, had around 25 houses built on the edge of their estate, with an allocation of four acres per dwelling on which to grow strawberries in order to give locals a reasonable livelihood.

During WW2 the trade turned largely to the war effort and masses of strawberries were sent to WI's all over the country to turn into preserves, earning them the nickname of the 'Jam Busters'. The markets declined in the 1960s when cheap imports began to arrive. Today there are still many 'pick-your-own' sites in the south, continuing the traditional 'family activity' that strawberry growing always was.

Our next talk is on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 7.30 pm in Morgan's Vale & Woodfalls Hall, entitled "On the wrong side of the law in Whiteparish and Landford" by Dr Rosalind Johnson, preceded by our AGM.

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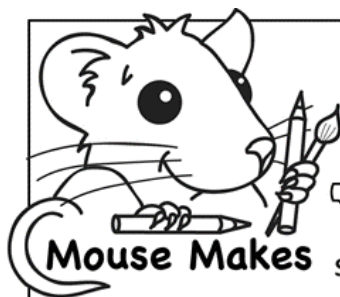
It is with deep regret we have to tell you about the passing of our Chairman, Carolyn Birch. Sadly, she died early in September after a brief and bravely borne illness. Carolyn was a founder member of Redlynch Local History Society and over the last 25 years has been a very active committee member; since 2007 she has held the position of Chairman. She will be greatly missed. All our thoughts are with her husband Malcolm, sons Nicholas and Alastair and their families.



## 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 |
| BWSC Bowling Club .....                             | Mike Hallam<br>michaelhallam99@btinternet.com     |              |
| 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 .....                  | Becci Lanham .....                                | 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.....Kevinmburns57@gmail.com           |              |
| 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<br><u>lstdowntonguides@gmail.com</u> |              |
| 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 December 2020)*



What kind of transport goes with each bible character?



NOAH — DONKEY  
BAALAM — CHARIOT  
MOSES — SHIP  
JONAH — ARK  
ELIJAH — BIG FISH  
PHILIP — BASKET  
PAUL — WHIRLWIND

Find the travel words in the word search



JOURNEY

FLEE • LEAVE • TRAVEL  
• GOD WITH US •  
DONKEY • CAMEL  
HORSE • CHARIOT  
BOAT • RIDE • WALK  
PATH • ROAD  
• DIRECTION •  
GUIDE • MAP • SIGN  
VILLAGE • TOWN • CITY



## BIBLE JOURNEYS

Where did Noah's ark come to rest after it's journey?

Genesis 8:4

Where did God tell Samuel to travel to to find a new king?

1 Samuel 16:1-4

To which city did God send Jonah?

Jonah 1:1-2

Which town did Joseph take Mary to before Jesus was born?

Luke 2:4

Where did Mary and Joseph flee to to get away from Herod?

Matthew 2:13

Where was Saul (Paul) going to when Jesus spoke to him?

Acts 9:1-18



"Lord,  
If I go east where the sun rises or go to live west beyond the sea, even there you will take my hand and lead me. Your strong right hand will **protect** me."

Psalms 139:9-10

GOD'S WAY

"God is our God for ever and ever, He will be our guide even to the end." from Psalm 48:14

"People can plan what they want to do, but it is the Lord who guides their steps."

Proverbs 16:9



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**All box and line advertisements in this magazine  
are accepted in good faith**

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## **Sending editorial copy**

Articles and notices of events for the **November** issue to be emailed to the Editor **by 10<sup>th</sup> October.** Please contact the Editor if you wish to submit a paper copy.

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

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

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

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*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.*

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**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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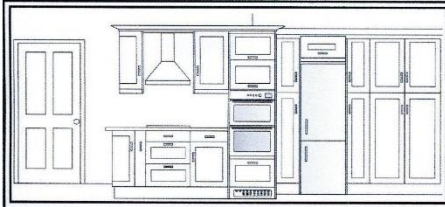
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