

Talks and Concerts at St Catherine's Littleton in 2019

Our second event of the year is in just a month's time

Saturday 27 April 2.30pm

Freda Bates: Talk "Ooh! I never noticed that before"

Littleton Church Room, followed by refreshments

Freda is a London Blue Badge Guide and a regular speaker on a variety of topics. She will lead us on an illustrated walk from Waterloo Station to Aldwych.

Tickets@£8 and further information from David Targett: wdctgt@aol.com; 01962-886186

Space in the City May 2019

Reflecting on the Lord's Prayer

with Angela Tilby, Bruce Pickett, Peter Lippiett and Elizabeth Stuart

Wednesday lunchtimes, 12.30 – 1.00 pm on **1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd May** at St Lawrence in the Square, Winchester.

No entrance charge but your donations will be most welcome.

Date for your diary! Wherwell Singers Summer Concert

Saturday 25th May, at 7.30pm

St Peter & Holy Cross Church, Wherwell

Join the Wherwell Singers as we celebrate the arrival of summer with a programme of music devoted to the theme of love. The programme explores settings of love poetry from contemporary and Renaissance composers, including Gibbons, Monteverdi, Debussy, Gjeilo and Todd.

Tickets £8, available online: www.wherwellsingers.org or at the door.

Tearfund

Until 17th May, all donations to Tearfund will be doubled by the UK government, up to £3 million. Match funding from the UK government will be used by Tearfund partners in Pakistan and around the world to set up recycling hubs and improve the lives of people in the poorest slum communities. For more information see www.tearfund.org.

Please send all items for Across the Downs to Carol Ward: email carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk, or telephone 01962 883185, by 12.00 noon Thursday at the latest. **If you would like to receive future editions of the newsletter by email, please contact me on the above address.** Thank you.

Across the Downs

Church News Sheet for the Downs Parishes of
Chilbolton, Crawley, Littleton, Sparsholt and Wherwell
Rector: Revd Jax Machin 01962 880845

Sunday 7th April 2019

Services for Sunday 7th April 2019

The Fifth Sunday of Lent (Passiontide)

- 8.00 am (Sp) Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10.00 am (Ch) Family Service
- 10.00 am (Cr) Family Communion
- 10.00 am (Wh) Holy Communion (CW)
- 3.00 pm (Wh) Baptism – Grace Donald
- 4.00 pm (Li) Café Church, in the Church Room
- 6.00 pm (Wh) Spring Meditation – Brother Lawrence



Services for Sunday 14th April 2019

The Sixth Sunday of Lent - Palm Sunday

- 10.00 am (Ch) Palm Sunday Service
- 10.00 am (Cr) Palm Sunday Service
- 10.00 am (Li) Palm Sunday Eucharist Service with donkey procession
- 10.00 am (Sp) Palm Sunday Service with donkey
- 10.00 am (Wh) Palm Sunday Service
- 3.30 pm (Wh) Baptism – Rupert Webb

Prayer for the Week – *Fifth Sunday of Lent (Passiontide)*

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings Isaiah 43: 16-21 Philippians 3: 4b-14 John 12: 1-8

In our parishes we welcome everyone to our altars during Communion. Communicant members of all denominations are welcome to receive Communion and others are invited to receive a blessing.

Banns of Marriage

(Wh) Luke Ward & Clare Neave

1st Time of Reading

Lent Series 2019, 'Mission and Responding to God's Call'

This year we have invited speakers from charities we support to come and talk to us about how their faith impacts upon their life and work and vice versa.

The last of our talks will take place between 7.30 and 9.00 pm in Wherwell church.

Wednesday 10th April, Wherwell – Speaker: Lisa Rodrigues, Salisbury Diocese

(Lisa lives in Crawley and is testing her vocation to Ordination)

Bell Ringers Service

19th May at 33.30 pm at Winchester Cathedral

Since the start of the Great War in 1914 bell-ringers have been ringing to commemorate those who lost their lives in this and other wars and to remember all involved in the wars on Remembrance Day. To honour and celebrate this ringing, Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild of Church Bell-ringers is producing two identical books, one to be presented to Portsmouth Cathedral and the other to Winchester Cathedral, which will be a record of all such ringings.

There will be a special service and presentation of one of the books at Winchester Cathedral on 19th May. Please could you let Caroline McAulay in the Benefice Office know if you would be interested in going to this service so she can pass numbers on to the organisers. (01962 880845; office@downsbenefice.org.uk)

Karis Kids – launch of new website!

For 12 years now Karis Kids has been linking UK families to Ugandan families, creating a future and family for vulnerable children and orphans trapped by poverty. The charity has gone from supporting 10 families in the slums of Kampala to over a 100 families, 9 by families in the Downs Benefice! Did you know together over £1,000,000 has been sent directly towards supporting our incredible Karis families?

Karis Kids is now looking to the next stage. The need is still truly overwhelming. So many children still go hungry and are fighting to survive each day. We believe God is calling us to expand our mission to see more lives transformed and see the church in Uganda rewrite the story of their poorest communities. Along with this we will be launching our new website on Mothering Sunday, 31st March, so take a look: www.kariskids.org. What better date — given God's heart for the orphan and the widow!

DIARY

Monday 8th April

10.00–11.30am (Li) No St Catherine's Toddler Group in the Church Room.

Easter holidays. Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886
Funeral and Burial – Rosamond Wells

2.30 pm (Sp)

Tuesday 9th April

4.15 pm (Li)

Prayers for those on the Benefice prayer list, Littleton Church Room

7.20 pm (Ch)

Chilbolton APCM, in the Durnford Room, Village Hall, preceded by refreshments at 7.00pm

Wednesday 10th April

11.30 am (Wh)

Sarum U3A visit with talk, in Wherwell Church

7.30 pm (Wh)

Lent Talk – Lisa Rodrigues, in Wherwell Church

Thursday 11th April

1.30 pm (Li)

Thanksgiving Service – Jean Retter, following cremation at Test Valley Crematorium at 11.30 am.

7.30 pm (Wh)

Wherwell APCM, in Wherwell Church. (Refreshments from 7.00 pm.)

Friday 12th April

4.00 pm (Li)

Julian Meeting – new members always welcome.

Contact Sheila Trussler, 01962 881089.

Saturday 13th April

9.30 – 12 noon (Ch)

Chilbolton Church Spring Clean

9.30 – 11.30am (Sp)

District bell ringing training session

11.00 am (Ch)

'Propping up the Bar' – in Abbots Mitre, Chilbolton

Two events in Chilbolton!

Chilbolton Church Annual Spring Clean takes place on **Saturday 13th April**, 9:30am to midday. All are welcome to help make the church look fresh and welcoming for Easter. Jobs for everyone. Refreshments. Many hands make light work!

You are invited to **Maundy Thursday Supper with Holy Communion** on **Thursday 18th April**, 6:30 for 7pm at the home of Michael and Joyce Payne, Wherwell. If you are interested in coming, please phone Lesley on 01264 860584 before 11th April.

Good Friday 2019

Churches Together in Winchester will again be holding a 'Walk of Witness' in Good Friday morning this year. Meet at St Peter's in Jewry Street at 10.50 am for a short act of witness before walking to the Buttercross for an open-air service starting at approximately 11.10 am.

Wherwell and Chilbolton

Bedside Chair Appeal for The Countess of Brecknock Hospice

The Brecknock Hospice is 'near and dear' to many of us, all touched by the loving care and kindness provided. Like us, many of you will have had personal experience with family and or friends being cared for at the Hospice.

In celebration of our 30th year in Wherwell, we decided to try to raise £19,800 for the purchase of eleven bedside patient chairs required for the hospice expansion.

Working with our friends in Chilbolton we began our appeal in February and have been overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity of our friends and neighbours. Currently pledges and donations stand at £11,000 and so we remain hopeful of raising the remaining £2,800 to reach our goal.

To those of you who have donated to our Bedside Patient Chair Appeal, we sincerely thank you, and ask those who may not have been aware of our 'one-off' appeal, to please consider supporting us by sending a 'pledge' to wherwellbiz@aol.com, or post a cheque payable to The Countess of Brecknock Hospice Trust to: John and Judy Conte, White Lodge, Fullerton Road, Wherwell, SP11 7JS.

Space in the City May 2019 Reflecting on the Lord's Prayer

with Angela Tilby, Bruce Pickett, Peter Lippiett and Elizabeth Stuart

Wednesday lunchtimes, 12.30 – 1.00 pm on 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd May at St Lawrence in the Square, Winchester.

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St Peter & Holy Cross Church, Wherwell

Join the Wherwell Singers as we celebrate the arrival of summer with a programme of music devoted to the theme of love. The programme explores settings of love poetry from contemporary and Renaissance composers, including Gibbons, Monteverdi, Debussy, Gjeilo and Todd.

Tickets £8, available online: www.wherwellsingers.org or at the door.

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Sunday 14th April 2019



Services for Sunday 14th April 2019 *The Sixth Sunday of Lent - Palm Sunday*

- 10.00 am (Ch) Palm Sunday Service
- 10.00 am (Cr) Palm Sunday Service
- 10.00 am (Li) Palm Sunday Eucharist Service with donkey procession
- 10.00 am (Sp) Palm Sunday Service with donkey
- 10.00 am (Wh) Palm Sunday Service
- 3.30 pm (Wh) Baptism – Rupert Webb



Services for Sunday 21st April 2019 *Easter Sunday*

- 10.00 am (Ch) Easter Family Communion
- 10.00 am (Cr) Easter Family Service
- 10.00 am (Li) Easter Family Communion
- 10.00 am (Sp) Easter Family Communion
- 10.00 am (Wh) Easter Family Communion

Prayer for the Week – *Sixth Sunday of Lent (Palm Sunday)*

Almighty and everlasting God, who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings Isaiah 50: 4-9a Philippians 2: 5-11 Luke 23: 1-49

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Banns of Marriage

(Wh) Luke Ward & Clare Neave

2nd Time of Reading

St Catherine's EASTER Flowers

Please choose your spot and sign up on the list in the porch.

We will start to decorate at 9.30 on Saturday 20th April.

Donations of flowers, greenery etc. all gratefully received. Please leave in the church on Friday night or Saturday morning.

New folk welcome to join in the fun.

Thank you. Fiona 886151 and Sarah 861436

Bell Ringers Service

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Karis Kids – launch of new website!

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DIARY

Monday 15th April

10.00–11.30am (Li) No St Catherine's Toddler Group in the Church Room.
Easter holidays. Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886

Tuesday 16th April

2.00 pm (Li) Flowerdown Easter Holy Communion
10.00 am (Cr) Easter Garden
4.15 pm (Li) Prayers for those on the Benefice prayer list, Littleton Church Room

Wednesday 17th April

9.30 am (Li) Holy Communion
2.00 pm (Cr) Funeral and burial – Leslie Butcher

Thursday 18th April – Maundy Thursday

6.30 pm (Ch) Maundy Thursday Supper with Holy Communion, at the home of Michael and Joyce Payne, Dancing Ledge, Wherwell
8.00 pm (Sp) Vigil – Holy Communion with foot washing

Friday 19th April – Good Friday

9.30 am (Ch) Children's Easter Activity, Chilbolton Church
12.00 noon (Li) Good Friday meditation
2.00 pm (Wh) Good Friday meditation (joined by Chilbolton)
4.00 pm (Li) Julian Meeting – new members always welcome.
Contact Sheila Trussler, 01962 881089.

Saturday 20th April

New Daylight Bible Reading Fellowship Notes

The New Daylight Notes are one of the best-selling aids to Bible reading in the UK. If anyone in the Benefice would like to receive them – three issues a year, currently £13.50 yearly, please contact Sheila Trussler on 01962 881089 or sheilamt@talktalk.net.

Easter Garden, Crawley

Tuesday 16th
April
4 pm

All children and adults welcome.
Meet in Church



Good Friday 2019

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Wherwell and Chilbolton

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To those of you who have donated to our Bedside Patient Chair Appeal, we sincerely thank you, and ask those who may not have been aware of our 'one-off' appeal, to please consider supporting us by sending a 'pledge' to wherwellbiz@aol.com, or post a cheque payable to The Countess of Brecknock Hospice Trust to: John and Judy Conte, White Lodge, Fullerton Road, Wherwell, SP11 7JS.

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- 10.00 am (Li) Easter Family Communion
- 10.00 am (Sp) Easter Family Communion
- 10.00 am (Wh) Easter Family Communion



Services for Sunday 28th April 2019 *The Second Sunday of Easter*

- 8.00 am (Wh) Holy Communion
- 10.00 am (Cr) 4th Sunday Worship with Sunday School
- 10.00 am (Li) Morning Worship followed by Dedication of new Churchyard Entrance and APCM
- 10.00 am (Sp) Family Communion
- 6.00 pm (Ch) Benefice Evensong

Prayer for the Week – *Easter Sunday*

Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity.

Readings Isaiah 65: 17-end Acts 10: 34-43 Luke 24: 1-12

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Banns of Marriage

(Wh) Luke Ward & Clare Neave

2nd Time of Reading

Talks and Concerts in St Catherine's Littleton in 2019

Friday 24th May, 7.30 pm

Winchester Cathedral Girls' Choir: Concert

Followed by refreshments in the church room.

This internationally renowned choir will present a programme of music, both sacred and secular. Tickets @ £14 and further information from David Targett: wdtcgt@aol.com; 01962 886186

Bell Ringers Service

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DIARY

Monday 22nd April

10.00–11.30am (Li)

No St Catherine's Toddler Group in the Church Room.
Easter holidays. *Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886*

Tuesday 23rd April

2.30 pm (Li)

4.15 pm (Li)

Westholme Easter Holy Communion

Prayers for those on the Benefice prayer list, Littleton Church Room

6.30 pm (Li)

Annual Messy Church Review meeting, Littleton Church Room

Wednesday 24th April

7.00 pm (Li)

Service of Meditation

7.30 pm (Cr)

Benefice Council meeting, Crawley Church Room

Thursday 25th April

Friday 26th April

4.00 pm (Li)

Julian Meeting – new members always welcome.

Contact Sheila Trussler, 01962 881089.

7.00 pm (Cr)

Crawley APCM, with a drinks reception beforehand, starting at 6.00 pm.

Saturday 27th April

All day (Cr)

Bach Weekend

2.30 pm (Li)

Talk by Freda Bates: "Ooh! I never noticed that before".
Littleton Church Room, followed by refreshments.

4.00 pm (Sp)

Wedding – Charles Craig Harvey & Rosalind O'Shaughnessy

New Daylight Bible Reading

Fellowship Notes

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Midday Mums

Midday Mums will meet again on

Monday 29th April

10.30am – 12 noon in Wherwell Village Hall.

All with babies/toddlers welcome.

Next one 20th May.

Joyce Payne

01264 860296



Benefice Office Closures

Please note:

The Benefice Office will be closed Good Friday, Easter Monday and Friday 26th April.

The Young Engineers Show

Crawley Village Hall **Monday 29th April**, 8.30 pm

Introduced by Zahra Webb and Rosie Turner

The Young Engineers will present their models themselves. Many members have published their work and have won prizes in competitions.

Please come and see what we can do!

Space in the City May 2019

Reflecting on the Lord's Prayer

with Angela Tilby, Bruce Pickett, Peter Lippiett and Elizabeth Stuart

Wednesday lunchtimes, 12.30 – 1.00 pm on **1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd May** at St Lawrence in the Square, Winchester.

No entrance charge but your donations will be most welcome.

- **1 May** The Rev'd Brian Pickett: Kingdom Come – 'Our Father' – a Jewish prayer?

Brian Pickett, a retired priest in Romsey, served first as a Methodist, then Anglican, in parish work and hospital chaplaincy. He is a retreat leader, spiritual director and Oblate of the Sisters of Bethany in Portsmouth, where he leads study days on spirituality. After reading German and Classics, he researched in Hebrew, and has written on the German women mystics ('The Heart of Love' 1991) and the Psalms ('Songs for the Journey' 2002). Syriac spirituality continues to be an inspiration, encouraged by a sabbatical in Kerala and Syria with Liz, his wife and fellow priest.

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10.00 am (Sp) Family Communion
6.00 pm (Ch) Benefice Evensong



Services for Sunday 5th May 2019

The Third Sunday of Easter

- 8.00 am (Sp) Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am (Ch) Family Service
10.00 am (Cr) Family Communion
10.00 am (Wh) Holy Communion (CW)
2.30 pm (Li) Baptism – Grace Rickman
4.00 pm (Li) Café Church, in the Church Room

Prayer for the Week – The Second Sunday of Easter

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings Exodus 14: 10-31; 5: 20-21 Acts 5: 27-32 John 20: 19-end
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Banns of Marriage

(Wh) Luke Ward & Clare Neave

3rd Time of Reading

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Followed by refreshments in the church room.

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Christian Aid Week (CAW), 12th to 18th May 2019 (Littleton)

In Sierra Leone 10 women die each day giving birth because of lack of clinics, health training and hygiene. One in 9 children die before their 5th birthday and 10% of health workers were killed by Ebola.

Christian Aid is ideally placed in small communities to remedy this sad situation by helping people to help themselves. So far 22 communities have built their own health facilities and are sharing their experience with surrounding villages.

Please give what you can to help mothers and babies in Sierra Leone. If you fill in the Gift Aid slip on the envelope, your contribution will be increased by 25%.

Ann and David Naylor. 882232 davidnaylor@ntlworld.com

DIARY

Monday 29th April

10.00–11.30am (Li) St Catherine's Toddler Group in the Church Room.
Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886
Midday Mums, Wherwell Village Hall

10.30 am (Wh)

Tuesday 30th April

2.00 pm (Cr)

4.15 pm (Li)

Memorial Service – Nicholas Wiles
Prayers for those on the Benefice prayer list, Littleton Church Room

Wednesday 1st May

9.30 am (Li)

Holy Communion

Thursday 2nd May

Friday 3rd May

12.30 pm (Li)

4.00 pm (Li)

Littleton Luncheon Club
Julian Meeting – new members always welcome.
Contact Sheila Trussler, 01962 881089.

Saturday 4th May

8.00 am (Cr)

Saturday Breakfast Group *Please phone Phil Payne, (01962 776316) for details*

Saying Goodbye Service

(Mariposa Trust)

Saturday 11th May, 10.30 am,
Winchester Cathedral

A service for anyone who has lost a baby in pregnancy, at birth or in early years, whether the loss was today or 80 years ago. Those who grieve a pregnancy never even taking place are also welcome.

Midday Mums

Midday Mums will meet again on

Monday 29th April,

10.30am – 12 noon, in Wherwell Village Hall.

All with babies/toddlers welcome.

Next one 20th May.

Joyce Payne
01264 860296



Parish Magazine Deadline

A reminder that copy for the June/July edition of the Benefice Parish Magazine should be submitted by **12.00 noon, Friday 10th May** at the latest. Details of where to send your article or information can be found at the back of the current magazine.

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Space in the City May 2019

Reflecting on the Lord's Prayer

with Angela Tilby, Bruce Pickett, Peter Lippiett and Elizabeth Stuart

Wednesday lunchtimes, 12.30 – 1.00 pm on 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd May at St Lawrence in the Square, Winchester.

- **8 May** The Rev'd Canon Angela Tilby 'The Riddle of the Lord's Prayer'.

Angela Tilby, is Canon Emeritus of Christ Church Cathedral Oxford and Honorary Chaplain of Portsmouth Cathedral. She is a theological educator, writer and broadcaster, whose contributions to 'Thought for the Day' on BBC Radio 4 and her various published writings have been much valued over many years.

- **15 May** The Revd Canon Dr Peter Lippiett: Praying the Prayer
- **22 May** Professor Elizabeth Stuart: Lead us not into Temptation

No entrance charge but your donations will be most welcome.

Wherwell Singers Summer Concert

Saturday 25th May, at 7.30pm

St Peter & Holy Cross Church, Wherwell

Join the Wherwell Singers as we celebrate the arrival of summer with a programme of music devoted to the theme of love. The programme explores settings of love poetry from contemporary and Renaissance composers, including Gibbons, Monteverdi, Debussy, Gjeilo and Todd.

Tickets £8, available online: www.wherwellsingers.org or at the door.

Please send all items for Across the Downs to Carol Ward: email carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk, or telephone 01962 883185, by 12.00 noon Thursday at the latest. **If you would like to receive future editions of the newsletter by email, please contact me on the above address.** Thank you.

Across the Downs

Church News Sheet for the Downs Parishes of
Chilbolton, Crawley, Littleton, Sparsholt and Wherwell
Rector: Revd Jax Machin 01962 880845

Sunday 5th May 2019

Services for Sunday 5th May 2019

The Third Sunday of Easter

- 8.00 am (Sp) Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10.00 am (Ch) Family Service
- 10.00 am (Cr) Family Communion
- 10.00 am (Wh) Holy Communion (CW)
- 2.30 pm (Li) Baptism – Grace Rickman
- 4.00 pm (Li) Café Church, in the Church Room



Services for Sunday 12th May 2019

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

- 10.00 am (Ch) Morning Prayer
- 10.00 am (Cr) Morning Worship (Matins)
- 10.00 am (Li) Family Communion with Christian Aid Service
- 10.00 am (Sp) Welcome Worship
- 6.00 pm (Wh) Benefice Evensong

Prayer for the Week – The Third Sunday of Easter

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings Zephaniah 3: 14-20 Acts 9: 1-20 John 21: 1-19

In our parishes we welcome everyone to our altars during Communion. Communicant members of all denominations are welcome to receive Communion and others are invited to receive a blessing.

Banns of Marriage

(Ch)	David Moss & Annie Carder	1st Time of Reading
(Li)	Andrew Maclachlan & Nichola Foster	1st Time of Reading
(Li)	Alexander Marshall & Clare Henley	1st Time of Reading

Saying Goodbye Service (Mariposa Trust)

Saturday 11th May, 10.30 am, Winchester Cathedral

A service for anyone who has lost a baby in pregnancy, at birth or in early years, whether the loss was today or 80 years ago. Those who grieve a pregnancy never even taking place are also welcome

Bell Ringers Service

19th May at 3.30 pm at Winchester Cathedral

Since the start of the Great War in 1914 bell-ringers have been ringing to commemorate those who lost their lives in this and other wars and to remember all involved in the wars on Remembrance Day. To honour and celebrate this ringing, Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild of Church Bell-ringers is producing two identical books, one to be presented to Portsmouth Cathedral and the other to Winchester Cathedral, which will be a record of all such ringings.

There will be a special service and presentation of one of the books at Winchester Cathedral on 19th May.

Please could you let Caroline McAulay in the Benefice Office know if you would be interested in going to this service so she can pass numbers on to the organisers. (01962 880845; office@downsbenefice.org.uk)

Christian Aid Week (CAW), 12th to 18th May 2019 (Littleton)

In Sierra Leone 10 women die each day giving birth because of lack of clinics, health training and hygiene. One in 9 children die before their 5th birthday and 10% of health workers were killed by Ebola.

Christian Aid is ideally placed in small communities to remedy this sad situation by helping people to help themselves. So far 22 communities have built their own health facilities and are sharing their experience with surrounding villages.

Please give what you can to help mothers and babies in Sierra Leone. If you fill in the Gift Aid slip on the envelope, your contribution will be increased by 25%.

Ann and David Naylor. 882232 davidnaylor@ntlworld.com

DIARY

Monday 6th May

10.00–11.30am (Li) **No** St Catherine's Toddler Group in the Church Room.
Bank Holiday. Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886
Mission Support Group, 10 Vernham Rd, Weeke

7.30 pm (Li)

Tuesday 7th May

2.30 pm (Li)

4.15 pm (Li)

Flowerdown Games afternoon

Prayers for those on the Benefice prayer list, Littleton Church Room

Wednesday 8th May

7.30 pm (Li)

Mid-week House group, 2 Valley Road. Contact Carol and Michael Coleman for details, 01962 881886

Thursday 9th May

Friday 10th May

4.00 pm (Li)

Julian Meeting – new members always welcome.

Contact Sheila Trussler, 01962 881089.

Saturday 11th May

4.00 – 6.00 pm (Cr) Messy Church

DEC Cyclone Appeal

Cyclone Kenneth has ripped through Mozambique bringing further destruction and flooding, hot on the heels of Cyclone Idai which caused such havoc in the country, in Zimbabwe and Malawi in March. Please consider making a donation.

Visit: <https://donation.dec.org.uk/cyclone#/> or if you are unable to manage on-line donations then do come in to the Benefice Office where help is available.

For CHRISTIAN AID

There will be a Coffee Morning –
Coffee & Cakes and a Bring & Buy sale

At Tara, (69) Dean Lane, Sparsholt (there will be balloons outside)

From **10am to 1pm**, on **Wednesday 15th May**

Come and see the garden at Robin and Linda Hodgson's home in all its spring glory!

Parish Magazine Deadline

A reminder that copy for the June/July edition of the Benefice Parish Magazine should be submitted by **12.00 noon, Friday 10th May** at the latest. Details of where to send your article or information can be found at the back of the current magazine.

Talks and Concerts in St Catherine's Littleton in 2019

Friday 24th May, 7.30 pm

Winchester Cathedral Girls' Choir: Concert

Followed by refreshments in the church room.

This internationally renowned choir will present a programme of music, both sacred and secular. Tickets @ £14 and further information from David Targett:

wdtcgt@aol.com; 01962 886186

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Saturday 25th May, at 7.30pm

St Peter & Holy Cross Church, Wherwell

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with Angela Tilby, Bruce Pickett, Peter Lippiett and Elizabeth Stuart

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- **15 May** The Revd Canon Dr Peter Lippiett: Praying the Prayer

Peter Lippiett is retired and lives in Twyford, married to Maggie, occupied in grandparenting, gardening, travelling, campervanning, cooking and spiritual direction. He has worked as a general practitioner, parish priest, and retreat house warden, and before retirement was Spirituality Adviser to Portsmouth Diocese.

- **22 May** Professor Elizabeth Stuart: Lead us not into Temptation

No entrance charge but your donations will be most welcome.

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Sunday 12th May 2019



Services for Sunday 12th May 2019

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

- 10.00 am (Ch) Morning Prayer
- 10.00 am (Cr) Morning Worship (Matins)
- 10.00 am (Li) Family Communion with Christian Aid Service
- 10.00 am (Sp) Welcome Worship
- 6.00 pm (Wh) Benefice Evensong



Services for Sunday 19th May 2019

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

- 8.00 am (Cr) Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10.00 am (Ch) Holy Communion (CW)
- 10.00 am (Li) Morning Worship
- 10.00 am (Sp) Matins
- 10.00 am (Wh) Family Pet Service
- 2.30 pm (Wh) Baptism – Rufus Mortimer
- 6.00 pm (Li) Benefice Service of Peace and Wholeness

Prayer for the Week – The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings Genesis 7:1-5; 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-10 Acts 9: 36-end
John 10: 22-30

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Banns of Marriage

(Ch)	David Moss & Annie Carder	2nd Time of Reading
(Li)	Andrew Maclachlan & Nichola Foster	1st Time of Reading
(Li)	Alexander Marshall & Clare Henley	2nd Time of Reading

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At **Tara, (69) Dean Lane, Sparsholt** (*there will be balloons outside*)

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St Catherine's annual churchyard clear-up

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We do try to keep the churchyard in good condition throughout the year and receive complimentary expressions of thanks from those people who have relations buried at Littleton. However, there are many parts of the churchyard that need an annual spruce-up; last year we had over forty people who volunteered. The difference when we had finished was fantastic ... and we had a great time socially.

If you feel that you would like to help us to maintain the churchyard in a condition that shows that we cherish the area and, through it, those buried there, then we hope that you will be able to join us. There are tasks for all strengths and abilities, including catering. Please bring suitable tools (strimmers are especially welcome) but make sure that they are clearly marked with your name. Please sign the sheet on the font.

Eryl & Clive Thompsett

DIARY

Monday 13th May

10.00–11.30am (Li) St Catherine's Toddler Group in the Church Room.
Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886

Tuesday 14th May

4.15 pm (Li) Prayers for those on the Benefice prayer list, Littleton Church Room

Wednesday 15th May

9.30 am (Li) Holy Communion
7.30 pm (Li) Mid-week House group, 2 Valley Road. *Contact Carol and Michael Coleman for details, 01962 881886*

Thursday 16th May

Friday 17th May

11.30 am (Cr) Funeral – Lady Katharine Severne, followed by Cremation service at Basingstoke at 3.30 pm.
4.00 pm (Li) Julian Meeting – new members always welcome.
Contact Sheila Trussler, 01962 881089.

Saturday 18th May

8.00 am (Cr) Saturday Breakfast Group *Please phone Phil Payne, (01962 776316) for details*
10.00 am (Li) Prayerful Preparation for Peace and Wholeness, at Meadowcroft, Fyfield Way, Littleton, SO22 6PB

Visit from Chris and Kesia Pain, serving God with OMF Japan

Chris and Kesia Pain will be visiting St Catherine's on Sunday **26th May**. Chris will preach at the 10.00 am Family Communion Service and there will be the opportunity to hear more about their work in Japan after the service with a short presentation and a chance to chat over coffee in the Church Room. Do come and meet them! Prepare to be inspired!

Coffee Morning

There will be a coffee morning at the home of Clive & Eryl Thompsett, Windsmere, New Rd, on **Friday 31st May** at 10.30 am. There will be a Bring and Buy stall and coffee & cakes. Entry by donation. The proceeds from this event will be donated to Burrell House, the new Hospice for Winchester. We look forward to welcoming you.

Midday Mums

Midday Mums will meet again on **Monday 20th May** 10.30am – 12 noon in Wherwell Village Hall.
All with babies/toddlers welcome.
Next one 17th June.

Joyce Payne
01264 860296



Talks and Concerts in St Catherine's Littleton in 2019

Friday 24th May, 7.30 pm

Winchester Cathedral Girls' Choir: Concert

Followed by refreshments in the church room.

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Come and see the work that we do at Boaz. We are having an open afternoon and fete for friends and families of members that come to Boaz. Come and join us! Lots to do and see. Bouncy castle, raffles, plant sales, cake sale, games and craft stalls. You could even cuddle a guinea pig!

Space in the City May 2019

Reflecting on the Lord's Prayer

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- **22 May** Professor Elizabeth Stuart: Lead us not into Temptation

Professor Elizabeth Stuart joined the University of Winchester in 1998 as a Professor of Christian Theology and Director of the Centre for the Study of Theology and Religion. She became Director of Research and Knowledge Transfer in 2005 before being appointed Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic) in August 2008, and then First Deputy Vice-Chancellor in January 2013. No entrance charge but your donations will be most welcome.

PLEASE NOTE: The Benefice Office will be closed during the afternoon of Tuesday 21st May (from 1pm)

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Sunday 19th May 2019

Services for Sunday 19th May 2019

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- 8.00 am (Cr) Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am (Ch) Holy Communion (CW)
10.00 am (Li) Morning Worship
10.00 am (Sp) Matins
10.00 am (Wh) Family Pet Service
2.30 pm (Wh) Baptism – Rufus Mortimer
6.00 pm (Li) Benefice Service of Peace and Wholeness



Services for Sunday 26th May 2019

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

- 8.00 am (Wh) Holy Communion
10.00 am (Cr) 4th Sunday Worship with Sunday School
10.00 am (Li) Family Communion, with Chris and Kesia Pain of OMF Japan
10.00 am (Sp) Family Communion
6.00 pm (Ch) Benefice Evensong



Prayer for the Week – The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings Genesis 22: 1-18 Acts 11: 1-18 John 13: 31-35

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Banns of Marriage

(Ch)	David Moss & Annie Carder	3rd Time of Reading
(Li)	Andrew Maclachlan & Nichola Foster	2nd Time of Reading
(Li)	Alexander Marshall & Clare Henley	3rd Time of Reading



Littleton Safari Supper



The popular Safari Supper, in aid of Church funds, will be held on **Saturday 15th June**.

Three courses, in three different locations, with three different sets of guests, around the village! Then all joining together to swap stories over coffee.

Cost £15 per head. To book your place, and also to offer to cook a course, please contact Carol Ward (01962 883185; carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk).

Hampshire Medieval Graffiti Project

Our group are planning a visit to survey the church of St Peter and Holy Cross at **Wherwell on Saturday 13th July**. If anyone with a local history interest would like to come along and meet us at the church while we're there, and find out more about our project, we'd be delighted to meet them. We would also welcome the opportunity to find out more about the history of this fascinating area from local experts! We will be there from 11.30am.

TRINITY SUNDAY

Northwood Park – 16th June - 11am

We will be holding our Benefice Trinity Sunday (in the barn if it's raining) followed by a 'Bring & Share' Picnic.

Bring yourselves, your friends, your dogs, drinks and tables and chairs (straw bales are provided!) and come and join in this wonderful, open-air, Benefice service in beautiful surroundings.

Please sign up on the sheets at the back of the church, indicating if you will be coming and if you could offer a lift to anyone.

St Catherine's annual churchyard clear-up

St Catherine's church is holding its annual clear-up in the church yard on **Saturday 22nd June 2019 - 9.30am to 12.30pm**, followed by a ploughman's lunch for all.

We aim to keep the churchyard in good condition throughout the year and receive many expressions of thanks from people whose relatives are buried here. However, there are parts of the churchyard which need an annual spruce-up; the difference when we had finished was fantastic ... and we had a great time socially.

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Please sign the sheet on the font.

Eryl & Clive Thompsett

DIARY

Monday 20th May

10.00–11.30am (Li) St Catherine's Toddler Group in the Church Room.
Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886

10.30 – noon (Wh) Midday Mums, in Wherwell Village Hall

Tuesday 21st May

2.00 pm (Li)

Flowerdown Holy Communion

4.15 pm (Li)

Prayers for those on the Benefice prayer list, Littleton Church Room

Wednesday 22nd May

7.00 pm (Li)

Service of Meditation

7.30 pm (Sp)

Sparsholt PCC meeting, at Wheatlands

7.30 pm (Li)

Mid-week House group, 2 Valley Road. Bring and Share end-of-term Social. *Contact Carol and Michael Coleman for details, 01962 881886*

Thursday 23rd May

Friday 24th May

3.00 pm (Li)

Thanksgiving Service – David Langton, preceded by Crematorium Service, Basingstoke, at 11.00 am.

4.00 pm (Li)

Julian Meeting – new members always welcome.

7.30 pm (Li)

Contact Sheila Trussler, 01962 881089.

Winchester Cathedral Girls' Choir Concert

Saturday 25th May

7.30 pm (Wh)

Wherwell Singers Summer Concert

Visit from Chris and Kesia Pain, serving God with OMF Japan

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Do come and meet them! Prepare to be inspired!

Coffee Morning

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Entry by donation. The proceeds from this event will be donated to Burrell House, the new Hospice for Winchester.

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Next one 17th June.

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Wherwell Fete

Saturday 8th June, 12 noon

Church Street, Wherwell

The church needs to make the summer fete a real success in order to ensure its continued viability. Volunteers are always needed on the day and it's a good opportunity to meet others in the village. (call Susanne on 01264 860741).

Do come along for a fun afternoon – cakes and teas, bric-a-brac, chocolate tombola, gifts, Pimms tent and much much more! Raffle draw at 3 pm.

Date for your Diaries! Chilbolton Church Fete and BBQ

Saturday 29th June, 12.30 – 3.30 pm

Bannuts Farm, Chilbolton

Fun dog show, barbeque of locally sourced meats, beer and Pimms tent, tea and cakes, ice creams, Grand draw, bottle tombola, stalls and games for all the family.

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The Sixth Sunday of Easter

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- 10.00 am (Cr) 4th Sunday Worship with Sunday School
- 10.00 am (Li) Family Communion, with Chris and Kesia Pain of OMF Japan
- 10.00 am (Sp) Family Communion
- 6.00 pm (Ch) Benefice Evensong



Services for Sunday 2nd June 2019

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

- 8.00 am (Sp) Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10.00 am (Ch) Family Service
- 10.00 am (Cr) Family Communion
- 10.00 am (Wh) Holy Communion (CW)
- 4.00 pm (Li) Café Church, in the Church Room
- 6.00 pm (Wh) Spring Meditations – St Benedict

Prayer for the Week – *The Sixth Sunday of Easter*

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings Ezekiel 37: 1-14 Acts 16: 9-15 John 14: 23-29

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Banns of Marriage

(Li) Andrew Maclachlan & Nichola Foster

3rd Time of Reading



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Eryl & Clive Thompsett

DIARY

Monday 27th May

10.00–11.30am (Li) **No** St Catherine's Toddler Group in the Church Room.
Half-term. Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886

Tuesday 28th May

2.30 pm (Li) Westholme Holy Communion
4.15 pm (Li) Prayers for those on the Benefice prayer list, Littleton Church Room

Wednesday 29th May

Thursday 30th May -

7.30 am (Li) **ASCENSION DAY**
Holy Communion followed by breakfast in the Church Room

Friday 31st May

10.30 am (Li) Coffee Morning, Windsmere, New Road. See below.
4.00 pm (Li) Julian Meeting – new members always welcome.
Contact Sheila Trussler, 01962 881089.

Saturday 1st June

8.00 am (Cr) Saturday Breakfast Group Please phone Phil Payne, (01962 776316) for details

Spring Meditations at Wherwell Church

The final meditation in our Spring series will be held in Wherwell Church at 6 pm on **2 June** and will be on the subject of **St Benedict**, the founder of Western monasticism and Patron Saint of Europe. It is thought that he lived approximately from 480 AD to 547 AD. We do hope you will be interested in this particularly influential figure in church and European history. The meditation will last for about thirty minutes, and will be followed by refreshments and the chance to chat to other attendees.

Coffee Morning

There will be a coffee morning at the home of Clive & Eryl Thompsett, Windsmere, New Rd, on **Friday 31st May** at 10.30 am. There will be a Bring and Buy stall and coffee & cakes.

Entry by donation. The proceeds from this event will be donated to Burrell House, the new Hospice for Winchester.

Ascension Day – 30th May

In addition to our own Ascension Day service at Littleton (see diary above) the Andover Deanery are holding a time for Breaking Bread and Praying Together at Danebury Hill Fort.

Meet at 7pm in the upper car park (follow signs from A343)

EVENING PARTY AT LITTLE COURT CRAWLEY

You are invited to drinks and small eats in the garden of Little Court, SO21 2PU, on **Thursday 6th June**, from 6.30-8.30 pm.

In aid of the Gift of Sight charity, for eye research at Southampton General Hospital [founded by the late Andrew Elkington]

Please come, this renowned garden should be at its best.

Tickets are £15, ring 02380 597239 or giftofsight.org.uk/events

Wherwell Church Fete

Saturday 8th June, 12 noon, Church Street, Wherwell

Wherwell Church Fete 2019 will be held at 12 noon on Saturday 8 June in picturesque Church Street. The Fete will offer a Pimms Tent and a lunchtime hot dog barbeque. Stalls will include a bouncy castle, tombola, air rifles, games, plants, cakes, produce, books, gifts and more.

Refreshments in the Village Hall.

Chilbolton Church Fete and BBQ

Saturday 29th June, 12.30 – 3.30 pm

Bannuts Farm, Chilbolton

Fun dog show

Barbeque of locally sourced meats, Beer and Pimms Tent, Tea and Cakes, Ice creams. Grand draw, bottle tombola, stalls and games for all the family.

Enquiries to Jenny Pope 01264 860852

Sparsholt Fete

Saturday 29th June, 1.00 – 4.00 pm

Hold the date! More information to follow next week

Hampshire Medieval Graffiti Project

Our group are planning a visit to survey the church of St Peter and Holy Cross at **Wherwell on Saturday 13th July**. If anyone with a local history interest would like to come along and meet us at the church while we're there, and find out more about our project, we'd be delighted to meet them. We would also welcome the opportunity to find out more about the history of this fascinating area from local experts! We will be there from 11.30am.

Please send all items for Across the Downs to Carol Ward: email carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk, or telephone 01962 883185, by 12.00 noon Thursday at the latest. **If you would like to receive future editions of the newsletter by email, please contact me on the above address.** Thank you.

Across the Downs

Church News Sheet for the Downs Parishes of
Chilbolton, Crawley, Littleton, Sparsholt and Wherwell
Rector: Revd Jax Machin 01962 880845

Sunday 2nd June 2019

Services for Sunday 2nd June 2019

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

- 8.00 am (Sp) Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10.00 am (Ch) Family Service
- 10.00 am (Cr) Family Communion
- 10.00 am (Wh) Holy Communion (CW)
- 4.00 pm (Li) Café Church, in the Church Room
- 6.00 pm (Wh) Spring Meditations – St Benedict



Services for Sunday 9th June 2019

Pentecost (Whit Sunday)

- 10.00 am (Ch) Morning Prayer
- 10.00 am (Cr) Morning Worship (Matins)
- 10.00 am (Li) Family Communion
- 10.00 am (Sp) Joint Service led by Sparsholt School
- 6.00 pm (Wh) Benefice Evensong

Prayer for the Week – *The Seventh Sunday of Easter*

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings Ezekiel 36: 24-28 Acts 16: 16-34 John 17: 20-end

In our parishes we welcome everyone to our altars during Communion. Communicant members of all denominations are welcome to receive Communion and others are invited to receive a blessing.

Banns of Marriage

(Li) Jack Hooker & Jessica Honess

1st Time of Reading



Littleton Safari Supper



The popular Safari Supper, in aid of Church funds, will be held on **Saturday 15th June**.

Three courses, in three different locations, with three different sets of guests, around the village! Then all joining together to swap stories over coffee.

Cost £15 per head. To book your place, and also to offer to cook a course, please contact Carol Ward (01962 883185; carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk).

Last chance to book! Closing date Wednesday 5th June

St Catherine's annual churchyard clear-up

St Catherine's church is holding its annual clear-up session in the church yard on **Saturday 22nd June 2019**. This will start at 9.30 a.m. and finish at 12.30 p.m. At 12.30 we will provide a ploughman's lunch for all participants.

We do try to keep the churchyard in good condition throughout the year and receive complimentary expressions of thanks from those people who have relations buried at Littleton. However, there are many parts of the churchyard that need an annual spruce-up; last year we had over forty people who volunteered. The difference when we had finished was fantastic ... and we had a great time socially.

If you feel that you would like to help us to maintain the churchyard in a condition that shows that we cherish the area and, through it, those buried there, then we hope that you will be able to join us. There are tasks for all strengths and abilities, including catering. Please bring suitable tools (strimmers are especially welcome) but make sure that they are clearly marked with your name. Please sign the sheet on the font.

Charity Concert in aid of the Nightshelter

Saturday 15th June, 7.30 pm

Otterbourne Brass Band. Musical Director: Phillip Littlemore

The United Church, Jewry Street, Winchester. Tickets £10 on the door or online at otterbournebrass.org.uk/tickets or call 07842 482862

Please note: the Benefice Office will be closed for the day on Thursday 6th June

DIARY

Monday 3rd June

10.00–11.30am (Li) St Catherine's Toddler Group in the Church Room.
Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886

3.30 pm (Cr) Westfield Home Group. *Contact Hazel Watson, 01962 776892*

Tuesday 4th June

2.30 pm (Li) Flowerdown Games afternoon
4.15 pm (Li) Prayers for those on the Benefice prayer list, Littleton Church Room

Wednesday 5th June

9.30 am (Li) Holy Communion

Thursday 6th June

Friday 7th June

12.30 pm (Li) Littleton Lunch Club, in the Church Room
4.00 pm (Li) Julian Meeting – new members always welcome.
Contact Sheila Trusser, 01962 881089.

Saturday 8th June

4.00 – 6.00 pm (Li) Messy Church, Littleton Church Room

TRINITY SUNDAY

Northwood Park – 16th June - 11am

We will be holding our Benefice Trinity Sunday (in the barn if it's raining) followed by a 'Bring & Share' Picnic.

Bring yourselves, your friends, your dogs, drinks and tables and chairs (straw bales are provided!) and come and join in this wonderful, open-air, Benefice service in beautiful surroundings.

Please sign up on the sheets at the back of the church, indicating if you will be coming and if you could offer a lift to anyone.

Emmaus Hampshire Summer Garden Party

Evening of **Tuesday 2nd July**, Bar End

Our summer garden party is always popular and this year we have some special activities to make it an even more exciting event on our calendar. It will be our first public fundraising event for Project 40@20 – 8 more rooms for the homeless. This year music will be from piano star Jake Gauntlett and as usual, our chef Nathan and his team will be providing a delicious fork buffet. Our Secret Mixologists will also be offering us Pimms and a Summer Punch.

Please confirm that you are able to join us by emailing lynn.unsted@emmaushampshire.org.uk (01962 868300, option 2) so we can add you to our guest list for what we think will be a fabulous evening!

SUMMER WALKS: 19th to 24th August 2019

GETTING CLOSE! There will be a week of walks again this summer. There will be six full length walks of between 8.5 and 9.5 miles and also nine half-day walks of circa 4 to 5 miles. We have chosen the walks for their variety and views but we have ensured that the area also has points of interest. BYO picnic lunch.

Two years ago, we had over 100 walkers including children who each walked on average 2.2 walks. It is hoped that all five communities will support this initiative; it will be great to meet you.

Forms for letting us know which walks you want to do are now in each village's church, pub and shop (where there is one) and can also be accessed on the web sites

www.downsbenefice.org www.chilboltonandwherwell.info

Eryl & Clive Thompsett. 01962 885039. clive.thompsett@icloud.com

Chilbolton Church Fete and BBQ

Saturday 29th June, 12.30 – 3.30 pm

Bannuts Farm, Chilbolton

Fun dog show. Barbeque of locally sourced meats, Beer and Pimms Tent, Tea and Cakes, Ice creams. Grand draw, bottle tombola, stalls and games for all the family. Enquiries to Jenny Pope 01264 860852

Sparsholt Fete

Saturday 29th June, 1.00 – 4.00 pm

A VERY important event in the Sparsholt Village calendar is **Sparsholt Church Fete on Saturday 29th June**. It's a great way to get involved, meet new people and raise much needed funds for the Church and the village. As always, we are in need of helping hands to set up in the morning and to assist with running the stalls. [Watch out for more information in the Fete magazine](#) which will be dropping through Sparsholt letter boxes soon. There will also be tickets for the Grand Draw which we hope you may be able to sell to family and friends.

If you would like to help for an hour or so, please contact Charlie (07714 217256) or Hilary (07786 308934). We look forward to hearing from you! Also, Katy Cobbold will be "trawling" the Village on **Friday 14th June, collecting bottles for the Tombola.**

Please send all items for Across the Downs to Carol Ward: email carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk, or telephone 01962 883185, by 12.00 noon Thursday at the latest. **If you would like to receive future editions of the newsletter by email, please contact me on the above address.** Thank you.

Across the Downs

Church News Sheet for the Downs Parishes of
Chilbolton, Crawley, Littleton, Sparsholt and Wherwell
Rector: Revd Jax Machin 01962 880845

Sunday 9th June 2019



Services for Sunday 9th June 2019

Pentecost (Whit Sunday)

- 10.00 am (Ch) Morning Prayer
- 10.00 am (Cr) Morning Worship (Matins)
- 10.00 am (Li) Family Communion
- 10.00 am (Sp) Joint Service led by Sparsholt School
- 6.00 pm (Wh) Benefice Evensong



Services for Sunday 16th June 2019

Trinity Sunday

- 11.00 am Benefice Trinity Sunday Communion followed by 'Bring and Share' picnic lunch, at Northwood Park.
- 6.00 pm (Li) Benefice Service of Peace and Wholeness

Prayer for the Week – Pentecost (Whit Sunday)

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings Genesis 11: 1-9 Acts 2: 1-21 John 14: 15-27

In our parishes we welcome everyone to our altars during Communion. Communicant members of all denominations are welcome to receive Communion and others are invited to receive a blessing.

Banns of Marriage

(Li) Jack Hooker & Jessica Honess 2nd Time of Reading

Christian Aid week. Littleton Parish 2019

Once again this year our Parish and, in particular our congregation, has responded generously to the cause of saving mothers and babies in Sierra Leone. The £1447.25 (Inc Tax Relief) raised will significantly help the provision of clinics which will provide much needed hygienic health needed to save lives. Many thanks to the volunteers who distributed envelopes, displayed posters and provided facilities for receiving the filled envelopes. *Ann and David Naylor*

St Catherine's annual churchyard clear-up

St Catherine's church is holding its annual clear-up session in the church yard on **Saturday 22nd June 2019**. This will start at 9 30 a.m. and finish at 12 30 p.m. At 12 30 we will provide a ploughman's lunch for all participants.

If you feel that you would like to help us to maintain the churchyard in a condition that shows that we cherish the area and, through it, those buried there, then we hope that you will be able to join us. Please bring suitable tools (strimmers are especially welcome) but make sure that they are clearly marked with your name. Please sign the sheet on the font.

More Secrets of a Crossword Setter

Tim Moorey, cryptic word master and raconteur, is returning for a third time to Littleton to amuse and educate us at 7.15pm on **Friday 14th June** in the Millennium Memorial Hall.

Tickets are £9 per person with a glass of wine and savouries and are available from John Ambrose (01962 856461) or Clive Thompsett (01962 885039)

. Charity Concert in aid of the Nightshelter

Saturday 15th June, 7.30 pm

Otterbourne Brass Band. Musical Director: Phillip Littlemore
The United Church, Jewry Street, Winchester. Tickets £10 on the door or online at otterbournebrass.org.uk/tickets or call 07842 482862

Wonderful amount raised for Winchester Hospice!

A big thankyou to everyone who supported the coffee morning last Friday for the Hospice appeal. We raised the grand total of £ 1199.75 including the Gift aid.

Eryl& Clive Thompsett

DIARY

Monday 10th June

10.00–11.30am (Li) St Catherine's Toddler Group in the Church Room.
Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886

10.30 am (Ch)

Funeral and Burial – (William) Allan Lockyer

Tuesday 11th June

4.15 pm (Li)

Prayers for those on the Benefice prayer list, Littleton Church Room

Wednesday 12th June

Thursday 13th June

Friday 14th June

10.00 am (Li)

Interment of Ashes – David Horne

4.00 pm (Li)

Julian Meeting – new members always welcome.

Contact Sheila Trussler, 01962 881089.

Saturday 15th June

8.00 am (Cr)

Saturday Breakfast Group *Please phone Phil Payne, (01962 776316) for details*

10.00 am (Li)

Prayerful Preparation, at 6 Rozelle Close, Littleton, SO22 6QP.

12.30 pm (Wh)

Wedding – Luke Ward & Clare Neave

7.15 pm (Li)

Littleton Safari Supper

TRINITY SUNDAY

Northwood Park – 16th June – 11am

We will be holding our Benefice Trinity Sunday (in the barn if it's raining) followed by a 'Bring & Share' Picnic.

Bring yourselves, your friends, your dogs, drinks and tables and chairs (straw bales are provided!) and come and join in this wonderful, open-air, Benefice service in beautiful surroundings.

Please sign up on the sheets at the back of the church, indicating if you will be coming and if you could offer a lift to anyone.

Friends of the Family Open Garden

Friends of the Family supports vulnerable families in Winchester and surrounding districts. Di and Fin O'Sullivan have kindly agreed to open their beautiful garden (Home Farm House, Hursley, SO21 2JL) for Friends of the Family on the afternoon of **Tuesday 11th June 2-4 pm.**

We would love to see you and any friends you wished to bring along. Please do let others know who might be interested. This garden is not open to the general public.

Wherwell Open Gardens

Sunday 23rd June, 1 – 5 pm

Ten open gardens, ranging from traditional cottage gardens through to larger modern planting schemes, are available to delight and inspire you.

Entry by programme at £5 per person, all proceeds going toward the care and maintenance of Wherwell Village Hall. Refreshments available.

Stockbridge Music

Wednesday 26th June at 7.30 pm, Town Hall, Stockbridge

Cantores in Concert

Winchester College's Close Harmony Ensemble, directed by and featuring David Hurley. Admission free. Cash bar open from 7 pm. Retiring collection in aid of Excellent, Pioneers of Sand Dams.

Chilbolton Church Fete and BBQ

Saturday 29th June, 12.30 – 3.30 pm

Bannuts Farm, Chilbolton

Fun dog show. Barbeque of locally sourced meats, Beer and Pimms Tent, Tea and Cakes, Ice creams. Grand draw, bottle tombola, stalls and games for all the family. Enquiries to Jenny Pope 01264 860852

Sparsholt Fete

Saturday 29th June, 1.00 – 4.00 pm

A VERY important event in the Sparsholt Village calendar is **Sparsholt Church Fete on Saturday 29th June**. It's a great way to get involved, meet new people and raise much needed funds for the Church and the village. As always, we are in need of helping hands to set up in the morning and to assist with running the stalls. [Watch out for more information in the Fete magazine](#) which will be dropping through Sparsholt letter boxes soon. There will also be tickets for the Grand Draw which we hope you may be able to sell to family and friends.

If you would like to help for an hour or so, please contact Charlie (07714 217256) or Hilary (07786 308934). We look forward to hearing from you! Also, Katy Cobbold will be "trawling" the Village on **Friday 14th June, collecting bottles for the Tombola.**

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Sunday 16th June 2019

Services for Sunday 16th June 2019

Trinity Sunday

- 11.00 am Benefice Trinity Sunday Communion followed by 'Bring and Share' picnic lunch, at Northwood Park.
- 6.00 pm (Li) Benefice Service of Peace and Wholeness



Services for Sunday 23rd June 2019

The First Sunday after Trinity

- 8.00 am (Wh) Holy Communion
- 10.00 am (Cr) 4th Sunday Worship with Sunday School
- 10.00 am (Li) Family Communion
- 10.00 am (Sp) Family Communion
- 2.30 pm (Ch) Baptism – Elizabeth Revell
- 6.00 pm (Ch) Benefice Evensong

Prayer for the Week – Trinity Sunday

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity: keep us steadfast in this faith, that we may evermore be defended from all adversities; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings Proverbs 8: 1-4; 22-31 Romans 5: 1-5 John 16: 12-15

In our parishes we welcome everyone to our altars during Communion. Communicant members of all denominations are welcome to receive Communion and others are invited to receive a blessing.

Banns of Marriage

(Li) Jack Hooker & Jessica Honess

3rd Time of Reading

SUMMER WALKS: 19th to 24th August 2019

GETTING CLOSE! There will be a week of walks again this summer. There will be six full length walks of between 8.5 and 9.5 miles and also nine half-day walks of circa 4 to 5 miles. We have chosen the walks for their variety and views but we have ensured that the area also has points of interest. BYO picnic lunch.

Two years ago, we had over 100 walkers including children who each walked on average 2.2 walks. It is hoped that all five communities will support this initiative; it will be great to meet you.

Forms for letting us know which walks you want to do are now in each village's church, pub and shop (where there is one) and can also be accessed on the web sites

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Eryl & Clive Thompsett. 01962 885039. clive.thompsett@icloud.com

St Catherine's annual churchyard clear-up

St Catherine's church is holding its annual clear-up session in the church yard on **Saturday 22nd June 2019**. This will start at 9.30 a.m. and finish at 12.30 p.m. At 12.30 we will provide a ploughman's lunch for all participants.

Please bring suitable tools (strimmers are especially welcome) but make sure that they are clearly marked with your name. Please sign the sheet on the font.

Linda and Robin Hodgson would like to thank everybody who helped and came to their **Christian Aid** coffee morning. It was blessed with wonderful weather and generous people and all had a very enjoyable time.

The **Vine Trust** is urgently looking for more volunteers to help in their Christian Bookshop in Bridge Street Andover. We especially need help on Monday mornings, Monday afternoons, Thursday mornings, and Saturdays.

The Vine Trust Bookshop is open 6 days a week from 10 am to 4 pm Monday to Friday and 9:30 am to 2:30 pm on Saturday. We operate two shifts per day 10 am to 1 pm and 1 pm to 4 pm (9:30 am to 12 noon and 12 noon to 2:30 pm Saturdays) and we are looking for volunteers to help with either a 1/2 or full day.

Please contact – Brenda Sleath on 01264 355706, vinetrustandover@gmail.com or call into the shop to find out more and collect an application form. Full training will be provided.

DIARY

Monday 17th June

10.00–11.30am (Li) St Catherine's Toddler Group in the Church Room.
Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886
10.30 am (Wh) Midday Mums, Wherwell village hall
3.00 pm (Li) Interment of Ashes – Lavinia Glover
5.00 pm (Sp) Reception of body into Church – Jane Green

Tuesday 18th June

1.45 pm (Sp) Funeral – Jane Green
2.00 pm (Li) Flowerdown Holy Communion
4.15 pm (Li) Prayers for those on the Benefice prayer list, Littleton Church Room

Wednesday 19th June

9.30 am (Li) Holy Communion

Thursday 20th June

2.30 pm (Sp) Interment of Ashes – Simon King

Friday 21st June

4.00 pm (Li) Julian Meeting – new members always welcome.
Contact Sheila Trussler, 01962 881089.

Saturday 22nd June

9.30 am (Li) St Catherine's annual churchyard clear-up followed by ploughman's lunch in the church room.

Dear Friends, I am delighted to announce that **Lisa Rodrigues**, whom many of you will have encountered during her placement with us, has been recommended for training to Ordained Ministry in The Diocese of Salisbury. Please hold her in your prayers as she begins this transformational training in service before Christ to His people. Praise the Lord!

Revd Jax

Sparsholt Village Walk

Saturday 6th July, 10.00 am

For all of the family including your dog (or teddy bears) in aid of funds for our village shop. Meet on the Memorial green, the walk will be about one hour.

Adults £5.00, children and dogs go free.

Brunch served after the walk back on Memorial Green (additional cost)

Midday Mums

Midday Mums will meet again on **Monday 17th June**

10.30am – 12 noon in Wherwell Village Hall.

All with babies/toddlers welcome.

No meetings in July or August. *Joyce Payne 01264 860296*



Wherwell Open Gardens
Sunday 23rd June, 1 – 5 pm

Today!

Ten open gardens, ranging from traditional cottage gardens through to larger modern planting schemes, are available to delight and inspire you.

Entry by programme at £5 per person, all proceeds going toward the care and maintenance of Wherwell Village Hall. Refreshments available.

Stockbridge Music

Wednesday 26th June at 7.30 pm, Town Hall, Stockbridge

Cantores in Concert

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Bannuts Farm, Chilbolton

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Saturday 29th June, 1.00 – 4.00 pm

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Sunday 23rd June 2019

Services for Sunday 23rd June 2019

The First Sunday after Trinity

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 8.00 am (Wh) | Holy Communion |
| 10.00 am (Cr) | 4 th Sunday Worship with Sunday School |
| 10.00 am (Li) | Family Communion |
| 10.00 am (Sp) | Family Communion |
| 2.30 pm (Ch) | Baptism – Elizabeth Revell |
| 6.00 pm (Ch) | Benefice Evensong |



Services for Sunday 30th June 2019

The Second Sunday after Trinity

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 10.00 am (Ch) | Thanksgiving Service for the Fete, in the marquee |
| 10.00 am (Li) | 5 th Sunday Benefice Family Communion, at Littleton |

Prayer for the Week – *The First Sunday after Trinity*

O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in the keeping of your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings Isaiah 65: 1-9 Galatians 3: 23-end Luke 8: 26-39

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SUMMER WALKS: 19th to 24th August 2019

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Eryl & Clive Thompsett. 01962 885039. clive.thompsett@icloud.com

Sparsholt Village Walk

Saturday 6th July, 10.00 am

For all of the family including your dog (or teddy bears) in aid of funds for your village shop. Meet on the Memorial green, the walk will be about one hour.

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Brunch served after the walk back on Memorial Green (additional cost)

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Revd Jax

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Please contact – Brenda Sleath on 01264 355706, vinetrustandover@gmail.com or call into the shop to find out more and collect an application form. Full training will be provided.

DIARY

Monday 24th June

10.00–11.30am (Li) St Catherine's Toddler Group in the Church Room.
Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886

Tuesday 25th June

2.30 pm (Li) Westholme Holy Communion
4.15 pm (Li) Prayers for those on the Benefice prayer list, Littleton Church Room

Wednesday 26th June

7.00 pm (Li) Service of Meditation

Thursday 27th June

11.30 am (Li) Interment of Ashes – Ernest Witts

Friday 28th June

4.00 pm (Li) Julian Meeting – new members always welcome.
Contact Sheila Trussler, 01962 881089.

Saturday 29th June

12.30–3.30 pm (Ch) Chilbolton Fete
1.00–4.00 pm (Sp) Sparsholt Fete

Citizens Advice - Winchester District

has now officially opened its doors at their new location on Colebrook Street in Winchester, next to Winchester City Council offices.

If you need advice you can visit the office during the following times:

Monday: 10:00-16:00

Tuesday 10:00-13:00

Wednesday 10:00-16:00

Thursday 10:00-16:00

Friday 10:00-13:00

Or alternatively call the Adviceline on: 03444 111 306

or visit www.citizensadvice.org.uk

Parish Magazine Deadline

A reminder that copy for the August/September edition of the Benefice Parish Magazine should be submitted by **12.00 noon, FRIDAY 5th July** at the latest. Details of where to send your article or information can be found at the back of the current magazine. Many thanks.

Hampshire Medieval Graffiti Project

Our group are planning a visit to survey the church of St Peter and Holy Cross at **Wherwell** on **Saturday 13th July**. If anyone with a local history interest would like to come along and meet us at the church while we're there, and find out more about our project, we'd be delighted to meet them. We would also welcome the opportunity to find out more about the history of this fascinating area from local experts! We will be there from 11.30am.

Wherwell Church Fete - Thank you so much to everyone involved in this year's fete which was held in rather challenging weather! The showery morning had definitely put potential visitors off. Despite the footfall being down, we raised just under £6,000 – not far off last year's amazing total. The final figure will also include some generous sponsorship, so will bring the total to well over £6,000. This money will go to church funds to help keep our lovely church running.

Emmaus Hampshire Summer Garden Party

Evening of **Tuesday 2nd July**, Bar End

Our summer garden party is always popular and this year we have some special activities to make it an even more exciting event on our calendar. It will be our first public fundraising event for Project 40@20 – 8 more rooms for the homeless.

This year music will be from piano star Jake Gauntlett and as usual, our chef Nathan and his team will be providing a delicious fork buffet. Our Secret Mixologists will also be offering us Pimms and a Summer Punch.

Please confirm that you are able to join us by emailing lynn.unsted@emmaushampshire.org.uk (01962 868300, option 2) so we can add you to our guest list for what we think will be a fabulous evening!

Date for your diary!

Bexley Phoenix Choir

Friday 16th August, 7.30 pm

Bexley Phoenix Choir are on their concert tour and coming to perform in St Mary-the-Less, Chilbolton on the evening of 16th August. Come and hear this vibrant young choir from South-East London singing a variety of musical styles from Early Church music, through the Classical and Romantic era to Folk, Gospel and Popular contemporary songs. Something for everyone.

Please send all items for Across the Downs to Carol Ward: email carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk, or telephone 01962 883185, by 12.00 noon Thursday at the latest. **If you would like to receive future editions of the newsletter by email, please contact me on the above address.** Thank you.

Across the Downs

Church News Sheet for the Downs Parishes of
Chilbolton, Crawley, Littleton, Sparsholt and Wherwell
Rector: Revd Jax Machin 01962 880845

Sunday 30th June 2019

Services for Sunday 30th June 2019

The Second Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am (Ch) Thanksgiving Service for the Fete, in the marquee

10.00 am (Li) 5th Sunday Benefice Family Communion, at Littleton



Services for Sunday 7th July 2019

The Third Sunday after Trinity

8.00 am (Sp) Holy Communion (BCP)

10.00 am (Ch) Family Service

10.00 am (Cr) Family Communion

10.00 am (Wh) Holy Communion (CW)

2.30 pm (Li) Baptism – Cole Neville

4.00 pm (Li) Café Church in Church Room, with Peter Bacon from the Gideons

Prayer for the Week – *The Second Sunday after Trinity*

Lord, you have taught us that all our doings without love are nothing worth: send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you. Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings 1 Kings 19: 15-16; 19-end Galatians 5: 1; 13-25 Luke 9: 51-end

In our parishes we welcome everyone to our altars during Communion. Communicant members of all denominations are welcome to receive Communion and others are invited to receive a blessing.

SUMMER WALKS: 19th to 24th August 2019

GETTING CLOSE! There will be a week of walks again this summer. There will be six full length walks of between 8.5 and 9.5 miles and also nine half-day walks of circa 4 to 5 miles. We have chosen the walks for their variety and views but we have ensured that the area also has points of interest. BYO picnic lunch.

Two years ago, we had over 100 walkers including children who each walked on average 2.2 walks. It is hoped that all five communities will support this initiative; it will be great to meet you.

Forms for letting us know which walks you want to do are now in each village's church, pub and shop (where there is one) and can also be accessed on the web sites

www.downsbenefice.org www.chilboltonandwherwell.info

Eryl & Clive Thompsett. 01962 885039. clive.thompsett@icloud.com

Sparsholt Village Walk

Saturday 6th July, 10.00 am

For all of the family including your dog (or teddy bears) in aid of funds for your village shop. Meet on the Memorial green, the walk will be about one hour.

Adults £5.00, children and dogs go free.

Brunch served after the walk back on Memorial Green (additional cost)

Dear Friends, I am delighted to announce that **Lisa Rodrigues**, whom many of you will have encountered during her placement with us, has been recommended for training to Ordained Ministry in The Diocese of Salisbury. Please hold her in your prayers as she begins this transformational training in service before Christ to His people. Praise the Lord!

Revd Jax

The **Vine Trust** is urgently looking for more volunteers to help in their Christian Bookshop in Bridge Street Andover. We especially need help on Monday mornings, Monday afternoons, Thursday mornings, and Saturdays.

The Vine Trust Bookshop is open 6 days a week from 10 am to 4 pm Monday to Friday and 9:30 am to 2:30 pm on Saturday. We operate two shifts per day 10 am to 1 pm and 1 pm to 4 pm (9:30 am to 12 noon and 12 noon to 2:30 pm Saturdays) and we are looking for volunteers to help with either a 1/2 or full day.

Please contact – Brenda Sleath on 01264 355706, vinetrustandover@gmail.com or call into the shop to find out more and collect an application form. Full training will be provided.

DIARY

Monday 1st July

10.00–11.30am (Li) St Catherine's Toddler Group in the Church Room.
Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886
3.30 pm (Cr) Westfield Home Group. *Contact Hazel Watson, 01962 776892*

Tuesday 2nd July

2.30 pm (Li) Flowerdown Games afternoon
4.15 pm (Li) Prayers for those on the Benefice prayer list, Littleton Church Room

Wednesday 3rd July

9.30 am (Li) Holy Communion

Thursday 4th July

Friday 5th July

12.30 pm (Li) Littleton Lunch Club, in the Church Room
4.00 pm (Li) Julian Meeting – new members always welcome.
Contact Sheila Trussler, 01962 881089.

Saturday 6th July

8.00 am (Cr) Saturday Breakfast Group *Please phone Phil Payne, (01962 776316) for details*

Citizens Advice - Winchester District

has now officially opened its doors at their new location on Colebrook Street in Winchester, next to Winchester City Council offices.

If you need advice you can visit the office during the following times:

Monday: 10:00-16:00

Tuesday 10:00-13:00

Wednesday 10:00-16:00

Thursday 10:00-16:00

Friday 10:00-13:00

Or alternatively call the Adviceline on: 03444 111 306

or visit www.citizensadvice.org.uk

Parish Magazine Deadline

A reminder that copy for the August/September edition of the Benefice Parish Magazine should be submitted by 12.00 noon, FRIDAY 5th July at the latest. Details of where to send your article or information can be found at the back of the current magazine. Many thanks.