5The Messenger

April 2024









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Church Services in the Vale of Pewsey for April 2024

Date	7th April 2nd Sunday of Easter	14th April 3rd Sunday of Easter	21st April 4th Sunday of Easter	28th April 5th Sundayof Easter
Readings	Acts 4:32-35 1 John 1: 1-22 John 20: 19-end	Acts 3: 12-19 1 John 3: 1-7 Luke 24: 36b-48	Acts 4: 5-12 1 John 3: 16-end John 10: 11-18	Acts 8: 26-e nd 1 John 4: 7-end John 15: 1-8
St John the Baptist Pew sey *#	9.30am Parish Communion 6.00 pm Sunday@6	9.30am Morning Worship	9.30am Parish Communion	4pm Muddy Church
St Mary, Alton Barnes	11am Parish Communion		11am Parish Communion	
St Stephen Beechingstoke	11am Breakfast Service B'fast served at 10.15		9.30 am Parish Communio n	
All Saints *# Stanton St Bernard				11.00 am Parish Communion
St James * North New nton	11am Café Church LL	11am Parish Communion		
St Peter Manningford Bruce		9.30 am Morning Prayer		9.30 am Holy Communion
St Mary Magdalene # Woodborough	8.00 am Holy Communion BCP		11 .00 am Parish Communion	
St Nicholas Huish		бріі Evensong		8.00 am Holy Communion вср
Holy Trinity Oare	11.00 am Parish Communion			
Holy Cross Wilcot		11.00 am Parish Communion		6.00 pm Evensong
St Peter *# Milton Libourne	6.00 pm Evensong	9.30 am Holy Communion вср	11.00am Morning Praise	
Holy Trinity Easton Royal		11.00 am Morning Service		11.00 am Parish Communion
St Andrew Wootton Rivers	9.30 am Parish Communion		9.30 am Morning Prayer	
St Peter Charlton St Peter		6pm Evensong		6pm Parish Communion
St Matthew Rushall		11 am Holy Communion вср	11 am Parish Communion	11 am Matins BCP
St Mary # Upav on	9.30 am Informal Worship	9.30 am Parish Communion	8am Holy Communion BCP	

CLERGY LETTER

Today there is sunshine but with regular interludes for sudden brief showers! I am potting on my seedlings to grow on for the St Timothy Foundation Plant Sales in May. It is always a slightly anxious time – will the seeds germinate, will they survive once potted on in the greenhouse, will they be ready to be sold in May, will anyone buy them and so on! Lots of anxiety, even though I try my hardest to relax and go with nature, trusting in God's providence.

It is hard work trying to suppress anxiety!

But then I remember that Jesus also got stressed and anxious during the time shortly before his crucifixion. He asked Father God to release him from what was ahead in earnest, but Jesus also asked the Father for the strength to go through what he feared was ahead, if it was indeed to happen. Father God was with him every step of the way to the Cross, and beyond the Cross in the Resurrection three days after his crucifixion. God is always with us on our journey and for all those who know this there is comfort which becomes strength to get beyond the present crises. Easter reminds us of God's presence with us. Easter is clearly a time that shows the light that comes to take away the darkness. The darkness of death is followed by the light of eternal life. This wonderful Christian celebration coincides with spring. It doesn't seem to matter how cold or wet the winter has been there are plants that will appear from beneath the earth to show that they are alive and well as they move upwards to produce flowers and leaves. Flowers that provide pollen for the bees, colour and perfume for beauty. The cycle of life continues as the seasons change bringing those conditions and events which provide the ecosystems needed for creation to continue.

Soon warmer and dryer days will be here, and we will be able to enjoy the relief from the cold, wet winter that we have endured. A time for celebrating life around us and to be thankful for God's goodness and provision. Anxiety is overcome through the abundance of God's grace. Relax in God's presence! Live in God's presence.

Wishing you every blessing as the spring turns into summer.

Ann

THE ST TIMOTHY FOUNDATION

Dear All, By the time you receive this Easter Day will have just taken place. I hope it has been a restful and happy time for you all.

Thank you so much for your support for the Lent Lunches in February and March. It was lovely to see so many people gathered together to share in delicious soup and bread. I do think we are slowly getting back to enjoying each other's company as we would have done before Covid struck.

In May we have a number of events taking place. As on the 1st April we will be opening the Tea Rooms in Pewsey on the two Bank Holidays ie. 6th May and 27th May. On the 6th May we will also have our annual plant sale outside the Tea Rooms and on the 18th May we will have the annual plant sale at Fairacre, North Newnton. We do hope you will join us and buy some plants for your gardens.

There is more information on all of our events on the website plus the latest news update.

With all good wishes, Ann (Chair), reverendannmassey@outlook.com

The St Timothy Foundation, 01980 630256, www.sttimothy.org.uk

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funerals

David Jackson Funeral at St Mary, Upavon on 21st February

Winifred Mundy Funeral at Pewsey Cemetery on 28th February



Weddings

Harriet Jenkins and Robert Durling Married on 24th February at St Matthew, Rushall

CLERGY CONTACTS: Rev. Canon Rhona Floate: (day off Friday) 01672 705130 rhonafloate@aol.com

Rev. Mark Windsor: (day off Thursday) 01672 564265 markwindsor923@btinternet.com

OTHERS: Rev. Canon Gerald Osborne: 01672 563459 gerald.osborne@lawnfarm.co.uk

LLMs: Anne Mantle: 01672 564252 annemantle@dsl.pipex.com

Libby Turner: 01672 851141 libbyturner537@gmail.com

Team Office: 01672 562221 team.office@valeofpewsey.org

Methodist Minister: Rev. Stephen Skinner 01672 512457

rev.stephen.skinner3@gmail.com

Useful Numbers

POTHOLES MyWilts App. https://orlo.uk/4Z12D

Pewsey LINK 01672 564930

Upavon LINK 07501 004349

Library 01672 562265

Wessex Water 0345 6004600

Catholic Parish Priest: Father John Blacker 01672 513267

Regular Services at Holy Family, Broadfields:

Weekday Mass, 12.00 pm Friday Vigil Mass at 6.00 pm Saturday.

Baptist Services Contact: Mary Jarvis 07876 193640

Upavon Chapel 2nd Sunday of each month at 3.30 p.m

Contact The Messenger, newmessenger.pewsey@hotmail.com cut-off date 15th of month

For adverts contact Peter Hughes at msgr.ad@valeofpewsey.org, 01980 630023

What's On in April

Monday 1st Pewsey Tea Room: in aid of St. Timothy's, 10-4

Crofton Beam Engines: 10.30 - 16.30

Easter Fayre: Great Bedwyn Wharf, 2-5

Tuesday 2nd Carer's café: Wesley Hall, 10.30-12

Arts Society: Bouverie Hall 2.30 Tuesday 2nd April at 2.30pm: Klimt

Gardening Club: Bouverie Hall, 7pm, Organic Gardening

Wednesday 3rd Coffee Morning: Woodborough Parish Room. 10.30-12

Saturday 6th Parish Council Community Open Morning: Bouverie Hall, 10-1 + Youth Group

Coffee Morning: Coronation Hall, Alton Barnes, 10-12

Coffee Morning: Rushall Village Hall, 10 -12

Tuesday 9th Rugby club lunch 12 noon: 1 Million Bricks

10th to 12th Youth Group: Clip and Climb

"Come and Sing": Wilcot Village Hall 6-7.30

Railway Society: Woodborough Social Club, 19.30, Dorset Branch Lines

Friday 12th Wild Life of a Wildlife Filmmaker: Wilcot Village Hall, 6.30pm

Saturday 13th Coffee Morning: Wilsford Village Hall, 10.30-12

Grand National Live: Milton Lilbourne Village Hall, 2.30

Wednesday 17th Good Companions: Woodborough Parish Room,2pm, Noisy Neighbours!

Saturday 20th Spring Concert: St.Mary's Marlborough, 7.30

Tuesday 23rd Beechingstoke APCM: 19.30

Wednesday 24th April 50 Years with the Marlborough Gazette: PVLHRG Methodist Church, 19.30

Friday 26th Plants and Ploughman's: Rushall Village Hall, evening

Saturday 27th Coffee Morning: Upavon Church, 10-12

Sunday 28th Manningford APCM: after 9.30 service

Muddy Church: St. John's Pewsey, 4pm

Tuesday 30th Blue Bus Youth Group: Upavon Upper Playing Field, 6pm to 8pm





Join Bruce Boats for an afternoon of Easter fun at Great Bedwyn Wharf SN8 3PB. Stalls, boat trips, children's crafts, live music, refreshments, home made cakes. Find out about our exciting plans to convert one of our boats to hybrid (dieselelectric) propulsion.



Our open season begins with Easter Steaming

Crofton Beam Engines will be open for the first steaming of the year, Sunday the 31^{st} of March and Monday the 1^{st} of April, both days 10:30-16:30

Come and see our magnificent beam engines at work pumping water from Wilton Water into the Kennet and Avon Canal, just as they have done for over 200 years. Watch these surprisingly quiet marvels of engineering and remember that our Number One Engine was installed in 1812, the same year Napoleon retreated from Moscow!

Fun for all the family.

We will have duck races in our stream (leat) on both days. Watch your ducks pop out of the pump and race away towards the canal. There will be prizes for both first and last duck to pass under our bridge. We will also have an Easter Egg trail in our grounds, search high and low for an egg. We will be offering tea, coffee, a variety of soft drinks as well as cakes, biscuits and more from our tea tent in the grounds, come and find us, you are sure to be hungry and thirsty after all the excitement!



Meet the Team

Meet our friendly, knowledgeable team as they bring our engines to life, watch the boiler stokers feed the boiler, raising steam so our engine drivers can start the massive pumps to raise water from Wilton Water some 40 feet, feeding the leat that takes the water to the highest point of the Kennet and Avon canal.



Seen on a church notice board: 'Despite inflation, the wages of sin remain the same.'









St James Church, North Newnton

"A May Day celebration; traditional songs and music from around the British Isles"

There will be a group of local players and some audience participation encouraged but not obligatory! Lyrics supplied! Come and bring friends to enjoy the pleasure of community singing! £10 including cream tea at the door In aid of tower repairs.

YOUTH GROUPS

Saturday 6 April 10 am - 1 pm. We'll be in the Bouverie Hall Community Open Morning. Any young people, parents or helpers who'd like to help tell people what is available for young people would be welcome to help us.



Youth group trip one afternoon during 10th - 13th April

We plan to book a **clip and climb session in Swindon or Andover**. There will be some surveys soon on WhatsApp to get the date / time to suit most people.

Advance notice. Friday 19 April, at 7.30 pm, in Devizes

Fundraising event & auction for **Wiltshire Youth for Christ WYFC** who organised the amazing Wilderness Worship we went to. Book your FREE tickets here > shorturl.at/GKNR2 for info contact fergus@wiltshireyfc.org.uk 07789838418

Also, Hot Chocolate on the Blue Bus, Youth Group

Upper Playing Field, Upavon, Tuesday April 30^{th} , 6pm to 8pm, for 11-16 years

Cheese Toasties, Ice Breakers, Cooking Arts, Games & Chat, Table Football

djs@openblue.org.uk



Pewsey Community Land Trust

has a planning application number for the former Police Site PL/2024/01556 Letters of support welcome.

Do you remember the BIG FREEZE in 1962/63?

If you have any photos taken in the Pewsey Vale or other towns and villages in Wiltshire during this period

The Pewsey Vale Local History Research team would love to hear from you. For more information please contact Richard by email -

r.j.giles296@btinternet.com

or Wendy by telephone – 01672 564241 We look forward to hearing from vou soon.





From a church magazine: "The restoration of the churchyard was finally completed by the resurfacing of our driveway. The following Sunday, the church wardens praised everyone who had helped, and gave special thanks to the vicar and his wife who had rolled in the gravel.

_Are you 18 and over? Are you looking for something new? Come and join the Trefoil Guild!



We are a non-uniform organisation that acts as a branch of Girlguiding – for friendship, fun, opportunities and new challenges.

While many members have been, or still are, actively involved in Girlguiding, we welcome everyone, with or without previous involvement in the Guide or Scout Movement.

A warm welcome awaits you at one of our meetings at:

The Guide Hall, Coate, Devizes SN10 3LU, We meet on the third Tuesday of each month.

For more information, please contact: Sally Jenkinson (07947 060763) <u>sallyjenks51@gmail.com</u>

CARERS CAFE

The Pewsey carers café takes place monthly and is a friendly and welcoming space for people who are caring for someone to meet, offer one another support and speak to a trained volunteer who can signpost to local services and information. Attendance at the café is currently quite low and Carer Support Wiltshire would love to welcome new people to the café who may benefit from the opportunity to speak to others

who may be in a similar situation to their own and just enjoy a bit of time for themselves.

If you are supporting someone who could not otherwise manage without that support then you're welcome at our café. Stay for the whole session or just pop in and enjoy a hot drink and slice of cake. The café takes place on the 1st Tuesday of each month between 10.30am-12.00pm at The Wesley Hall, Pewsey Methodist Church, 35 North Street, Pewsey. Contact Carer Support Wiltshire – admin@carersupportwiltshire.co.uk / 0800 181 4118



This Dhoto by Ilnknown Author is

Last time we told you about Pewsey Vale u3a's more active groups — active, that is, in the physical sense. If you'd prefer something to exercise your brain and perhaps your linguistic skills, how about these activities? Book groups, creative writing groups and wordsmiths, French and German conversation, poetry appreciation, quiz and more are



on offer. Once again, see our web site https://pewsey.u3asite.uk/ or you can phone us on 07434 710161. Do get in touch.

Seen in a parish magazine: "We shall be meeting on Wednesday, when the subject will be 'Heaven - how do we get there?' Transport by bus is available at 6.45pm opposite the King's Arms.

PEWSEY VALE LOCAL HISTORY RESEARCH GROUP

present their Spring Talk 2024, '50 Years with the Marlborough Gazette'

Nigel Kerton worked for over fifty years as a journalist covering the Pewsey and Marlborough areas for the Gazette and Herald when it was a real local paper. During his talk Nigel will tell us something about the many events he attended and the interesting characters he met over those years.'

Wednesday 24th April Pewsey Methodist Church 19.30 - doors open at 19.00

Tickets £5 on sale at Woottons, North Street, Pewsey from 10th April or on the door if you are lucky!

NURTURE NATURE

Summer Visitors House Martins: These lovely migrant birds fly from Africa to nest in the British Isles, many in our area. They spend a long time making their mud nests under the eaves of houses. Please be tolerant of their building habits. The birds do not cause too much mess and they become distressed if all their hard work is destroyed. If house martins cannot raise their broods, yet another species will be endangered.

Swallows: These beautiful birds always return to their old nest sites, so please ensure access to them. If, for reasons of security, access has to be shut, swallows will fly through small openings in order to reach their traditional nesting sites.

Swifts: Their nesting sites, some of which are centuries old, are fast disappearing. They require an access tunnel of at least 18" long with a small entrance hole; please don't block them off. Swifts are believed to

spend at much as nine months to a year on the wing, and they are known to nap whilst flying.

Swift sightings can be reported to Bradford-on-Avon Swift Group at climatechampions@gmail.com, or www.swift-conservation.org. NOTE: These birds are, of course, protected species – it is an offence to disturb or destroy their nest sites and environments. Cuckoos – should a reader wish to track cuckoo migrations there are websites which would give up-to-date progress of incoming birds, such as the BTO one. Do please post any cuckoo sightings and hearings on your local facebook page.



Otis Tarda

PROSPECT HOSPICE

Play Prospect Hospice Spring Raffle

Be in with a chance of winning up to £3,000 in cash prizes; First prize – £2,000, Second prize – £500, Third prize – £250, plus five prizes of £50. Raffle tickets are now on sale at just £1 each in Prospect Hospice charity shops or on our website www.prospecthospice.net/raffle

For those who are returning their tickets by post, the deadline for these reaching Prospect Hospice is Friday 19 April, with online entries closing on Wednesday 24 April. The draw will take place on Friday 26 April 2024 and the winner will be contacted by the Prospect Hospice team. The money raised from the sale of spring raffle tickets goes directly to the hospice to help fund free end of life care for local people and support for their families.



Tuesday 9th April 19.30 "Dorset Branch Lines" Bob Bunyar
Tuesday 14th May 19.30 "Canadian Travels" Alec Thomas, and Railwayana Auction
Tuesday 11th June 19.30 "An evening with railway photographer Jack Boskett"

Meetings in Woodborough Social Club SN9 5PL Admission £3, non-members we

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Pewsey Vale Gardening Club

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 2nd April at The Bouverie Hall Goddard Road Pewsey SN9 5EQ 7.00pm for 7.30pm. Complementary refreshments are served prior to the meeting.

The Speaker will be Nicola Hope with her topic Organic Gardening

Membership fees for this year are £5.00 Visitors @ £2.00 each new members and visitors are always welcome. Our season runs from October to June with meetings on the first Tuesday of each month except January and outing to lovely gardens etc arranged by Annie Diston cost vary accordingly. We also have the Flower of the Month competition with the Bill Bailey Cup awarded to the winner for the season. CONTACT DETAILS PV GC@yahoo.com



Pewsey Vale Gardening Club Outings 2024

Thursday 6th June 2024 Forde Abbey near Chard Somerset

A Cistercian Monastery surrounded by 30 acres of award winning gardens, including a working walled kitchen garden, bog garden, arboretum and England's highest powered fountain. £31.50 per person

Thursday 27th June 2024 Athelhamton House and Gardens, Athelhamton, Dorchester. Athelhamton House is one of the finest English Manor houses with Grade 1 gardens home to the famous topiary pyramids. £28.50 per person.

Full details with booking form from Anne Diston 01672 562757 email annie1953ad@gmail.com

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On the Church Door at Cricket St. Thomas:

CHURCH is.....

Where your PARENTS bring you to be christened Where your FRIENDS bring you to be married Where your RELATIONS bring you to be buried Why not try coming on your own some time?

PEWSEY VALE ARTS SOCIETY

The Arts Society - Pewsey Vale will hold their April lecture on Tuesday 2nd April at 2.30pm in the Bouverie Hall. The lecture, by Scott Anderson MA, PHD is "**Gustav Klimt and the Vienna Secession'**. This lecture focuses on Klimt's career from his early years as a theatre director, through the establishment of the Vienna Secession in 1897, to the masterpieces of the early 20th century.

In 2006 Klimt's 1907 portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer was sold for \$135 million, the highest price ever paid for a painting, elevating him to the standing of Monet and Van Gogh. He was one of Austria's most famous painters and leader of the fin-de-siecle Vienna Secession. He changed the face of painting in the imperial city of Vienna and produced some of the most remarkable works of the Art Nouveau era around 1900. His painting explored new and exciting techniques and created some of the most beautiful and luscious images of the 20th century.

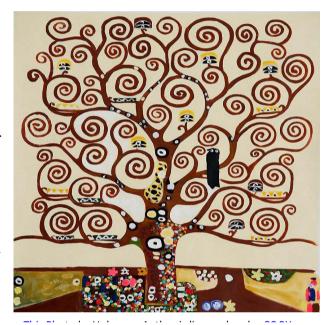
Scott Anderson trained and worked as an archeologist, before his interests shifted to the world of art, antiques and auctioneering. He teaches courses on the history and theory of interior design and visual

culture, as a Senior Lecturer at Southampton Solent

University.

The Arts Society - Pewsey Vale will hold their May lecture on Tuesday 7th May at 2.30pm in the Bouverie Hall. The lecture is entitled, "A Window into Russia: A History of the Hermitage Museum," by Dr Rosamund Bartlett.

The lecture charts the history of one of the world's largest museums, from its foundation in 1751, through to the 21st century. From Catherine the Great and other Tsars' voracious appetites for collecting, plus the addition of priceless collections acquired after the 1917 October Revolution, the museum's eventful history provides a revealing window into the pecularities of Imperial and Soviet Russia.



Rosamund Bartlett is a writer, scholar, lecturer, cultural historian and translator specialising in Russian Literature. She has written biographies of both Tolstoy and Chekhov, has translated Anna Karenina and is a Trustee of The Anton Chekov Foundation. She lectures regularly on Russian art.

Refreshments are available from 2.00pm and non-members are very welcome - £7 on the door.



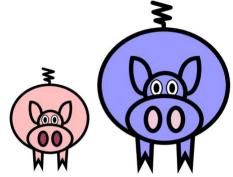
MANNINGFORD

St Peter's Church After a busy month in March, there will be two services in April as follows: Morning Prayer on 14 April and Holy Communion on 28 April followed by coffee and biscuits. The APCM (Annual Church Parochial Meeting) will be held after the service on 28 April to which all parishioners, especially those on the electoral roll, are welcome.

Village Hall

REVISED DATE for 'PIG' RACE NIGHT in Manningford Village Hall - **Friday 3 May**

7 for 7.30 pm start. Tickets £10 per person, including supper, must be purchased in advance from Sue on 07990 548852 or Victoria on 07736 450540.



This Photo by Unknown Author is lie

Supporting local NSPCC. Please come along and join in the fun!

Please get in touch with Victoria Marshall at <u>victoria73marshall@gmail.com</u> or on 01672 569077 / 07736 450540 if you would like to hire the Village Hall or find out more about the wide range of regular classes held there.

HUISH with OARE

St Nicholas Church, Huish

Sunday 14th April – Easter III - 6.00pm Evensong

Sunday 28th April – Easter V – 8.00am Holy



Communion (BCP)

Our Mothering Sunday service at St Nicholas was a lovely occasion with a good attendance and some excellent singing led by Rhona. We had some beautiful posies for which we thank the ladies who made them up. These, were blessed by Rhona and distributed at the end of the service.

As always, we look forward to seeing you at any of the above services at which you will be very welcome.

Holy Trinity Church, Oare

Sunday 7th April - Easter II - (Low Sunday) - 11.00am Parish Eucharist

As always, we look forward to seeing you at any of the above services at which you will be very welcome.



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PEWSEY St. John's



At **Sunday@6** in March we welcomed a speaker from TEN to hear about their work in 10 eastern European countries. In the past many of these nations were governed by dictators and communism, we learnt how TEN teams were now church planting in these countries and how they had been able to support refugees fleeing the

conflict in Ukraine.

Café Church on Mothering Sunday We all gathered for an early breakfast before an informal service, the highlight of which was a drama called 'The When Show' a great spoof of 'The One Show' which featured biblical mothers – Hannah, Naomi and Mary – and their testimonies to the goodness of God. It was great to see several families in the church and all the ladies present came home with a small bouquet of spring

flowers.

Date for your diary – Tuesday April 9th from 12 noon. Rugby club lunch

Come and hear about the Eternal Wall of
Answered Prayer. This is a new Christian
interactive monument made up of 1 million
bricks each representing an answered prayer
located just off the M6 and M42 near Birmingham.

show

This letter is being delivered to all the houses in Pewsey this Easter Hello, and a very happy Easter from St John's.

We are writing to **wish you every blessing** at this very special time of year and let you know about some exciting new developments to the church and to seek your support.

St John's Church is probably the oldest building in the village; the Saxon wooden church was replaced with stone in the 13th Century and is Grade 1 listed by Historic England. (There is more information on the display board on the steps up to the church.) Throughout the centuries the church has played an important part in the life of the village, including the unveiling of a War Memorial in 1921.

We believe it is important that the church continues to play its full part in village life. We are delighted to see the church used by local choirs, various social groups and for musical events. The church is open every day for private prayer and reflection, as well as for baptisms, weddings and funerals. We offer varied types of Sunday services, ranging from formal communion, to more informal worship including Sunday@Six and Muddy Church. The church now has an induction loop and an audio visual system and is licensed to show films and play music.

We want to make the church an even better resource for the local community by making it more accessible and improve the facilities. We are therefore planning to install ramps and make the toilet wheelchair accessible. By moving the vestry, we can use the space for a new kitchen. We estimate the total cost to be about £45,000.

We receive no direct financial support from the Church of England, relying on the congregation to pay to keep the church running. Insuring such a beautiful Grade 1 listed church is really expensive, as well as paying for heating, electricity, etc.

To pay for the enhancements, church members have been putting on fund raising events including tea parties, concerts and the popular Christmas Medieval Fair. We are proposing also to use a legacy from Pat Beresford, former Head Teacher at Pewsey Infant School. **However, there is still a shortfall of around £10,000** - We need to raise the full amount by the end of May. If we should raise more than £10,000 the money will be used to make other repairs and enhancements to the church.

Please can you help? We would be most grateful for any donations, however big or small.

There are several ways to do this.

- Cash or a cheque posted in the donations box in the church (the box is emptied daily). There are gift aid envelopes next to the box.
- Payment through a debit or credit card to our Kitchen Fund
 Sort Code: 30-92-63 Account No: 53813668 Account name: PCC PEWSEY
- Or make a donation through the Parish Giving Scheme a national service for churches. To do this, please scan this QR code using the camera on your smart phone. This will take you to the Parish Giving Scheme page for St Johns Church where you can make a donation and provide information to enable tax to be reclaimed if appropriate. We receive the whole amount that you donate using this method.



As a thank you we will inscribe the names of all major donors who donate more than £100 on a brass plaque that will be installed in the new kitchen. If you need any further information, please email jejemail@icloud.com Together we can help make the church a better resource for the whole community, serving Pewsey for generations to come.

With very many thanks,

Khona

Revd Rhona Floate Rector of St John's Church, Pewsey

RUSHALL & CHARLTON ST PETER Village Hall

We have a most comfortable hall with under-floor heating, a large fitted kitchen, off-street parking

and Wi-fi. Morning, afternoon and evening sessions are available to book so please get in touch.



Coffee Morning, 10am - 12pm, 6th Apr

Why not come and see us at one of our Hall Fund Raising Events?

Apr 26th - evening - Plants and Ploughman's (come and buy your garden plants and enjoy a Ploughman's lunch).

For all enquiries and bookings: Email: RCVH2000@gmail.com Phone: 07407 216763

Website: www.rushallcharltonvh.org.uk

NORTH NEWNTON, HILCOTT & BOTTLESFORD

As you may be receiving your magazine before the end of March .. a reminder

Easter Day Celebration at 11am with special refreshments and Easter Egg Hunt to follow. A very warm welcome to all ages; babes in arms to nonagenarians and everyone in between!



The church must undergo **major work on the tower roof** to replace the leaking asphalt roofing and repair stone work. Unfortunately scaffolding will be necessary adding to the expense so the overall cost is expected to be in the region of £21,000. In aid of the roof repairs Sunday 5th May.....

'A May Day celebration; traditional songs and music from around the British Isles' There will be a group of local players and audience singing participation! Followed by a cream tea

Attic Sale in aid of St James' Church this event which we hope will include music, food and a fun dog show is in the initial planning stage. Let us know if you'd like to be involved. Lots of different roles to play! Items for sale can be donated or 'for sale' on a 50/50 basis. So, if you are turning out or down-sizing please bear this event in mind! Contact: Jennifer 01672 851925

COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING

Coffee mornings take place on 2nd Saturday of the month from 10.30 to Noon at Wilsford Village Hall. Everyone is welcome. We always have delicious cake and a raffle.



PARISH HISTORY

A very interesting, detailed history of the parish dating back a thousand years is available on the parish website NNPC.org.uk

Hilcott Village Hall Trust

We are hoping for some better Spring weather so that work can restart on cutting grass and moving rubbish and effluvia at Barnard Meadow. We are relaunching our fundraising online appeal.... Easy Fundraising for online shopping (easyfundraising.org.uk) and Give as you Live for donations (giveasyoulive.com).

Both options may be accessed via the Hilcott Village Hall website hilcottvillagehall.uk

We intend to have a Cheese and Wine evening in May/June (date and venue to be confirmed) inviting all our supporters and volunteers and of course other parishioners

and friends of the Hall, to share our plans for Barnard Meadow, so watch this space!

Parish Council

March was a great month for community ACTION! Many thanks to those who joined the Flood Busters; clearing grips and gulleys to allow water to drain away. Armed with shovels, and lots of muscle power, they did a great job! Bags of rubbish were collected by litter pick-up volunteers from roads, kerbs, hedgerows and ditches for the Annual Parish Clean-Up. On behalf of everyone in the parish THANK YOU.

Local police attended the March meeting with updates on local policing.

For information on council matters please contact: clerk@nnpc.org.uk

Website www.nnpc.org.uk

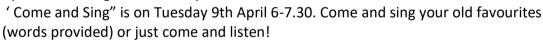
WILCOT

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the death of Dr Colin Bouch in February. He had retired to Wilcot with his wife Primrose after many years working as a general practitioner and put his energies into researching a history of the village. This involved many conversations with local people recording their memories of life as it used to be. His book "A History of Wilcot" was eventually published in 2018. There are still a few copies available at £10 each. Please let me know if you would like to purchase one



On the subject of books -Stephen Mills will be giving a talk on "The Wild Life of a Wildlife Filmmaker" on Friday 12th April at 6.30pm in Wilcot Village Hall . His new book "Natural Causes" will be available for sale. Doors open from 6pm for refreshments -donations welcome towards the village hall and church upkeep! Please do come and bring friends and family for what will be a most entertaining talk. Let me know if you would like to reserve a copy of his book- kmacauslan@yahoo.co.uk

"Tea and Chat" continues on Tuesday afternoons from 2-4pm on 2nd;16th and 30th April in the village hall. All very welcome.





ALTON PRIORS, ALTON BARNES and HONEYSTREET

St Mary's Church, Alton Barnes:

Sunday 7th April, Holy Communion at 11am

Sunday 21st April Holy Communion at 11am

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of St Mary's Parochial Church Council (PCC) will be held in May 2024 - date and full details to be advised in the May 2024 edition of The Messenger. All are invited to attend.

Coronation Hall, Alton Barnes

Monthly Coffee Morning - join us on the first Saturday of each month, 10am to 12pm. A warm space!

Bring and buy - produce, homemade items, anything you want to sell! Coffee,tea and delicious cakes. Everyone is welcome!

Need a suitable venue for your meetings, coffee mornings, workshops, community and or family events, why not hire the well equipped hall. Wifi and parking available. Please contact Richard Heacock for further details and to book the hall (richardheacock@mac.com



BEECHINGSTOKE

Another brief report this month. The first Fete meeting is about to be held. I should be able to confirm the date next month.

Woodborough School (of which I am a governor) is always looking for volunteers who would be prepared to go into the school on one afternoon a week, or to be on the reserve list to cover others when they are on holiday or sick, to listen to the children read. Full training is provided and it is for 90 minutes, from 13.30-15.00. It is a lovely thing to do personally and it makes an enormous difference for the children who are in the scheme as we can measurably see how they improve in their reading skills which feeds into their other school work. If you would be interested please let me know and I can pass your details on to the coordinator in school.

The Annual meeting of the Parochial Church Council will occur on Tuesday 23rd April at 19.30 in the Church. All are invited.

Finally, Marlborough Choral Society is giving a Spring Concert on 20th April in St Mary's Church, Marlborough (behind the Town Hall). The programme includes Faure's Requiem. There will also be lots of Anthems that many will know and love. It is a great programme. Tickets are £12 and can be got from me, Sound Knowledge in Marlborough or on the door. If there is anything you would like to be included in this entry please let me (Sally Banham) know by 10th of the month as the entry needs to be in by 15th for the following month. My details are- 07778 038963 or sally.banham4@gmail.com

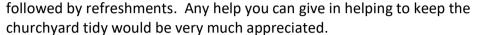
MILTON LILBOURNE

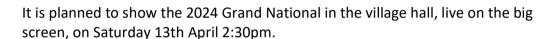
As we put the Messenger entry together, in mid March, for the month of April, we are looking forward to Easter and are finalising arrangements for our service on Easter Sunday at 11 o'clock. There will be the opportunity for the children to complete a craft activity and hear a story with an Easter Egg hunt after the service.

We hope that you will join us for our services in April, which follow the usual pattern. Details are shown at the front of the Messenger.

A date for your diary when on the first Sunday in May, (5 May) will be the third of our family services at the new time of 4 o'clock. On this occasion, it is proposed to go on a Muddy Church walk followed by a 'bring and share' picnic.

Churchyard working parties resume on Saturday, 20 April at 09:30. The working party is for an hour





The clothing and garment collection pod, supporting the Air Ambulance, is now on site in the village hall car park. Donations of bagged clothing, shoes, and textiles welcome.

UPAVON

Would pet food be a welcome addition to our Foodbank, as highlighted recently on TV by the Blue Cross?

Hedgehogs have woken up recently in the village. Please help by putting out food for them and making sure there are holes in your fence for them to get through as they can travel a mile in a night.



There are monthly coffee mornings in the church, usually on the last Saturday of the month, 10 -12. Thank you to Fred for lovely flowers he provides for a raffle at our monthly coffee morning.



The next will be April 27th.

Do come, especially if you are new to the area, to make new friends.

WOODBOROUGH Church and Parish Rooms

April is a month of growth and renewal, bringing us hope and optimism for brighter days ahead. We should also remember April Fool's Day, which is bound to bring us a giggle, and other events like Earth Day remind us to protect Mother Nature. Earth Day on April 22nd is an annual event dedicated to raising awareness and inspiring action to tackle the various environmental challenges facing our planet. And we can't forget the April showers as written about here by Matthew Crossey.



Sunshine, showers and rainbows

All on the same day.

That's why I'm not quite sure what I'm wearing,

Or if the rain is here to stay.

It could be wellington boots, a hat and a coat, Gloves or my best shoes.

Sunshine, showers and rainbows,

That's why I don't know what to choose.

The Woodborough Parish Room Coffee Morning will be held on Wednesday April 3rd from 10.30-12.00. All are welcome to come along and enjoy the wonderful refreshments, while meeting old friends and making new acquaintances.



The Parish Room can be hired email: woodboroughparishrooms@hotmail.co.uk

Good Companions meets on Wednesday April 17th in the Parish Room. A group for semi retired/retired persons, offering an opportunity to meet others from Woodborough and surrounding villages, and join in with an activity, afternoon tea and companionship (£5/session). The speaker is Morton Burdick, who will give an illustrated talk on "Our Noisy Neighbours," giving us an insight into what goes on on Salisbury Plain. For further information contact - Brenda Geard 07738053850 or email wyverndanceband@btinternet.com

LOOKING AHEAD -

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will take place in the Parish Room at 19.00 on Thursday May 25th, with wine and nibbles. The APCM is a yearly meeting required of churches within the Church of England, which take place in parishes before 31st May each year. The annual meeting receives reports on changes to the electoral roll, general parish activities and financial matters. The annual meeting also elects new members to the PCC. Volunteers for a role on the PCC are always welcome.

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