

PARISH MAGAZINE



St. Mary's, Herriard



All Saints', Turworth



St. Mary's, Upton Grey



St. Lawrence, Walscot

**June
2020**

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BENEFICE MAGAZINE – June 2020
Edition for the Parishes of Herriard with Winslade, Tunworth,
Upton Grey and Weston Patrick

Message from the Parish Magazine Team

This is the second parish magazine edition since lockdown started. We are surrounded with dreadful news, with much sadness, fear and stress. But there is also good news.

The Bishop of London, The Rt Revd Dame Sarah Mullally, has been appointed to lead the Church of England's response to the Covid-19 crisis. She is well qualified for the role, having held senior nursing positions – including Chief Nursing Officer for England – before her ordination to the Priesthood in 2002. In 2005 she was appointed DBE in recognition of her contribution to nursing and midwifery.

Bishop Sarah has been helpful in managing expectations relating to the future of public church services. She does not envisage that even by the end of this year we shall be back to our normal services: “There are some very challenging questions that we'll have to face, not least about singing and about the receiving of Holy Communion. So the future will look different.”

Meanwhile these villages are extremely fortunate in the amazing support offered by many individual residents and dedicated workers and volunteers. As Peter Moore says in his Ministry Team letter below, there are lessons from history and there will be more from this crisis, and it is important that we remember who has seen us through the troubles.

Thank you for all the magazine contributions that again make this a packed edition. Please keep them coming!

Message from the Ministry Team

In 1902, just before he wrote *Peter Pan*, J M Barrie wrote a very successful West End play called *The Admirable Crichton*, the story of a wealthy aristocrat, the Earl of Lome, his family, and his lowly butler Crichton. In Act 2, the entourage were all wrecked on a desert island, where Crichton proved to be the only member of the party to have the necessary practical skills to enable them to survive, and he gradually assumed complete control of them all, so that the roles of Earl and butler were reversed.

In the extraordinary circumstances in which we find ourselves today the same sort of situation is starting to emerge (save for the final reversal of control). Social position, wealth and business acumen now

count for nothing. What our literal survival depends on are the practical skills and expertise of an immense number of people we have hitherto tended to regard as among the least significant members of society – and we have marked our assessment of their worth by the wages we have paid them. So this topsy-turvy situation is perhaps teaching us something we didn't previously realise about true value.

I certainly don't want to minimise the tragedy and pain and devastating loss which this fearful virus is causing throughout the world, but just as the last war (which I am just old enough to remember) brought out the best in people, so does Covid-19. We are seeing daily acts of selfless kindness, generosity and service from ordinary people, looking out for the vulnerable and helpless, and bringing relief. Why does the worst galvanise the best into action? Are we naive in seeing in this the hand of God, working through countless ordinary people to ensure that ultimately good will overcome evil? Paul listed the fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self control. Aren't we seeing these fruits all around us now?

It has all happened before. In 1665 when bubonic plague was ravaging London, a parcel of cloth accidentally containing a germ was sent to the little village of Eyam, tucked away in the Derbyshire Dales, and 260 villagers died. But, organised by the vicar, the remaining villagers self-isolated themselves. They put money on a rock outside the village, and people from neighbouring villages left food there, and the plague was successfully confined to Eyam, which, at great cost, beat the plague. So can we.

By the way, Eyam is pronounced Eem. I know it well. It's a lovely village of honey-coloured stone cottages.

One day we will be able to sit back and prayerfully work out why and how this has happened. The important thing is that we learn the lessons that there will certainly be, remember who has seen us through the troubles, and don't just forget it and go back to our old ways.

Peter Moore, Licensed Lay Minister

CHURCH NEWS

During lockdown there are several ways in which it is possible to access regular worship. Each Sunday the North Hampshire Downs network of churches offers two services:

10.00am - a traditional and contemplative service

11.15am - an informal worship service

Also each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday there is a short service of Morning Prayer or 'Thought for the Day', available from 8.30am; and for children and families there is a wide range of online content throughout the week. To access the services and other content please search for 'North Hampshire Downs Churches' on YouTube or visit www.moretolife.church and follow the links to our YouTube channel.

The Church of England has set up Daily Hope, which offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. The line, which is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044, has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services in mind.

It is wonderful to see the many ways in which our community has sprung into action to care for others during these challenging times. We are conscious that there are many wonderful things going on, both organised and informal. The churches have a dedicated pastoral visiting team, and whilst they cannot conduct home visits the team are available for a one-on-one phone call for anyone who may be struggling, anxious, lonely or just in need of a little more conversation. If you would like a telephone call from a member of the pastoral care team, or if you know of someone else who might, then please contact in the first instance Simon Butler on 01256 861706 / simon@moretolife.church or Jill Lestrille on 01256 862131 / jill.lestrille@hotmail.co.uk.

If you would like to pray with someone or ask the clergy team to pray for someone, please email: prayer-requests@moretolife.church.

Rev Simon Butler



KidsZone

Hi everyone!

Another month, another inbox full of amazing examples of how resilient our young people are and how they are making the most of this unprecedented situation. I'm so proud of how hard you are working, guys, to keep up with your online learning, mastering new skills and generally finding ways to stay happy and in touch with friends and family.

Alex, 14, has been making the most of being home with his family:

Overall, I feel that lockdown has been an opportunity to do things and be grateful for our health, communities, and schools. I have found lockdown a time to do things I enjoy such as play my Guitar, go on runs, cook and garden as well as some video games with my older brother. Because I have normally been off boarding, I feel that it is a great pleasure and gift to see all my family and be able to spend time with them.



His sister, **Eliza**, adds that COVID has meant lots of time with family, exercise and weird schedules! A little birdie tells me that this is as well as working incredibly hard with a huge amount of online learning from school! Well done! And Rob and Alex: great job on your magnificent model of The Cutty Sark – it looks incredible fiddly!

Karlotta, 9, has been using her extra time to learn lots of new and interesting skills...

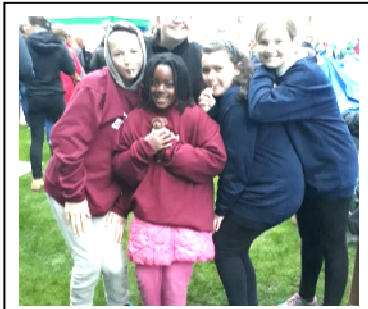
Since the lockdown started, I have been feeling sad that I can't see my friends and family. I've got a grandma and grandpa who don't live in England, so I don't see them. We had planned to stay with them over the Easter holidays. To keep me busy I do home learning. While working,



I've found some really cool websites to learn things like making stop motion videos, touch typing and Wizarding World. When me and my sister don't need to do any more work, the whole family goes for a walk around the RAF base or we play in the garden when the sun is out. I've even learned how to ride a broomstick! 😊

Reach for the sky, Karlotta! You certainly seem to have been making the most of your time at home – and having a lot of fun in the process!

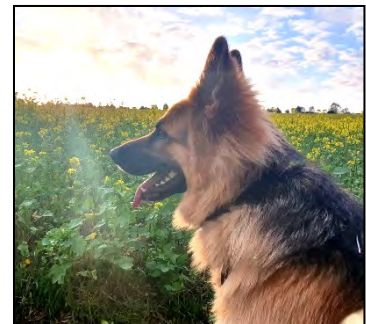
Some of us are having to mark milestones in a different way this year. **Rachel** writes about how turning 15 didn't go exactly as she had planned...



Some of my friends and I
this time last year!

It's been strange; we haven't been able to go out anywhere at all. Normally I would see friends and do something as a whole family, but my dad is deployed, so I can't see him at all. Because of that, it has been slightly boring. However, I have had a really nice breakfast, lunch and dinner today. I even got to go on a lovely long walk with one of my best friends, Bella. Don't worry - she's our dog!

I'd say that birthdays in lockdown are definitely strange, but I have had fun watching films and kids programs as a joke and rounded it off seeing some of my friends from youth group on a Zoom call. All in all, today might not have been what I expected, but it was great!



Happy birthday, Rachel! I promise all your friends will make it up to you when we can finally meet again!

Rose, 9, is missing her extended family, but making the most of the gorgeous weather and beautiful surroundings.

Life in lockdown is hard. It has been 6 weeks now and we are still not allowed to see our friends and family. I'm worried and scared, because my aunty is stuck in New York on her own and my Uncle is stuck in Leeds on his own. But it always cheers me up when I see all the baby

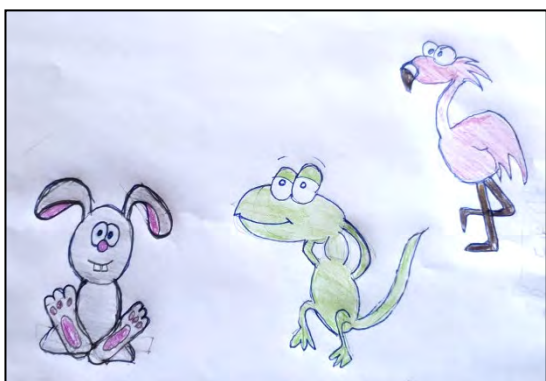


lambs in the field opposite. The roads are so quiet in Upton Grey; the only things that usually come past are people walking! It is scary seeing people walking round with masks, but I know they are to keep them safe. I love spending time with family, and this is the perfect time to do it, like family walks and movie nights. I enjoy watching the church services on a Sunday. I'm so grateful for the lovely weather and the NHS saving lives!

We may not have been able to get together in person, but we've been having lots of fun online! Some pictures here from May's *Messy Church: LIVE!* An opportunity to get crafty outside in the sunshine – and also that way I didn't get into trouble with Mums for messy church getting just a little bit too messy!



The youth have been gathering every day for Fun@4 – a different Zoom activity each day. We've learnt to sketch animals, say The Lord's Prayer in sign language and even cook for our families!



This month we will be having a Big Sleep in (the annual Big Sleep out in Winchester having been cancelled) in aid of Odiham Food Bank.



Thank you to everyone who has been in touch to let me know how their lockdown is going and I've especially loved spending time with some of you through our online activities. If you or someone you know would like to get involved in anything that's on offer, please do get in touch via youth@moretolife.church.

Helen Chatfield, Youth Pastor (Tel: 07540 140228)



NEWS FROM THE VILLAGES

Police Report from PC Andy Reid

Dear residents, I start with a request for any information in relation to seven crimes in Weston Patrick overnight of 4th/5th May. During the night, between midnight and around 3.00am, six homes had their garden sheds/outbuildings broken into, resulting in the theft of a leaf blower, chainsaw, saddle and bridles, numerous tools, bicycles, a motorcycle and equipment. Although, in fairness, most of the buildings broken into required force from the thieves, some could have been made more difficult to enter. I ask residents who have CCTV or doorbell CCTV to please check for the period between 10.00pm on 4th May through to 6.00am on 5th and see if anyone came into your garden, or whether any unusual vehicles appeared. Please just give me a call direct if you find anything unusual.

The thieves will visit an area and during the period they are there will attack such buildings that may be away from houses. They would have done research: they will check with Google Earth to gain a layout of what buildings are where, check the access and exit routes, and possibly make a return visit to steal the replacement items that they stole before. Someone would have been in the area possibly a week or so before looking about, which is why it is so important to record details of vehicles that are unusual to the area, the cold caller wanting to sell something at the door, the feeble excuse 'Can you tell me where Basingstoke is?' etc.

Sadly times have changed. We do live in a fantastic area but this is now 2020 and not the 1950s. Residents do need to be more security aware and conscious that by the very nature of the place we live, those of a criminal mind will come and take advantage. I always ask 'Would you do what you do here if you lived in London'? Things like the unlocked shed, the unlocked car, the sat nav on full display, on occasions the unlocked house, car key left on view near windows, high quality equipment left in the garden or on display are all invitations to thieves.

We all need to up our game: get good security; consider CCTV, sensor lighting, simple things like 'Beware of the dog' signs on gates, decent gates that lock; record suspicious vehicle registration numbers; mark expensive equipment with your post code; record the serial number so that, if we find it, we can prove it has been stolen, and return it to you rather than the thief. When things return to 'normal' I will hold security and crime prevention awareness evenings across the area, but in the meantime do your bit. Anyone can call me direct or leave a message for

me with any registration numbers that you think is unusual – never a problem.

Many thanks for your continued support; as an area we do well, especially during these difficult times, which have brought out the best in everyone. The support and care, shown for neighbours and fellow residents, is heart-warming.

Sincere wishes

Andrew REID, Local Constable PC 3746, Tel: 01256 389050

Mob: 07768:776844 email: andrew.reid@hampshire.pnn.police

Learning from Lockdown

As we inhabit this surreal world of lockdown, I think we have become more conscious of our inability to solve all problems. We are not as slick and sophisticated as we thought we were. The tools of management – strategic policy, action plans and target-setting only take us so far. There comes a time when we simply have to sit with the dilemma and perhaps recognise that we cannot solve it immediately but work within it and through it.

I am reminded of the straightforward wisdom of a medieval philosopher and theologian, Meister Eckhart – ‘Wisdom consists in doing the next thing you have to do, doing it with your whole heart, and finding joy in doing it’. What we have seen in recent weeks in the village are some gold-standard examples of such wisdom – the support of the volunteers in the shop, the work of the children to craft and deliver beautiful Easter cards for the older members of the community, the donations of gifts to the local NHS and the words of courtesy exchanged, at a safe distance, with the strangers we encounter on our authorised bouts of daily exercise.

In years to come, we will perhaps see this present experience as a source of wisdom for new attitudes, actions-plans and strategies. T.S. Eliot cautioned: ‘We had the experience but missed the meaning. And approach to the meaning restores the experience in a different form.’ Although it is impossible at present to see Coronavirus as anything other than a plague and source of grief and chaos, there will perhaps come a time when we recognise that it brought us new insights about how we see and value what is worthwhile in the world and in the human heart.

Bridie Stringer

A thought about bread

Many of us have turned to our kitchens for inspiration during lockdown. Something new for supper? Something different? More spicy? Old skills have been revived and with more time at our disposal we have been able to take our cooking more gently and carefully. I for one do not now grudge ten minutes spent on slowly sautéing onions in olive oil until they become golden and fragrant.

Bread-making has been high on the list as a satisfying way of using lockdown although first the shortages of flour and the hunt for yeast made this more difficult to achieve. So for the first time I tried sour dough, making a culture simply from flour and water. It takes time and patience and the first results are not perfect but in the end a delicious, chewy, flavoursome loaf is your reward.

Yeast is fascinating. A tiny amount mixed into a large amount of flour with water can produce a large loaf and, interestingly, the less yeast you use, the longer the time you give it to grow, the better the bread. If you have some, measure out 5 grams and compare it with 500 grams of flour; the contrast in volume is huge but given time (and water) a loaf weighing 1 kilo will result.

One golden thread has run through the last two months – the sheer KINDNESS of people one to another. It is a rather neglected quality but its effects are dramatic and transforming. It is a bit like yeast, a very small act of kindness can change the day, one's mood, one's attitude to the next person you meet or talk to. Repeated on and on, a bit like handing on the baton, one small kind act can have a quite unexpected result. When the current crisis is over, let's try to keep kindness as a permanent mark of our society. It could make all the difference.

In addition to our village helpers there are NHS Volunteer Responders

If you, or someone you know, needs a hand with collecting shopping or prescriptions, or just wants someone to talk to, our NHS Volunteer Responders are here to help.

Join the thousands of others throughout England who are already receiving support – even if it's just for a friendly chat. Call 0808 196 3646 or visit nhsvolunteerresponders.org.uk. Help is available if you have a medical condition which makes you vulnerable to COVID-19, especially if you are over 70. You also qualify if you are pregnant or have a disability.

UPTON GREY NEWS

www.uptongreychurch.co.uk

www.uptongreyparishcouncil.co.uk

Upton Grey Village Hall 100 Club

The 100 Club is the main income stream for the Village Hall. In fact, in these strange days of lockdown, it is almost the only source of income for the Village Hall.

It has been a boon to everyone in the village that the shop has been able to extend into the hall, but there are still bills to pay.

But you can help – and have fun, too! Each month, one member of the 100 Club wins £100. And the more players there are, the more additional prizes there are.

To run the 100 Club, though, it is imperative that we have at least 100 members. And we haven't reached that number yet. So we are delaying the start until, hopefully, August.

Subscriptions are £24 a year. You can pay by cheque (payable to 'Upton Grey Village Hall Committee') and delivered to: Caroline James at Russetts, 15 Weston Close; Brian Thrussell in Wayside Cottage; or Hugh Chevallier (Spinners). The shop will also collect cheques for membership. Alternatively, if you want pay by Bank Transfer, our account name is 'Upton Grey Village Hall Committee', sort code 09 01 51, account number 86355505. Don't forget to provide your name, address and postcode. Thanks so much for supporting the village.

Caroline James, Brian Thrussell and Hugh Chevallier

35 Hampers of 'tuck' delivered to NHS staff

Thank you to everyone who continues to donate to the NHS Hampers via the Upton Grey Shop. At the time of writing (mid May) we have delivered 35 hampers: 24 to Basingstoke Hospital, 9 to local GP surgeries and, more recently, one to St Michael's Hospice and another to Alton Community Hospital.

We have received numerous messages of thanks, all with a common theme (see below). While the hampers provide much needed sustenance to frontline staff, they also remind them of the support in the local community, which they say really boosts their morale during these challenging times.

Donations to the hampers can still be made, either when visiting the shop in person or when making a telephone order (which can be done Mon–Sat, 9.00am–12.00pm by calling the shop on 862326, the shop volunteers will arrange delivery on your behalf).

Millie White

Messages of thanks from NHS staff

Dear Upton Grey residents,

I just wanted to write to you all on behalf of all of the intensive care doctors at Basingstoke hospital, to express our sincere gratitude for the regular supplies you have been sending us. As you might imagine, work has been pretty tough at times over the past few weeks and months, so your very kind gestures have been hugely appreciated, and go a long way in making things a lot more manageable. For example, in the middle of a twelve hour night shift, having some of your nice tea and coffee to spur us on has been fantastic, especially when paired with delicious biscuits and other treats. Similarly, the great selection of breakfast food has gone down very well at the beginning of the day after handover, when the prospect of a third long day in a row seems much more manageable after filling up with pastries and muffins, and again washed down with a nice coffee. Working in PPE can be pretty hot work (especially when the hospital heating cannot be turned off...), so the variety of cold drinks is yet another welcome find within the hampers you have sent in.

Many thanks for all of your generosity, it really means a lot and is so gratefully received in these challenging times.

Wishing all of the residents of Upton Grey ongoing good health.

Dr Rory Sharvill, ICU registrar, BNHH (on behalf of all junior doctors working on Basingstoke ICU)

Dear all,

Many many thanks again for your incredible generosity for your local hospital via our village shop. The boxes have been described as 'a great boost to morale'.

A special thank you also to every villager for remaining in lockdown and maintaining our social distance - this has been hard. Your local hospital has seen a definite and distinct impact from this behaviour.

Juliette Kemp (Your local anaesthetist).

'Thank you so much for all of your donations to Basingstoke Anaesthetic Office. Knowing that we have the support of your community has been invaluable. Having access to all of the food and drinks you have given us has made some tough night shift more bearable. Thank you.'

(Trust Anaesthetic Clinical Director)

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'Thank you very much for the tuck boxes. It's been great to know that the community is behind us. Upton Grey and surrounds sounds like the most fantastic place full of very kind people. I'm going to move there immediately. Thank you so much.'

(Dom Moor, ITU Consultant)

'Knowing that people from the community are thinking and caring is overwhelming. I feel very emotional thinking that people are so busy thinking and doing amazing things for us'

(Theatre matron)

'Dear villagers,

Thank you so much for all the fabulous food boxes you have sent us. They have been a real morale booster & have kept us going - something to look forward to & share. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!'

(Anaesthetic Consultant)

News from Long Sutton Church of England Primary School

I hope you are all keeping safe and well during this time. Our school remains closed to the majority of children, although a skeleton staff have been providing care for a very small number of children who need it. We have been planning for the potential re-opening of school from 1st June; another challenge which we shall make sure we get right to ensure the safety and well-being of all our children, their families and our staff.

We are also planning a more virtual and remote transition for our new intake of Reception children, in preparation for them starting school in September 2020. As a small school, we can still manage this transition at a very personal level, albeit not face to face and not in the school building for now. Our team of creative staff will find ways of doing this which still allow us to begin establishing those essential relationships which, as our school vision states, are at the centre of everything we do and are the basis for enabling every child to flourish.

We still have some space in our Reception 2020 cohort, as well as some spaces in other year groups. If you would like to find out more about us, please take a look at our website www.longsutton.hants.sch.uk or contact the school office: adminoffice@longsutton.hants.sch.uk Tel: 01256 862238. Unfortunately we are unable to offer visits to the school at the current time, however we can offer a personalised video tour if required!

Hannah Inglis, Headteacher

Upton Grey Harvest Supper: Saturday 26th September

The Upton Grey Harvest Supper this year is a little earlier than usual, on Saturday 26th September, so do please make a note in your diaries, we will be serving cottage pie and apple crumble as usual, as well as a raffle and pay bar. Entertainment to be confirmed!

Tea@3 News

Dear Friends,

You are all well aware that we will not be able to get together for a while, but we wanted to say that although you are out of sight, you are definitely not out of mind! We do hope that you, your families and friends are keeping safe and well and managing to cope with the current restrictions at this very difficult time. We are so fortunate to have a really well-stocked village shop and we are so grateful to Suki, Pat, and all the helpers and volunteers who are keeping the place running and making home deliveries to those who cannot get out.

There is a great community spirit in our villages and so many people have volunteered their services and support to those who cannot get out. If you are in need of help but do not know who to contact, then please get in touch with one of us and we can steer you in the right direction. If you just want to chat – give us a ring – we would be happy to hear from you! Let us all hope and pray that better times are round the corner, Stay safe and well.

Barbara 862627, Jill 862131, Viv 862455

Upton Grey & District Horticultural Society – Summer Show – 8th August 2020 – CANCELLED

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic and the wider implications of that, we have cancelled our Summer Show including the Dance in the evening.

We will be back in 2021! Hurrah! As soon as we've decided the dates for our Spring and Summer Shows, we will share these with you in this Parish Magazine and other places.

Thanks to everyone (and especially to the volunteers) for your support for both of our Shows and we wish you all the best until we meet again next year.

June Hunt

In Memoriam; Mrs Gwen Prentice known as 'Mrs P'

The family would like to say thank you for all the kind words following the passing of mum, Mrs Gwen Prentice, known as Mrs P. Gwen passed away on 5th April and had lived at Little Hoddington Close, in Upton Grey. She will be greatly missed by many.

Gill Newton

HERRIARD AND WINSLADE NEWS

www.herriard-pc.gov.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/herriardexservicesclub>

Herriard Village group on <http://www.Facebook.com>

Herriard Green – Paths for All

Herriard Green has been open for nearly 10 years now and has fulfilled the goal of providing a new focus for the village.

Maintaining the Sports Club and open public facilities has involved the effort and support of many villagers and organisations over the years, each contributing to keeping The Green in tip top condition for everyone. Thanks are due to all of them.

There will be need for some major renovations in the years to come. The pathways in particular have needed more maintenance than expected. We renewed the hoggin surfacing to all of them in 2015 at very substantial cost, but 5 years later, they are now worn out again.

As well as the annual cost of maintaining the existing paths, the rough stoney surface has proved to be less than ideal particularly during wet periods. Pushing buggies, prams and wheel-chairs is difficult and the uneven surface is also a barrier to use by some of our more senior walkers.

The Parish Council has been working on a path renewal scheme for some time. We decided to call it the Herriard Green – Paths for All project to reflect our desire to make The Green more accessible to all users, as well as making the paths more durable.

In choosing a longer-lasting, smoother surface several options were considered but tarmac was felt to offer the best solution at the best life-time cost. A number of the paths at The Green including all the entrances along with the carparks have of course been tarmaced from new.

When we introduced the plan to use tarmac, some people did raise concerns that the paths would then look less rural. This week, as the new surface has been laid, the fresh black finish does contrast with the old surfacing. However, the original black tarmac used in the other areas mentioned above mellowed and weathered quite quickly and the new paths can be expected to do the same.

Tarmacing the 1.25km of internal paths along with the Weston Road link path to Park Corner and a small extension at Hockleys Lane would not have been financially viable for Herriard Parish Council. We are hugely grateful for grant support from the range of sources listed below – each of whom placed emphasis on the aim of improving accessibility. The input of individuals and groups who wrote to us in support of the

Herriard Green – Paths for All project was vital in securing this funding – thank you!

The National Lottery

Herriard Village Charity

Hampshire County Council Countryside Service

Hampshire County Council (Councillor funds)

Barfoots Energy

Four Lanes Trust

Veolia

Herriard Estates

Thank you again everyone

Gareth Davies, Chair, Herriard Parish Council

Herriard Gardening Club

We are very lucky to live in a village location through this lockdown. Most of us have gardens and we have access to a safe park to use and walk our dogs. A lot of people are not so fortunate. This lockdown has helped save lives and it has also given us a lot of time to catch up on the jobs most of us haven't got around to. The weather has been amazing so we can go out and enjoy the beauty of plants that are now showing their faces, plus the wildlife that is appearing.

A lot of the Garden Club members have utilised this time to do a makeover of parts of their outside space. One member has completely cleared her back garden, put in a gravel path and eventually a cabin/summerhouse will go up. Borders will be planted with trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants. Another has nearly finished a new gravel garden, and one has taken up turf in their front garden to form new flower borders and a path.

Most of us have been doing the usual weeding, feeding of pot plants and trimming back last year's old growth that was left for the wildlife to live in over winter.

On the subject of weeding a good gardener would have cleaned up their beds by the end of March (weather permitting) but it pays to be vigilant now, as the weeds take on a growth spurt and will take over if left.

We have all been loading up pictures of our gardens to our Garden Club Facebook page showing off our Primroses, Daffodils, Wisteria, Lilac trees, Camellias, Peonies and now the Azaleas and Rhododendrons which are stunning. We would normally meet up, at one another's gardens, so this is the next best thing.

One of the group was concerned about ants on her Peonies. The ants do no harm, they are just attracted to the sap secreted by the Peony buds as they start to open.

Don't forget to stake your Peonies and other herbaceous plants from the strong winds as those beautiful saucer flower heads will be bashed to the ground otherwise.

I have plenty of wild patches in my garden which attract wildlife such as hoverflies, bees, ladybirds, beetles, hedgehogs and I never use chemicals. With regards hedgehogs, if you are lucky to have them, please do not put down slug pellets as the poison that kills the slugs and snails gets into the food chain and kills the wildlife, including birds. Nature will do the job, as the hedgehogs living in your safe, chemical-free garden, will eat those pesky slugs, and the ladybirds, hoverflies, lacewings etc will eat the aphids. Please look up what you can feed hedgehogs as a number of foods can make them very ill and can be fatal, for example: milk, bread, fish-based cat food, even nuts and raisins, which are considered a choking hazard. Avocados and grapes are toxic. So please, before you feed them, do your research, as they are declining in the countryside. You can buy pre-packed hedgehog food and they can eat cat/dog meat-based food.

Our allotment has a new fruit cage which was erected this year to stop the birds getting caught up in any fine netting and to stop them eating the fruit of the blueberries, gooseberries and raspberries. The allotment also has an abundance of strawberries and rhubarb. Our vegetables are all grown from seed and have nearly all been planted out: broad beans, french beans, peas, potatoes, carrots and spinach to name just a few. Outdoor cordon tomatoes will go out in June with bamboo supports. We also have a cut flower bed with sweet peas, dahlias, tulips, penstemons and newly planted cosmos, ammi major and amaranthus seedlings.

Enjoy your outside space and be safe.

Patricia Pegg

WESTON PATRICK NEWS

Weston Patrick and Weston Corbett come to the aid of Sebastian's Action Trust

The weekly/monthly shop used to be a thing we probably took for granted. It was often a rather tedious but necessary chore. Shops were full of all we could want, need and probably could actually have done without in some cases. Did we ever think we would hear about people stockpiling toilet rolls?

Covid's arrival on our shores has changed all that and shopping for many, especially those without a village shop, has got infinitely harder as you all know. For those elderly and clinically vulnerable people amongst us it could have been even tougher but, in our four villages, we have the great fortune to live in wonderful and caring communities.

In wider Hampshire and beyond, many are not so fortunate and, added to that, they are caring for and shielding very seriously ill children. Children with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions. No-one in the family can go out to shop, as they have to shield their child/sibling. That's where Sebastian's Action Trust (www.sebastiansactiontrust.org) has come in and throughout this current crisis the Hampshire/Berkshire-based charity has kept going (#SATstillworking). Through their facilities (Bluebells, at North Waltham here in Hampshire, and Woodlands, in Berkshire), the teams of workers and volunteers have been true to the charity's ethos and are 'here for families of seriously-ill children. Always.' Have a look at their website above.

The teams throughout the crisis have been delivering emergency supply packs and practical support to families. These have been welcomed with open arms as it takes away the worry of where their food is coming from. Children activity packs provide some light relief for siblings during long days stuck at home. We hear the packs are also much appreciated by exhausted parents anxious for a little break!

This help and relief brought by the parcels and support would not be possible without the incredible generosity of donors who have provided items for the parcels and financial donations towards buying items as well.

So when the call went out to the residents of Weston Patrick and Weston Corbett, they rose to the challenge and have been exceedingly generous in donating money and items to help fund even more.

As a trustee of Sebastian's Action Trust I could not be more proud to call Weston Patrick and Weston Corbett home. To all who have donated, a huge thank you to you all!

Sheila Stranks

New Zealand airman

As a child of the war and an upbringing in N. Ireland, one of my best memories of that fearful time was of visits to our home, entertaining many overseas service men and women – Canadians, New Zealanders. Australians and Americans – for Sunday lunch, Christmas and weekends, a little piece of home life far from their homes, away from the fight. For myself and my brother, we made many friends, our heroes, some of whom never returned. That is why I felt a need to replace a poor paper memorial in St Lawrence with a more permanent memorial to a young New Zealander, who crashed nearby in a Spitfire on a training flight, a farm worker and forester who dedicated his life to fight for our freedom. How brave and how sad for his family so far away. Here's to you courageous boy, and thank you from us all for VE Day.

Sue Croll



VE Day

Victoria sponges, fruit scones, clotted cream and jam (plus Union Jack napkins of course!). All delivered to each resident's door in Weston Patrick and Weston Corbett. What a delicious way to celebrate VE Day!

VE Day, throughout our region, had dawned chilly but the sun was shining! The day started solemnly with a two minutes' silence, as we thought about all those who had sacrificed everything so we could be free and to save us from the tyranny that had covered so much of Europe, in the 30's and early 40's. Then the rather different celebrations started.

Our villages in the benefice know how to celebrate such days and in times before, we would have done that by getting together and celebrating as a community with a party. As we all know, that's just not possible in these worrying times, but never fear, our villages just looked to other ways.

An enormous thanks to Clare and Andy Davies who coordinated the above afternoon tea deliveries and to all those involved in making those delicious afternoon teas! The bakers of the wonderfully light Victoria sponges and scones did us proud – thank you! All residents took to their

gardens, many after listening to the BBC's presentation of Winston Churchill's speech from VE Day 1945. Photos of the most elegant of spreads complete with champagne, cakes etc and the finest bone china to drink their tea out of, were shared with each other on our village's WhatsApp. One or two rather natty hats were spotted as well! Not quite the same as all being together, but a very happy way to spend an afternoon. Thank you to all involved.

Message of thanks

Weston Patrick would like to thank the children of Upton Grey who did beautiful drawings and cards for a few of our residents over Easter. It made a lot of people very happy and feel connected in these challenging times.

OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

The Sunflower Café

In normal times, the Sunflower Café opens on Wednesday afternoons, 2.00pm–4.00pm, at the Old School (the Vine Church) in London Road, Odiham. It provides a chance for people with dementia and their carers to mix in a social setting and to participate in activities that they might not get the chance to do at home. Dominoes and jigsaws are stalwarts as far as table top games are concerned, but we regularly also have paid professionals giving monthly chair-based exercise sessions and Memory Lane singing. The café also offers a chance for respite and support for the carers who come along and are able to have a chat over a cup of tea and a slice of cake. We often have visits from other health professionals, including the Alzheimer's Society, the dementia team at Basingstoke Hospital and similar organisations, who are able to provide advice and guidance for the carers, many of whom feel quite isolated and lonely.

So, how did we start? Well, it was really one of those pieces of luck where two people with the same idea meet at exactly the right time. Elaine Kent from the Vine Church had felt the calling to run a support group for people with dementia but, although she had plenty of support from the Vine Church, she did not have people to help her actually run the group. Shortly after she had put the idea to one side, Elaine Lewington, from the North Hampshire Downs Mothers' Union, who was also a carer for her mother living with dementia, visited the Vine Church to see if it would be a suitable location for the fully fledged idea she had for the Sunflower Café. So, with two Elaines both having the same idea, the Sunflower Café finally took root at the Old School.

With the backing of both the Vine Church, who provide the premises and facilities, and the Mothers' Union, who provide the financial backing, the Sunflower Café opened its doors for the first time on 7th September 2016 where we welcomed one visitor (Elaine Lewington's mum, Miriam) who was far outnumbered by the volunteers.

Attendance figures stayed low until we held an Open Day in April 2017 and from that time numbers have risen steadily until now when we can expect anything between 10 and 14 couples (those with dementia have to be accompanied by their carer). Attendances are generally higher when we have music or exercises and we invite everyone to come along to our Christmas party when, in 2019, we had 14 couples plus 10 helpers! Our Christmas parties are always special, with food and presents laid on. The last two years we have been beautifully entertained at Christmas by the children from Long Sutton Primary School.

We couldn't run without support from our volunteer helpers, all of whom are trained as Dementia Friends. We have volunteers from Odiham and surrounding villages and the number that have come forward means that no-one feels over-stretched. In addition, we have been blessed with young people who are working towards their Duke of Edinburgh awards and help at the Café as part of their community work. New helpers are also welcome and become part of a friendly team.

Raising funds is a constant theme for the Mothers' Union members involved with the café, which is free of charge for all those who attend. The Hook and Odiham Lions Club and the Rotary Club of Odiham and Hook have been most generous towards us, local churches have helped us financially and we have other donors who prefer to remain anonymous. As our funds have grown, we have been able to increase the facilities and activities we are able to provide – when we started we had just cards, dominoes and a table tennis table (which belongs to the Vine Church). Last year we visited Milestones Museum in Basingstoke and we were planning an afternoon out this summer.

Our summer outing is no longer possible, but this time of solitude gives us space to recharge our batteries and to plan a great re-opening. We hope to see all our existing visitors and welcome new ones.

To find out more about us, visit our Facebook page – The Sunflower Café – or contact either of the two Elaines via their phone numbers. Elaine Kent's number is 01256 703231 and Elaine Lewington can be contacted on 07725 877704.

If, having read this, you would like to volunteer, please get in touch with either of the Elaines on the numbers above.

Cardiac Rehab

With the launch of The 2.6 Challenge on April 26th, we wanted to thank everyone who has created a fundraising page to raise money for us, or who has made a donation already.

Your support in these troubled times is very much appreciated because even with our doors closed we are still working to help people with, or at risk of developing, heart disease improve their health, fitness and well-being. We couldn't do this without your help.

In addition, the Cardiac Rehab Team have decided to take the plunge and will be completing 'The 26 Miler Challenge' for Cardiac Rehab where we will walk, run or cycle at least 1 mile a day for 26 days. You can read all about this Challenge on our website: <https://www.cardiac-rehab.co.uk/blogs/heartys-blog/join-the-2-6-challenge-to-help-cardiac-rehab>

National Garden Scheme

History has been made – just not the history we would have chosen. For the first time in the 93-year history of the National Garden Scheme, we have had to close all our gardens to the general public. Even during World War II some gardens managed to stay open.

This situation will have a devastating effect on all the charities we support, but despite the current crisis National Garden Scheme Trustees are still able to commit in excess of £1 million to its beneficiary charities and to 44 community garden projects throughout England and Wales this year.

You maybe find that you now have a bit more time on your hands than normal. If you have access to the internet why not visit the NGS website (ngs.org.uk) to see some of the amazing stories people have been telling us – including those of some people who have benefitted, healthwise, from opening their gardens for the NGS against all odds. One such story caught my eye recently and you can read it under the Menu 'Gardens & Health': Then 'Gardens & Health Stories': This particular story is under the title 'More than a hobby, gardening.....'. Joe suffers from PTSD - by no means an uncommon condition these days. See what the garden has done for him.

Through our donations to MIND we are helping many more people with mental health problems. That is why the NGS has set up a 'JustGiving' page: <https://www.justgiving.com/ngs>

It is amazing the number of people who have already made a donation, many in memory of a loved one, whose passion in life was their garden. Whatever the reason – any donation is gratefully received.

For a bit of light relief...

*I've got a bag of pasta and tomatoes in a tin
 An extra pack of loo rolls the ultimate new sin
 I can't get any hand wash, baked beans are rare as gold
 And everyone is worried as we protect our old
 We watch out for the symptoms, a sore throat and a cough
 And we avoid the handshakes, life now is getting tough
 We're following the guidelines and up and down the land
 We're singing Happy Birthday as we lather up our hands.
 And if we are out shopping to see what's left in town.
 If we see someone sneezing we step away and frown.
 Schools are now closed and parents buying up gin
 Weeks and weeks of boredom, the future's looking grim.
 Many will be worried that they can't earn any money
 And for those little businesses this time is far from funny.
 But stop and look around you there is blossom on the trees
 The birds haven't stopped singing, we have butterflies and bees.
 Use this latest crisis to step back from the strife
 And the pressures of your workplace – reassess your life,
 Spring is round the corner feel that gentle breeze,
 And when we have no paper there'll be plenty of dock leaves!*

I'm afraid I can't claim authorship of this. It was written by a WI Member.

Keep well. Keep safe. Till next time...

Pat Beagley (Publicity), National Garden Scheme – Hampshire,
pat.beagley@ngs.org.uk

Dog Training in Lockdown

I admit my own dog is not perfect and was extremely over-excitable as a puppy and young dog, but he does have a few essentially good things about him now. He absolutely always comes when he's called, is not aggressive, does not jump up and does not chase sheep etc. My remaining failures as a trainer are: he still pulls on the lead at times and is still over the top about visitors at the door.

I tried really hard as a novice dog owner nine years ago and by far the best training book I found was *The Perfect Puppy* by Gwen Bailey. This is a tip from the heart. I reckon I devoted a year to dog training and part of my relative success was due to the above book.

We solemnly went to puppy classes (disaster owing to labs' excitability) and followed every instruction we could. We now have a much-loved well-behaved family dog and it's hard to remember the

exhausting puppy years. But if you have a new Lockdown puppy, please secure your garden and read the above book! Some pups in the village have been run over by cars during the wild adolescent years, so early recall training (and fencing) is/are crucial. You won't be able to do as much early socialisation as recommended but it is pretty important to do what you can.

Good luck with your new puppy and, if you haven't chosen yet, please do research about breeds. For instance, poodle crosses do not necessarily mean easy dogs, as poodles are sprightly and very intelligent so need even more careful early training. If I ever get another dog, I will search for calm parents above everything else. (I have no experience of rescue dogs so best to ask others for advice about that.) **Susie Vereker**

And finally, another poem...

Time for us girls, by Jan Beaumont (used with permission)

*I'm normally a social girl
I love to meet my mates
But lately with the virus here
We can't go out the gates.
You see, we are the 'oldies' now
We need to stay inside
If they haven't seen us for a while
They'll think we've upped and died.
They'll never know the things we did
Before we got this old
There wasn't any Facebook
So not everything was told.
We may seem sweet old ladies
Who would never be uncouth
But we grew up in the 60s -
If you only knew the truth!
There was sex and drugs and rock 'n roll
The pill and miniskirts
We smoked, we drank, we partied
And were quite outrageous flirts.
Then we settled down, got married
And turned into someone's mum,
Somebody's wife, then nana,
Who on earth did we become?
We didn't mind the change of pace
Because our lives were full*

*But to bury us before we're dead
Is like a red rag to a bull!
So here you find me stuck inside
For 4 weeks, maybe more
I finally found myself again
Then I had to close the door!
It didn't really bother me
I'd while away the hour
I'd bake for all the family
But I've got no flaming flour!
Now Netflix is just wonderful
I like a gutsy thriller
I'm swooning over Idris
Or some random sexy killer.
At least I've got a stash of booze
For when I'm being idle
There's wine and whiskey, even gin
If I'm feeling suicidal!
So let's all drink to lockdown
To recovery and health
And hope this awful virus
Doesn't decimate our wealth.
We'll all get through the crisis
And be back to join our mates
Just hoping I'm not far too wide
To fit through the flaming gates!*

SMALL ADS

Open as usual – Pick your own Fruit, Hartley Wintney

West Green Fruits, Hartley Wintney RG27 8LP, opens from mid June to September for a wide selection of PYO & ready-picked summer fruits, vegetables, honey, jams and free-range eggs. Christmas trees from end November. Call 01252 845772 or visit www.westgreenfruits.com for further information. During open hours you can call 07954 730143 to place orders etc.

HALLS FOR HIRE

When Lockdown is lifted

Upton Grey Village Hall for hire from £8.50 per hour. Functions, meetings, parties, private and commercial. Full kitchen facilities, central heating and sound system, chairs, tables, crockery and cutlery available.
Contact Elaine Lewington on 01256 862894.

The Royal British Legion Hall, Herriard available for hire: wedding receptions, functions, parties, meetings, and events. Fully licensed bar, full kitchen facilities, garden, tables and chairs, sound system, disabled access, central heating, pool table and darts. The new keyholder is Betty Ball on 01256 381487.
Email is betball39@gmail.com and Herriardrblhall@gmail.com.

TEMPORARY HOURS UPTON GREY VILLAGE SHOP

8.00am–4.00pm Mon–Sat

8.00am–1.00pm Sun

Post Office closed.

ADVANCE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – From June 2020

Please note all events are still subject to cancellation following Government advice and restrictions on events and public meetings due to the outbreak of Coronavirus. Please check with the Organisers if attending a specific event.

11th Jun Thu	Tennis Mix-In Evening, UG	6.45pm
3rd-7th Aug	Summer Junior Tennis Coaching, UG	
26th Sep Sat	UG Harvest Supper	
14th Oct Wed	Herriard Harvest Supper RBLH	7.00pm
31st Oct Sat	Upton Grey Autumn Festival	
20th-21st Nov	UG Drama Group Production, UG Village Hall	7.30pm

Deadline: The copy deadline is 15th June for the July issue. Please email your news and contributions to uptongreymagazine@gmail.com. July's editor is Ian Lansley-Neale.

Disclaimer: Please note that the views expressed in this magazine are the contributors' personal opinions and do not necessarily represent the views of the editors.

UPTON GREY VILLAGE SHOP and POST OFFICE

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shopuptongrey@btconnect.com

"Serving the Community"

"Supported by all who care for Village Life"



THE VILLAGE SHOP

OPENING TIMES

Monday - Friday: 7am - 7pm

Saturday: 7am - 6pm

Sunday: 8am - 1pm

RANGE OF GOODS

Special range of Cheeses
Fresh Bread & Vegetables daily
Fresh Meat & Fish to order
Range of Wine & Spirits
Home Cooked Food
and Delicatessen
Dry Cleaning & Shoe Repairs
Newspapers
Home Delivery Service

THE POST OFFICE

OPENING TIMES

The Post Office is closed
at present

Temporary Shop Opening
Hours during lockdown

8am – 4pm Mon to Sat

8 am – 1pm Sun