

DECEMBER 2024

FREE

HALE & WOODGREEN

Community & Parish Magazine

www.halevillagehall.co.uk/magazine



Ho Ho Ho, Sarah Orchard

*Welcome to the Community Magazine for Hale and Woodgreen,
two lovely villages in the North West of the New Forest, Hampshire. UK.
This magazine is published every month except January.*

PLEASE RECYCLE



WOODGREEN WI CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

WEDNESDAY 27TH NOVEMBER 2024
WOODGREEN VILLAGE HALL
3PM - 7PM

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ALL CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME, PREFERABLY BY

EMAIL to: haleandwoodgreen@aol.com

or haleandwoodgreen@aim.com

We welcome your feedback and ideas for future issues

The deadline for the February 2025 issue of the magazine is Tuesday 14th January

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS TO KEEP THIS MAGAZINE IN PRODUCTION.

Donations may be paid by bank transfer to Lloyds Bank:

Account name Hale and Woodgreen Magazine,

Sort code 30-97-41 Account number 76595460.

Alternatively, you may post your donation in the locked letterbox at Hale Village Hall or hand it in at Woodgreen Community Shop. Cheques should be made payable to Hale and Woodgreen Magazine.

If you are a taxpayer, we may be able to claim Gift Aid tax relief on your donation. Please email us for a Gift Aid form.

If you prefer to save paper and not receive the printed magazine, please email **haleandwoodgreen@aol.com** and we will email you a PDF version instead.

Hale and Woodgreen Community and Parish Magazine is published by the the Hale and Woodgreen Magazine Editorial Team (HWMET) which is a sub-committee of Hale Village Hall New Forest (registered charity number 1175048).

Errors and Omissions are excluded and no responsibility is taken for submissions received for publication from third parties.

Terms of reference for the Community Magazine Sub-Committee can be requested via email at: halevillagehall@btinternet.com

Cover design by Sarah Orchard and David Keniston

“Ho, Ho, Ho” by Sarah Orchard (advert top of page 30)

Mounted originals of cover paintings are available to purchase for £70 and some are available as greeting cards for £2, contact Sarah for details.

Play Matters Update

Chair: Simon Kampa (father to two children – aged 9 and 12)

Committee Members: Amanda Wilgoss (mother to two children – aged 4 and 15), Annie Collins (mother to 3 children in their 20's), David Mussell (free!), Karen Hunt (mother to 3 grown up children and 2 younger children aged 14 and 13, grandmother to 6 children), Rob and Pippa Hutchinson (parents to 3 grown-up children)

A big thank you to the whole community for reading our introductory article in last month's magazine edition. And an even bigger thank you to the 83 (yes, 83!) Woodgreen households that responded to the survey. It was the first time any of us had drafted a community survey, and while it may not have been perfect, we hope you were able to provide your thoughts on the idea.

We will provide the full and transparent results separately and on the village noticeboard very soon. We are very pleased to report that 59% of respondents felt we should address the lack of facilities for children. Did you know that children make up nearly 10% of our community? Of course, though, the devil is in the detail and lots of interesting points were made and will be shared.

In the meantime, we are also busy setting ourselves up as a fully functioning formal committee to ensure lasting support and as a driver for other child-friendly initiatives.

Thank you for reading. We are always open to new members and feedback and are happy to answer any questions you may have.

Please contact us at hello@playmatters.life

Play Matters

HALE AND WOOGREEN COMMUNITY AND PARISH MAGAZINE

Full Page Advert:	£125 or £80	11 or 6 months
Half Page Advert:	£65 or £40	11 or 6 months
Quarter Page Advert :	£40 or £30	11 or 6 months

For information or to advertise please contact Jacqui Hartas on 01725 510376 or email aleandwoodgreen@aol.com

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TalkAbout

Thursday December 5th 2024

10:00 for 10:30 am

Cosmic Sparkle!

Entertainer: Robyn

Robyn is a professional singer who has been delighting audiences with songs from her unique repertoire for the last 10 years.

Vintage, Swing, Jazz, Songs from the Shows, they are all there.

Join us for this pre-Christmas feast of song, entertainment and mince pies!

Woodfalls Methodist Church, The Ridge, SP5 2LH.
Car park at rear.

Admission: £4, includes tea/coffee and biscuits. No need to book.

**WOODGREEN COMMUNITY SHOP
AND POST OFFICE
CHRISTMAS NEWS**

**Save the date 5th December @ 5.30-7.30pm for our
CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EVENT see back cover for
full details!**

Shop opening hours over the holiday period

Mon 23rd Dec 8am-6pm

Tues 24th Dec 8am-1pm

Wed 25th Dec & Thur 26th Dec – CLOSED

Fri 27th Dec 8am-6pm

Sat 28th Dec 8am-5pm

Sun 29th Dec 8am-11am

Mon 30th Dec 8am - 6pm

Tues 31st Dec 8am-4pm

Wed 1st Jan – CLOSED

Thur 2nd Jan return to normal opening hours

**If you would like any special bread, home made
cake or meat orders for Christmas please order in
good time!**

**Wishing all our customers a very Merry Christmas
and a Happy & Healthy 2025 from all the team.**



IMPORTANT POST OFFICE INFORMATION Last posting dates for UK mail

18th Dec - 2nd Class

20th Dec - 1st Class

21st Dec – Special Delivery Guaranteed

For full details of last posting dates for all services both within UK and overseas please collect a leaflet from the Post Office counter at the shop.

For security while you're out and about we can be your Amazon delivery point to save you delivery costs on low value orders. And don't forget we sell Amazon, One4all and M & S gift cards if you're stuck for present ideas!.

Post Office hours over holiday period

Tuesday 24th Dec 9am-1pm

Wed 25th Dec & Thur 26th Dec – CLOSED

Fri 27th Dec 9am-5pm

Sat 28th Dec 9am-1pm

Mon 30th Dec 9am-5pm

Tues 31st Dec 9am -4pm

Wed 1st Jan CLOSED

Thur 2nd Jan return to normal opening hours



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Interested in making a life-saving contribution to the Hale & Woodgreen community?



We are planning to reinstate the Hale & Woodgreen Community First Responder scheme, and are currently looking for volunteers.

CFRs are trained by the ambulance service to deliver life-saving skills such as the use of automated defibrillators or CPR. Because they only respond to emergencies in the area where they live, they can arrive at the scene before an ambulance gets there. By being

able to start life-saving medical treatment earlier, CFRs really do help save more lives.

If you are physically fit, have access to a vehicle, can commit to 20 hours on-call a month, and would like to find out more, please register your interest by emailing Suzie McNulty at suziemcnulty@gmail.com.

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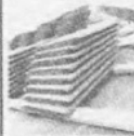
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LOVER VILLAGE “CHRISTMAS FAIR”

**On SATURDAY 7th DECEMBER
In REDLYNCH VILLAGE HALL**



**From 10 am to Mid-day
Event includes: Local Crafts,
Bric-a-brac, Puzzles, Books etc.**

Refreshments available

**Everyone very welcome to a time of
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All in aid of Hall Funds**



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Christmas*



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Visitors by Barney Norris Autumn Production 2024

Our autumn production of the life-affirming tribute to love and gratitude for a life well-lived, 'Visitors by Barney Norris', was very well received and brought our 67th year to a close! We were delighted to bring this heartening play to you and many thanks must go to director Lloyd Perry and all of the back stage crew for all their hard work. The set with its 'living' wheat field encircling the stage looked amazing!

Thank you very much to our appreciative audiences and patrons for their continued support!

Christmas Concert

Our annual Christmas concert of carols and readings takes place in St Mary's Church, Redlynch on Sunday 8th December at 6pm. Joined by our friends Fordingbridge Choral Society, we will cheer your hearts with festive music (you may join in!), seasonal readings (silly and serious) and a glass of warming mulled wine! It really is a wonderful occasion and has always been fantastically supported by you.

As always, a retiring collection will be made in support of the amazing charity Young Lives versus Cancer (formally known as CLIC Sargent).

Do join us!

Spring Production 2025 – would you like to join us?

We will begin rehearsals for our Spring Production in the New Year. It is the perfect time to join us as we embark on the exciting journey of lifting words from the page to create a play for you! Please do get in touch if you'd like to know more about taking part in any way. We have plenty of roles both on and off stage we are in need of help with.

Finally, may I wish you all a wonderful, blessed Christmas and a peaceful New Year from all at Redlynch Players. Thank you for your support throughout this year – it's been another fantastic one!

Find out more about us!

Please visit our website for recent reviews, production photographs, how to buy tickets and for information on our past productions: www.redlynchplayers.co.uk

We post regular updates on our Redlynch Players Facebook and Instagram pages @redlynchplayers. Why not follow us? We are also on X (formerly twitter!) @RedlynchPlayers



**St Mary's Church,
Redlynch**

All are welcome to join us for this annual carol service.
Sing along to well know Christmas carols and listen to festive readings!

Christmas Concert

Sunday 8th December 2024 at 6pm

With
**Fordingbridge Choral Society
and
Redlynch Players**

Refreshments will be served.
Retiring collection in aid of Young Lives Vs Cancer





C.A.M.E.O

COME AND MEET EACH OTHER

Come natter, meet faces new and old, enjoy hot soup and a roll, and join in with the fun activities!

Woodgreen Village Hall

12 to
2pm

28th June
26th July
30th Aug
27th Sept

25th Oct
29th Nov
13th Dec



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**Jigsaws &
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- ♥ **ALSO...Lover Luxury Beauty Waxing now available – From £10.00**
- ♥ **NEW...Lover Luxury Beauty Eyebrow Lamination £30.00**

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Lover Repair Café

CHRISTMAS IS COMING, HAVE YOU GOT CHRISTMAS LIGHTS, BAUBLES AND OTHER ITEMS THAT NEED REPAIR – BRING THEM



ALONG TO THE REPAIR CAFE

The Repair Cafes are open every Wednesday & Friday morning in Redlynch Village Hall & every 1st Saturday in the month at the Baptist Church Hall in Downton. We would be happy to see you there. Sometimes the repair can be completed that day & sometimes we phone you when completed.



PRE-LOVED ITEMS AVAILABLE THIS MONTH

The only cost is any material used plus any donation you wish to make

Oreck Vacuum Cleaner	Artech Ice Crusher	Easy Home hairdryer
6 ft Daylight Roller Blind (new)	H D Read's Sewing Machine	'Boulder Giant' Man's Bike
'Divine Cascade' Ladies Bike	'Raleigh Caprice' Ladies Bike	'Annabelle' Girls Bike
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Curry's Elect. Oil Radiator	Black & Decker electric saw	2 No. Wall 'Plate Hangers'
3 Black Dell T0601 cartridges	One Epson ink cartridge	Domestic Paper Shredder



ALL OUR REPAIRERS WOULD LIKE TO
WISH YOU ALL A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND
A PEACEFUL NEW YEAR
AND

REMEMBER OUR LOGO
"DO NOT BIN IT – WE MAY FIX IT"



CHRISTMAS PAST

LATEST NEWS:

1. We are looking for Helpers with weaving & needle-work skills
2. We have three Grandfather clocks available for a donation.

We are always here to help you by repairing furniture, ceramics, electrical goods, clothing item or old treasures. Simply contact us or drop in to see us at **Redlynch Village Hall**.

Wed and Fri mornings - 10am - 12pm
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Potted Histories...dreadful king, important legacy?

John inherited his brother's throne in 1199 and became the most powerful prince in Europe: King of England, Master of South Wales, Lord of Ireland, Duke of Normandy, Count of Anjou and Duke of Aquitaine, his empire stretching from the Scottish Border to the Pyrenees. Within no time at all he had lost almost everything in Europe and had stirred up a baronial rebellion in England that mercifully led to his death and a new way forward for England.

Youngest son of Henry II, John wasn't expected to be King or inherit very much and was nicknamed "Lackland". His first role, representing Henry in Ireland, ended in fiasco and retreat after upsetting the locals by making fun of their very long beards. Happy to fight when the odds were on his side, he quickly earned a reputation of running away when outnumbered. His nickname changed to "Softsword".

The tools of his trade were treachery, rebellion and murder—oppression on an unprecedented scale.

With brother Richard on the throne, but away at the Crusade and later held hostage, John attempted to set himself up as alternative King of England. Richard had previously bribed John to stay away but the unsettled situation encouraged John to chance his arm. He returned and fought against Richard's allies. At the same time John conspired with Richard's enemies in France to share out his lands there. He put it about that Richard was dead but when Richard returned all his treachery collapsed. Amazingly Richard actually forgave him. Lionheart became Bigheart! John was merely "a child who has had evil counsellors" John was 27 years of age.

The early years of John's reign were dominated also by warfare in France. His nephew Arthur claimed the throne too, and was supported by Philip of France. Matters meandered militarily around France until Arthur fell into John's grasp. One drunken night John personally murdered him and dumped him in the Seine, weighted down by a rock.

Over in England John's efforts were focused on strengthening the legal system and raising taxes. Both, he did with some energy and effectiveness. Those on the receiving end, including the Barons, were less than impressed. Tax rises to fund French wars, bad harvests and price inflation all led to increasing public unrest. John increasingly surrounded himself with loyal "New Men" at the expense of the traditional families. He also withdrew many of the privileges the latter enjoyed. Known as sinfully lusty, cruel to his foes and lacking in piety himself, what on earth could go wrong? Before long John was in the middle of a civil war, with the French invading Southern England, and excommunicated by the Pope to boot.

A very significant episode at this time involved the Barons attempting to force John to agree to a new way of doing things—the Magna Carta. He eventually did in 1215 but neither side had much faith that it would be implemented. The fighting remained fierce and John had led a spirited campaign when in 1216 dysentery intervened which eventually killed him. His wish was to be buried at Beaulieu Abbey, which he had founded. This was now in enemy territory and so he was taken to Worcester Cathedral, which was available. Unusually he is buried without his crown which was lost probably somewhere in the Fens, with the Crown Jewels.

His legacy? Well he lost most of his French possessions which led to further wars. At home however, the Magna Carta, which he ignored in his lifetime, was available to his successor, Henry III and his supporters. This Great Charter thus became a cornerstone of both our own Constitution and that of the USA, centuries later. No great credit to John, except through his own failings. David Mussell.

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Tuesday Dec 3rd, 7.30pm

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**Friday 10th
January
Downton
Memorial Hall**

The (MERRY) Christmas Carol - Bah! Humbug!

The Travelling Players (Forest Forge, Bumblefly and Mischievous Theatres) return with their suitcases bursting with merriment, mayhem and humbug! They tell the haunting tale of a mean and miserly old man - the tight-fisted curmudgeon, Ebenezer Scrooge!

Between dusk and dawn Scrooge is visited by the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future! Will he mend his ways? Will he become a new man? Will he greet the morning with a ... Merry Christmas Everyone?

Through their unique brand of quirky storytelling, live action, music, a puppet or two, a host of Gothic surprises, some ghostly flights of fancy and a clanking of chains, the Travelling Players bring this Yuletide classic to life. ***For the whole family.***

A sociable event to send you home warm and happy!

Performance at 6.30pm (doors open 6pm). Bar, Refreshments

Tickets: Adults £10, Children £5 available either from the Borough Café (cash only) or by texting 07760 415818 giving details of tickets required (pay by BACS)



HALE LOCAL FOOD MARKET



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15TH FEBRUARY

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JACQUI ON 01725 510376



CHRISTMAS PUB



Nov 30th

7pm

**at Hale
Village
Hall**

**Help us put up the
Christmas decorations
if you want to.**



Enjoy a nice pint or a gin "n" tonic in the Main Hall.
Please **follow** Hale Village Hall Facebook for future dates.

What's going on in Hale Village Hall

halevillagehall@btinternet.com • Booking Secretary on 01725 510050
halevillagehall.co.uk

MONDAY - Main Hall 17:45
Ballroom & Latin American Dance



TUESDAY - Downstairs 14:00
Cafe & Library



TUESDAY - Main Hall 18:00
Dog Training



WEDNESDAY - Main Hall 18:30
Table Tennis



THURSDAY - Main Hall 17:45
Brownies



Save the Date in December 2024 / Jan 2025

Tuesday 3rd December - Main Hall 19:00 Horticultural Society Talk

Thursday 5th December - Main Hall 19:30 Vegetable Club Xmas Gettogether

Monday 9th December - Main Hall 18:00 School Nativity Performance

Saturday 21st December - Main Hall 9:00 Hale Local Produce Market

Tuesday 7th January - Downstairs 19:00 Hale Parish Council Meeting

Friday 10th January - Main Hall 19:00 Film Club

Thursday 16th January - Main Hall 19:30 Vegetable Club Meeting

Saturday 18th January - Main Hall 9:00 Hale Local Produce Market

For more information contact

your Village Hall?

Woodgreen Village Hall

info@woodgreenvillagehall.org.uk • Booking Secretary on 07367 158208

woodgreenvillagehall.org.uk

MONDAY - Main Hall 09:30, 11.00, 17:15

Yoga



MONDAY - Main Hall 13:30

Craft Club



TUESDAY - Main Hall 18:30, 19.45

Dog Training



TUESDAY - Main Hall 09:30, 11.00, 15:30

Yoga



WEDNESDAY - Main Hall 10:00

Art Club



THURSDAY - Main Hall 09:15

Pilates



THURSDAY - Main Hall 11.00, 12.15

Dog Training



Save the Date in December 2024 / Jan 2025

Wednesday 11th December - 14:30-16:00 Afternoon Tea, Book & Jigsaw swap

Wednesday 8th January - 14:30-16:00 Afternoon Tea, Book & Jigsaw swap

Wednesday 15th January - 19:00 WI meeting

Saturday 25th January - 18:30 until late Burns Supper & Ceilidh Band

Friday 31st January - 12:00-14:00 CAMEO fellowship group

the relevant Booking Secretary.

Sarah Orchard - New Forest Artist



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'A Stroll Around Hale' a walk around our beautiful village.

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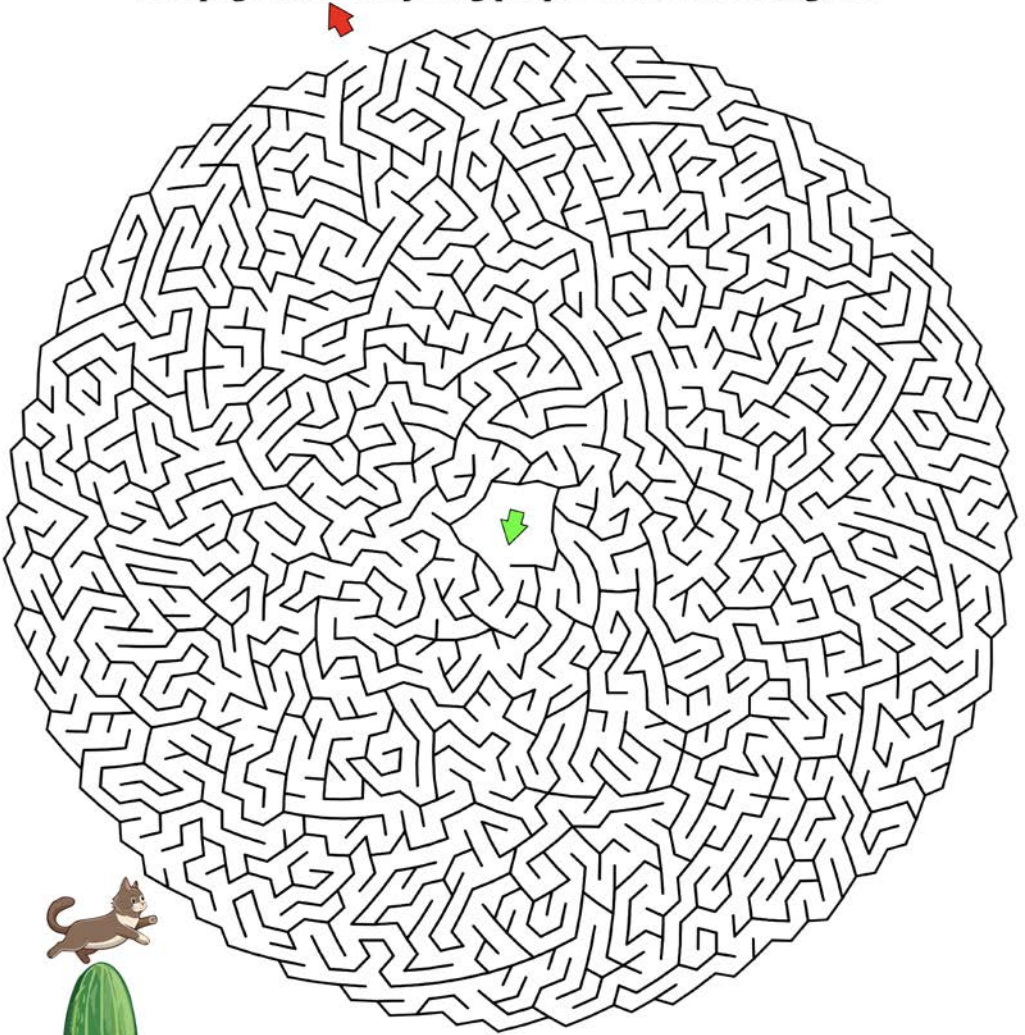
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NOAdults

This page is for the young people of Hale & Woodgreen



Why are cats scared of cucumbers?

Placing a cucumber behind a cat when it's eating appears to startle them, causing some cats to leap into the air in fright. Jill Goldman, a certified animal behaviourist, told National Geographic the cucumbers were triggering the cats' natural startle reflexes.

"With a startle response, a cat will often try to get out of there as quickly as possible and then reassess from a distance," she said, explaining their terrified reaction.

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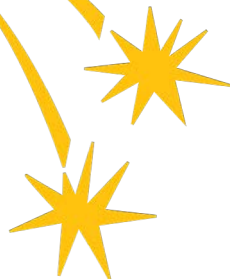
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August
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1st Prize = 133
1st Prize = 65
1st Prize = 104
1st Prize = 64
1st Prize = 63
1st Prize = 17
1st Prize = 84
1st Prize = 58
1st Prize = 102

2nd Prize = 141
2nd Prize = 116
2nd Prize = 151
2nd Prize = 20
2nd Prize = 76
2nd Prize = 143
2nd Prize = 144
2nd Prize = 24
2nd Prize = 123
2nd Prize = 60





"Last Seen Wearing" by Colin Dexter

I wish someone had told me that John Thaw's Morse is a pretty loose approximation to the real thing, because over the years I've avoided Colin Dexter's detective novels like the plague; I cannot take to the Thaw character, which is daft I know. Can't help it, I like Brenda Blethyn as Vera and I don't mind Dougie Henshall as Jimmy Perez in *Shetland*, even though he's physically nothing like the proper, swarthy Jimmy. It's something to do with Thaw being inextricably linked with "The Sweeney", to my mind anyway. But that's all been changed by a rather persuasive titian temptress, who wafted into the **Hale Village Hall Library** and seduced me into reading this book. I accepted it, not realising it was an Inspector Morse mystery – I wasn't really paying attention to the book to be honest, but I have found that I thoroughly enjoyed it (the book). The writer's detective is different to his onscreen persona, still a lover of the arts, but a bit earthy and more approachable. He's also more vulnerable, and less sullen than on television. I was smitten by Dexter's Morse within a few pages.

The plotline is simple; Morse is lumbered with the cold case of a missing teenage girl from more than 2 years previously. It has reignited after the original investigating officer is killed in a car accident, not suspicious on the face of it, but the officer had recently revisited the disappearance of the girl and his superior wants to know why, so a reluctant Morse is tasked to review the evidence. Like TV he is partnered with Sergeant Lewis; a chary counterpoint, making for an enjoyable tableau. There are Red Herrings aplenty, but instead of simply throwing them into the maelstrom, Dexter introduces the misdirection through the sleuth's train of thought, with Lewis's brooding disagreement simmering in the background. Morse is fallible. He becomes more despondent as each of his theories is abruptly debunked in the narrative. It's a clever technique - rather than leaving the reader adrift in a swirling shoal of slippery Herrings, it engenders a sympathetic appreciation of the detective's dilemma, and heightens one's growing sense of befuddlement. It's twisty, the clues are in there, but placed with subtlety, often by Morse himself, but he's too blinkered to realise.

Reading this *has* caused me another irritation about the TV show because he actually drives a Lancia, not a Jag. Why change? It's like giving Barbie Green Tights! Of course, as a member of the Lancia owners club, this imprecision is particularly nettling. Still, mustn't grumble too much, after all Kevin Whatley's "Lewis" is spot on whatever he's driving, probably a Ford.

Last call for bookworm reviews to win a £30 voucher for The Horse and Groom.

& Finally a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all



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Minutes of the Hale Parish Council Meeting held on Tues 5th Nov 2024 at 7pm in Hale Village Hall (Downstairs)

Councillors Present: Councillors Donnell, Gemmell (Chair), Kyle and Vickery.

In attendance: The clerk, Cllr Janet Richards (NFDC) and Jacqui Hartas, Chair of Hale Village Hall Management Committee.

24.100 TO RECEIVE ANY APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: - Cllr Gillmon and Cllr Lavis.

24.101 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - To receive declarations of interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda (in accordance with the Localism Act 2011). None received.

24.102 MINUTES

24.102.1 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd September 2024.

24.102.2 Note matters arising from the minutes not elsewhere on the agenda.

Proposed Exxon Pipeline – The proposed pipeline to take CO2 from the Fawley plant to an off-shore carbon capture facility is no longer going ahead.

24.103 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION Jacqui Hartas spoke regarding the defibrillators situated at Hale Village Hall and Woodgreen Community Shop. Jacqui met with Suzie McNulty who manages the Woodgreen defibrillator, Suzie would like to restart the First Responder scheme next year for which volunteers would be needed. This was supported by Hale Parish Council although the council will not provide the lead on the project. Both defibrillators (Hale and Woodgreen) may need replacing in the next few years for which there may be grants available.

24.104 HALE VILLAGE HALL: Jacqui Hartas (Chair of Hale Village Hall Management Committee) presented the plans to build an extension to the front of the Hall. This will contain a new accessible toilet which will be accessed from the entrance lobby. The current accessible toilet, to the back of the hall, will become a storage cupboard. The Village Hall committee will write to “serve notice” to the parish council which has agreed to permit building on Parish Council land. The Village Hall will apply for planning permission to carry out works in 2025.

24.90 PLANNING APPLICATION - To consider the response to the following applications.

Case Number	24/01114FULL
Proposal	Oak framed single story extension
Site	Romaine, The Old Post Office, HATCHET GREEN, HALE, SP6 2

Councillors discussed the application and **RESOLVED** to recommend Option 1 – PERMISSION but would accept the decision reached by the National Park Authority's Officers under their delegated powers. Cllrs agreed that the nature of the building may create significant light which should be taken into account by the National Park Planning Authority to reduce the light pollution on the “dark skies” of the National Park

24.106 EXTERNAL MEETINGS: None attended.

Cllr Richards reported. NFDC are holding an Emergency Planning Community Forum on 4th December (Cllr Donnell to attend).

Community Infrastructure Levy Bids – The second round of grant funding is now available and bids can be made until 13th December. All community groups are eligible to apply for CIL funding for projects to enhance the infrastructure in the local area.

24.107CONSULTATIONS:

Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan Cllr Vickery responded on behalf of Hale PC concentrating on the area local to Hale. The consultation closed on 3rd November.

Remote Attendance and Proxy Voting This consultation runs until 19th December and seeks views on allowing remote and hybrid attendance at meetings. Councillors agreed that this would serve to aid meetings going forward however would need to be carefully legislated, for example, include a minimum threshold of meetings which must be attended in person. The clerk will respond on behalf of HPC and all councillors are also able to respond individually.

NFDC Parking Strategy Review – This consultation is now live until 1st December and allows all residents to have their say on the future of parking in the NFDC car parks via [www.newforest.gov.uk /ParkingConsultation](http://www.newforest.gov.uk/ParkingConsultation).

24.108 TREE SURVEY - An NFDC Tree Officer recently surveyed the 4 large oaks next to the Village Hall and work is required to reduce one large oak. Two quotes were supplied by NFDC, the clerk will obtain a quote from a local company and the works will be carried out over the winter. The Service Level Agreement held with NFDC will be expanded to include the small copse next to the hall which will be surveyed every 4 years; the 4 large oaks adjacent to the hall will be surveyed every 2 years.

24.109 VILLAGE MAINTENANCE:

The Lengthsman will be working in the village on 18th November, jobs will include mending the broken bench and cutting back vegetation.

The village car park and BOAT (leading down from the village hall) suffered due to recent torrential rains. It was **RESOLVED** to approve up to £500 to carry out remedial repairs, discussions regarding a more permanent solution, and its' funding, are ongoing.

24.110 BANK ACCOUNTS :

From 14th Jan 2025 Lloyds bank is changing the Treasurer's Account to a new Community Account, this account will incur charges of 4.25 per month.

A new 32 Day Notice Deposit Account was opened on 3rd October 2024, £25,000.00 of ring-fenced reserve funds was deposited. Interest is added daily.

24.111 BUDGET 2025/26 A proposed budget for 2025/26 was discussed and amended. The precept for 2025/26 will be increased by 3% to £14,100, the precept has not increased since 2020/21. It was **RESOLVED** to and unanimously agreed to accept the budget and precept for 2025/26.

24.112 FINANCE

24.112.1

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the accounts for the month of September and October and note the following balances - The Treasurers account - £3,886.70, Business account - £264.10 and 32 Day Deposit Account £25,047.61.

24.112.2 MONTHLY PAYMENTS - It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments.

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	VAT	PAYMENT METHOD
Viking	Office supplies	£17.44	£2.91	Bank Transfer
Amanda Johnson	Salary – October and November	N/A		Standing Order
Cutting Edge	Cemetery Maintenance – September and October	£525.00 and £185.00		Bank Transfer

24.113 CORRESPONDENCE received before 29/01/2024.

The following correspondence was noted. Actions in italics.

13/09/24 NPA – Newsletter

25/09/24 Friends of the New Forest – Autumn update from the Chair

30/09/24 Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner – September Newsletter

01/10/24 HCC – Countryside Access Team Newsletter

01/10/24 NPA - Innovative Sound Creatives Take Up Position As New Forest Artists In Residence

01/10/24 NFDC – Medium Term Financial Plan

01/10/24 NFDC – Statement on Household Recycling Centres

07/10/24 Hampshire County Councillor Edward Heron Report

10/10/24 Friends of the New Forest – Wilding Film

11/10/24 HALC – October Newsletter

14/10/24 NFALC – Minutes of the meeting held on 30/09/24

16/10/24 Hampshire Forest Partnership – Free large standard trees.

17/10/24 NPA – Generation Green 2: £4.5 million project is helping England's most socially disadvantaged young people make closer connections with nature

17/10/24 NFDC – Community Infrastructure Levy

18/10/24 NPA – Walking Festival News

22/10/24 NFALC – Formation of a working party to work with and advise the NPA.

28/10/24 NFDC – Invitation to Community Forum 4th December *Cllr Donnell will attend.*

28/10/24 NFALC – Response to LCWIP Consultation *Cllr Vickery responded on behalf of HPC.*

29/10/24 HALC – Remote Attendance and Proxy Voting *The clerk to respond on behalf of HPC.*

30/10/24 NFALC – Meeting 13th November.

Shared on Website

29/10/24 NFDC – Public consultation on district- wide parking strategy

Parishioner email

19/09/24 Email regarding parking at Tethering Drove *Forwarded to the National Trust*

24.114 ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

24.115 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday January 7th 2025 in Hale Village Hall (Downstairs)



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Patients recovering from burns or reconstructive surgery can shower comfortably in new Stars Appeal funded wet room

Patients recovering from severe burns or trauma that limit their mobility have a new wet room where they can wash more independently in a comfortable, private space, thanks to the Stars Appeal, Salisbury Hospital's Charity. The £40,000 wet room on Odstock Burns and Plastics Ward at Salisbury District Hospital includes a walk-in shower and is accessible for wheelchairs and other mobility aids, helping patients recovering from severe burns or reconstructive surgery to adjust to a new personal care routine with privacy and dignity.

Patient Craig Winspear, who was treated at the Hospital for sepsis in his leg, was the first person to use the new wet room. He said: "It was fantastic to get into a nice shower after being bedbound. Being able to have a proper wash was amazing in itself. Having a wet room like this with lots of space where I can move around more comfortably made all the difference. I was also able to have my music playing which made it feel more like home." Craig, who was in the Army for 10 years, lost both his legs after an improvised explosive device went off while he was serving in Afghanistan. He adds: "Being a double amputee it's great to be able to relax in a bath after spending time in a hospital bed. Some people can be bedbound for quite a long time so when they are able to have a proper shower it's a big thing – it gives you your independence and boosts your morale. A simple thing as a shower is something that people take for granted. Thank you to the brilliant donors who have helped fund this!"

The new wet room can be used by patients in specialist shower beds. As well as helping patients on the ward, burns patients coming in for clinic appointments now have a private bathroom where they can remove their bandages and dressings and have a shower before having new dressings put on.

Senior Sister on Odstock Ward, Hazel Jackson, explains how the new facility is enhancing care for their patients: "This wet room is a huge benefit for all our patients. The walk-in shower is fully accessible to everyone, including wheelchair users, people who need to sit when they shower, and even patients who need to stay on their bed. Many of our burns and plastic surgery patients need daily showers as part of their treatment and some rooms on the ward don't have a shower so we had to move patients around the ward. Now we can offer all of our inpatients and outpatients better treatment with these new facilities. "The wet room is big enough to comfortably fit patients in their wheelchairs and still have room for staff members to help them with showering and their dressings when needed. Our patients now have a private washing space which also helps them to be more independent. A huge thank you to everyone who supports the Stars Appeal and make projects like this possible."

The Stars Appeal, Salisbury Hospital's Charity, aims to raise £1million every year to fund new equipment, enhancements to buildings, and ongoing projects supporting patients across Salisbury Hospital. To find out more visit www.starsappeal.org



Picture on left - Patient Craig Winspear with staff from Odstock Ward in the new wet room.



Picture on right – Patient Craig Winspear and Senior Sister Hazel Jackson with the walk—in shower in the new wet room

SCENE on the GREEN



Sue Adams and Pater Roberts after presenting £120 to Salisbury Hospital Stars Appeal. Peter's presentation of the history of properties around Hatchett Green, organised by Sue on behalf of the village hall events committee, was very well attended and raised £240, split between Salisbury Hospice and the Stars Appeal. Thank you to all those who attended. Peter will be giving the talk again, in shorter form, on 7th January at Redlynch Village Hall.

Forest Edge Flower Arranging Society

Our November meeting was a practical evening led by our very own Martina Coleman. We all had a fun creating a floral wall tapestry/embroidery. There was such diversity in design across the group – well done all!

Our next meeting on 2nd December will be a treat - Christmas demonstration by Mel Smith, entitled 'A Taste of Christmas'. Do join us at this special demonstration to end the year in high and merry. Refreshments from 7 pm, followed by a demonstration at 7.30 pm. Do join us and bring your friend(s)! Non-members are welcome (£6 door fee including refreshments).

All meetings/events are held at Morgans Vale & Woodfalls Village Hall, Redlynch (SP5 2LD). A full programme for 2024/25 is displayed on the notice board in the hall, on our facebook group (link below), and via the following weblink:
<http://tiny.cc/FEFAS2024>.

We look forward to welcoming you!

Contact: Miyuki Griffin 07990 868351

Email: forestedgeflower@gmail.com

Facebook group: www.facebook.com/groups/forestedgeflower

View full programme for 2024/25: <http://tiny.cc/FEFAS2024>

Upcoming meetings:

2 December 2025	Demonstration by Mel Smith 'A Taste of Christmas' 7.30 pm (7 pm refreshments)
3 February	AGM & Talk / Mini Dem. by Eileen Witt 7.30 pm (7 pm refreshments)

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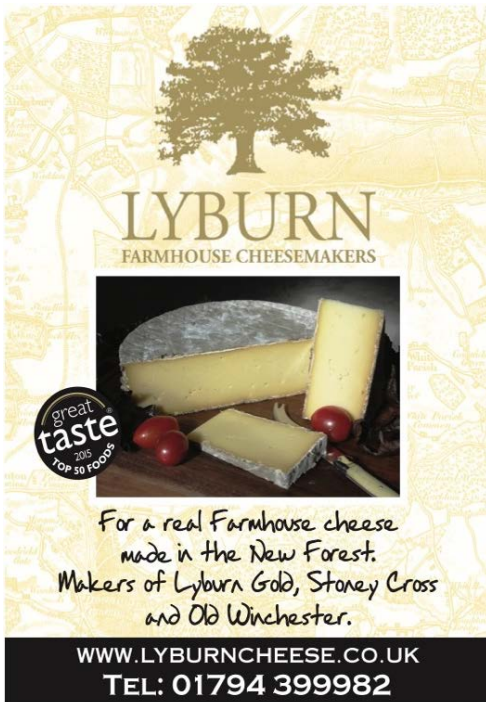
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Fordingbridge Museum celebrates its silver anniversary.



Fordingbridge Museum had its origins in the private collection of local builder and undertaker John Shering. John's 12-year-old daughter Mary had asked him what a gin trap was and, horrified by her lack of knowledge about such things, he started to collect items to teach her about her heritage. The collection soon outgrew his home and he had to house it in a special building in his builder's yard off Church Street. In 2000 he and his brother Richard donated the collection to the town and so Fordingbridge museum as we know it today was born.

Next year will be our silver anniversary and over the 1st to 3rd August we will be celebrating 25 years of serving the town of Fordingbridge.

It was only in the 17th century that the term museum was used to describe a collection of curiosities that were owned by private individuals. One such person was Elias Ashmole who donated his collection to Oxford University stipulating that it should be housed in a purpose-built museum. The Ashmolean Museum was opened to the public in 1683 and is acknowledged to be the first museum in the sense we know it today. It was intended, "not only for the inspection and entertainment of the learned and curious but for the general use of and benefit of the public."

Many aristocrats had private collections of curiosities which they kept in cabinets and which they showed only to their most intimate friends. The core collection of the British Museum, founded in 1759, was the Cabinet of William Courten which had been purchased by Sir Hans Sloane in 1701.

There was a rapid expansion in museums in the 19th century. This reflected the increase in civic pride and later in the century the promotion of free education. Public access was increased by the development of gas and electric lighting which enabled the working classes to visit in the evenings. During the 20th century, museums were increasingly seen, not just as centres of excellence but also as something that could make a positive contribution to the local economy. Specialist museums like the Imperial War Museum and museums such as The Weald and Downland Open Air Museum near Chichester spawned many similar smaller local museums.



Housed in an old granary, Fordingbridge Museum is a major tourist attraction for the town and a valuable resource for local people. It is run entirely by volunteers and financed by visitor donations and fundraising. Everyone who works for the museum is immensely proud of what we have achieved over the last quarter of a century. The thousands of visitors we have every year have significantly contributed to the economy and vibrancy of the town. We host local schools, cubs and scouts, we provide individualised tours round the museum and the

town, we publish articles on historical topics and give talks to local organisations. By engaging with local people, we have enhanced the wonderful community spirit of the town and surrounding villages. Please make a note in your diary of our anniversary celebrations over 1st to 3rd August and help us commemorate the museum and its role in Fordingbridge. Keep an eye out next year for information about the exciting events that we are planning.

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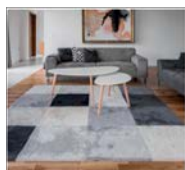
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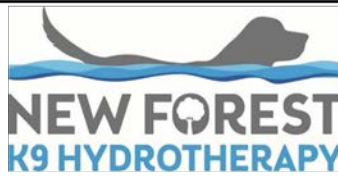
They could be found up/down/along/diagonally and even in reverse!

Q	E	W	B	E	P	F	M	C	M	M	S	S	E	S
F	R	O	S	T	Y	N	I	O	P	U	L	G	E	M
M	I	B	O	X	C	K	Y	L	E	B	E	C	M	I
I	N	R	X	V	H	H	Y	D	L	E	D	O	C	S
W	C	Y	E	R	G	Y	R	S	O	E	G	Z	Y	T
B	I	P	C	P	Y	T	R	I	H	R	E	Y	E	L
S	N	O	W	F	L	A	K	E	S	I	Q	A	U	E
K	R	V	A	P	W	A	Z	O	V	T	V	I	C	T
R	S	L	O	F	I	A	C	K	H	H	M	E	R	O
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R	A	V	L	Q	B	E	Z	K	U	Y	T	X	N	F
F	N	M	E	M	I	T	T	E	N	S	Z	V	P	M

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Wise Words.

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DECEMBER WORDSEARCH The Answers

Snowflake	Sledge
Fireplace	Scarf
Christmas	Cold
Snowman	Frosty
Mistletoe	Mittens
Hibernate	Cosy
Blizzard	Shiver
Icicle	

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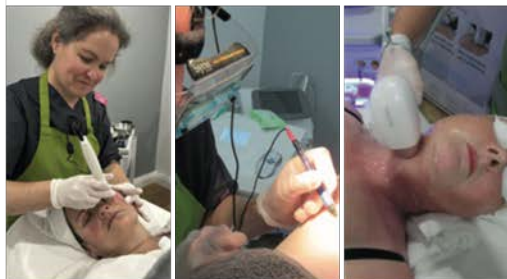
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THE GREATEST GIFT - a Christmas Drama

Never before have commercial influences been so powerful and so deceitful; their message is simple and beguiling: *"Gratify every passing whim, because You are worth it!"* Never before have people spent so much time on social media, and had so little time to reflect on life's values.

Never before has the evidence of a 'Creator God' been so clear. The more we learn about the universe, and the development of this uniquely blessed planet, the more we can recognise that there is a sense and purpose overall!

Some two & a half thousand years ago, Jeremiah wrote this Prophecy "I know the plans that I have for you, declared our Creator God, plans for your benefit and protection, plans to give you purpose and a future." We may wonder about our achievements and our future. Most of us believe in Heaven, as being the world beyond this one; the place where our Spirit, or Soul, will go. Jesus describes 'Heaven' as 'being with our Creator, our Heavenly Father'. So there is a reasonable conclusion that with God's help, we can fulfil our purpose, and assist others, as we progress through life on earth..

With these thoughts in mind, it is clear that Christians have a duty to share the 'Good News' of the Gospels with all people; a duty to take our faith beyond the church, out into the community. Thus we have our unique 'Fordingbridge Dramas'! The new one this year is called "The Greatest Gift"; that is of course 'Jesus', and it is our Christmas offering to share. The story briefly starts with creation and prophecy, then continues with the Nativity. A choir sings and leads Carols, while costumed actors provide the drama.

It will be free and all will be welcome to come to the Fordingbridge Town Hall on Friday 3rd of January at 6.00 pm, and Sunday the 5th (Twelfth Night of Christmas) at 3.00 pm. Bring your family, friends & neighbours; remember there is no charge; so long as there is room, you are welcome! Enjoy the carols, and sing along with the best known ones. Some, in the Christmas spirit, may choose to 'boo' the villain (the paranoid King Herod), to cheer on the 'heros' (Mary & Joseph), welcome the Angel Gabriel (in shimmering white), reflect on the shepherds wisdom, and delight in the colourful Magi (Kings or 'Wise Men'). But it is far more than all these delights; it is also the story of God's bounty and love for each and every one of us.

Jeremy Houghton-Brown.



Jesus said: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.' (John 14v27)

By the time you read this we will have commemorated in our communities Remembrance Sunday and Remembrance Day. This is so important. Eighty years ago our brave forebears fought against an evil and despotic empire, and were thankfully victorious. We honour their sacrifice and we thank God for the victory that they won at such great cost.

But have things really changed? In our age we have other empires and other world leaders, one of whom, Mr Putin, regularly makes threats against the UK. We have warfare in the Ukraine, in Gaza and the Lebanon, but there are also numerous other wars that for whatever reason are less newsworthy, but that also bring death and suffering to many. And this all reminds me that Jesus said, "You will hear of wars and rumours of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come," (Matthew 24v6). Sadly, Jesus has been proved right. Empires rise and fall, rulers appear and disappear, and warfare blights the earth and those who live upon it. It's all a pretty bleak picture.

But looking ahead we are preparing to celebrate Christmas. On that day, two millennia ago, a baby was born. He was called the Prince of Peace, and his kingdom has already lasted for over two-thousand years, and it will never end. It spreads to every corner of the earth and preaches peace and love to all who are wise enough to listen.

Interestingly, in recent weeks and months we have had a new UK government, a new leader of the opposition and a new American president. Such leaders bring hope to some and dread to others. But the truth is that their promises are limited, their impact temporary, and that history will cast them all to oblivion.

Dear friends, politicians and parties can make a difference, but history teaches us that this world is broken, and that empires and leaders are, all too often, the causes of terror and pain. So, who will you trust for today and for the future?

As we approach Christmas my advice to you is to put your hope in God and in his Son Jesus Christ. He alone can give meaning, purpose and hope to our lives, and his kingdom of love, peace and truth will last for ever. And, if we trust in Him and ask him to do so then, when our time comes, he will take us to be with him, to his eternal heavenly home, where that Kingdom of love and peace that we all long for will finally be ours.

And so I end by wishing you and your family a blessed Christmas, and an eternity of peace, love and joy.

Luke Wickings.

Rector of the Avon Valley Churches.

Advent and Christmas Church Services during December



Sunday 1st December 10am-Holy Communion at St Mary's Church, Hale (SP6 2RF)

Sunday 8th December 10am-Holy Communion at St Boniface, Woodgreen (SP6 2AJ)

Sunday 15th 10am-Advent Carols and Readings at St Mary's Church, Hale

Sunday 22nd 10am-Carols and Readings 10am @ St Boniface Church, Woodgreen



Tuesday 24th-Christmas Eve-Crib Service at 3.30pm @ St Boniface Church, Woodgreen-'Family Friendly Service' when we will build our Crib for Woodgreen

Also Christmas Eve-'Looking towards midnight at Bethlehem' **9pm start** in solidarity with the people of Bethlehem. A service of readings and music @St Boniface Church, Woodgreen

Wednesday 25th December-Christmas Day at 10am @St Mary's Church, Hale-come and join in the family fun when we build our Crib for Hale, followed by Communion.

Sunday 29th December-Benefice wide Service at Hyde Church (SP6 2QJ) at 10am

Other Festive Events

Friday 13th December, Christmas Community Coffee Morning, including the launch of our Christmas Tree Festival (with a special tree to celebrate the work of Foodbanks!) **NB-donations are down!** @St Boniface, Woodgreen 10.30-12noon.

AND

FESTIVE CAMEO Friday December 13th from 12-2pm in Woodgreen Village Hall, by kind permission of the Village Hall Committee. Suggested donation of £3 for a lovely bowl of home-made soup and a roll and festive treats!

ALSO

WEDS 18TH DECEMBER CAROLS IN THE PUB, @ the HORSE & GROOM, WOODGREEN @ 7pm-Festive jumpers welcomed!

CHRISTMAS DAY, CHRISTMAS LUNCH?

If you interested in joining in with Christmas Lunch on Christmas Day at Woodgreen Village Hall, please let Revd Ruth Crosland know by 16/12

All welcome! Bring a friend, a neighbour, family? Mobile 07855210769

POSTPONED Sunday December 8th-Advent Adventure.

Watch out for our Candlemas Celebration on Sunday February 2nd, 2025

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