

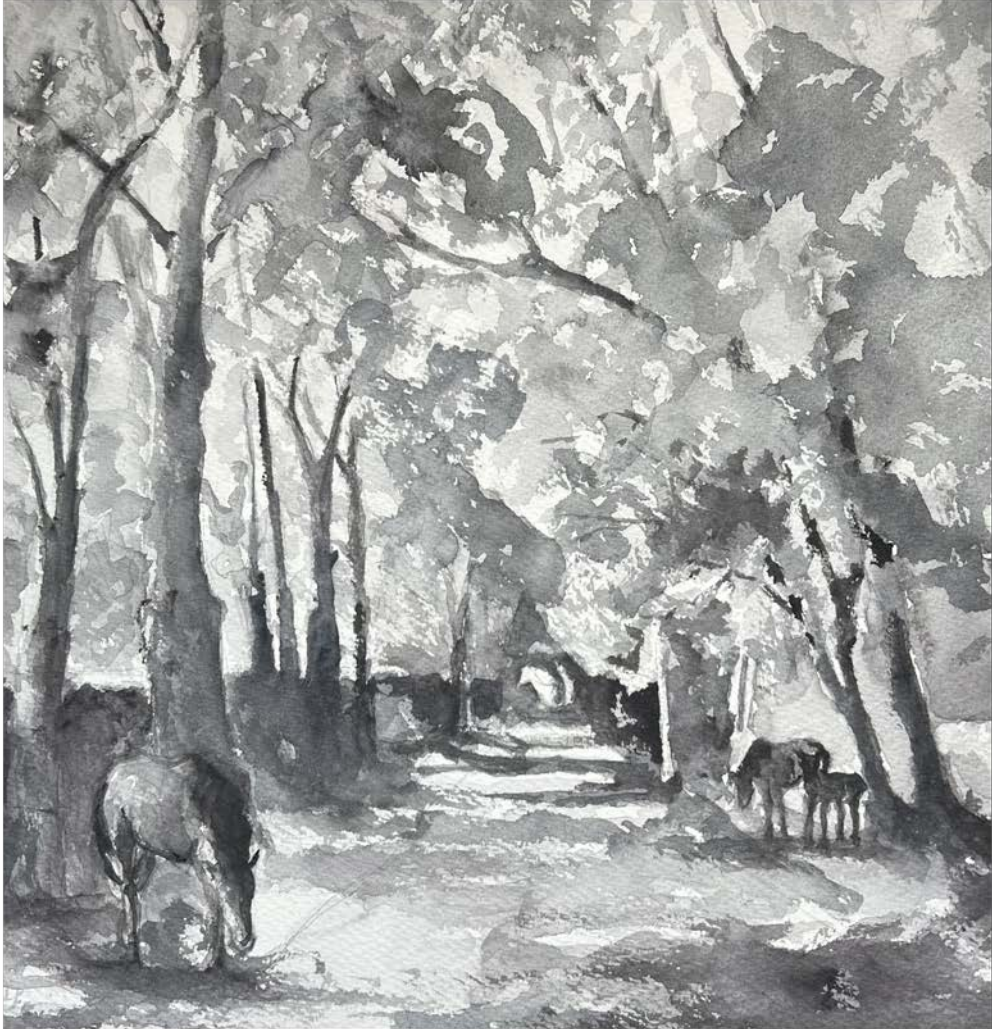
MAY 2024

FREE

HALE & WOODGREEN

Community & Parish Magazine

www.halevillagehall.co.uk/magazine



A road in the forest: 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.*

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Sat & Sun 10am - 5pm

Woodgreen Village Hall
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EMAIL to: haleandwoodgreen@aol.com

or haleandwoodgreen@aim.com

We welcome your feedback and ideas for future issues

**The deadline for the June 2024 issue of the magazine is
Wednesday 15th May**

**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.

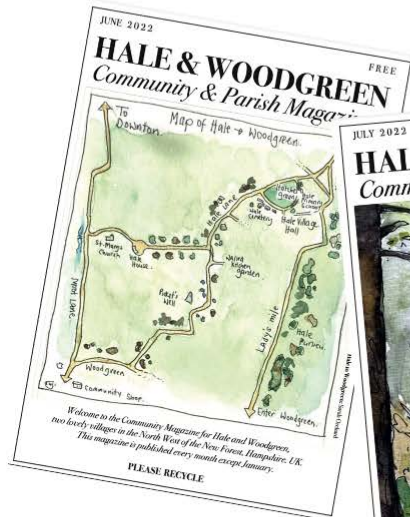
Terms of reference for the Community Magazine Sub-Committee can be requested via email at: halevillagehall@btinternet.com

Cover design by Sarah Orchard and David Keniston

“A road in the forest” by Sarah Orchard (advert top of page 26)

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

PLEASE SUPPORT *this Magazine by giving a* DONATION



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Taxpayers may be able to claim Gift Aid tax relief on your donation. Please email us for a Gift Aid Declaration Form.
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TalkAbout

Thursday May 2nd 2024

10:00 for 10:30 am

Shake, Rattle and Roll

The Elvis Presley Story

Speaker: Chris Walker

Local musician Chris Walker traces the life of Elvis, from humble birth to barnstorming international success. Illustrated with rare photos, film clips and (of course) some of 'The King's' greatest hits, this lively presentation will get your foot tapping.

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

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

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REDLYNCH & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Tues May 7th, 7.30pm

“Past Forward: Salisbury Museum for Future Generations”

**A look
behind the
scaffolding**



**Adrian Green, Director of Salisbury Museum,
talks about the recent £5m redevelopment**

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Margaret Windel (continued from last month)

Mags will be best remembered for her time at the village hall - organising and helping to run various fundraising events such as cream teas and talks on the history of the murals for visiting groups - these were her favourite. Margaret preferred to be behind the scenes in the kitchen - this was “her domain”!.

The last few years have not been easy for Margaret with increasing health problems. She entered Southampton Hospital in January of this year with optimism that the major operation which she faced would improve her quality of life and give her many more years to enjoy with her adored Granddaughter, Alice. Although initially making a good recovery from the operation and days away from returning home, Margaret sadly passed away on February 17th. She will be sadly missed by her family, many friends and by the village of Woodgreen. It is fitting that her funeral was held in the village hall which she so loved and where she spent so much time over the last thirty years.

Rest in peace Mags.

FOREST EDGE FLOWER ARRANGING SOCIETY REPORT

What a creative evening it was at our last practical workshop with Heather, entitled ‘Spring Simplicity’. All the participants had a fun creating beautiful designs with spring flowers and foliage – some of which can be viewed from the following weblink:<http://tiny.cc/FEFASspring>
Do join us at our next club meeting on 13th May for demonstration by Jennifer Thompson, entitled ‘A Good Read’. Refreshments from 7 pm, followed by the demonstration at 7.30 pm. 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:

13 May	Demonstration by Jennifer Thompson “A Good Read”	7.30 pm
3 June	Demonstration by Sue Wall “Re-use and Recycle”	7.30 pm
1 July	Cream Tea and Talk by Alison Hulme “My Life in Stitch”	7.30 pm

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Redlynch & Hale Cricket Club

Well supported indoor net sessions at BWS were an ideal preparation for the clubs cricketers, with several eligible juniors joining in and showing good promise. As long as the weather held the junior section will have also started its practice on Monday evenings. We do have a limited number of places available so if new youngsters wanting to give cricket a try are keen, please get in touch. Likewise, plenty of existing members and former Allstars were strutting their stuff to get ready for a full season of league Junior now managed by Hampshire Cricket. New players for the senior section are also warmly welcomed.

The Senior section are geared up to commence their own league programmes with the flagship First XI, scheduled for a tough opener entertaining Lymington II. The second XI travel to Great Durnford, whilst the old sweats and youngsters of the Third team welcome newly formed East Tytherly to Hatchet Green. The Ladies Softball side are hoping to begin their season with a home game against newcomers Fawley, although at the time of writing, this had still to be finalised.

So we're off and running! All the thrills and spills of willow on leather resounding at Redlynch Playing Field and Hatchet Green once again, epitomising the quintessential scene of English Village Cricket. Let's all hope for a nice warm and dry summer after all this rain!

Keep Cricketing!

Andy Church



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FRESHWATER HABITATS MEETING 18 MARCH 2024

I was lucky enough to attend this meeting recently which introduced the New Forest Catchment Partnership coordinated by the NPA and Freshwater Habitats Trust. The NPA and five partners are celebrating an award of £1.3 million from the Species Survival Fund to help halt species decline and restore habitats in the New Forest.

The full details for this : [£1.3m scheme to restore New Forest habitats and increase wildlife - New Forest National Park Authority \(newforestnpa.gov.uk\)](#)

As the meeting developed and more speakers shared their hard work, research and future plans I was able to get an insight into just how lucky we are to live in this extremely special and in some instances rare environment.

There were some key points which I found encouraging.

1. If you create the habitat new species will return
2. The vital role played by grazing animals - making Commoning vital
3. The value gained to combating climate change for the future restoring and building new ponds and mires holds
4. Out of approximately 1000 species (plants, invertebrates etc) nationwide, the New Forest (the 2nd smallest National Park) has approx 350.
5. The level of hard work, research and restoration being done is really encouraging. Biodiversity is in crisis in freshwater habitats and global declines in freshwater species are 4-6 times greater than found in terrestrial and marine environments.

The good news is the New Forest has many of the best habitats for clean, unpolluted freshwater, but despite this all species are in decline nationwide due to many factors: Loss of habitat (ponds have been infilled or neglected to leave ghost ponds to form where once thriving water courses and ponds existed).

Lost connectivity in the landscape (half the ponds that used to exist have now been lost through landscape incursion).

Pollution plays a huge role too as nutrients and other pollutants eke their way into the freshwaters from a range of sources.

Pesticides and fertilisers imply that farming is the main source of all pollution when there are multiple sources including wastewater treatment works, poor wastewater disposal, intensive farming and manure heap placement.

Habitat disturbance can have a huge effect too as dogs or people racing through habitats some leaving "deposits", means not only destruction to ground nesting birds but actually pollutes the freshwater habitats too.

What do you think of the mires we're lucky enough to have in Hale?

If you walk out in our local valleys you will see just how they vary through the seasons. There are at least 90 mires in the New Forest covering 2900 hectares of forest habitat - the largest area in Europe.

Clean unpolluted water + grazing = an abundance of rare species.

Let's enjoy it, protect it and do all we can to pass it on to the next generation.

Visit www.freshwaterhabitats.org.uk to find out more. It's fascinating!

Christina Vickery Hale Parish Council



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Marina Christopher



Hale Village Hall
7.30 Tuesday 21st May



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A Commoner's Plea

We're soon going to be enjoying the sound of small hooves out and about in our lovely villages. I'm sure you'll agree that this is a special time of year.

There's good news and bad news this year.

The good news.....from April 2024 we've been able to put our garden waste out in more appropriate wheelie bins. This has meant (hopefully) that the risk to ponies, foals, donkeys and cows with their new calves will be less as they won't be able to have such easy access to the dangers of grass mowings and other very harmful garden clippings.

The bad news.... plastic refuse bags and recycling bags are still the only way we can place our rubbish out for collection until the start-up of wheelie bins in the future. This presents a very real danger to our animals as curious noses and hooves will open the bags if they're put out too early (before 7am, as recommended, on collection day) or, put out overnight - if they're not in a secure lidded dustbin.

Apart from the obvious mess this animal inquisitiveness results in as rubbish is often strewn far and wide, the danger to the health of the animals can be extreme. Not only colic and choking but also potentially very high vets bills or even fatalities.

Please help keep the animals we see around us every day safe and thanks for reading our Commoner's Plea.

The Village School Spring Production 2024

Ring the playground bell - it's almost time to come and play! Wednesday, 22nd May, 7pm is when we fling open the doors of Redlynch Village Hall for the very first performance of The Village School, a new script by Ron Perry and we cannot wait!

Based on the Fairacre Series of books by well-loved author, Miss Read, the action focuses on the Primary School in the village of Fairacre, and is narrated by the Headmistress, Miss Read. Set in the mid-1950s, this nostalgic drama looks at life in a small, rural village, with some colourful characters facing the issues surrounding a worrying decline in pupil numbers. What will happen to the school and to Miss Read? Collaborating with Fordingbridge Players for this production, we have been rehearsing diligently since January ready to bring this new play to life. We are also delighted to welcome our friend and patron Jill Saint, Miss Read's daughter in real life, to one of the performances!

Be prepared for a special evening as we become spectators to a snapshot of life in Fairacre. I am sure you are going to love it as much as us!

Have you got your ticket? If not, act quickly as they are almost gone! Please see all details below for performance dates and times, as well as how to purchase those last few tickets:

Performances will take place in **Redlynch Village Hall, 7:30pm.**

Performance dates:

Wednesday, 22nd May

Thursday, 23rd May

Friday, 24th May

Saturday, 25th May

NOW SOLD OUT FOR FRIDAY 24TH MAY

Tickets for reserved seating, are priced £12.

To purchase, please email tickets@redlynchplayers.co.uk or phone 01725 510283

Did you know?

This is the fifth play written by our Vice Chair, Ron Perry. Copies of his scripts can be purchased on Amazon (search for Ron Perry Plays), and they will also be available to purchase during the production - watch out for The Village School – Ron's latest publication!

Future Event!

We are pleased to be taking a part in the 150th Anniversary Weekend of Woodfalls Methodist Church on the evening of Saturday, 8th June. Do come and join us for this special celebration!

Find out more about us!

If you would like to be included on our emailing list to hear our latest news, please email: info@redlynchplayers.co.uk

Alternatively, see our website for recent reviews, how to buy tickets and past productions: www.redlynchplayers.co.uk

We post regular updates on our Redlynch Players Facebook page. Why not follow us? Or you can follow us on twitter! [@RedlynchPlayers](https://twitter.com/RedlynchPlayers)

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- ♥ **Lover Luxury Beauty Lash Lift and Tint* and Brow Wax, Shape and Tint £50.00**
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C.A.M.E.O

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31st May

28th June

30th Aug

27th Sept

25th Oct

29th Nov

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Fairtrade Coffee Mornings

St Boniface Church Woodgreen
(Usually) the last Friday of the month from 10.30 - 12 noon

The coffee morning on 23rd February will be a Big Brew | fundraiser for Transform Trade with cakes and games. Please note the date for the March coffee morning has changed, as the last Friday is Good Friday. So do join us on March 22nd when we will be entertained by the choir from Breamore School.

Also, the date for this years Christmas Coffee Morning will be December 13th.
Beverly Judd



CAN YOU HELP?

In the past folks from the village have helped us keep St Boniface looking it's best. This no longer happens and the cleaning rota has several gaps. Ideally, there would be 2 people each month and each couple would clean twice a year. Less if there are enough people.

Please ring 01725 512018 if you are able to help. Beverly Judd

Use Your Post Office

We want to share with you that running your Community Post Office here in Woodgreen is expected to generate a significant loss next year.

Operating costs (solely staff costs) will be almost	£30k
Income received likely to be	£22k
Which is forecast to result in a loss of	£8k

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14% of sales value for Special Delivery before 1pm

£0.30 for every home shopping return (£0.31 for each Amazon return)

£0.32 for each Amazon order you collect from us

£0.23 for every cash withdrawal from your bank account

£0.13 for each cheque deposit to your bank account

£0.18 for dropping pre-paid parcels with us

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Most Post Offices cannot survive without add-on income; we of course have the shop, however the Post Office uses almost ALL of our annual shop profit.

So please remember any additional services you use the Post Office for supports this valuable Community service.

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Thank you for reading this and using the Shop & Post Office

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What's going on in Hale Village Hall

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



MONDAY - Downstairs 18:00
Tai Chi



TUESDAY - Downstairs 14:00
Cafe & Library



TUESDAY - Main Hall 18:00 - 20:00
Dog Training



WEDNESDAY - Downstairs 10:00 & 14:00
Tai Chi



WEDNESDAY - Main Hall 18:30
Table Tennis



THURSDAY - Main Hall 18:00 - 19:15
Brownies



Save the Date...

Tuesday 7 May – Downstairs - 19:00 - Hale Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting

Friday 10 May - Main Hall - 19:00 - Film Club

Saturday 11 May – Downstairs - 12 noon - Cricket Club

Thursday 16th May - Main Hall - 19:30 - Vegetable Club

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

Tuesday 21st May - Main Hall - 19:00 - Horticultural Society Talk

For more information contact

your Village Hall?

Woodgreen Village Hall

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

woodgreenvillagehall.org.uk

MONDAY - 09:30, 11.00, 17:15, 19:00

Yoga



MONDAY - 13:30

Craft Club



TUESDAY - 09:30, 11.00

Yoga



TUESDAY - 18:30, 19:45

Dog Training



WEDNESDAY - 10:00

Art Club



THURSDAY - 09:15

Pilates



THURSDAY - 11:00, 12:15

Dog Training



THURSDAY - 18:30

Aerobics



Save the Date...

Sat/Sun 4/5th May - 10:00-16:00 - Woodgreen Model Show

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

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

the relevant Booking Secretary.

Sarah Orchard - New Forest Artist



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2.30 - 4PM

Roman Funerals

It is always well worth a visit to York. One of the places I would recommend is the Yorkshire Museum, set in the beautiful riverside Museum Gardens. I then must declare an interest. An exhibit in the museum is something that I dug up on an archaeological dig.

On most archaeological digs participants are alerted that they might find very little. However, digging in York, with its Roman and Viking history, one is almost guaranteed to unearth a multiplicity of interesting finds.

Burials in towns or villages were forbidden in Roman times to avoid pollution and the spread of diseases. The exception to this was very young infants. Burials took place alongside the roads leading from centres of population. The wealthy could afford elaborate funeral rites and were often buried with ostentatious tombs and monuments recording their status and achievements. Ordinary families would bury their dead in roadside cemeteries, whilst the poor and slaves might be unceremoniously dumped in pits or rivers.

The archaeological dig that I took part in was in the garden of a pub that stood on the main road out of York. The easy access to a cooling pint of beer gave an extra frisson of excitement to me and my fellow students. In my trench I immediately began finding Samian ware pottery. This was a very recognisable shiny red pottery often with elaborate decoration on it. Most Samian ware found in Britain was manufactured in what the Romans called Gaul, which was an area centred on what is now France. I then began to unearth what I at first thought was a paint pot. In other trenches on the site there was a lot of early nineteenth century rubbish. This dated from the time before municipal rubbish collections began, when unwanted items were often disposed of in a pit in the garden. On closer inspection the artefact was made of lead with a tightly sealed lid with a hole in the middle of it. What I had found was a cinerary urn that would have been used to hold the ashes of a Roman inhabitant of York. The hole in the lid would have contained a tube leading to the surface of the ground. As we now might visit a grave with flowers, relatives could have visited the grave to pour a libation, usually wine, down the tube into the urn.

At one time cremation was the main type of burial in Roman times. Urns were generally pots made of ceramic earthen ware. These were often reused storage or cooking vessels. For the more affluent, glass, lead or even marble might have been used whilst the poor might have used wood. Cremation was an expensive and complicated method of burial. To effectively dispose of a body the funeral pyre would have to burn for up to nine hours and a substantial amount of timber would have to be used. Because of this a move was made towards inhumations, that is, the burial of the body intact.

One of the largest Roman cemeteries in the Salisbury area is at Butterfield Down near Boston Down. The burials there, were mostly inhumations with only a small number of cremations. Life expectancy in those days was low with only a quarter of people living beyond the age of thirty-five.

The Urn that I found is a rare example of a lead casket. When I visit York, I always make a pilgrimage to the Yorkshire Museum to pay homage to my find and to remember the excitement of the dig in that sizzling summer in the 1960s.



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"The Dice Man" by Luke Reinhart

First a warning – this is an explicit, and sometimes disturbing novel and not to be recommended for those of a genteel disposition. The book reminds me of some embarrassing and unusual evenings from when I briefly became a Dice Man after reading it in the eighties. I had all but forgotten it until I chanced upon the sequel, "The Search for the Dice Man"*¹, and decided to re-read the original. This time round I must admit to being a bit shocked and surprised at how my tastes have changed. I am not as broadminded now as I was as a callow whippersnapper. But that's not to say this isn't a highly entertaining read, and anyway who am I to take a censorial standpoint? Saying that, I have to agree with the recent Hale Film Club decision to withdraw the chosen film – "The Old Oak", I borrowed the DVD and found it so vile that I had to ditch after half an hour, but I digress.

Ever vacillated? Been undecided? Flipped a coin to make that awkward decision? Do you sometimes fancy a less structured, more carefree approach to life? Something a little bit random where the roll of a Die can take you into world of unimaginable prospects. That's the premise of "Dice Living", and it's not as outlandish as you may first think. Prior to reading this book, I was working for a company that invented weird and wonderful componentry, much of it using new technology. One evening I was wrestling with a ticklish conundrum when the Managing Director appeared beside me. Rather than debate my quandary, he just said; "make a decision, *any* decision, even if it's the wrong decision". Sounds daft, but he was right, I could move on. As it turned out the choice I made *was* wrong, but it enabled me to progress, realise my mistake, and then get it right. With this new mind-set I was ready for the intriguing possibilities presented in "**The Dice Man**".

It's all very well adopting the above approach in the situation I describe, but for psychiatrist, Luke Reinhart, it becomes an addiction. After playing with a Die to decide how next to amuse himself Luke begins to find this haphazard method of decision making progressively more alluring, and before long his every action is governed by the order of the Die. Luke is invigorated and finds his family and friends, rather than cold-shouldering him, allow more & more latitude as his behaviour becomes increasingly bizarre, none more so than his fellow psychiatrists. When he introduces a Die as new therapy to his patients, they enthusiastically embrace it and mayhem gleefully becomes his daily routine. That is until the chaos starts to unravel. Some of his patients aren't just in need of a little empathy and guidance, they are certifiably deranged. It may sound like a load of nonsense, but to this day there are Dice devotees throughout America – checkout the inter-web. I think Donald Trump might be one.

* "**The Search for the Dice Man**" is also available in the Hale Village Hall Library

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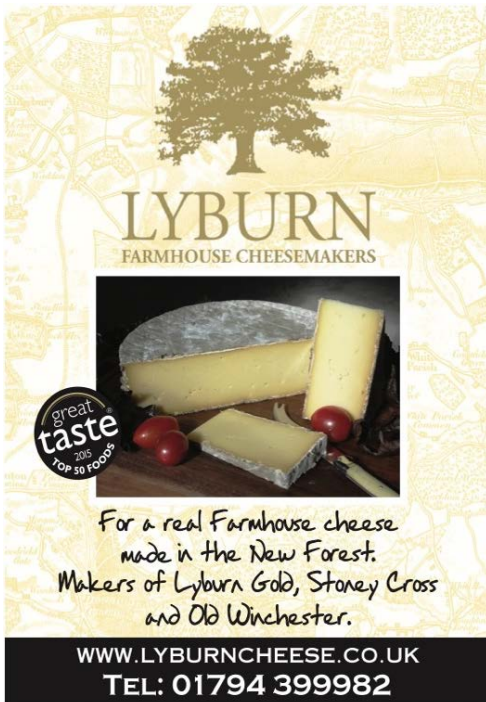
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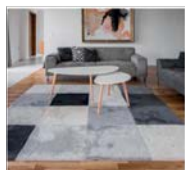
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Q	I	T	D	I	I	S	D	D	F	Z	M	R	Q	L
O	K	O	Y	F	S	G	K	F	O	M	O	E	Z	I
F	V	U	V	T	I	O	R	U	N	F	L	W	S	E
E	H	S	F	O	A	L	C	D	F	S	E	D	R	R
D	G	P	A	T	M	P	E	K	M	A	G	R	P	S
R	A	A	U	Q	C	R	E	V	E	W	R	I	U	J
F	C	N	T	C	X	H	Q	M	E	T	I	V	T	T
C	P	N	V	D	R	O	U	J	E	L	P	E	O	G
D	C	E	F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

Answers appear overleaf.



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Stars Appeal trekkers prepare to find the Lost City in Colombia

A group of intrepid trekkers will be hiking through the tropical rainforest in Colombia to raise money for the Stars Appeal, Salisbury Hospital's Charity.

The 34 fundraisers, aged from 80 to 23, are making final preparations for their walking adventure to the 1500-year-old Lost City of Teyuna.

They will trek for up to 12-hours a day in around 30 degrees heat and 90 per cent humidity, staying in simple communal bunkhouses. To reach the Lost City they will have to climb 1,200 ancient stone steps.

To prepare for their challenge the trekkers have been doing 10-12 mile walks every weekend.

For three-time cancer survivor Colin Ford, from Salisbury, this will be his second Stars Appeal trek after trekking to Petra in 2022. He said: "During my treatment I have had more than my fair share of opportunity to benefit from the many facilities funded by the Stars Appeal. These include CT scanners, MRI scanners, specialist observation machines and equipment on the Pembroke Suite and Urology Department and the free Wi-Fi and tea and coffee stations on the wards. There's no doubt the work of the charity made the care I've received even better."

He will be joined by first time trekkers, Dr Helena McKeown and her husband Peter Ewing, from Harnham. Local GP Helena said: "It's brilliant to be raising money for the Stars Appeal. I've had four children at Salisbury Hospital as well as having emergency procedures and referrals where I've received fantastic care. I have a lot to thank them for."

Helena could have been forced to give up her job as a GP after a rare complication caused after breaking her finger 10 years ago left her unable to use her right hand.

"I would have had to retire early," admits Helena, a GP for over 30 years. "I have the hospital and their staff at the fracture clinic and occupational therapy to thank for getting my hand working again and enabling me to return to the job I love."

For Jayne Prigent, from Wilton, the owner of JASHAIR Group, this is her fifth trek for the Stars Appeal and her first time trekking with her daughter Alice. They will be trekking as a thank you, to the hospital and Stars Appeal for the care their family has received over the years.

The trekkers set off on April 20. All of them have paid for their own trek costs and together hope to raise more than £50,000 for the Stars Appeal.



Stars Appeal trekkers gather for their final briefing. Picture by Spencer Mulholland

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of
WOODGREEN PARISH COUNCIL held in Woodgreen Reading Room
on Tuesday 9th April 2024 at 7.30pm.**

23/24.136 Members present: Eunice Anton (EA), Lance Benest (LB), John Clarke (JC)(Chair), Helena Datta (HD), Mark Flannigan (MF), Stewart Hall (SH) and Pete Skinner (PS).

Also present: Amanda Johnson (Clerk), Janet Richards NFDC District Councillor, Andy Donell, Hale Parish Council and 2 members of the public.

Apologies for Absence: None

23/24.137 Declarations of interest: None

23/23.138 Minutes of previous meeting held on 12/03/2024.

23/24.138.1 Following a review of the minutes, it was then unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes be accepted as an accurate record. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

23/24.138.2 Matters arising from previous minutes not appearing as agenda items.

Annual Parish Meeting - There will no longer be an open discussion regarding a possible "village hub". This will be postponed until a later date.

Bus shelter - WPC have yet to be notified if the CIL funding application has been successful.

23/24.139 Public Participation Session: Two members of the public spoke regarding their concerns regarding the Solent Freeport, its coverage of the National Park and the implications this may bring. The Solent Freeport is one of 8 Freeports across England which are areas near ports or airports where imported goods are free from the usual import tariffs. The Solent Freeport will cover the whole area of the National Park and the parishioners felt there has been little information or consultation regarding this process. WPC will aim to find out further information regarding the implications of this. District Councillor Janet Richards will attend a Solent Freeport update on the 30th April and will report back. LB has requested that this be an agenda item at the next NW Quadrant meeting to receive the view of the National Park Authority.

23/24.140 Community Emergency and Resilience Plans Andy Donnell from Hale Parish Council spoke regarding the Community Emergency and Resilience Plan which Hale Parish Council are beginning to develop with the possible aim of sharing resources and information with Woodgreen. Government policies encourage communities to have plans in place to respond to emergencies such as pandemics, flooding, excessive heat, fire and power shortages. Both HCC and NFDC are encouraging communities to develop community plans and resources are in place to support this. Funds are also available from SSEN for items such as generators, satellite phones, air conditioning units etc. Hale PC has developed a working party to take this forward; LB will put the idea forward at the Annual Parish Meeting to seek volunteers to take this forward in Woodgreen.

23/24.141 Report by New Forest District Councillor, Janet Richards

Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan Midgham Farm (just south of Fordingbridge) was included for sand and gravel extraction in the Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan that was put out for consultation.

NFDC's proposed response to the consultation did not include an objection to the Midgham Farm site. I, along with six other Councillors, called in this decision, as we thought that NFDC should object, based on the impacts on local people and the environment, and because the Council should be supporting the over 900 local residents who objected to the site. A Special Council meeting was arranged to debate the issue, but the vote was for NFDC to not lodge an objection to the site.

New Corporate Plan At the Council meeting last night, the new Corporate Plan was adopted. This sets out the Council's priorities for the next 4 years. I submitted an amendment which called for the Council's total emissions to be monitored, in line with the priority on climate action. (This was present in the draft that went out for consultation but was dropped from the final version.) The amendment was supported by Green, Labour and Lib Dem councillors, but Conservative councillors voted against and so the amendment did not pass.

23/24.129 Planning. To discuss the following tree applications and agree recommendations.

Case Number	24/00328CONS
Proposal	Fell 4 x Conifer trees (T1 to T4 on the plan) Fell 2 x Ash trees (T5 & T6 on the plan) Prune 1 x Oak tree (T7 on the plan)
Site	Avonside, High Street, , Woodgreen, SP6 2AU
Case Number	24/00346CONS
Proposal	Fell 1 x Turkey Oak tree (leaving a 3m trunk)
Site	Midsummer Wood, Warren Copse, Woodgreen, SP6 2QY
Case Number	24/00356CONS
Proposal	Prune 1 x Holly tree (Tree 1 dual stem on the plan) Prune 1 x Goldcrest Cypress tree (Tree 2 on the plan) Prune 1 x Turkey Oak tree (Tree 3 on the plan)
Site	Wild Close, Woodgreen Common Road, Woodgreen, SP6 2QX
Case Number	24/00377CONS
Proposal	Fell 1 x Field Maple tree
Site	Home Cottage, Merrie Gardens, Woodgreen, SP6 2AT
Case Number	24/00268CONS
Proposal	Prune 1 x Beech tree
Site	Swallowdale, Woodgreen Common Road, , Woodgreen, SP6 2QX
Case Number	24/00269TPO
Proposal	Prune 1 x Beech Tree.
(Tree is part of W1 of TPO: 0069/05)	
Site	Logan Bank, Lower Densome Wood, Woodgreen, SP6 2BE

PS and HD reviewed the applications and agreed that there were no issues with any of the applications and recommended to accept the decision of the National Park Authority's Tree Officers; this was unanimously agreed.

23/24.143 Meetings Attended :-

JC attended the Verderers Court 20th March. The subject of allowing food vendors to operate in some Forestry England car parks was discussed and will be further discussed at the next meeting of the Verderers.

23/24.144 Disease Resistant Elms - Funding is available to plant disease resistant elms. WPC agreed to look into this further with the possibility of planting some elms on parish council land. LB will investigate. The scheme is being run by the Hampshire Forest Partnership and is available to all.

23/24.145 Woodgreen Community Shop Woodgreen Community Shop have contacted the parish council regarding support for the installation of further solar panels on the roof of the building to increase the sustainability of the building and reduce energy costs. Woodgreen PC agreed unanimously to add their support to this project.

23/24.146 Solent Freeport Discussed under 23/24.139

23/24.147 Village Maintenance and Parish Council property (including roads, hedges, footpaths, ditches) :

Signage - New village signage (at the 4 entrances to the village) have been installed with the aim to decrease driving speeds within the village.

Benches - The bench at the top of the permissive path and some on The Green require some work. PS will action.

Lengthsman - The Lengthsman will work in Woodgreen on 22/04/24 - Jobs will include cutting back brambles at bus shelter, replacing dragon's teeth and removing silt from the ditch at Steels Drove.

Permissive path (behind shop) - The path will need strimming regularly, AJ will action.

Cemetery - The grass contains much moss which needs removing, possible solutions will be looked into.

23/24.148 Financial Matters: Review of ongoing budget and approval of monthly expenditure;

a. Current Balances

- Lloyds Treasurers Account £16,844.34 as at 03.04.2024;
- Lloyds 32 Notice Account £78,184.85 as at 03.04.2024;
-

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the accounts for March and the balances.

b. Expenditure: It was RESOLVED to approve the following payments.

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	VAT	METHOD
2023/24				
Cutting Edge	Cemetery cut - March	87.50		Bank Transfer
TP Jones	Payroll Services - Jan - March	59.40	9.90	Bank Transfer
Fordingbridge TC	Planning Course	66.66	13.34	Bank Transfer
2024/25				
A.Johnson	Salary - April	415.00		Standing order
HALC	Annual subscription	286.00		Bank Transfer

c. Year end accounts for 2023/24. The accounts for 2023/24 were discussed and approved and will be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting. It was agreed that these will now be internally audited by Jeff Butt and Co.

23/24.149 Consultations and correspondence up to 03/04/2024 and any urgent correspondence received after the agenda was finalised and not dealt with elsewhere in the agenda.

The correspondence was noted.

08/03/24 NPA Planning Committee 19th March
12/03/24 NFALC - Agenda for meeting 18th March
14/03/24 NPA Authority Meeting 21st March
15/03/24 NPA Press Release - £1.3 million scheme to restore New Forest habitats.
18/03/24 HCC - Planned road maintenance in the area.
19/03/24 Woodgreen Community Shop - Plans for solar panel installation. **Discussed under 23/24.145**
22/03/24 Latest news from the National Park
22/03/24 NPA - National Grid £400,000 for landscape improvement.
23/03/24 Avon Valley Churches - Thanks for the donation.
28/03/24 Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
03/04/24 NFDC - Solent Freeport Information

23/24.150 Any other business and matters to be raised on the next agenda.

Next meeting - Solent Freeport (update from Cllr Richards) and bus shelter renovations.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 14th May 2024 at 7.30pm in the Reading Room.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday 24th April in Woodgreen Village Hall at 7pm.



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Praying for God's Kingdom to come across the Avon Valley.

Well, I have been here for just over a month and, I must be honest, I don't really know how that time has gone so quickly, but I do genuinely thank God for all his blessings. Sarah and I already feel at home here and are thankful to God for bringing us here. You have all been so kind to us, so warm and welcoming, that we feel really blessed. Thank you all for being such a blessing to us. So, what are my views on our time here thus far?

Firstly, we have met so many wonderful people in each of the churches we have worshipped in. We have met people who are warm and who love God and who clearly want to grow with God, and to see our churches grow. That's a wonderful thing to see. If we are going to see God working here over the coming years then we will need to work together for God's purposes, and I am excited to see and to meet so many people who are hungry to see God work.

Secondly, I have been blessed by the worship in every single church. The style of worship varies but the heart remains the same, a love for God and hearts lifted up to Him in worship.

Thirdly, in every church I have experienced community. My old rector always used to say that there is a difference between a group and a team and he was right. Twenty people in a room is a group, but twenty people in a room working together for a common purpose is a team. And it seems to me that each congregation that I have visited shares a common purpose, but also shares a sense of love and community. This has been lovely to see.

So, there is much to celebrate here and, as I have said, Sarah and I are so thankful to God for bringing us here. But, is there anything lacking? Well, what is lacking across this wonderful team is, as we all know, families. I don't think this is anyone's 'fault'. As I understand it, this lack of families is partly due to the negative impact of the COVID pandemic. I guess a long interregnum hasn't helped either; and, of course, the lack of younger people and families in our churches is symptomatic of so many churches across the UK.

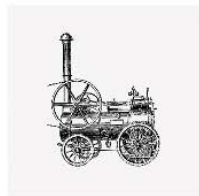
So, the question is, what can we do about it? This is something that we all need to think about, to reflect upon and to pray about under God. I cannot solve this problem alone, but together we can, if we seek God and His leading, and faithfully follow him. So, can I ask us all to do this?

It strikes me that we are fast approaching Ascension Day, and most of us will know that the Archbishop of Canterbury has, for the last few years, led an annual initiative calling on the Church to pray 'Thy Kingdom Come' between Ascension Day and Pentecost. This feels opportune and pertinent. Indeed, our prayer is surely for God's kingdom to come here in the Avon Valley group of churches and in our communities. So, I propose that we, as a benefice, join this initiative and use the period from 9-19 May this year, Ascension Day to Pentecost, to pray to God for his kingdom to come here, in our churches, and in our villages and towns. I will plan some cross-team prayer meetings in the various churches and will, with you all, seek God and his leading for this team.

Dear friends, as I'm sure you know, God has put our churches in our communities in order to build his kingdom and so let us spend this ten days together in prayer, let us seek God's leading for the future, and commit ourselves to serving him, and may God's kingdom come here and across our benefice.

With love in Him, Luke.

Church Services during May



Sunday 5th @ 11am Woodgreen Steam Show Worship at St Boniface Church-come and join in with the steam and whistles!

Sunday 12th @ 10am Morning Service @ St Boniface, Woodgreen

Sunday 19th @ 10am Holy Communion @ St Mary's, Hale



Sunday 26th @ 10am @St Boniface Church, Woodgreen we will be sharing Holy Communion.

Other Church events



Friday May 31st Fairtrade Community Coffee Morning @ St Boniface, Woodgreen from 10.30-12noon.

AND ALSO

CAMEO (Come And Meet Each Other)-Friday May 31st from 12-2pm in Woodgreen Village Hall, by kind permission of the Village Hall Committee. Suggested donation of £3 for hot drinks, soup and a roll. Why not come along and join in the conversation, quizzing, jigsaws etc...

We will now be meeting monthly on the last Friday of the month after the Community Coffee morning-all welcome!

AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST..

We have now been able to source some new stock after several months of trying.

The new Fairtrade stock including favourites like chocolate, socks, coffee etc now includes new items such as dung Notebooks, recycled pens, jute bags, earrings and many, many more items, look out for them both at Hale Farmer's Markets and at our Fairtrade Coffee mornings

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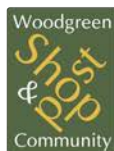
DOWNTON LINK

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This page is for the young people of Hale & Woodgreen



DID YOU KNOW? - An incredible 60-90% of the world's fresh water is locked in Antarctica's vast ice sheet. The Antarctic ice sheet is the largest on Earth, covering an incredible 14 million km² (5.4 million square miles) of Antarctic mountain ranges, valleys and plateaus. This leaves only 1% of Antarctica permanently ice-free. Some areas are ice-free in the summer, including many of the areas we visit on the Antarctic Peninsula.



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The Management



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Mon - Friday 08.00 - 18.00 • Sat 08.00 - 17.00 • Sun 08.00 - 11.00

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