

# Bedhampton Parish

St Thomas & St Nicholas



February  
2023

60p

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## Happiness

Recent events have led me to this question:  
What defines our happiness?

The dictionary definition: **The state of pleasurable contentment of mind; deep pleasure in or contentment with one's circumstances.**

Having not had the best starts to the New Year, my feeling of happiness following Christmas and anticipation for the coming year has soon diminished. This led me to start thinking about what defines our happiness? We are all constantly striving for happiness with the goal posts forever moving. We all have our own worries and burdens which can weigh us down and with the increase in energy costs and rising food prices it is easy to think that happiness is constantly out of our reach. As soon as life doesn't go to plan, we are instantly unhappy and discontent.

So, is our happiness defined by what is 'happening' in our lives? What would your answer be to that question. How might we change our thoughts?

I know that I am at my most content and at peace when I feel close to God. My friend recently reminded me that we are provided for by the Lord who gives us all that we need. Our contentment of mind should be found in spending time with the Lord remembering that we are only a tiny part of his amazing plan and that by putting our faith in him we will find our peace. True belief and faith give us all the peace we need in our lives. We are reminded in the bible: A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones. **In Romans 15: 13 it says:** "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

We are taught by Jesus true happiness is when we are not living or dwelling in the past or being anxious about the future but being able to enjoy the now. Through Jesus Christ, the peace of God can guard our hearts.

So as we move through the year, perhaps when we are looking for 'happiness', instead of focusing on our circumstances we could look to the Lord to find our peace and contentment. God's peace provides the assurance that God is still in control.

*Tracey Smith*  
Deputy Churchwarden

# PARISH NEWS

## WARM SPACES

In November and December, several churches in the Havant area opened places in the Warm Spaces initiative, for people to visit, where refreshments, friendly chat, activities and warmth were available. This was especially for those who may be finding it difficult to afford heating in their own homes in these times of the cost of living.

Sadly this will not continue in most venues as very few people came to take advantage, especially where some volunteers had prepared soup as well as tea and coffee. However, St Nicholas Church will still be open on Friday mornings from 10.30am till 12 noon for tea, coffee and homemade cakes with friendly chat in a warm space.

A similar group in Westbourne and Emsworth also provides a number of venues; at the Pastoral Centre in Emsworth Square, 10am- 1pm; Emsworth Baptist Church on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, 1pm – 4pm; Emsworth Community Centre 11am on Thursdays and Fridays; St James Parish Hall, Emsworth on Wednesdays and Thursdays; New Life Church in Thorney Road on Thursday and Friday mornings, 9am till 12 noon; Westbourne Parish Hall on Mondays, 10.30am – 12 noon; Westbourne Meeting Place, Mondays and Wednesdays, 4 – 8pm. Most of these places are either free or ask for a small donation.

## Havant Passion Play

In August, Havant Passion Play will be telling some of the Gospel stories in the wonderful setting of Staunton Country Park. Are there any budding actors in our congregation?

No previous experience necessary, both speaking parts and members of the crowd are needed. People to help behind the scenes in many ways may also be needed.

More information from the Parish Office.

## BEDHAMPTON CALENDAR

**Why not take some local photos for a Bedhampton calendar.**

**Keep taking photos – they may be submitted for any year.**



If you have any photos of local interest, please send them to the Parish Office, ideally by email; although prints can be accepted and will all be safely returned.

## FAMILY NEWS

We send our good wishes to those who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this month, including Janice Stott, Margaret Stanger and Pamela Morgan. We also send belated birthday wishes to Ann Slade for last month.



*Cover: Fruits growing in God's love.*

## St Nick's Flicks

**Tuesday 21st February**



at St Nicholas' Church  
A free film show with refreshments.  
All welcome, no need to book.  
Contact the office for film details.  
office@bedhamptonparish.org.uk



In recent weeks during the Autumn and continuing during January and February, we have been exploring Fruitfulness in a series of talks. These have been thought provoking and inspiring and well worth a listen.

September 18th, 2022 – Fruitfulness on the Frontline – The Big Picture

Bible references: Colossians 1.15-20; John 17.6-26

October 9th, 2022 – Modelling Godly Character

Bible references: Galatians 5.13-26; Mark 10.35-45

October 16th, 2022 – Fruitfulness on the Frontline: Making Good Work

Bible references: Colossians 3.22-4.1; Matthew 7.13-27

October 23rd, 2022 Fruitfulness on the frontline: Ministering Grace and Love

Bible references: Deuteronomy 6.1-12; Luke 10.25-37

January 8th, 2023 – Fruitfulness on the Frontline: Mouthpiece for Truth and Justice

Bible references: Galatians 5.13-26; Mark 10.35-45

January 15th, 2023 – Fruitfulness on the Frontline: Messenger of the Gospel

Bible references: 1 Peter 3, 15-16; John 21: 1-17

January 29th, 2023 – Fruitfulness on the Frontline: The Journey On

Bible references: 2 Kings 6, 15-17; Matthew 28, 16-20

If you have a computer or have access to the internet, these talks can still be found on the parish website: [www.Bedhampton.church/frontline](http://www.Bedhampton.church/frontline)

## Frontline Opportunity

Could you read with a school child at one of our local schools?

If you could spare an hour or two a month speak to Max or email

[Hello@Bedhampton.church](mailto:Hello@Bedhampton.church)

for more details.



**Beacon Food Bank** contributions can be made at Asda, Tesco, and Waitrose, or in the black box at the Rectory in Bidbury Lane.

The food bank is most in need of:

Tinned meals      Tinned puddings  
Tinned fruit and veg  
Pot noodles/Packet noodles      Rice  
Jams, spreads      Coffee and sugar  
Toiletries

*Thank you for your support.*

# PARISH NEWS

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## VALENTINE'S DAY – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February



Valentine's Day reminds us of the importance of expressing our love to those close to us. But how can we go beyond simply offering flowers and a card? Jesus says: *'A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another'* (John 13:34). How can we express love like Jesus in our everyday relationships to our partner, children, neighbours or work colleagues?

We need to listen to others. Jesus asked questions of people and waited for them to process their answer. How often do we find ourselves already thinking of what we want to say before somebody's finished speaking? Listening takes time; don't rush it!

Do we speak words of *grace*, by offering comfort, giving encouragement or expressing care and concern? However, we should also be ready to speak words of *truth*, in asking for forgiveness, seeking reconciliation or addressing conflict.

Where is the challenge for us in expressing love this Valentine's Day?

**Shrove Tuesday:**

**Who's for pancakes?**

**21st February**

*by David Winter*

Why do we have pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, or Pancake Day, as we call it today? And what is Shrove Tuesday? And why do thousands of people feel it rewarding to race along a street somewhere tossing pancakes from their frying pans as they go?

The answer to the first question is that it is the day before Lent begins and for well over a thousand years, that has meant it was the last chance to enjoy meat, fat and other tasty dishes until Easter Day. The 'Lent Fast' was widely and strictly observed. The food in the larder wouldn't keep for six weeks so it had to be eaten. With all these rich foods no wonder the French call it 'Fatty Tuesday' – Mardi Gras.

So, what have pancake races got to do with all this solemnity? 'Shrove' is an old word for 'forgiven' and in those days to prepare for the rigours of Lent people would want to confess and seek forgiveness – not quite what you want at a party. The answer is quite simply enjoying yourself while you can!

Pancakes feature in cookery books as far back as 1439, and today's pancake races are in remembrance of a panicked woman back in 1445 in Olney, Buckinghamshire. She was making pancakes when she heard the shriving bell calling her to confession. Afraid she'd be late, she ran to the church in a panic, still in her apron, and still holding the pan. Since the Reformation it has not been so rigorously observed in Britain, but still people will resolve to 'give up something for Lent'. Six weeks is about right as a duration and Sunday has always been exempt but make the most of those pancakes. They may well not reappear until April 9th !

Some people have noted that the ingredients of pancakes can be used to highlight four significant things about this time of year: eggs stand for creation, flour is the staff of life, while salt keeps things wholesome, and milk stands for purity. Shrove Tuesday is always 47 days before Easter Sunday and falls between 3rd February and 9th March.



**“The season of Lent begins this month.** In times gone by it was observed very strictly, on pain of excommunication. Maybe these days we don’t pay it such attention, but taking a bit of extra time with God during Lent is time that He will richly repay:”



### Lent

The monk, within his monastery,  
The ploughman and the lord;  
Would keep the Lent time patiently  
And keep a simple board.

Rich food nor meat could touch their lip  
Just plain and simple fare;  
Dried bread in sauce they could not dip –  
Or face the Parson’s glare!

Today, such things don’t tend to be  
We’ve left them in the past!  
Just those within that monastery  
Who keep the Lenten fast.

But all should come to love anew  
The treasured time of Lent  
And spend more time with Father, who  
Rewards such time well spent!

*By Nigel Beeton*

### Fairtrade Fortnight 2023

This year Fairtrade Fortnight runs 27th February to 12th March. It comes with a sombre reminder: climate change means that soon some of our favourite foods, such as bananas, cocoa and coffee could be harder to grow. And if that is combined with deeply unfair trade, then communities growing these crops will be pushed to the brink. This makes Fairtrade all the more vital – for all of us.

You can help in a number of ways during this Fortnight.

Fairtrade farmers and other experts explain what needs to change, for a sustainable future. *Let your friends know* of any Fairtrade event in your area, from a coffee morning to a quiz night. Buy Fairtrade goods whenever you can, from flowers to coffee, clothes to teas, plus lots else.

For more information, visit <https://www.fairtrade.org.uk>

## PARISH NEWS

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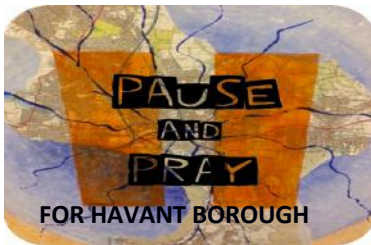
Reveal is a great new place to ask questions and it starts February 2nd in Bedhampton, Havant. Reveal is ideal for anyone who is not sure whether they would like to do an Alpha course, or still has questions after doing an Alpha course. It is great for those who simply have questions they wish to ask and discuss in an open and friendly forum. We don't have all the answers. What we have is a fun and friendly place in which to ask the questions and explore the answers together.

Whatever your experience has been of life, of God, of church, we would love to welcome you to come and share the journey.

We believe that God has made us to be so much more than the labels we give ourselves. Reveal's purpose is to help one another in exploring how God can be part of our everyday life, and how our lives can be richer when we seek and trust his influence. We meet fortnightly for soup, coffee, pastries, chat, music and time for reflection.

We meet at St Thomas' on Bidbury Lane with access through the back door to the Parish Room. More at [www.Bedhampton.church/reveal](http://www.Bedhampton.church/reveal) or contact the Parish Office for more information.

Thursdays, February 2nd & 16th, March 2nd & 16th at 7pm.



### Pause And Pray

A time to pause and gather together to pray for our Borough for 1 hour.

13th February, 6 - 7pm

at St Thomas' Church. All welcome!

### HOLY LAND VISIT

The visit to the Holy Land planned for 2023 has been postponed until 2024.



1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in February

10.30am

St Nicholas Church

*All welcome*

*Children are natural mimics - they act like us, in spite of all our attempts to teach them good manners.*



### Candlemas, 2nd February

Candlemas is the halfway point between the shortest day and the Spring Equinox, so from that date on the daylight hours get longer. In pre-Christian times, this day was known as the 'Feast of Lights' and celebrated the increased strength of the life-giving sun as Winter gave way to Spring.

It is also when we remember Mary and Joseph taking their baby Jesus, to the Temple forty days after His birth.

In by-gone days, candles were important, not only because there were no electric lights; people thought they gave protection against plague, illness and famine. Christ is often called the 'Light of the World' who came to bring light, hope, and peace into our darkness.



*"The knitting group are playing their part in our heating efficiency programme."*

### A Prayer at Candlemas

Dear Lord God,

February can be a difficult, cold month, and this year there is much to be concerned about, with the cost of living affecting our lives in so many ways. But thank you, Lord, that February can also be a month of wonderful signs of hope.

Help us, when we look down, to see the snowdrops - sometimes known as Candlemas Bells - and other bulbs pushing through the dark earth, showing the promise of Spring and brighter days ahead.

Help us to look up, to see the light of Jesus, Your revelation to all the world, in that baby who grew and died and rose again to offer salvation, hope and life to all who put their trust in Him. Thank you, Father, for Jesus and that, because of Him, nothing – no pandemic, no circumstance - can ever separate us from You.

Thank you for Your Holy Spirit, living in all who trust in You, giving us strength for each new day of this and every month. In Jesus name, Amen.

*By Daphne Kitching*

## PARISH NEWS

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### THE STORY BEHIND THE HYMN: Amazing Grace by John Newton 1725 - 1807

The well known and well loved hymn, Amazing Grace, has been celebrating its 250th birthday. It was written by John Newton at the very end of 1772 to illustrate a sermon on New Year's Day 1773.

John Newton was an English evangelical Anglican cleric and slavery abolitionist. He had previously been a captain of slave ships and an investor in the slave trade. He served as a sailor in the Royal Navy and was himself enslaved for a time in West Africa.

Newton was nurtured by a Christian mother who taught him the Bible at an early age, but he was raised in his father's image after she died of tuberculosis when Newton was 7. At age 11, Newton went on his first of six sea-voyages with the merchant navy captain. On board the H.M.S. Harwich in 1744, Newton rebelled against the discipline of the Royal Navy and deserted. He was caught, put in irons, and flogged. He eventually convinced his superiors to discharge him to a slave ship. He lived with moral abandon: "I sinned with a high hand," he later wrote, "and I made it my study to tempt and seduce others." He took up employment with a slave-trader named Clow, who owned a plantation of lemon trees on an island off west Africa. But he was treated cruelly by Clow and the slaver's African mistress; Newton was forced to beg for food to allay his hunger.

The sluggish sailor was transferred to the service of the captain of the *Greyhound*, a Liverpool ship, in 1747, and on its homeward journey, the ship was overtaken by an enormous storm. Newton had been reading Thomas a Kempis's *The Imitation of Christ*, and was struck by a line about the "uncertain continuance of life." He converted during the storm. Newton then served as a mate and then as captain of a number of slave ships, hoping as a Christian to restrain the worst excesses of the slave trade, "promoting the life of God in the soul" of both his crew and his African cargo.

After leaving the sea for an office job in 1755, Newton held Bible studies in his Liverpool home. Influenced by both the Wesleys and George Whitefield, he adopted mild Calvinist views and became increasingly disgusted with the slave trade and his role in it. He quit, was ordained into the Anglican ministry, and in 1764 took a parish in Olney in Buckinghamshire. Three years later, William Cowper moved to Olney. Cowper, a skilled poet who experienced bouts of depression, became a lay helper in the small congregation. In 1769, Newton began a Thursday evening prayer service. For almost every week's service, he wrote a hymn to be sung to a familiar tune. Newton challenged Cowper also to write hymns for these meetings, which he did until falling seriously ill in 1773. Newton later combined 280 of his own hymns with 68 of Cowper's in what was to become the popular Olney Hymns.

Among the well-known hymns in it are "Amazing Grace," "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken," "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds," and "O for a Closer Walk with God."

In 1787 Newton wrote *Thoughts Upon the African Slave Trade* to help Yorkshire politician, William Wilberforce's campaign to end the practice.

After a crushing political defeat, William Wilberforce nearly gave up his fight to abolish the slave trade. But a life-changing letter from John Newton sent this Daniel back into the lion's den.

**The hymn *Amazing Grace* is an exposition and application of 1 Chronicles 17.**

The hymn *Amazing Grace* has inspired and uplifted people all over the world. We also hear the story of John Newton, the man who wrote it. Taken from his first love, he was press ganged into service at sea, shackled to a ship's deck for 40 hours and contemplated murdering his captain. But he wrote the hymn after his ship was caught in a terrible storm and he, miraculously, survived.

### ***Amazing Grace***

*Amazing grace! How sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me;  
I once was lost, but now I'm found,  
Was blind but now I see.*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed.*

*Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.*



*The vicarage at St. Peter & St. Paul's in Olney, Buckinghamshire, where John Newton wrote *Amazing Grace* in his attic study, for his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16,17 for New Year's Day, Friday 1 January 1773. He was a priest there for 20 years. He is buried in the churchyard.*

### **ASH WEDNESDAY - a good time to admit you are sorry**

**17th February**

Have you done something which haunts you? Which makes you feel restless and defensive, every time you think of it? Why not deal with it this month, and put it behind you? Whatever your mistake has been, consider what the Bible has to say:

'I have not come to call the virtuous but sinners to repentance' (said Jesus). (Luke 5.32)  
'Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing.'

God is inviting us to come to Him this Ash Wednesday. Just like John Newton in the story above, and just like the Prodigal Son, welcomed back by his father.

# PARISH NEWS

## Valentine's Day: 14<sup>th</sup> February

There are two confusing things about this day of romance and anonymous love-cards strewn with lace, cupids and ribbon: firstly, there seems to have been two different Valentines in the 4th century - one a priest martyred on the Flaminian Way, under the emperor Claudius, the other a bishop of Terni martyred at Rome. And neither seems to have had any clear connection with lovers or courting couples.

So why has Valentine become the patron saint of romantic love? By Chaucer's time the link was assumed to be because on these saints' day -14th February - the birds are supposed to pair. Or perhaps the custom of seeking a partner on St Valentine's Day is a surviving scrap of the old Roman Lupercalia festival, which took place in the middle of February. One of the Roman gods honoured during this Festival was Pan, the god of nature. Another was Juno, the goddess of women and marriage. During the Lupercalia it was a popular custom for young men to draw the name of a young unmarried woman from a name-box. The two would then be partners or 'sweethearts' during the time of the celebrations. Even modern Valentine decorations bear an ancient symbol of love - Roman cupids with their bows and love-arrows.

There are no churches in England dedicated to Valentine, but since 1835 his relics have been claimed by the Carmelite church in Dublin.

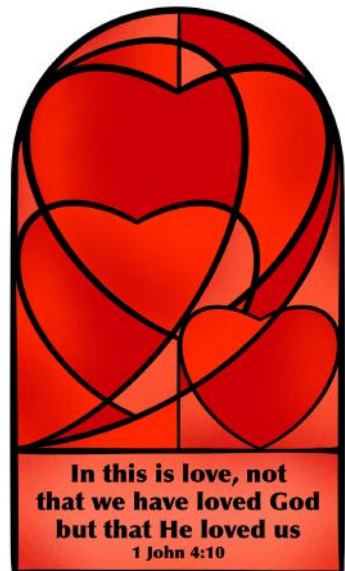
The modern mention of Valentine's Day can be found in a collection of English nursery rhymes (1784):

*The rose is red, the violet's blue,  
The honey's sweet, and so are you.  
Thou are my love and I am thine  
I drew thee to my Valentine.*

### It's all in the VALENTINE

For God so lo**V** ed the world,  
That He g**A** ve  
His on**L** y  
Begott**E** n  
So**N**  
T hat whosever  
Believes I n Him  
Should **N** ot perish,  
But have **E** verlasting life."

*John 3:16*



### UKRAINE – one year on

On 24th February 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine without warning. Ukraine had been part of the Soviet Union 1922-1991 and even before that had been overshadowed and often overpowered by its larger neighbour. In the last 12 months, one-quarter of the civilian population of Ukraine has been displaced, with 5+ million refugees escaping for temporary sanctuary in other countries. 95% of them are women and children. They have had to learn new languages, find jobs and schools, and become accustomed to foreign cultures. However we are grateful to so many people who have taken in refugees into their homes and made them feel welcome.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby said it was important for Britain to continue to support Ukrainian resistance, and to recognise that “you can’t talk about reconciliation when the guns are firing, because people are just concentrating on whether they’re alive for the next 20 minutes.” “There was a way forward,” said the Archbishop recently: “and that’s withdrawal and ceasefire by Russian forces.”

### CHRISTINGLE SERVICE at St Nicholas



The word ‘Christingle’ actually means ‘Christ Light’, and celebrates the light of Jesus coming into the world. For stories of how the Christingle began, we look back to the Moravian Church, which is found in the Czech Republic. The Moravians have held Christingle services for more than 200 years.

The Children’s Society first introduced the Christingle Service to The Church of England in 1968, and it has since become a popular event in the church calendar.

The Children’s Society supports young people when they need someone to talk to, for therapy, for food, to help make positive steps for a brighter future in a number of ways. Young people go to the Society when they have low self-esteem. When they’re living in families who can’t afford the next meal, the next size up in school uniform. Or when there’s no one else to lean on. Refugee and migrant children land in this country alone and look to the Children’s Society for guidance to achieve the life they dreamed of.

The symbolism of Christingle gradually developed, until today the Moravians in the British Province use an orange, representing the world, with a lighted candle to represent Christ, the Light of the World. Nuts, raisins and sweets on cocktail sticks around the candle represent God’s bounty and goodness in providing the fruits of the earth. Red paper, forming a frill around the base of the candle, reminds us of the blood of Christ shed for all people on the cross at Calvary.

## PARISH NEWS

### THE WORLD'S LARGEST ORANGE!

Max and Suzie began with an orange, then gradually added a red ribbon, four sticks, fruit and a candle whilst explaining the significance of each addition in an amusing way. Finally, the candle was added and lit before the Christingles were given out and lit. Songs were sung and a collection taken for the Children's Society.



## SIGNS OF SPRING ON ITS WAY?



*Bedhampton daffodils on 13th January!*

Whilst there are many concerns about climate change, with hotter summers and wetter winters with problems with flooding and land slips as we have very recently learned, the Bedhampton Volunteers have almost finished the planting of new bulbs for the Spring.

Whilst driving around Bedhampton last week, I could see many daffodils well on their way, expecting Spring weather. In Brookside Road some have already decided to make a full appearance, although the forecast was for a week of much colder weather to come with snow a possibility. Nobody warned them!

The Volunteers have also been moving shrubs, clearing leaves and brambles and generally tidying up.

At the end of December, eleven of them met at the Rusty Cutter where they enjoyed a breakfast together, very well deserved.

A message from Pete Spencer to all the Volunteers: "On behalf of the caring residents of our village, who so appreciate your efforts and donate to our cause, a very large thankyou for all your endeavours this year. The path at Lower Road and attendant verges and gardens are much used and appreciated, besides all the other accomplishments, including the maintenance of the baskets in such Sahara-like conditions."

## What a tree can do for you

Trees can help prevent you getting depressed. At least, you are less likely to be on antidepressants if you live on a tree-lined street.

That is the finding of a survey by the Forestry Commission, which looked for the first time at the mental health value of our forests and woodlands. Apparently, they save the NHS something like £185million in antidepressants each year.



A spokesman at Mind, the mental health charity, said: "Although many of us feel like hibernating in winter, getting outside in green spaces and making the most of the little daylight we get can really benefit both your physical and mental health."

# COMMUNITY NEWS

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## The Elms Luncheon Club Invitation

A big welcome awaits you, at our Thursday lunch club, held each week, in the Waterloo Room at 'The Elms' 2, Lower Road Bedhampton, PO9 3LH. We meet about 12.00 to 12.15 ready to sit down at 1230.



### Who are we?

Well, we are a group of local (e.g. Bedhampton, Havant, Waterlooville, Emsworth and Hayling Island) people who come every Thursday to have a natter, put the world to rights or just to come and enjoy a home cooked meal. We eat a two-course lunch freshly cooked on the premises by local volunteers and served by helper volunteers. Diets can be catered for if known in advance and our volunteer cooks are all appropriately certificated.

The cost currently is only £4.00 or £5.00 if you want to donate a further £1.00 to the Manor Trust.

Do come and join us, we are all very friendly and cooks and helpers also dine with us, to eat the delicious lunches served. It's great fun!

Just text or ring Marion on 07414 115 657 or ring Margaret on 023 9261 9152, or text or ring Sue on 0775 366 3218 if you would like to come and join us, one Thursday. We use these numbers too if we can't come, as it gives the cooks some idea how many to cater for.

We look forward to seeing you with perhaps a friend? on any Thursday, and hope that you will enjoy the experience and become a regular diner.

Margaret, Sue, Annie, Debbie,  
Bridget, Pat and Lorna



### *Food for thought . . .*

I am not what I might be, I am not what I ought to be, I am not what I wish to be, I am not what I hope to be; but I thank God I am not what I once was, and I can say with the great apostle, 'By the grace of God I am what I am.' - *John Newton, former slave trader*



# The Bedhampton Scout Group Need You.

## Especially the Scout Section for 10-14 year olds.

Our Scout Leadership is unfortunately struggling which makes delivering a quality programme for the youth of Bedhampton.

It's particularly impacting the Scout section (10-14) year olds but help is needed in the Beavers (6-8) and the Cubs (8-10) and the Executive Support.

So why not put your skills to use, learn new ones and play an active role in the local community.

Volunteering is easier than you think. With full support and training you can volunteer on a flexible basis.

Give young people the skills they need to succeed in life and discover how being part of the Scouting family can be as rewarding for you as it is for them.

Call us on 07979736459 or email [nigeljvosper@sky.com](mailto:nigeljvosper@sky.com)

p.s. The picture of the Flaming torch (called "the Spirit of Bedhampton") was taken on a camp in Oct 2022. This is what we want to continue.

[www.1stbedhampton.co.uk](http://www.1stbedhampton.co.uk)

#GoodForYou

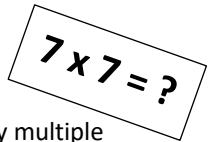
### How to give your children a head-start in life

Make sure they learn and memorise their times tables. Knowing any multiple up to 12 times 12 is a "basic building block for success in life", according to experts. That is why times table tests for Year 4 pupils in England were introduced last year. (There was a period when learning times tables was discouraged but thinking has again changed, realising the value of the rote learning.)

It can be argued that children need to understand how numbers work, and understand their connections to each other enough, otherwise they often end up using what becomes an inefficient 'counting up from 0' strategy to figure them out.

It is fair to say that children who know their multiplication tables up to 12 x 12 (with a good amount of understanding as well as recall) cope better with the demands of the maths curriculum in many areas, such as formal written division, equivalent fractions, percentages and ratio and proportion.

The schools minister, Nick Gibb, calls knowing your times tables an "immensely valuable skill" that has personally helped him both as a chartered accountant, and also in just figuring out the "best multi-pack supermarket bargains."



# YOUTH ACTIVITIES



## Scouting News - Christmas

### 1st Bedhampton Scouts

[www.1stbedhampton.co.uk](http://www.1stbedhampton.co.uk)

As 2022 drew to an end and with Christmas on the horizon, the Cubs led the Carol singing and amazingly raised £170 for the Children's Society. The Scouts also did their Good Turn of delivering Christmas post when over 100 cards were delivered, and all the Scouts managed to find their way back to base.

The Beavers have been making Christmas cards and doing Christmas crafts with an end of year Christmas party. Everyone was in good spirits as we said goodbye until 2023.



We could also do with some more help (as always) in all three sections (Beavers, Cubs and Scouts), so if you think this is something you may be interested in and have two hours to spare each week then please contact Nigel Vosper on 07979 736459.

It's a very rewarding experience. You will meet new people, make new friends and have new experiences.

Why not come along to any of the three sections to see what happens.

*Karen Fairley  
(Assistant Beaver Leader)*

*Nigel Vosper: Scout Group Leader*

## BUILDING and DEVELOPMENT

I came across these statistics issued by the Government... Department of Levelling Up Housing and Communities. I thought they might be of general interest and provide a little interesting information.

8.7% of England can be considered "Developed Use". 91% is "non developed use" and 0.2% is "vacant use".

63% is used for agriculture and 20% is forestry, open land or water.

Less than 5% is residential and accommodates around 95% of the population.

Around 92% is off limits and 70% is owned by less than 1% of the population.

*A local resident.*

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### The Organ Project: St Mary's Church, Portsea; a series of Recitals



Following the historic restoration of the 1889 J.W. Walker & Sons Ltd. pipe organ in St Mary's... the 2023 Organ Recital series continues with a recital given by local young organists, with the Portsmouth District Organists Association

**Saturday 25th February at 10am**

Friday 3rd March, 7pm: Luke Fitzgerald

### LUNCHTIME LIVE!

at Portsmouth Cathedral

**Thursday 2nd February, 1,10pm**

Catherine Lawlor & Valentina Seferinova

(violin & piano): Mythes by Szymanowski

Lunchtime Concert series

Chichester Cathedral

**Tuesday 28th February, 1.10pm**

Charles Harrison: Organ

St Peter's Church, Petersfield

A Concert for Peace

**Saturday 11th March 7.30pm**

To include Karl Jenkins' 'Armed Man'

*Proceeds to support Ukraine*

### SOLENT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

**Saturday 4th March, 7.30pm**

Bruch: Violin Concerto

*Alexandra Peel: Violin*

Winner of Portsmouth Music Festival Concerto Prize

Mozart: Overture Magic Flute

Brahms: Symphony No.2

Portsmouth Anglican Cathedral

Tickets: £15, £5, Kids for a Quid.

Havant Chamber Orchestra

**Saturday 4th March, 7.30pm**

Ben Goldscheider – horn

BBC Young Musician finalist 2016

*Schumann, Strauss, Schubert*

*Talk: 6.30pm, Holy Trinity, Fareham*

PORTSMOUTH MENUHIN ROOM

Portsmouth Library

**Saturday 11th February 12.30pm**

Piano Spectrum: Andrew McVittie & Helen Morris

**Saturday 11th March 12.30pm**

Norse Fantasy

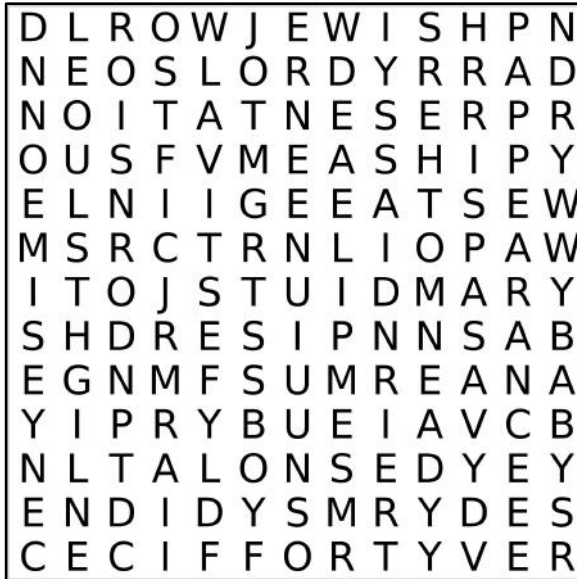
Karen Kingsley & Robert Blanken

Piano & Clarinet

# PUZZLE PAGE

## Wordsearch – February - *Lent*

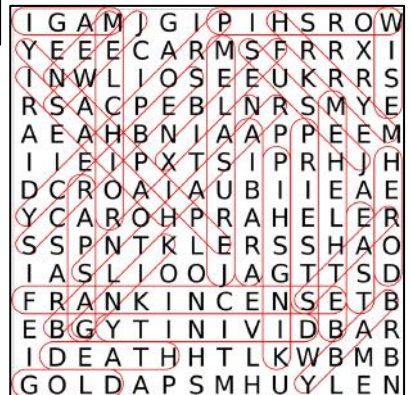
In New Testament times 40 days old was an important age for a baby boy: it was when they made their first 'public appearance'. Mary, like all good Jewish mothers, went to the Temple with Jesus, her first male child - to 'present him to the Lord'. At the same time, she, as a new mother, was 'purified'. Thus, we have the Festival of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, 40 days after Christmas. Jesus is described in the Bible as the Light of the World, and so early Christians developed the tradition of lighting many candles in celebration of this day. The Church also fell into the custom of blessing the year's supply of candles for the church on this day - hence the name, Candlemas. The story can be found in Luke 2:22-40, where Simeon makes his great declaration of faith and recognition of Jesus. Simeon's 'Nunc Dimittis', is embedded in the Office of Evening Prayer.



- |            |              |
|------------|--------------|
| Forty      | Jesus        |
| Days       | Purified     |
| Baby       | Present      |
| Boy        | Lord         |
| Public     | Festival     |
| Appearance | Presentation |
| Mary       | Light        |
| Jewish     | World        |
| Mothers    | Candlemas    |
| Temple     | Simeon       |
| Nunc       | Evening      |
| Dimittis   | Prayer       |
| Office     | West         |

*Answers next month*

JANUARY SOLUTION



## BEDHAMPTON VOLUNTEERS

### Work continues . .

Even in the cold frosty weather the Volunteers have been out bulb planting and tidying the BV gardens around the area; some took advantage of the sunny mornings just before New Year to plant more bulbs, to tidy litter and to remove brambles from around the area. Just before Christmas, the work party of 11 saw them finish off as much as you could eat and drink for breakfast, at the Rusty Cutter, where you serve yourself, and they had an early-ish 11.30 finish. The warmest, most comfortable and biscuit less they've been for some time. No wonder it's so popular.



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## Bedhampton Guide and Ranger New Forest Event 2022

Too many years ago to remember, I was taken to Foxlease, the Girl Guiding activity centre as a young Guide on a day trip, from Camp. It was impressed on us just how special the Georgian house and grounds were and when we went into the house, it was with a feeling of dread that I might break some treasure or do or say the wrong thing.

Although I have visited Foxlease many times since it was to be another 52 years, in January 2002, before

I realised my wish to stay in the actual house. A fantastic 24 hour stay and the catalyst to plan a trip for Bedhampton Guides and Rangers to do likewise. The house bedrooms now have en-suite facilities and all the food and cooking and washing up was covered by the house staff. As Guide trips go this was pure luxury with 4 adventurous activities, and a movie film thrown in too. The response from the girls and adults meant we had a party of 57 venture off on a taste of adventure on 5th November.



*Janet Goring – Guider and joint District Co-ordinator*

On 5th November I went to Foxlease with my Guides and a few others too. It was such fun as it was my first time ever going there, and I am glad I did. All the activities were really enjoyable; my favourite had to be Hover Ball Archery, followed by Archery, Nightline. We also did abseiling which I am very proud of myself for doing; it was scary leaning over the edge.

I loved the rooms we stayed in, although I am sure I saw a Ghost. I will never forget looking out my window in the morning and seeing a deer. I loved going and making lots of memories and hope to go back soon.

*Alice, 4<sup>th</sup> Guides*

After the activities on the Saturday we were shown our bedrooms and then we changed into our uniforms and went downstairs to a beautiful room to watch Madagascar Film all together. After that we went to the dining room for dinner. There was a choice of Bolognese and pasta or Mushroom Bolognese or Sausage rolls and salad; followed by a Banoffee pie with whipped cream and sprinkles. After dinner we had a choice of crafts, Mexican Gods eyes or Friendship bracelets. Then we had an inside campfire, singing songs and talking. Then it was time for bed; I liked the rooms.

On the Sunday after breakfast, I had the Nightline activity and we worked on trust, teamwork, leadership and communication as we went around obstacles.

Overall it was an amazing trip and I would definitely go again.

*Sophie, 3<sup>rd</sup> Guides*

My weekend at Foxlease was good.

*Robyn, Older Brownie*



## DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

On 13th December 2022, members of the Bedhampton Parish Mothers' Union and some guests attended our annual Christmas lunch at The Castle Inn, Rowlands Castle. It was a cold and rainy day but, as usual, the staff at The Castle greeted us with smiles and a warm and happy atmosphere. Our meal was, as usual superb and there was much laughter and light heartedness which was sorely needed after the doom and gloom of recent months.

Our Mothers' Union meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month and we have a varied and interesting programme for 2023. We would welcome new members and anyone wishing to join our group should please contact Ann Partridge, our Branch Leader, via the Parish Office. We wish you all a very Happy and healthy New Year.

Marie Payne

**Note:** The talk on Bee Keeping planned for January has had to be postponed and will be rearranged for later in the year.

### All in the month of FEBRUARY - DATES AND ANNIVERSARIES

150 years ago, on 21st February 1873 Thomas Andrews, Irish/British shipbuilder and businessman was born. The naval architect in charge of the plans for the RMS Titanic, he perished along with 1,500 others during her maiden voyage.

100 years ago, on 16th February 1923, British archaeologist Howard Carter opened the sealed doorway to Tutankhamen's tomb in Thebes, Egypt. The following day he entered the burial chamber and discovered a wealth of treasures.

65 years ago, on 17th February 1958, St. Claire of Assisi (1194-1253) was declared the patron saint of television by Pope Pius XII – on the basis that she had been too ill to attend Mass, but had reportedly been able to see and hear it on the wall of her room.

40 years ago, on 8th February 1983 the champion racehorse, Shergar, was kidnapped in Ireland and a £2 million ransom demanded. The horse was never seen again.

25 years ago, on 23rd February 1998 Osama bin Laden issued a fatwa against all Jews and Crusaders.

20 years ago, on 1st February 2003 the US space shuttle Columbia disintegrated over Texas during re-entry, killing all seven astronauts.

10 years ago, on 1st February 2013 the Shard, a 72-storey skyscraper in London, was officially opened. It is the tallest building in the UK and the sixth tallest in Europe.

1 year ago, on 24th February 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine.

# COMMUNITY EVENTS



## MOTHERS' UNION FEBRUARY

*Wednesday 1st Holy Communion  
9.30am at St Thomas*

*Tuesday 28th 2 – 4pm*



### The Fire Service

*St Nicholas Church*

The Arts  
Society  
Portsmouth



Wonderful Things  
Tutankhamen's Tomb and Treasures

**Thursday 9th February, 2pm**  
at St Nicholas Church



## FUN CLUB

For babies and toddlers  
parents or carers  
at St Nicholas on

Thursdays 9 – 11 am in term time

Lots of fun things to do;  
songs, art and craft;  
tea and chat for adults.

Contact Sally on  
023 9247 5078  
or just come along.



## St Nicholas Church

Two halls and a well-equipped  
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[Hello@Bedhamptonparish.org.uk](mailto:Hello@Bedhamptonparish.org.uk)

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Bedhampton**



**C**ome and join us

**O**nce a week

**F**riday morning

**F**rom 10.30 to 12 noon

**E**njoy coffee or tea and cake

**E**veryone welcome

## BIDBURY MEAD W.I.

**Thursday 16th February, 7.30 pm**

**Flowers in Art**

**Speaker: Glenn Duggan**

*St Nicholas Church*

*All welcome*





**BAPTISMS**

*We welcome into the Church Family*

There were no Thanksgivings or Baptisms in December.



**Dates for your diary**

Saturday 4th February: 10 -12.30pm  
Repair Café, Pallant Centre, Havant

Tuesday 21st February: St Nick's Flicks  
1.45pm - 4pm at St Nicholas



**WEDDING**

*We wish every happiness for the future to those recently married*

Catherine Hayward & Robin Lock

**REST IN PEACE**

*We pray for the families of those who have recently died*

John Honeychurch  
Cecilia 'Celia' Smees  
John Wiggins  
Margaret Ellen Hart



**MARCH 2023**

**Magazine**



For information about advertising and the 'Magazine by mail' service, contact the Parish Office (see below)

We warmly welcome advertisers to our magazine but the Parish does not accept responsibility for the quality of work carried out.

All material for the next issue should be sent to the Parish Office, St Nicholas Church, Belmont Grove, Bedhampton, PO9 3PU by 10 am on **Monday 6th February**  
[Office@Bedhampton.church](mailto:Office@Bedhampton.church)

Rector : Rev Max Cross 023 9248 3013

Email : [Max@Bedhampton.church](mailto:Max@Bedhampton.church)

*Day off: Thursday*

Assistant Curate: Rev. Jill Kingston 023 9279 0844

Email : [Jill@Bedhampton.church](mailto:Jill@Bedhampton.church)

*Day off: Thursday*

Churchwardens : Mike Tritton 023 9247 5078

Ann Partridge 023 9247 2180

Deputy Churchwardens : Sandra Matthews 023 9248 4669

Tracey Smith

Parish Administrator : Deb Vears 023 9248 3013

*Parish Office open 9.30 am – 12.30 pm on Monday to Friday*

Enquiries for Weddings, Baptisms

Email: [Hello@Bedhampton.church](mailto:Hello@Bedhampton.church)

## Services for FEBRUARY 2023

### **SUNDAY 5th**

St Thomas 9.00 am  
*St Nicholas* 10.30 am  
 St Thomas 4.00 pm  
 On-line service 5.00pm

### **( Epiphany 5)**

Holy Communion  
*Messy Church*  
 Compline  
 (St Thomas)

### **SUNDAY 12th**

St Thomas 9.00 am  
*St Nicholas* 10.30 am  
 On-line service 5.00pm  
 On-line service 6.00pm

### **( 2nd Sunday before Lent )**

Holy Communion  
*Morning Worship*  
 (St Nicholas)  
 (St Thomas)

### **SUNDAY 19th**

St Thomas 9.00 am  
*St Nicholas* 10.30 am  
 St Thomas 4.00 pm  
 On-line service 5.00pm  
 On-line service 6.00pm

### **( Sunday next before Lent )**

Morning Praise  
*Morning Worship*  
 Celtic Evening Prayer  
 (St Thomas)  
 (*St Nicholas*)

### **WEDNESDAY 22nd**

### **(Ash Wednesday )**

### **SUNDAY 26th**

St Thomas 9.00 am  
*St Nicholas* 10.30 am  
 On-line service 5.00pm  
 On-line service 6.00pm

### **( Lent 1 )**

Holy Communion  
*Holy Communion*  
 (St Thomas)  
 (*St Nicholas*)

**ON-LINE:** Where an on-line service mentions a church,  
 at [www.Bedhampton.tv](http://www.Bedhampton.tv) and Facebook  
*please do not go to the church building.*

## MID-WEEK HOLY COMMUNION SERVICES

|                       |           |         |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------|---------|-----------------------|
| <b>Wednesday 1st</b>  | St Thomas | 9.30 am | Holy Communion (M.U.) |
| <b>Wednesday 8th</b>  | St Thomas | 9.30 am | Holy Communion        |
| <b>Wednesday 15th</b> | St Thomas | 9.30 am | Holy Communion        |
| <b>Wednesday 22nd</b> | St Thomas | 9.30 am | Holy Communion        |

*ON-LINE Holy Communion Services: Thursdays at 10 am*

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singers*



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