

Bedhampton Parish

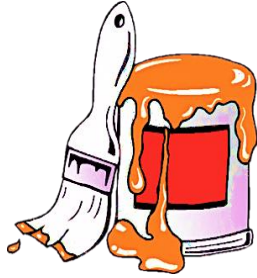


April
2025

£1.00p

COMMUNITY

Gary Beaton



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& Exterior
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Community Centre**

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www.bedhamptoncommunity.org



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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 Rice, jam spreads

Pot noodles/Packet noodles
Coffee and sugar Toiletries

Thank you for your support.



In a recent service, I shared with those present about our last family holiday. In what was a miracle of planning and availability, Suzy and I were able to spend a week away with our three grown children and their spouses as well as our three very young grandchildren. It was the most wonderful time as an extended family and one afternoon

we found ourselves sitting together in the sun around the pool. Perhaps you have done this at family gatherings, but I found myself watching the interactions almost as though I was watching from a distance. As I watched the love flowing around the group and the children being passed from uncle to aunty, I was overwhelmed by gratitude for what I had received. I found myself lifting my thanks to our God in prayer and I felt tears of gratitude flow down my face.

Bragging about my holiday may sound like an odd introduction to an Easter message, but for me, it is a modern-day parable. Perhaps it is not as perfectly formed as the parable of the Prodigal Son, but there is a truth to be heard. My story speaks of a father who looks at his children and whose heart is overflowing with love for them. Had there been space, the prequel to my parable would speak of the times when my heart has broken for my children in their troubles and their pain. If my story is not a parable of Father God who looks into his world with love and distress in equal measure for all his children, I am not sure what is.

Easter is a time when the heart of God burst forth into action. A time when God himself stepped down into the darkness of our world and brought light. The Prince of Peace Jesus himself came for you and me and hung upon a tree that we might truly receive life to the full in the here and now and into our future. Only a God who looks at his children and has tears rolling down his face could bring such unconditional love.

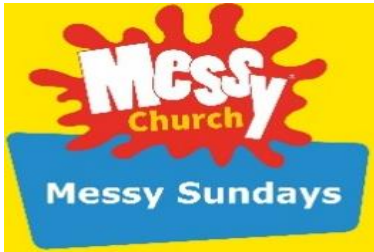
So this Easter you are invited to celebrate that love. Come to St Nicholas' for Easter Day Bubble Church if you have young ones, or you are welcome to come and join us at St Thomas' for an Easter Day Celebration Communion around the Table. Let this Easter be the time you rediscover the God who loves you so much that you might just notice him almost as though he is watching from a distance with tears in his eyes. However, let me assure you he is not a distant God, those are tears of joy for the children he loves sitting amongst and that includes you.

Max Cross



Bubble Church is a free puppet-packed, Jesus-centred coffee-and-croissant fuelled 30 minute kids and families adventure.

Bubble Church at Bedhampton Parish Is on the third Sunday of every month at 9.30am at St Nicholas Church, Belmont Grove.



All are welcome to Messy Church which usually take place on each first Sunday of the month, 10.30am at St Nicholas Church. There are craft activities, songs and stories for the whole family.

Refreshments available.

BEDHAMPTON CALENDAR

Why not take some local photos for a Bedhampton calendar.

Keep taking photos – anything of interest around Bedhampton. They may be submitted for any year.



Pause And Pray

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

Monday 14th April, 6 - 7pm

At Hart Plain Church, Waterlooville.

All welcome



St Nick's Flicks

will meet again on

Tuesday

15th April

1.45 for 2pm

at St Nicholas' Church



A free film show with refreshments. Enquiries to the Parish Office.

All welcome – no need to book.

FAMILY NEWS

We send our good wishes to all those who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this month.

We also remember those who are not well at this time.



Cover: Easter

ALPHA COURSE – continues

Alpha is a series of group conversations that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment. Everyone is welcome. The course continues on Wednesday evenings.



Easter Thoughts in a Churchyard

It's a yearly paradox. You've brought some flowers to the churchyard to lay on the grave of a loved one. All around you are graves and headstones, reminders of the inevitable end of life's earthly journey. But it's Easter Day, and from within the church you can hear the singing: 'Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!' Perhaps then you notice a few other things. You're standing among the fresh daffodils and the grass that's suddenly green and growing again. For a moment you pause and reflect on the reverse of an old saying. In the midst of death - we are in life!

Jean Banks

Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother, Neighbour and Friend, passed away peacefully on 18th February in The Burlington Care Home, Shepperton, aged 103. A funeral service was held at Portchester Crematorium. She will be sadly missed.



A.P.C.M.

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

At St Nicholas

Sunday 27th April after a joint service

Followed by a bring and share lunch.

If you are interested in standing for the PCC,
please speak to Max for more information.

The Real Easter

by Canon Paul Hardingham

In C.S. Lewis's *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, the lion Aslan is put to death by the White Witch. The stone table on which He is killed cracks in two, but Aslan meets with Lucy and Susan alive again. He explains the Witch's failure:

'her knowledge goes back only to the dawn of time. But if she could have looked a little further back, she would have known that when a willing victim who had committed no treachery was killed in a traitor's stead, the Table would crack, and Death itself would start working backwards.'

This is a great picture of what Jesus' cross and His resurrection has achieved. As Paul writes, *'I want to know Christ, to know the power of His resurrection'* (Philippians 3:10). To understand the real Easter, we should experience the same power that raised Jesus from the dead!

New Hope: Like the girls in the story, Easter highlights the sadness and confusion that loss brings. Yet the resurrection of Jesus brings new hope, as it demonstrates the victory secured by the cross over sin, Satan and death. We can face life's difficulties knowing that Jesus walks beside us.

New Love: Our relationships are often characterised by a lack of forgiveness, hurt and betrayal. Yet Jesus' resurrection opens the possibility of new love, as His power enables us to accept others and forgive them.

New Life: When we are trying to make sense of life, like the girls in the story, Jesus offers us a living relationship with Himself. It's a friendship with God through Jesus that can begin today and continue for eternity.

When Lucy met Aslan again, she cried: *'Oh, you're real, you're real!'* We too can find the real Easter through a life changing encounter with the living Christ.

Jesus' appearances after His Resurrection

The following list of witnesses may help you put all those references in order....

Mary Magdalene	Mark 16:9-11; John 20:10-18
Other women at the tomb	Matthew 28:8-10
Peter in Jerusalem	Luke 24:34; 1 Corinthians 15:5
The two travellers on the road	Mark 16:12,13
10 disciples behind closed doors	Mark 16:14; Luke 24:36-43; John 20:19-25
11 disciples WITH Thomas	John 20:26-31; 1 Corinthians 15:5
7 disciples while fishing	John 21:1-14
11 disciples on the mountain	Matthew 28:16-20
A crowd of 500	1 Corinthians 15:6
Jesus' brother – James	1 Corinthians 15:7
Those who saw the Ascension	Luke 24:44-49; Acts 1:3-8

Guarding the Easter chocolate

Was there a security tag on your Easter egg this year? If so, it wasn't because high street bosses feared the Easter Bunny might take it.

It's that shoplifting has soared to an unprecedented amount. There were more than 20 million shoplifting incidents last year - an average of about *50,000 cases a day*, according to the British Retail Consortium (BRC). In all, retailers lost £2.2 billion.

And it seems that shoplifters also like chocolate. Which is why some WH Smith shops have been tagging the Cadbury Mini Eggs, and why some Tesco stores have put Quality Street chocolates under a wire net, to name but a couple of examples.

Chocolate – food of the gods!

Did you know that the botanical name for the cocoa bean is *Theobroma* – which means 'food of the gods'? Millions of us obviously think chocolate is special – on average, each of us consumes 8.1 kilograms of it a year!

Certainly, chocolate makes us feel better. Some scientists believe that this is due to the chemicals it contains. These trigger the release of endorphins, similar to those we naturally produce when we fall in love.

But nutritionists warn against using chocolate as a pick-me-up, especially in the evening. Chocolate eaten before bedtime can cause your blood glucose levels to plummet during the night, which will disrupt your sleep. Chocolate eaten in quantity every day can lead to mood and energy swings, weight gain and poor immunity. If you have mad cravings for it, you could have a problem with blood sugar, or a deficiency in magnesium, copper, zinc or iron.

But occasional consumption of cocoa can provide medical benefits. Cocoa is rich in nutrients such as iron, calcium and potassium, and many vitamins, also the highest natural source of magnesium, and of course it gives us a sugar-fix!

Easter opportunities to sing in Portsmouth Cathedral

GOOD FRIDAY – 18th April 2025

Come and Sing 'The Crucifixion'
by Sir John Stainer

- From 5pm – Arrive in Cathedral Nave
- 5:30pm - Rehearsal in Quire
- 6.30pm – Break
- 7pm - Devotional Service:
'The Crucifixion'

EASTER CAROL SERVICE SUNDAY 27th APRIL

- From 4pm - Arrive in Cathedral House
for Tea/Collect music/Briefing
- 4.45pm - Rehearsal in Quire
- 5.30pm - Break
- 5.45pm - An Easter Carol Service

David Price

HAVANT REPAIR CAFÉ

The Café opens on the first Saturday of each month from 10am till 12.30pm at the Pallant Centre behind Waitrose. Items for repair can include electrical, mechanical, electronic, textile, soft furnishings and clothes, saving things from being sent to landfill.

For a small donation, your goods can be looked at and hopefully mended by one of the repairers, just as on the TV version. You may even learn a new skill or technique yourself!

Changing a light bulb is a generational thing. Do you know how to clean a car, change a light bulb, hang a picture and identify a spanner? If yes, then chances are that you are a Baby Boomer (1955-1964) and not a Gen Z (1997-2012). What is a Gen Z?

Recent research has found that some Gen Z are paying up to £1,300 a year for simple household tasks to be done, because they don't want to tackle them. Changing a light bulb? Gen Z worry that a step ladder can be dangerous, and that the bulb might be "too hot". They do not want "to mess around with electricians." Hanging a picture frame? Add air to a car tyre? Identify a spanner? Fit a wiper blade? Clean a car? The list of practical jobs is endless, and huge numbers of Gen Z get round them by asking a parent or even paying a professional, to do it.

The researchers concluded that that DIY may sadly be a dying skill, because too many Gen Z-ers are simply not practically minded.

From Parish Pump

I was in a public building recently and noticed a loose screw on a door handle in a rather dangerous position. As part of my role, I was

to make sure members of the public were safe. I recognised the screw as needing a Philips screw driver, but unfortunately I did not have one in my handbag! I did, however, manage to report it to someone responsible for the building who could do something about it and say what was needed.

But how did I know what kind of screw it was? I can remember watching and helping my father with all sorts of jobs around the home as I grew up. He had a garage full of tools. I even knew how to change and wire an electric plug! It was allowed in those days!

Carol Frogley

WHO LET THE DADS OUT?

St Nicholas Church at 9.30am 4th Saturday of the month; a new group for fathers, grandfathers, father figures and their children, aimed at children from birth to school year 3 but all are welcome. www.bton.uk/dads

Shut your curtains

If you live in the countryside, here's a way to help keep local wildlife alive: draw your curtains at night and turn off your outside lights.

The darker we can keep it outside, the better. Animals and insects who live in rural areas are especially susceptible to bright lights, which can confuse and disorientate them and they die before morning. Even if they don't die, they are spending all their time at the light instead of doing all the things they're supposed to be doing. Light pollution, disrupts natural rhythms and ecosystems.

1st April - Fooling Around

Probably the most famous April Fool's joke of all time was the 1960's BBC TV broadcast feature on the spaghetti farms of Italy. A BBC reporter interviewed Italian farmers about their work and the progress of the spaghetti plants in great detail. Spaghetti plants were filmed being carefully planted, and then being harvested. And all in the BBC's most serious documentary manner. It took a while to appreciate that this was Auntie playing games. Whatever next!

The odd thing is that no one is quite sure of the origin of this very British tradition. Most attribute it to changes in Britain's calendar in the 1700s, when New Year's Day moved from 25th March to 1st January. Not surprisingly, the change caused a lot of confusion and mistakes around the start of April. Others look even further back, to the ancient Roman feast of Hilaria, when the goddess Cybele was celebrated with pranks and jokes around the Spring Equinox, 25th March.

In years gone by, the rules surrounding April Fool were this: between midnight and noon on 1st April, everyone is 'fair game' to be made a fool of. It is the morning of the practical joke. But the aim is not just to discomfort the victim: he must be tricked into taking action himself, sent on a 'fool's errand'.

London Marathon 2025 – Sunday 27th April

Last year's London Marathon attracted more than 53,000 runners, which made it the world's biggest annual one-day fund-raising event EVER. It also raised a world record-breaking amount of £73.5 million for charities.

The route is 26.2 miles long. Greenwich and Blackheath is the starting point, and then the route takes in Woolwich, Greenwich, Rotherhithe, Bermondsey, Tower Bridge, Limehouse, Canary Wharf, Isle of Dogs, Shadwell, Tower Gateway, Westminster Bridge, Great George Street, Birdcage Walk, Buckingham Palace and finally to the iconic finish line on The Mall.

Please let us know if you or someone you know are taking part this year and send us a short report on your experience.

Directions

The Revd Billy Graham told of an encounter early in his ministry, when he had arrived for a preaching mission in a small town. Wanting to post a letter, he asked a young boy in the street where the post office was. After the boy told him, Billy Graham thanked him, and added: "Son, if you come along to the Baptist church this evening, you can hear me telling everyone how to get to heaven."

The boy looked doubtful. "The way to Heaven? But you can't even find the post office."

COMMUNITY

Havant Symphony Orchestra: 60th Anniversary concert when local violinist, Catherine Lawlor, will be playing 'The Lark Ascending' with the Chamber Orchestra.

60th Anniversary Concert: From the Earth to the Sky

Saturday 10th May, 2.30pm. Sacred Heart Church, Waterlooville. PO7 7SR

Offenbach Can-Can, (from *Orpheus in the Underworld*)
Anon Of the Earth (*commissioned piece*)
Vaughan Williams The Lark Ascending (Catherine Lawlor - Violin)
Sibelius At the Castle Gate (Theme tune, *The Sky at Night*)
Debussy, arr. Black Clair de Lune
Mozart Symphony No 41, 'Jupiter'



THE GARDEN SHOWS 2025

Firle Place 18-20 APRIL Nr Lewes, E.Sussex
Easter Weekend BN8 6LP

Broadlands 6-8 JUNE Romsey, Hampshire

Rookesbury Park 25-27 JULY Wickham,
Hampshire PO17 6JR

www.thegardenshows.com
tickets@thegardenshows.com

Bedhampton Manor Trust

Evening Talk "Fishermania":

Kitty Fisher by Dr. Bob France

Tuesday 8th April, 7.30 – 8.30pm

The sensational story behind an innocent nursery rhyme. "Lucy Locket lost her pocket, Kitty Fisher found it..."

Discover the scandalous superstar of 1760s London.

Tickets in advance at £5 each available from Paula in the Trust Office

The Big Book Sale

Saturday 12th April; 11.00am – 3.00pm

A vast selection of pre-loved books at reasonable prices

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Chantry Choir: Monteverdi Vespers

Saturday 29th March, 7.30pm
Boxgrove Priory (nr. Chichester)

www.chantryquire.org.uk

Come and sing **Stainer's Crucifixion**
Portsmouth Anglican Cathedral. See p.5
Good Friday

Renaissance Choir

German Classical Masters
Bach, Beethoven, Bruckner, Hassler
Saturday 29th March, 7.30pm
St Peters Church, Petersfield

Tickets £17

Portsmouth Baroque Choir

with singers from
Southampton Choral Society
and Winchester Youth Orchestra
A German Requiem by Brahms
Saturday 10th May 2025, 7:30 pm
Romsey Abbey
Tickets, £10, £5 from Ticket source
portsmouthbaroquechoir.co.uk

HAVANT TREFOIL GUILD
INVITES CHURCH MEMBERS TO A TALK BY



JUNE
TUESDAY **10** 2 PM - 4 PM
2025

ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH CENTRE,
BELMONT GROVE, BEDHAMPTON,
PO9 3PU

-  An Informative Presentation
-  Tea, Coffee & Cake
-  Raffle Fundraiser for the RNLI
-  Friends & Family Welcome
-  Entrance by Donation (£3 suggestion)
-  Cash Only Event

◆.....◆
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN US, PLEASE PHONE
SHARON CLAPSON ON 02392482783 OR
TEXT ON 07804238663
◆.....◆

MOTHERS UNION

Mothers' Union – New Patron

Family life is very much part of the Mothers' Union. Here below, Sophie, the Duchess of Edinburgh, interacts with a child.



Above: Catherine Langhorn relaxing on land with her family and friends whilst on their travels around the Caribbean.

More on page 17.

Above right: The Oceana yacht in harbour.



MOTHERS' UNION TALKS

Rev Max Cross enjoys walking and has been on the Camino walk to Santiago on several occasions. On 27th May he is to give a talk about these walks and explain their significance in his ministry.

Easter Prayer

You brought light and hope out of darkness and despair. You brought life out of death when you raised Jesus that first Easter Day. Thank you that the tomb is forever empty and that Jesus is forever alive!

No matter what is going on, no matter how little we understand, help us to hold on to the Easter truth – Jesus is risen! He is alive today and in Him we can put our trust, completely and confidently.

Because of Jesus, the best is yet to be. Love wins! Hallelujah! We praise you, Lord. Amen

MOTHERS' UNION / SCOUTS



Above right: The Oceana yacht in harbour.

SCOUTS ANNUAL DUCK RACE Preparing the ducks at the start of the race.
It might have been bright and sunny but the water was cold! So was the wind.



COMMUNITY

BACK IN TIME in April

250 years ago on 23rd April 1775, J M W Turner, the British artist was born. Known for his landscapes and turbulent marine paintings.

175 years ago, on 16th April 1850, Madame Marie Tussaud, French artist known for her wax sculptures, died. Founder of Madame Tussaud's wax museum in London.

175 years ago on 23rd April 1850, William Wordsworth died. A Romantic poet, he was Poet Laureate from 1843-50. Best remembered for his poem "To Daffodils".

150 years ago on 17th April 1875 the game of snooker was invented by Neville Chamberlain, a British army officer stationed in India.

125 years ago, from 14th April – 12th November, the 1900 Paris Exposition, a World's Fair, was held. Nearly 50 million people visited Paris that year.

100 years ago on 10th April 1925, F Scott Fitzgerald's novel *The Great Gatsby*, was published.

80 years ago, on 30th April 1945 Adolf Hitler, Austrian-born German Nazi Party Leader, Chancellor of Germany (1933-45) and dictator (1934-45) committed suicide along with his wife, Eva Braun.

70 years ago, on 10th April 1955, Prime Minister Winston Churchill announced his retirement because of failing health and succeeded by Anthony Eden on 7th April.

70 years ago on 10th April 1955, British nightclub hostess Ruth Ellis shot and killed her lover, David Blakely. On 13th July she was hanged at Holloway Prison, the last woman to be executed in the UK.

70 years ago on 18th April 1955, Albert Einstein, German-born American theoretical physicist, died. Considered the most influential physicist of the 20th century. Known for developing the special and general theories of relativity.

65 years ago on 1st April 1960, Dr Martens boots first went on sale in the UK.

50 years ago on 4th April 1975, Microsoft, the computer software/hardware company, was founded by Bill Gates and Paul Allen in Albuquerque New Mexico.

50 years ago on 23rd April 1975, US President Gerald Ford gave a televised speech in which he announced that the USA's involvement in the Vietnam war was over, and all US aid to South Vietnam had ended. The war itself ended on 30th April when North Vietnamese forces captured the South Vietnamese capital Saigon.

40 years ago, on 21st April 1985, Brazilian racing driver Ayrton Senna won the Portuguese Grand Prix. It was the first of his 41 Formula One wins.

40 years ago, on 23rd April 1995, the Coca-Cola Company changed the formula of Coca-Cola and launched it on the market as New Coke. The public were out-raged, and the original formula was restored within three months.

30 years ago, on 4th April 1995, Kenny Everett, DJ, comedian and TV entertainer, died. Known for his humour, characters and sketches.

25 years ago, on 12th April 2000, Queen Elizabeth II awarded the Royal Ulster Constabulary the George Cross in recognition of its bravery during the Northern Ireland Troubles.

25 years ago, on 22nd April 2000 that the 'The Big Number' change took place on the UK's telephone system. Many area codes were updated or replaced, and new ones created for mobile, freephone, local rate, national rate, and premium rate services.

20 years ago, on 2nd April 2005 that Pope John Paul II died. Succeeded by Pope Benedict XVI on 19th April.

Also 20 years ago, on 9th April 2005 that Charles, Prince of Wales, married Camilla Parker Bowles, who gained the title the Duchess of Cornwall.

15 years ago, on 20th April 2010 that BP's Deepwater Horizon oil platform in the Gulf of Mexico exploded, killing 11 workers. Around 210 million US gallons of crude oil were spilled, causing an environmental disaster. BP was fined \$18.7 billion - the largest settlement in US corporate history.

10 years ago, on 2nd April 2015 that the Gorkha earthquake took place in Nepal. Nearly 9,000 people were killed, 22,000 injured, and 3.5 million made homeless.

Spring Harvest

April brings us Spring Harvest – the annual cross-denominational conference which attracts thousands of people every year to two Butlin's resorts. It is held over the Easter period in Skegness (7th to 11th) and Minehead (14th to 18th). It is also live-streamed from Minehead. For details of this year's gathering, including speakers and worship leaders, www.springharvest.org/events/news/spring-harvest-home-2025



St Nicholas Church on Belmont Grove at 9.30am every 4th Saturday of the month. We have toys, games, crafts and breakfast including bacon sandwiches, vegetarian options and child-friendly snacks. It is aimed at children from birth to school year 3 but all are welcome.



The title of our new group for families may bring back memories from a dubious 2000 chart hit, but the good news is that this new group is way more fun." Our Who Let The Dads Out? is for fathers, grandfathers, father figures and their children and is a place where male role models can have fun with their children, form friendships and find support. Men can have a massively positive impact on our young people, but let's be real, it is not always easy.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES



www.1stbedhampton.co.uk



As I write this, it's that time of year when the weather is turning. The daffodils are out, and the days are getting longer. It's time to enjoy the great outdoors. Even in the depths of winter we try and get out and about. The Scouts did some micro-navigation last week where they learnt how to do bearings on a compass. The Beaver Scouts on the same night went for a night hike around Bedhampton. The Cubs have recently been doing fire lighting (obviously outdoors!)



On Shrove Tuesday the Beavers and Cubs held their annual pancake party which involves cooking a variety of pancakes, playing pancake related games and of course lots of eating of pancakes. In mid March, we held our annual duck race where we launched up to 1000 plastic ducks into a river and raced them. Whilst I enjoy this event, ducks are going down my favourite animal list. The cause is a duck toy my daughter has which goes "quack-quack" every two seconds as she rolls it from room to room. It's driving me "quakers"! Thank you to all who supported this event.

We are starting to look forward to a number of camps over the spring and summer. These all take considerable planning to get them right and thank you to all who help plan and support them.

We hope the fine weather continues and everyone gets a chance to enjoy it.

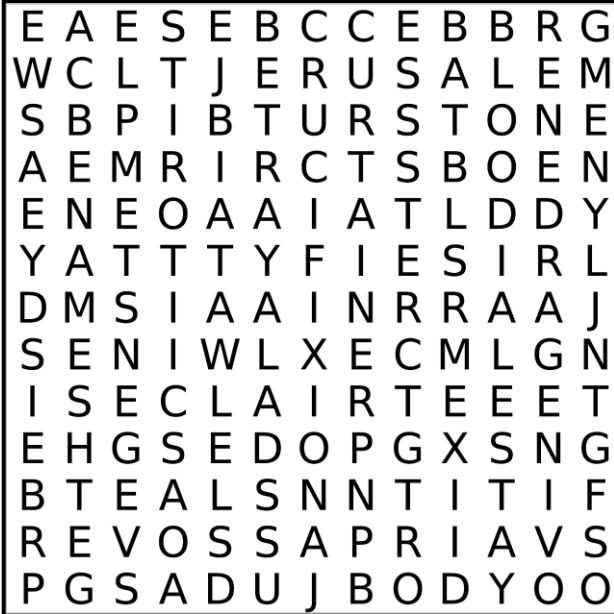
Wednesday 23rd April St George's Day.

The Scouts usually join other groups for the annual St. George's Day Service and parade.

*Nigel Vosper
Scout Leader*

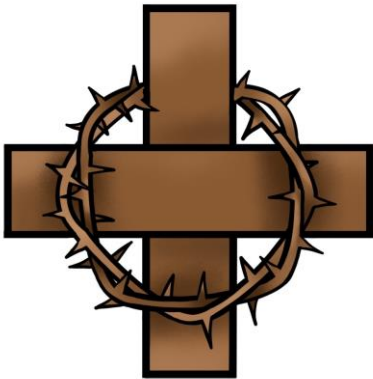
Wordsearch – Easter

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Hallelujah! April brings us to Easter – the crucifixion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ - the triumphant highlight of the Christian year. As St Paul pointed out, unless Jesus really did rise again, our faith is useless, and we may as well forget any hope of heaven or eternal life. But because He does live, we have a sure and certain hope for our future.



- | | |
|-------------|----------|
| passover | soldiers |
| bread | cross |
| wine | nails |
| body | vinegar |
| blood | temple |
| betrayal | curtain |
| jerusalem | tomb |
| pilate | angel |
| judas | stone |
| gethsemane | risen |
| trial | gardener |
| crucifixion | Mary |

MARCH SOLUTION



*Answers
next
month*





WELCOMING OUR NEW PATRON

February 2025

As our new patron, Her Royal Highness, The Duchess of Edinburgh, (Sophie) is committed to helping strengthen families and communities to deal with issues that impact them.

Mothers' Union has had the privilege of enjoying royal patronage since its foundation in 1876, and we are delighted, as we approach our 150th Anniversary in 2026, that Her Royal Highness, The Duchess of Edinburgh, has accepted the invitation to continue this tradition.



"We are honoured that Her Royal Highness has chosen to join us as patron," says **Mothers' Union Worldwide President, Kathleen Snow**. "The Duchess will bring strength and inspiration for the work we all do. We are especially grateful for Her Royal Highness's experience and commitment to championing the most marginalised, particularly those who are impacted by violence and abuse in conflict, a cause we are passionate about, because conflict disproportionately affects women and children. As a woman-led movement, we also greatly welcome The Duchess's commitment to promoting the development of women into leadership."

Her Royal Highness paid a visit to a Mothers' Union Project, *English for Women*, in the Diocese of Chelmsford. The project aims to reduce loneliness of those in local communities who experience language barriers in their everyday lives, many of whom are fleeing conflict or challenging situations. It provides safe and welcoming spaces where learners can make friends and build support networks.

Judy Halls, a longtime Mothers' Union member and volunteer session leader with *English for Women*, values its network of supportive women. "The Mothers' Union was created when women lacked equality, confidence, and opportunities. We've stayed true to those principles, which is why *English for Women* aligns so closely with our values. Often the women will start off hesitant, but over time they grow in confidence. Our greatest success is when, after attending the sessions, they have the skills and knowledge to thrive in the UK. That's something Mothers' Union founder Mary Sumner would be proud of, just as we are today."

The *English for Women* project links closely with The Duchess of Edinburgh's support of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda, a United Nations initiative which recognises not only the impact of conflict on women and girls, but also the positive role women play in conflict resolution and building peace.



Talk: A Caribbean Journey

At our AGM on 28 January the following officers were again approved by the meeting:

Ann Partridge - Branch Leader
Catherine Langhorn - Branch Treasurer
Marie Payne - Branch Secretary

As well as contributing to AFIA [Away From It All] the official MU charity to enable families to have a short break away, Bedhampton Branch decided that we would also support The Children's Society and each member agreed to take a box and donate monies each month for this very worthy cause. The meeting concluded with afternoon tea.

Our February meeting was held on 25th and we were treated to an afternoon of slides and a very interesting talk by Catherine Langhorn on her recent travels to the Caribbean. Catherine decided to

break away from the usual slideshow and description of her holiday and opted for details of, not only the process of purchasing their yacht with friends, but also all the details of what this entailed.

Having had the yacht blessed by Revd. Jill Kingston, they set off and their first memorable encounter was in the Bay of Biscay where the weather was so bad, they seriously wondered if they had done the right thing!!!! They journeyed on through the Atlantic to France and Spain and eventually to the Caribbean. It was not all plain sailing as they had to seek assistance at several points on their journey for repairs and renewals and some of the slides showed exactly how difficult it was on some occasions to undertake these. Happily once they reached the Caribbean the sun was shining, the water was crystal clear and bright blue they sailed around a number of islands with breathtaking views; looking out the windows at the grey and murky day outside, we felt very envious and ready for a sojourn ourselves.

Catherine and her husband Nigel are off again later this year so we look forward to Part 2 of their adventures.

We welcome new members and further details can be obtained from Marie Payne, Branch Secretary on 07929 776687 or at Margaretpayne11@hotmail.co.uk.

Marie Payne

More photos on pages 10 and 11



COMMUNITY EVENTS



MOTHERS' UNION

APRIL

*Wednesday 9th Holy Communion
9.30am at St Thomas*

Tuesday 22nd Quiz and Beetle Drive

All welcome

Contact: Marie Payne: 07929 776687

The
Arts
Society
Portsmouth



**DIAGHILEV AND
THE BALLETS RUSSES**

Speaker: Rosamund Bartlett

**Thursday 10th April 2pm
at the Spring Arts Centre, Havant**



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 at the Parish
Office 023 9248 3013
or just come along.



St Nicholas Church

Two halls and a well-equipped kitchen
available for private hire, children's parties,
etc.

Please contact the office
on 023 9248 3013

Hello@Bedhamptonparish.org.uk

**New advertisements
welcome**

**London Marathon 2025 – Sunday
27th April**

We think of anyone we know who is
taking part this year and for the
charities they hope to support.

**St Nicholas
Belmont Grove
Bedhampton**



Come and join us

Once a week

Friday morning

From 10.30 to 12 noon

Enjoy coffee or tea and cake

Everyone welcome

Except on Good Friday

THANKSGIVINGS



BAPTISMS

We welcome into the Church Family

Poppy Payne

Dates for your diary

Saturday 26th April: "Who Let the Dads Out?"
at St Nicholas 9.30am. *See page 13.*
Sunday 27th April: APCM Annual Church Meeting
at St Nicholas followed by bring and share lunch.
Tuesday 10th June, 2pm: Talk: RNLI
St Nicholas Church. (*see page 9*)
Saturday 5th July: Bedhampton Summer Show

WEDDINGS



We wish every happiness for the future to those recently married

REST IN PEACE

We pray for the families of those who have recently died



MAY 2025

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

OR to Max@Bedhampton.church
by 10 am on **Wednesday 3rd April**
Office@Bedhampton.church

Rector : Rev Max Cross 023 9248 3013

Email : Max@Bedhampton.church

*Day off: **Saturday***

Curate: Rev Jo Lorimer 07588 713665

Email: Jo@Bedhampton.church

Churchwardens : Ann Partridge 023 9247 2180

Tracey Smith

Deputy Churchwardens : Sandra Matthews 023 9248 4669

Mike Tritton 023 9247 5078

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

Services for APRIL 2025

SUNDAY 6th

St Thomas 9.00 am
St Nicholas 10.30 am
 St Thomas 6.00 pm

(Lent 5)

Holy Communion
Messy Sunday - Easter
 Compline

SUNDAY 13th

St Thomas 9.00 am
St Nicholas 10.30 am

(Palm Sunday)

Holy Communion
Café Church

FRIDAY 18th

St Thomas 2.00 pm

(Good Friday)

A Good Friday Reflection

SUNDAY 20th

St Nicholas 9.15am
 St Thomas 10.30 am

(Easter Day)

Bubble Church
 Easter Day Communion Celebration

SUNDAY 27th

St Thomas 9.00 am
St Nicholas 10.30am
St Nicholas 11.30am
St Nicholas 12.00pm

(Easter 1, APCM)

No service
All Together Holy Communion;
APCM
Celebration Bring & Share Lunch

ON-LINE: at www.Bedhampton.church/tv and Facebook
On-line services are usually available for both services each week.

MID-WEEK HOLY COMMUNION SERVICES

Wednesday 2nd	St Thomas	9.30 am Holy Communion
Wednesday 9th	St Thomas	9.30 am Holy Communion
Wednesday 16th	St Thomas	9.30 am Holy Communion
Wednesday 23rd	St Thomas	9.30 am Holy Communion
St George's Day		
Wednesday 30th	St Thomas	9.30 am Holy Communion

Edited and produced by the Churches of Bedhampton Parish

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Hospitals

Queen Alexandra, Portsmouth
02392 286000

St. Richard's, Chichester
01243 788122

Bedhampton Surgery
02392 474777

Havant Borough Council
02392 446019

Citizens Advice Bureau
0344 411 1306

National Rail Enquiries
0345 748 4950
www.nationarail.co.uk

Advertising space
available.

Contact the Parish Office
for more details.

Manor Trust
Bedhampton
Heritage & Care

Registered Charity No.1116034

The Lodge

24 hour registered Residential Care.

High standards of care in a relaxed and
homely atmosphere.

Permanent, short and convalescent stays available
in comfortable rooms with en suite facilities.

Contact us on 023 9245 2644
or email

lodge.manager@manortrust.org.uk

The Elms

Self contained apartments for independent living.

Contact us on 023 9248 4444 or email
trust.office@manortrust.org.uk

www.manortrust.org.uk

Folks In Harmony

Mixed A Cappella Choir

*Our Summer and Christmas Shows raise funds
for local charities and we support our community
at local events throughout the year.*

*Open to new
singers*



*Find this fun and friendly mixed
a cappella choir at*

Bedhampton Community Centre
Thursdays 7.15pm - 9.30pm

Join us?

Contact via our website www.folksinharmony.co.uk
or phone 02392 241633

We are happy to help.

We are a friendly, local company offering a broad range of services which include:

- **Gas boiler servicing, repair & replacement**
- **Central heating repair & servicing**
- **Boiler maintenance contracts**

We also offer • Emergency help (even out of hours) • Plumbing services • Powerflush system clean
• Gas safety certificates – homeowners and landlords • Central heating reports for property purchases



I'd recommend
you to my friends.
Mr R - Warblington

A professional and trustworthy local service for local people

FREE ESTIMATES • ALL WORK GUARANTEED



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admin@mytaskforce.co.uk
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WE CREATE.**