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# TITCHFIELD NEWS




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February 2021

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See the editorial for the latest information

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## From the Editors' Desk

As this is our first edition of 2021, we send you our very best wishes for the coming year and our hopes for us all that there will be better times ahead. We do very much hope that all our readers and those close to them are keeping well in such terribly difficult times.

First some news about the magazine; as we said in June 2020, subscriptions were extended until April 2021. Having taken the opportunity to look at our pricing, we have revised this and, from April, the magazine will cost £1.00 per copy. Annual subscriptions, for six copies, will be £5.00 p.a.. If you do not have a subscription and would like one, please contact Gerry Pontefract by text message on: 07818568034 and she will see if there is a distributor for your area.

We have another jam-packed issue which we hope you will enjoy. As well as interesting and informative articles from loyal regular contributors, we're delighted to introduce a new member to our team: Harry Sowerby, who is considering a writing career, has joined us as a reporter and written two fascinating articles about the topiary train in Posbrook Lane and Titchfield's delightful Christmas post-box so, if you've wondered at the stories behind these, now you'll know! On the theme of crafts, Alexandra Davison creates adorable 'Hedgehugs' and you can read all about them here.

The COVID-19 vaccine brings us hope for the future and, working with the PPG, the surgery has written some extremely helpful information for us about the vaccination programme. Our Police Beat Officers remind us of a very worrying aspect of lockdown and the way to obtain help.

St Peter's Church loses a very valuable member of its ministry team as Roger Bryant and his wife, Carol, move away. John Ekins has written about Roger and all he has contributed to church life. We will certainly miss him. On a very sad note, we lost John Freemantle, the funeral director and builder, who died in December. Known to so many, John will be very sadly missed and Carole Freemantle has kindly written about his full and interesting life.

To help with these long hours of lockdown we have some puzzles for you and also some book reviews. We do hope you enjoy reading Titchfield News and, as always, we welcome your comments. Just e mail us at: [magazine@stpetertitchfield.org.uk](mailto:magazine@stpetertitchfield.org.uk)

**Copy for April 2021 issue to the Editorial Team  
at [magazine@stpetertitchfield.org.uk](mailto:magazine@stpetertitchfield.org.uk)  
by 8th March 2021 please.**

## Sharing Comfort and Joy

in 2021

Helen Perry



Over four days during December 2020, more than 120 people visited the 'Comfort and Joy' Christmas Trail at St Peter's. Several expressed appreciation for the opportunity to spend some quiet time listening to the music and looking at the displays, using words such as 'uplifting', 'beautiful', 'thought provoking', 'comforting'. Haven't we all felt the need of such experiences during last year and again this year?

The Archbishop of Canterbury, in his New Year message and in a letter to the Diocese of Canterbury, co-written with Bishop Rose Hudson, addressed the experience of living through the pandemic. In the letter, reference was made to the 'three main drivers of stress: novelty, uncertainty and uncontrollability' which have been common experiences for us all.

In his message, the Archbishop suggested that this 'crisis has shown us how fragile we are. It has also shown us how to face this fragility.'

One of the ways to face our own fragility is to recognise it in others and to offer help...small acts of love that can make all the difference. The Christmas Trail in church told of the love that God, through Jesus, gives to us. In return, we are asked to love God and our neighbours as much as ourselves.

Loving God can be expressed in our love of others. It is there in every phone call made, every card or message written, every gift to a Food Bank, every time we wear our masks. 'Such gestures speak of Jesus – the one who shows us what God's love looks like'.

Yet how do we care for ourselves in relation to this stress? The Archbishop of Canterbury and Bishop Rose offer these thoughts in their letter:

'Let us renew our daily prayer, our reflection on scripture, our periods of silence and resting in the presence of our Lord and Saviour. Such disciplines have genuine physical as well as spiritual and mental benefits. Please ensure you take proper days off. Spend some time on things that are good: exercise in the cold air, talking to friends and family on the phone and despite lockdown, reading a favourite book, watching an old and favourite film. Look for the familiar amidst novelty, spend time with the certainty of others' love and care, even over zoom. Choose and control some aspects of life. Of such things are health and resilience made.'

There is hope; there is also comfort and joy. We probably all know

someone who has already received the vaccine and the rest of us know that our turn will come; we can each choose to give and receive love in countless small ways; we can put our trust in the belief that God is in all things and that we are not alone.

### St Peter's Church Worship and Prayer

Please see pages 30-31 for details of worship at St Peter's and regular religious broadcasts during lockdown

### St Peter's Prayerline

Do you know anyone who is ill or in any distress and who needs the support of prayer?

Please contact  
Charles Timberlake - 01329 845265  
or Doreen White - 01329 843544

### Titchfield's Response to the Lockdown Challenges

Pat Shirley – Chair  
Titchfield Covid-19 Support Group

It became apparent that our community would once again be locked down to help fight the spread of the Covid virus. Given this, it was important that, as before, we needed to meet the needs of vulnerable people in the community. Following a Facebook post on Voice4Titchfield requesting volunteers, we yet again met with an amazing response and over 40 people offered their services.

We were also aware that people were providing support locally and thus together we have been able to help many of our community.

It has again been a privilege to watch the community coming together. To date we are not aware of anyone struggling on their own. Whether it is a daily telephone call, shopping for basic needs, posting a letter or collecting medication, the community has provided this service. Our thanks go to all those who have responded in whatever way they can to help

We can be contacted on **07460151103**. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need help.



## Sovereign Health Network Covid Vaccination Update 12/01/21

Dr Tom Bertram

Sovereign Health Network was selected as one of the first sites to receive COVID-19 vaccine and began offering vaccination to some patients. The national supply chain is working very fast and Sovereign have already vaccinated more than 2000 patients. We currently only have one future delivery confirmed so we are unable to plan ahead and invite more patients for vaccination. As soon as more vaccine deliveries are confirmed, more patients will be invited.

We have been provided with a prioritisation schedule for vaccinating patients and you will be invited strictly in that order. We plan to run vaccination clinics inside Fareham Community Hospital. We've made good progress in vaccinating people in priority groups 1 and 2 - Care Homes and over 80s and we have started inviting some 75-79 year olds (group 3). Please don't worry if you haven't had your vaccine yet, we will be contacting patients in due course.

I know many of you will be interested in how vaccination is progressing locally and when you are likely to receive your jab. We plan to publish a visual guide updating our vaccination programme on our Facebook page (@SovereignHealthNetwork). We will update it so that you know how things are going.

As many of you know, we wrote to over 80s giving them their appointment. We had very short notice of our first delivery so didn't have time to offer a choice of appointments. Since then, we have a new booking system. This allows us to send a text message to patients, inviting them to book their appointments. Once you click on the link in the text message, you will see all available appointments. Please try to take the first available appointment. If you really are unable to make any of the appointments offered, please be reassured we will offer more appointments as soon as we have a vaccine delivery confirmed. Because the Pfizer vaccine must be used within three days of arriving with us, we can only put on clinics when we are certain of a delivery.

The new booking system tells us when a patient doesn't have a valid mobile phone number or if they haven't responded to their text message. In either case, we will phone those patients to book their appointments. **Please do not phone the surgery to enquire about a vaccine appointment** – we have a separate team booking vaccine appointments and our reception team cannot book them. We are all working extremely hard to deliver the vaccines as well as continuing to offer same day (or next day) GP services – keeping the phone lines free will help people who are phoning about new or ongoing medical matters.

Our Patient Participation Group put together some questions about the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme and I have answered them to the best of my knowledge. Please note that things are continually changing so this information is accurate at the time of writing (mid-January).

### What circumstances mean someone could not have the Covid vaccination?

- You should not have the Covid vaccine within 7 days of any other vaccination.
- You should not have the Covid vaccine if you are on a Covid-related clinical trial but you should contact the trial investigators for advice.
- There is no data to suggest the Covid vaccine is harmful in pregnancy. but it should not be given routinely during pregnancy. It can be given following a discussion between the individual and a clinician on a risk/benefit basis.
- The vaccine is not routinely recommended for children under 16.
- You should not have the Covid vaccine if you have possible Covid symptoms or are within four weeks of testing positive for Covid.
- You should delay the Covid vaccine if you are on Warfarin **AND** your last INR was greater than 4.
- See below for advice on allergies

### What allergies might mean someone cannot have the Covid vaccine?

- Patients with a history of an anaphylactic (immediate, severe) reaction to foods, identified drugs or vaccines, or insect stings **CAN receive ANY Covid vaccination**, as long as they are not known to be allergic to any component of it.
- Patients with a history of an anaphylactic reaction to **multiple classes of drugs** or an **unexplained** anaphylaxis should not be vaccinated with the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine. We can use the AstraZeneca vaccine instead.

### Does there need to be a time delay between receiving the flu jab and the Covid vaccination?

- Yes, you should not have the Covid vaccine within 7 days of any other vaccination.

### If a patient has previously tested positive for Covid, do they need the Covid vaccination?

- Yes, patients who have previously tested positive for Covid should have a Covid vaccination but they must wait 4 weeks from their positive test result.

### How will housebound, vulnerable patients be vaccinated?

- The clinical team will visit these patients individually to vaccinate them with the AstraZeneca vaccine as the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine is too fragile to transport.

### Will the Covid vaccine be annual?

- We don't yet know.

### What evidence of vaccination will a patient receive?

- On the day, patients will receive a card confirming which vaccine they received and its batch number. Full details of the vaccine are held in a national system called 'Pinnacle' and will automatically be entered into patients' medical records.

*(Continued overleaf)*

- I don't know of any official plans for a 'certificate of vaccination'.

### **If a patient receives their Covid vaccination in their workplace, how will the GP surgery be informed?**

- Wherever a patient is vaccinated, the details of the vaccination will be entered on Pinnacle (see above) and will then automatically be entered into their medical record at the surgery. This may take a few days, so don't worry if you are invited by the practice in the meantime.

### **If a patient has had the vaccine, and is then in contact with someone who hasn't, can they still pass Covid to them?**

- A patient who has had the Covid vaccination cannot pass Covid to anyone else, unless that vaccinated patient has caught Covid themselves.
- You **must** continue to follow the 'Hands, Face, Space' advice after you have the vaccine. The immunity that the first dose will give you only develops after approximately 14 days, and, although it is much less likely, it is still possible to get Covid after being vaccinated.

### **Can vaccinated people still catch the virus by mixing with someone who is positive for Covid?**

- Yes, although it is less likely.
- You **must** continue to follow the advice 'Hands, Face, Space' to reduce the risk of this.

### **Will patients receive their second vaccination from the same manufacturer?**

- Yes.

### **Can you please update your surgery websites and Sovereign Facebook page when there are updates? Many patients are frightened of being scammed?**

- We know people are desperate for reliable information and we will do our utmost to keep everything up to date.
- Please do bear with us, though, as all our staff are really stretched delivering our usual GP service, 'flu vaccines and the Covid vaccination programme.

### **Can a patient have the Covid vaccination when waiting for a 'flu jab'?**

- Yes, but there must be a 7 day gap between the two vaccinations.

### **Is there any seating at Fareham Community Hospital or should less mobile people bring a wheelchair or seat with them?**

- There are a small number of wheelchairs available at Fareham Community Hospital, but if you need to use one please bring your own.

### **Can patients be guaranteed to receive their second vaccination within the Government's recommended guidelines?**

- I cannot 'guarantee' that patients will receive their second vaccination within the Government's recommended guidelines, but I have not heard anything to suggest that we will not keep to the timeframe.

**NHS**

**SEVEN**  
ways you can  
**Help Us**  
**Help You**  
this winter

- 1** Follow national COVID-19 advice at all times - **Hands...Face...Space**
- 2** Don't store up health concerns – **contact your GP surgery by phone or online for advice**
- 3** **Get your flu jab** and be ready to respond when we contact you about a COVID-19 vaccination
- 4** Minor illnesses: **keep some common medicines at home** - just in case. Pharmacies can give you advice.
- 5** For urgent help, but not a life threatening emergency, just **contact 111 First** (111.nhs.uk)
- 6** **Minor injuries don't need A&E**; go to -  
• Gosport or Petersfield Minor Injuries Units  
• St Mary's Urgent Treatment Centre in Portsmouth
- 7** **Make time for exercise** to help your mental health

**“Thank you for all your support this year - please keep it going”**

## **Corona Vaccine Scam**

**Corona vaccinations are free of charge.**

**The NHS will never:**

- ⊗ ask for your bank account or card details
- ⊗ ask for your PIN or securing password
- ⊗ arrive unannounced at your home to administer the vaccine
- ⊗ ask for documentation to prove your identity, such as a passport or utility bills

If you receive a call you believe to be fraudulent, hang up. If you are suspicious about an email you have received, forward it to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk). Suspicious text messages should be forwarded to the number 7726 which is free of charge.

If you believe you are the victim of a fraud, please report this to Action Fraud as soon as possible by calling 0300 123 2040 or visiting [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk).

Official advice from ActionFraud



## Joy in the Days of Sorrow

Revd. Chris Wickland  
Senior Pastor of Living Word Church Network



Luke 2:10 'I bring you good tidings of good news, that shall cause great joy for all the people.'

This passage of scripture is normally a part of a church's Christmas readings. It is the proclamation of the angel to the shepherds, to Israel and to all mankind. It is an announcement of good news and great joy to all the peoples of the earth.

In our current climate of uncertainty, pain and fear, if we take stock and reflect for a moment - are we feeling joy, peace or strength at this time? Probably not! At the time when the angel announced this good news, Israel was struggling under Roman occupation. Its people were governed by a brutal and oppressive empire, yet the angel didn't even mention it. When Jesus grew into a man there is no record of him ever preaching a political sermon or addressing the occupation or overthrow of the Roman Empire.

The angel who came to announce the birth of Jesus gave a timeless message. One which is still relevant to us today. The angel announced that someone greater than any situation, any politics or any other earthly empire had just been born. All earthly matters fade to darkness against the incomparable light of Jesus and the hope, joy, peace and freedom that He brings. The angel had a heavenly perspective, not an earthly one.

In these current days it is important to have the joy of God in our hearts, despite the circumstances in which we find ourselves. This heavenly perspective of hope and joy can lift us above our immediate circumstances. So how do we do this, how can we live in a place of joy when such sorrow is upon us?

One thing that is important is to live lives that are free from guilt and inner condemnation. In the Lord's Prayer we pray, "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us." Forgiveness is a powerful weapon for our mental and spiritual well-being. Modern science backs this up. Forgiveness can bring real joy and freedom to our lives whatever our outward situation.

Psalms 46:1 'God is a very present help in a time of trouble.' Life can be harsh, it can be cruel and very unfair at times. We will have times of trouble. We can take comfort in sending up simple prayers to God to help us. He promises to be a very present help when we most need it. Politicians come and go, science is always in flux and evolving, but God is eternal and unchanging. In days of sorrow and uncertainty, try reaching

out in prayer to the One who changes not, to the One who loves and cares for us. To the One who feels our pains and sorrows as He too was afflicted and knew sorrow when He walked the earth.

God can give us joy to walk in days of sorrow.

When all Covid-19 restrictions are lifted, Living Word Church Titchfield meets on Sunday Mornings at 10.30am 18 High Street (Old Titchfield Evangelical Church Building)



## Message from our Police Beat Officers

PC 21801 Rachel Bowden & PCSO Mark Oliver

May I start with hoping that you all had a good Christmas. It was lovely to see and meet so many of you and your children out for the Santa float arranged by the Titchfield Bonfire Boys. We hope to try and make this a regular thing. You never know, we may be able to get the carnival back one day.

What a start to 2021! Not what a lot of us wanted for the New Year. The new lockdown means that we should all be abiding by the rules that the Government set and we all need to remember that the more we stay in the more likely we are to be able to get out and see our families and the sunshine (when it arrives). We should be protecting each other and our NHS staff who are working so very hard. Our hospitals are very full and if we can stay in and stay safe we can prevent further stretch on them and for them to look after those that need it.

It has been a tough time for all of us, but for those stuck indoors in abusive relationships it may have made the situation worse. Domestic Abuse is not just physical or sexual abuse, it can include verbal, psychological or financial abuse too. It can be committed anywhere, including online, and can sadly involve and seriously affect children. It causes misery regardless of where it happens. We fully recognise that it can sometimes take time for people to take the brave step to report their experiences, particularly during the periods of restriction which Covid-19 brings. Tackling domestic abuse and our response to vulnerable victims remains a priority. It has a devastating effect on people's lives. So if you need help, call us on 999.

Stay safe!

## Easter Eggs from The Meaningful Chocolate Company

This year's range is excellent, see: <https://meaningfulchocolate.co.uk/>. Although we can't sell them in church Sue, at Shop Equality, will order them for you and Karen Postle will deliver them. Phone Sue on: **07967 480063** to place your order **before the end of February**.



## Geography at Titchfield Primary School

Shannon Clark

What is the first thing that comes to mind when thinking about Geography? Holidays and travel? Capital cities? Natural and physical geographical features? Local Geography? Our wonderful children at Titchfield Primary School learn all this and more with us. Our fantastic curriculum caters to learning all about our local Geography and comparing this to places all over the world, including Nairobi, Florida and Iceland!

We feel Geography is at the heart of being an open-minded, empathetic and worldly person and the learning we do really encourages the children to develop these skills, amongst many others!

From Reception, children begin to learn about places and celebrations around the world. Year R children have enjoyed this in the context of holidays; discussing where they have been and where they would like to go alongside globes, maps and images of places. Year Rs definitely have the travel bug after all this fantastic learning about the world. Sun class also enjoyed travelling to different places in the world through reading incredible stories! One of their favourites was 'Wonderful Earth!' By Nick Butterworth and Mick Inkpen.

In Key Stage 1, children learn about local geography in Titchfield in comparison to Nairobi and the UK. The children in Mercury class (year 1) had huge fun creating a map of Titchfield Primary School as well as a prospectus for children who would like to come to school here. They learned how to use a compass, using the language of compass points in the context of the school and doing fieldwork to notice some human and physical features around the school grounds. The children love getting out and about, exploring and questioning their surroundings. Year 1s are lucky enough to have been contacted by some children in Nairobi who want to find out more about Titchfield. They investigate similarities and differences between Titchfield and Nairobi and write a non-fiction story for their friends in Nairobi to read!

Venus class (year 2) have enjoyed learning all about the UK for one project. They read a fantastic story, 'The Queen's Handbag' to learn about beautiful places in the UK. They then had the challenge of finding the four countries of the UK on a map, naming the capital cities, the surrounding seas and finding out interesting facts. The children particularly enjoy trying to pronounce one of the longest names of any place in the United Kingdom, the Welsh village of Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwllllantysiliogogoch... You try it!

Earth class (year 3) widened their radar to find out about our county, Hampshire. The children faced the challenge of making a travel guide of Hampshire for visitors. They learned about the physical and human

geography of Hampshire, including settlement, trade and economic activity comparing Hampshire to other UK counties. They learned to use an eight point compass and to read four and six figure grid references. It's not easy! The children recap these skills as they move through the school to make sure that they are experts by the time they leave!

In Year 4, the children loved learning all about Iceland - a geographical wonderland; they were amazed by the natural, astonishing beauty, especially volcanoes and geysers. They produced some beautiful travel leaflets for Iceland containing all the tourist information you can dream of! Year 4 usually go on a fantastic trip to Stubbington Study Centre where they learn a lot from doing a locality study and a seashore walk amongst many other exciting opportunities which always leaves them buzzing and exhausted. Sadly, this was not possible this year!

The children learn all about Florida in Year 5. A lovely visitor, who lives in Florida for six months and Hampshire for six months, tells the children wonderful stories about Florida showing them pictures of the landmarks, nature and local area which we then compare to Titchfield. The children noticed that the weather is a lot nicer in Florida! Part of the fun of learning about Florida is learning about its crazy weather. The children made a TV documentary named 'Florida: Wish You Were Here?' discussing the pros and cons of living there and highlighting its extreme weather.

Year 6s have the ultimate challenge of learning about the 'Awesome Amazon' which spans nine South American countries. They take a David Attenborough approach to this and report back like a radio show. They cover all of the geographical skills, including: locating countries on a map/globe, using an eight point compass, reading a map with a six figure grid reference, analysing human and physical geography as well as settlement, economy and trade, the water cycle, rivers and land use. It really is the ultimate challenge!



Geography truly is at the heart of everything we do at Titchfield Primary School.

## Bell-ringing News

Lyndon Hatfield

We were very disappointed that we were unable to ring more than 2 bells on Christmas Day and that we could not "ring out the old, ring in the new" this year. This was a tradition that dated from 1898 and, although it lapsed before WW2, we reinstated it some 40 years ago.

Hopefully we will be able to ring normally later this year. In the meantime we are trying to use computer ringing programmes to keep our brains from forgetting everything!

## Titchfield Gardeners' Club Propagation and Right Plant, Right Place

By Robert Blake



The Gardeners' Club enjoyed a very practical Zoom talk on 4 November by Chris Bird, from Sparsholt College, on propagation methods for growing plants. He started by explaining that all seed packets are marked with a 'sow by date' and good prices can often be found in garden centres just before Christmas. If you are buying vegetable seeds be aware that those labelled F1 hybrids are all genetically identical so will reach maturity at the same time. You can also collect your own seed pods before they split and store them in envelopes or small jars.

Large seeds are easy to handle and can be sown in seed trays or individually in pots. Some varieties of sweet pea seeds are hard coated and can be placed in a bowl of boiling water and left for 24 hours before sowing. Alternatively use a sharp knife to nick the outer shell or rub it gently with sandpaper on the opposite side to the seed's black 'eye' or scar, which will improve the germination rate from 40% to nearer 90%.

Medium sized seeds can either be sown in a seed tray or in Jiffy 7 pellets which contain a well-balanced starter fertiliser and avoid root disturbance, resulting in better plant survival. Very fine seed should be mixed 50:50 with dry silver sand so that you can see where you have sown it. Don't forget to label each tray! Pot up the seedlings as soon as you can handle them by a leaf, never by the delicate stem. A basic rule of thumb is that they are ready to plant out in the garden when there are 'six true leaves'. The soil temperature should not be less than 10 - 12°C, which is when worm casts start to appear.



Plants can be propagated using softwood cuttings. Choose a shoot with a strong healthy looking tip and cut it just **above** a node (leaf joint) so that it is at least 10-13 cm long. Trim the base of the cutting to just **below** the first node, where the hormones are strongest, and reduce the top so that it is about 8-10 cm long. Finally remove the leaves from the bottom third of the cutting, by pulling them gently downwards, before placing it in the compost. It is from these small wounds that the roots will emerge.

Hardwood cuttings can also be taken in late autumn and early winter. They should be about the thickness of a pencil and removed in the same way as a softwood cutting. Trim the base to just **below** the first node and reduce the length to about 15 cm by cutting off the top at an angle, so that you know which way up to plant it. Space them around the edge of a pot or bury them in a trench with only a third above the soil and leave for a year, making sure that they never dry out. An instructive book for beginners is 'Grow your own Garden' by Carol Klein.

Choosing the correct conditions for a plant to thrive is important and he suggested that we should not dismiss traditional plants, which are easy to grow and have a wide flowering season. Examples of plants tolerant to full sun or partial shade are: *Acanthus spinosus* which is good in clay soil and wet conditions; *Alchemilla mollis* or lady's mantle – Prince Charles' favourite – with sprays of tiny yellow flowers and tolerant of any type of soil, as long as there is some moisture; *Bergenia cordifolia*, an incredibly hardy evergreen perennial with erect clusters of deep-pink flowers in early Spring, and best grown in moist but well drained soil; *Heucheras* with low, flattened mounds of foliage, which come in many different leaf colours and are good at filling in gaps between taller plants; and *Berberis darwinii*, a hardy medium-sized evergreen shrub with dark glossy evergreen leaves and drooping racemes of orange flowers in Spring.



### Welcome to new TGC members and a reminder to current TGC members

In 2020 we evolved to meet the changes that COVID 19 brought. We introduced monthly Zoom meetings, outside visits and a 'virtual' annual quiz night. In 2021 we have planned a programme comprising Zoom and actual meetings, visits and the Annual Autumn Show. Details will be available on our Facebook page, or via our new website scheduled to be launched in March.

We are a friendly club with people happy to give advice. If you enjoy reading about our activities and are interested in joining TGC, then please contact Tina Williams: fish\_house@hotmail.co.uk. A reminder to current members - renewal is due in March and subscriptions remain at £8 – thank you for your support during 2020.

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

### Winter Word Search

BLANKET ICE  
BOOTS JACKET  
CAP MELT  
CHILL QUILT  
COAT RAIN  
COLD SCARF  
DECEMBER SLED  
FOG SNOW  
HAT WIND  
HEATER WOOL

Answer in adverts - page ii

## Diary of the Bowls Club Secretary Season 2020

Dennis Dowsett



This is so frustrating. Fabulous weather, beautiful looking greens, yet all we can do is look at them, cut them, paint the fences or do some weeding during our hour of daily exercise. But play bowls? No. It's our civic duty to help save the vulnerable. I was shocked to discover from the gov.uk website that I, and most of my fellow members, are classified as such.

Wait. Boris is talking about a roadmap out of all this. Liberation is at hand! Well....., not exactly.

It looks like a total of four players only can play in the wide-open spaces of our Bridge Street home so long as they all arrive furtively, alone and douse themselves in hand sanitizer. Hey, let's not moan; it must be a welcome change from virtual coffee mornings, weekly quizzes and John Hiatt's chain story "The Beast of Titchfield". Let's do it, let's play bowls even if we can't use the toilet!



The date is set. Wednesday 3 June. Oh, the excitement of it. Yet this regal little virus has enlisted the help of the elements to heap yet more misery upon us.

After the sunniest spring on record, I suppose it was inevitable that it would rain. Alas it did not stop there. Day after day of rain. The lack of use and the sodden turf meant that even Sampson might have struggled to get his wood from one end to the other. Are we ever going to get this season properly underway? Beam me up please Scotty.



Hope springs eternal. We can reopen the toilets and play doubles, as long as we stay 2 metres apart and move the jack with our feet rather than our hands. Let us not knock it, this is real progress.

Covid seems to be in retreat everywhere. Triples is back, the rinks are improving every day. The committee decide it is time to reintroduce the Roll Up on three afternoons a week. To ensure social distancing we reduce the number of rinks from four to three. The turf of the new centre rink is probably being played on for the first time since bowls started here almost a hundred years ago. Everybody wants to try it out. At last, it feels like the season has really started.

## Titchfield's Christmas Post-box: A Stitchfield triumph!

Harry Sowerby

Titchfield has a very particular sense of community around Christmastime, with rows of decorated trees perched outside houses and an always-fantastic tree on the green. This year, a new addition in the form of a knitted tribute to key workers made an appearance, adorning the village post-box, hand-crafted by three knitters who are members of local knitting group Stitchfield.

Suzy Jackson, of West Street, formed the group just a year ago as a way of keeping occupied following her retirement. Stitchfield is made up of eight members who usually meet once a week, but due to restrictions have had to work either alone or digitally. At the beginning of the first lockdown, Suzy and friends knitted hundreds of rainbows that hung in local windows, and the group also helped to make Dr Teds – teddy bears with face masks that helped to comfort children going to see PPE-clad doctors for the first time.

Undoubtedly, the knitted tribute on the post-box added another touch of festive cheer at Christmas. Children stood in front of it for photographs and it gave just that bit more Christmas spirit to the village. When asked what inspired her to create it, Suzy said that "this year there has been so much doom and gloom, so making people smile is so important". It was a reminder that there is still a caring community in such hard times. The impact of current life made Suzy realise that "the spirit for helping others is immense".



Alongside the post-box decoration, Suzy also helped to run a scheme that saw villagers of all ages creating their own knitted pom-poms for the Christmas tree on the green. She said it was lovely to see grandparents hanging the pom-poms they had made, whilst lower down the tree their grandchildren placed theirs.

Commenting on whether there are any plans for more knitted displays in the future, Suzy said they already have designs for Valentine's Day and Easter ready to be made. The work of Stitchfield will hopefully add colour and character to the village throughout the year, with the aim of giving a smile to the passer-by who spots their unique creations.

## Hedgehugs: How a Strength Trainer raised £1500 for Local Charities

In March last year Alexandra Davison, from Fareham, decided to get creative and make her mum, Viv, 60 pom-pom pigs for her 60<sup>th</sup> birthday, with a tag attached to each saying why she loved her. Shortly after that lockdown hit and Alex's job as a Strength and Wellness Coach for technical sports, including Olympic Weightlifting, changed dramatically, leaving her more time on her hands.

Not one to sit still, and after seeing the great reaction and joy her pom-pom pigs brought her mum, Alex experimented with different animal shapes and "Hedgehugs" was born.

Growing from strength to strength, what began as a cottage business turned into a full-time job in November. Alex drafted in her mum and partner to help make the Hedgehugs, with orders coming in for 150 at a time and requests for customised Hugs such as Christmas Hugs, Baby Shower Hugs, Valentines Hugs, Superhero Hugs and even Nurse Hugs.

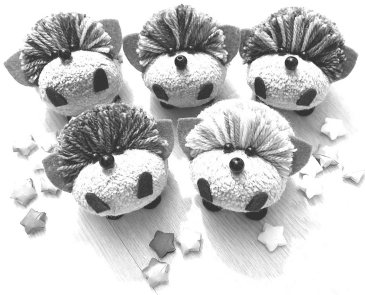
Alex's always wanted to give something back to the NHS, with the family having received outstanding care from Queen Alexandra Hospital and St. Mary's Hospital in the past and family members working in the NHS.,

Alex comments on the success of Hedgehugs: "We've been overwhelmed by the love for our hugs and have sent them as far as Pennsylvania, USA, which is crazy when I think about it! I never could have imagined we'd have raised so much for charity." 80% of the money raised has gone to the NHS with other donations going to The British Hedgehog Preservation Society, as well as fundraising for a terminally ill local teenager who sadly lost her battle to cancer just before Christmas.

"As a self-professed fitness fanatic, delivering Hedgehugs on our bikes also gave so much purpose to our daily exercise. We've ridden well over 60 miles to deliver a Hedgehog, Fareham to Bordon and back, and have even caught a ferry".

"I love to inspire others to be active and sometimes my partner and I are joined by my wonderful nine-year-old niece, Caitlin. We created a Delivery Rider Scheme for her which involved Caitlin completing an entire delivery with us and we gave her an award ceremony with a certificate and medal at the end. We hope to inspire others and want to develop this further in the coming months".

"Lockdown has been such a difficult time for so many but making Hedgehugs and reading people's messages have been so uplifting. I've lost count of the



amount of times a message has made me tearful, and I'm reminded daily of the love and kindness that exists in the world."

If you'd like to get involved, either making pom poms or becoming a delivery rider please get in touch with Alex via Facebook or Instagram @haveahedgehog or e mail her at: alexlousedavison@gmail.com  
The Hedgehugs website is: [www.haveahedgehog.com](http://www.haveahedgehog.com)

## The Topiary Train in Posbrook Lane

Harry Sowerby

A little distance along Posbrook Lane, on the right as you head towards the Meon Shore, you may just spot a hedge cut immaculately into the shape of a steam train. It is the work of Mr Ross Underwood, a local man who, for the last seventeen years, has cut his front hedgerow into the unusual shape. He said that the idea came to him out of "boredom", as he tired of looking out to a plain, old hedgerow every morning.

The train itself is precise, having been manipulated into the shape after years of careful grooming, and Mr Underwood's efforts have not gone unnoticed. He says his grandchildren love the unique feature, especially around Christmastime when it is adorned with lights. Mr Underwood, who is a keen photographer of wildlife and British birds, was also pleased to discover a family of goldfinches had nested in the shrubbery's rising smoke. He was made aware when a mother goldfinch protested at his trimming at their obviously comfortable home.

Most mysteriously, a stranger once left a bottle of liquor for him on his doorstep, left with a note which simply read "Thank You for the Train". He has never discovered who left the very welcome gift. Despite its precision, and the train's angular features, Mr Underwood says that the upkeep is minimal – trimming happens perhaps three or four times a year. He added that now the shape is set, it is just the "fiddly tidying" that needs to be done. Mr Underwood's train is a quirky feature to the little village of Titchfield, mere metres from the South's hectic road networks, yet just far away enough to retain a charming community of interesting and varied individuals.

The topiary train of Posbrook Lane is a reminder of the brilliant members that make up this community on every street, in a multitude of different



The train in the snow

ways. It certainly isn't the sort of feature you will see just anywhere and whilst it may seem eccentric, the train is worth looking out for on your way to the beach. However, when asked if he had any advice for potential train topiarists, Mr Underwood gave the wry smile of a knowing amateur and simply said, "See a specialist".

## Roger and Carol Bryant

John Ekins

After over 20 years ministry at St Peter's Roger and Carol Bryant are moving to Trowbridge.

They have both suffered from Covid and are keen to be closer to their family. They will be greatly missed.

Roger served 32 years in the Royal Navy and found his call to ministry while at the then Royal Naval Hospital Haslar. He was licensed as a Reader by the Chaplain of the Fleet in May 1990 and served his ministry in Portsmouth and Gibraltar before joining the chaplaincy team at Haslar.

He arrived at St Peter's during the last few weeks of James Mitchell-Innes' tenure and was not formally taken on board as a Reader until the arrival of Bill Day in July 1998.



Roger and Carol quickly became active members of the St Peter's family and contributed much to church life. Roger took his place in the ministry team, preaching and taking services particularly Matins and Evensong. Roger developed and led the prayer ministry team. He also headed the social committee and the fête-organising committee.

Roger brings to his ministry a deep and rigorous faith with sermons that often set demanding challenges for the congregation. Although these could at times be uncomfortable they were never dull, always thought-provoking, and did much to stimulate our spiritual growth.

Beyond, as he would put it, his "blue scarf" duties, Roger and Carol committed themselves wholeheartedly to the wider life of the church. His shared naval background with the then vicar Bill Day made for good team work and his continuing service connections, particularly with HMS Collingwood, were an asset to the parish.

Carol and Roger contributed greatly to the social infrastructure which underpins a healthy faith community, organising all sorts of social events. We had memorable coach trips to places as diverse as Canterbury, Lambeth Palace and Blenheim. The quiz nights were always great fun. Roger brought to them a particular skill as a question master.

There were the Parish Balls, glittering events at the Senior Rates Mess at HMS Collingwood. And Roger organised the fête for several years, putting his own mark on this major event which is crucial for fund-raising and connecting with the Titchfield Community

As Roger and Carol prepare to leave Fareham we wish them every happiness in their new home and, we expect, a renewed ministry in Wiltshire.

To quote Roger: "We have made many friends at St Peter's who we will miss. Our time with you all has been a God-sent period. He brought us to you and you to us. He certainly does move in mysterious and unexpected ways." And again: "I could never have achieved any of this if I didn't have Carol beside me, supporting, encouraging and advising me throughout our journey."

We pray for God's blessing on them and give thanks for their time amongst us.

## Titchfield WI

Wendy Culverwell

It was a funny old Christmas for many of us. Most of us had our plans disrupted in some way with restricted family contacts and visits. But we are continuing to keep in touch with our members, and hold meetings, through Zoom and WhatsApp. Before Christmas we even managed a Zoom Party. It turned out to be hilarious as we played bingo and attempted to sing a version of the 12 days of Christmas with new words and in a variety of keys! Since then, we have continued to have our regular meetings on Zoom – the Book Club, Craft Club, weekly social get-togethers and a couple of games evenings, where we have learned to play Codenames. The speaker at our next meeting is a local Funeral Director talking about the history of funeral practices - it should be very interesting.

We are happy to welcome any ladies who would like to find out whether the WI is something they would like to join. They can attend two free monthly meetings before having to make a decision on whether it is for them.

## Writer Wanted for Children's Page

Titchfield news has not had a Children's Page for many years since 'Poppy' moved away. Would you like to do that for us?

We would just like half a page to a page of, for example, puzzles, quizzes and colouring every two months. This will be a great opportunity to entertain our younger readers so we would love to hear from you.

If you could do this, please e mail the Editors at [magazine@stpetertitchfield.org.uk](mailto:magazine@stpetertitchfield.org.uk) .



## John Freemantle 1946-2020

Carole Freemantle

John was unusual in this day and age in that his home for his entire life was either 44 or 46 South Street. He attended Titchfield Primary School and then Price's Grammar School. After leaving school he worked at Aldermaston, the Research Establishment, and had to sign the Official Secrets Act; he never did tell me exactly what he did! During that time his father, Doug Freemantle, was running the funeral and building business which he inherited from his father – Arthur Henry Freemantle – hence AH Freemantle. When Doug had an accident John left Aldermaston to help his father on the building side of the business. When I first knew John in 1976 he was involved in the building firm; occasionally he helped with a funeral, usually by carrying. When his father and mother went on holiday John had to switch to the funeral side. I think this ability to be able to tackle a very different customer base when planning and executing a funeral and also being able to talk to customers about their extension or whatever work they were planning shows why so many people have been full of praise whether it was John the builder or John the funeral director, or just John who helped them at some time or other.

While John was still at Price's he began sailing quite seriously, in both dinghy and big boat sailing. He had a boat called a Phantom, and won the Phantom World Championship. In big boats he participated in the Fastnet race. John and his father built the current Hill Head Sailing Club and when I first knew him he would be racing a dinghy at weekends, tides permitting, and sometimes there would be an evening race too. John also built quite a few of his own dinghies and they all started with an 'S'. I remember Secret and Spirit and there were others.

While John was young the family lived at 44 South Street but when his Grandmother, Mary, died, his Grandfather having died in the war, John, his father and mother, Doug and Pat and John's two younger brothers moved into 46. No. 44 was then let until about 1976. After that time John helped his father do some renovations and then when John and I married in January 1978 we moved into 44 and it was there that he stayed for the rest of his life and there that our two daughters, Kate and Elizabeth, were born. When Doug eventually retired John had to take over the funeral side of things although he did still keep his hand in with building especially when helping people in the village. He would think nothing of going out on a Sunday to help someone who had a problem. I remember the night of the Great Storm in 1987 when the telephone never stopped ringing, people who needed help. This of course was in addition to the usual funeral work.

The time came of course when John had to think of stepping back – he didn't like the word 'retiring'. I think he called it 'Planned Redundancy'.

One reason he was able to take a step back was that our elder daughter Kate had married James Keen and James moved into the business and worked with John to learn the ropes. The building side of things had reduced when John's youngest brother, Alan, returned home after several years working in Canada and took over the building side until he too retired and it was then that the building side closed. Some people have said that it was odd having such different aspects to a business but in the past it was the builder who made the coffins and they decided if they were making the coffins why not take on the whole service and so they became undertakers, now called funeral directors.



When John was still working he was a member of the Titchfield Bonfire Boys and took on the Presidency for three years. This was in the heyday of the Carnival with the village absolutely crowded, people climbing trees to watch, horses in the parade and the most wonderful, huge floats. He was sad when, because of all the Health and Safety provisos, the Carnival began to dwindle. John then also became a member of Fareham Meon Rotary Club and was President of that a few years ago. He also enjoyed driving the Titchfield Community Bus for the Lunch Club. Even when John had stepped back from the business he was still looking for other things he could do, most of them involved helping people. When asked how long he'd lived in Titchfield he would always say, 'All my life, so far'. We did occasionally talk of moving but I knew getting John out of Titchfield was going to be well-nigh impossible. I could mention several other projects John undertook purely for his own pleasure, renovating a near-derelict cottage in Blandford St. Mary, Dorset, and then improving a house we bought in Bourton, Dorset by raising the roof of a single storey part of the house in order to build a new bedroom, en-suite and balcony. This wasn't work for him but pure pleasure. He began to love Dorset.

If he knew of all the tributes that poured in and saw the people lining South Street as his funeral bier was pushed up South Street to the church he would have been amazed. The Victorian bier was something he had rescued and was then renovated. It's been used for several funerals of Titchfield residents and it was entirely fitting that John made his final journey to St. Peter's in that manner.

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## Letters to the Editors

We welcome letters to the Editors, either for publication or just to send us your views, so do please contact us at: [magazine@stpetertitchfield.org.uk](mailto:magazine@stpetertitchfield.org.uk) making it clear whether or not your letter is for publication by 8th March 2021 please.

## Are there Slow-worms in St. Peter's Cemetery, Titchfield?

Sheila Dyason

I am Sheila Dyason, the Secretary of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Amphibian and Reptile Group (HIWARG). Fareham Borough Council have kindly given me permission to put down some corrugated roofing tiles in the churchyard to see if there are any slow-worms living there.



Male Slow-worm photographed by Pete Gillatt, HIWARG Chair

I have set up the Slow-worms in Churchyards (SliC) Project) to assess slow-worm populations in burial grounds in Hampshire. Slow-worms, along with other reptiles in the UK, are said to be in decline but not many surveys have been carried out in churchyards and other burial grounds. Wildlife habitats in churchyards provide a thriving ecosystem for many different species, including reptiles, and slow-worms are the most common reptile found.

The tiles will be checked once a month, during suitable weather, to see if any slow-worms are underneath them. The tiles provide protection from predators such as birds and a place for the reptiles to warm up. Slow-worms are cold-blooded and they need warmth to become active.

It is important not to disturb the tiles too often otherwise the reptiles may not use them again.

The slow-worm 'Anguis fragilis', looks like a small snake but it is actually a legless lizard. Lizards have an eyelid, which snakes do not have and can therefore blink which snakes cannot. Like other lizards it can shed its tail as a defence mechanism to avoid predation. The tail will grow back but it is never as long as the original tail. Therefore, if it is necessary to pick up a slow-worm to move it out of danger, hold it nearer to the head end or gently scoop it up with both hands. They do have teeth but they do not bite people and are completely harmless.

Slow-worms are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and it is illegal to deliberately kill, injure or buy or sell them.

Slow-worms have very small scales and this gives them a shiny, metallic appearance. New-born juvenile slow-worms are gold or bronze in colour with a dark stripe down their back and dark flanks. Their markings are similar to a female, but the juveniles could be males or females. Males do not develop their true colouration until their second year. Adult males do not have dark flanks and are more evenly coloured beige, brown or grey. They sometimes have blue flecking.

Like other reptiles, slow-worms are independent as soon as they are born. Slow-worms can grow to 40 cm and can live to be 20 years old in the wild. In captivity they can live longer and one slow-worm at Copenhagen Zoo reached the grand old age of 54!

They eat slugs, snails, spiders, insects and earthworms. They hibernate in the winter in leaf litter or among tree roots.

Further information about amphibians and reptiles can be found on the HIWARG website: [www.groups.arguk.org/HIWARG](http://www.groups.arguk.org/HIWARG)

## Titchfield Ablaze - Thank you

Annette Devoil

Thank you from the Titchfield Ablaze Team ....what a year... in August we wondered if we should organise Xmas trees for the village knowing that, as winter began, COVID-19 would be on the rise. Would the village support us? Would everyone be able to come and get their trees – socially distanced? We decided it would cheer everyone up to see Xmas trees with twinkly lights so we went ahead and placed an order for over 300 trees, everyone obeyed the rules and again the village looked fantastic. Hadlow (the butchers) and Freemantle (funeral directors) kindly sponsored and provided lights for the beautiful tree at the bottom of West Street and our community of makers provided wonderful pom-poms to cover/hide the safety fence... what a colourful addition.

Our faithful band of volunteers worked hard to order trees, off-load two deliveries of trees, organise tree collection, deliver trees to homes and climb ladders to position trees in brackets for those who were unable to do so. Thank you to all who helped on the day - we could not have done it without you.

Happy New Year

The Titchfield Ablaze Team.- Tessa, Grace and Annette

## Titchfield News Distributor needed for Catisfield area



We are looking for someone to kindly deliver a few copies of the Titchfield News to subscribers in the Catisfield area every 2 months.

If you feel able to help, please contact our Delivery Coordinator Gerry Pontefract via text message. Her number is 07818568034. She would love to hear from you.

## COVID-19: The Plight of our Churches

David Mugford draws on a recent article in The Telegraph to highlight the plight of churches like St Peter's:

Christmas was very different in churches this year due to COVID-19, with smaller congregations and no singing. There was, nonetheless, a chance for people to focus and reflect on the real meaning of Christmas. It is humbling to note, as Clive Aslet says, that many of our church buildings 'have often been in existence for many centuries, despite all that bubonic plague, civil war and the Luftwaffe could throw at them'. Now, however, these beautiful buildings, many of great historical significance, are under very serious threat.

With everything we have had to consider throughout 2020, we may well not have realised that our much-loved church buildings have suffered greatly from loss of income. There are 16,000 parish churches in England but their regular attendance averages fewer than 20 people. Their income has been drastically cut during 2020, not just from regular congregations prevented from attending or attending in limited numbers due to COVID-19 restrictions, but also from loss of income from events such as church fêtes. They have lost fees from weddings, baptisms and funerals and churches such as St Peter's, which attract visitors to admire its beauty, have not received the usual income from their donations. It is now estimated that most dioceses in England have lost £1 million in income.

People often assume that churches must obtain money from somewhere but the Church has no Government income, beyond a refund on the VAT charged on repairs. The National Heritage Lottery Fund, which has formerly funded major repair works at St Peter's, has stopped giving grants.

In all of this, as Clive Aslet importantly notes, 'You don't have to believe in God to recognise the importance of a parish church to the ambience of the village'. People who may never consider attending church regularly nonetheless welcome its presence in their community. One thing we have noticed, throughout this terribly difficult time, is how community spirit and a sense of neighbourliness has flourished and, within that, our parish churches symbolise community. This has led to some churches being taken on by local trusts to help to preserve their architectural heritage.

Have these paragraphs stirred a thought to St Peter's Church here in Titchfield? Especially at this time of interregnum where, in due course, we may be able to find a new vicar to lead us towards a period of renewal of spirit, energy and support to both the church and one another. We should not assume that this person would be full-time in Titchfield, especially with reduced diocese and church funds. If this becomes so, there would be a need for local people to help in keeping things going, thereby building a stronger cohesive community here in Titchfield. In due course, we will find out, and discover whether each of us has a new part to play.

Aslet, C (2020), Daily Telegraph, 23 December 2020

## Salvation

Nog Grimstead

In Greek, *soteria*. Jesus was known as the "Soter", saviour; we get the Christian "fish" symbol from the initials Jesus Christ, God's Son, Saviour (ichthus: *I*esous *C*Hristos *T*Heou *U*ios *S*oter). If written in Greek capitals, the word *ICHTHUS* can be made to look like a fish. So what is salvation? In religion, salvation is the saving of the soul from sin and its consequences. A less religious definition includes liberation from ignorance, preservation from destruction, deliverance from difficulty. So in all cases there is the necessity of a dangerous situation, and salvation offers rescue. Therefore it seems that salvation cannot exist on its own without peril. However, we read in 2 Timothy 1:9, "Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began." So grace was there with God and Jesus before all creation, so it follows that we who were called were given salvation before we even existed. It was always part of God's plan.

The word "salvation" appears several dozen times in the New Testament, but interestingly enough only in a handful of Old Testament books. It was only after Jonah said, "Salvation comes from the Lord", that the great fish "vomited Jonah onto dry land".

St Thomas Aquinas said Christ's ascension is one of his acts which promise us salvation, other obvious ones being his birth, death on the cross, and resurrection. St Thomas further states "the ascension into heaven of the body of Christ gives us entry into heaven."

I must mention the Salvation Army, who have my undying admiration for the way they get their hands dirty, on the streets, in the pubs and homeless hostels, in people's homes. I had a friend who, but for the intervention of the "Sally Ann", quite simply would not be here.

Finally, let us see what salvation is NOT: It does not mean you are perfect after you have received salvation, but that you are perfectly forgiven and saved from the penalty of sin by God's grace.

As an interesting aside, *Salvator Mundi* (Saviour of the World), a painting of Christ attributed to Leonardo da Vinci, was lost and rediscovered, bought for £45 in 1958, and bought again in 2017 for over four hundred and fifteen million US dollars.



Readers may be interested to know an alternative explanation for the derivation of the fish symbol: the acrostic 'ichthus' - iota, chi, theta, upsilon and sigma – spells 'fish' in Greek so the early Christians actually designed a secret symbol which signified their belief in their Saviour. (Ed. – with a very rusty B.A. in theology!)

## John Heitt's Tales of the Brynna

### Meidrym Owen's Sister (Part 1)

The Square in Brynna was dominated by the Eagle pub. It sat at the corner of Southall Street (where we lived, which ran northwards) and Church Street, which ran west. There was an unpaved lane running from Church Street behind the Southall Street houses. Where the Lane reached our house there was a spur running along the backs of the Church Street houses. The Lane was used for collecting the ashes by horse and cart every day. Mrs Owen lived in the first house in Church Street after the Lane. So her outside toilet at the end of her back garden was very near to our outside toilet at the end of our back garden. So we could talk to each other. She lived with her son Meidrym who was a little younger than me and her daughter Betty who was a few years older than me.

Betty, who was a very pretty teenager; suddenly disappeared. "Gone to London" said Meidrym. We boys knew what that meant. Meidrym said she had gone to join a circus. She just disappeared. Nothing was seen of her again for forty years when, out of the blue, she introduced herself to me. I was working then at the University of Southampton, running the conference business. I was marketing the facilities - lecture theatres, bedrooms, catering etc. in the vacations to those who wanted to run conferences and meetings. A nun named Sister Maria was coming to see me. When she came into my office I noticed that she was walking awkwardly. I wondered whether under that nun's habit she had a wooden leg, and if so, how she had lost it and how much of it she had lost. She looked to be in her late fifties. Perhaps she had been in London during the war. She had a really beautiful face. The phrase "remnants of a great beauty" came into my mind, but it was more than that. She was beautiful still. There was a sadness about her, which I put down to the pain in her leg.

Her first words to me were "you're John Heitt aren't you, from the Brynna. I'm Betty Owen." To say that I was dumbfounded would be an understatement. My mind flew back to when I had last seen her. I would have been about 12, just about the time of the momentous Day of the Apple. I stuttered and sputtered and tried to bring the conversation back to her conference needs. I asked her whether I should call her Sister Maria or Maria or even Betty Owen. She said I should call her Sister Maria but I confess I was consumed with curiosity about what had happened to her after she left the Brynna. This is what she told me.

The Nun's story.

When she went to London, she didn't join a circus or go on the streets. Quite the reverse. She became a nurse at the Hospital for Tropical Diseases. She was "specialling" a young chap - an army captain who had returned from Burma with a nasty ailment (no, not that one). His life was in

the balance but Betty and her colleagues looked after him so well that he eventually pulled through.

As often happens, nurse and patient fell in love. Before he was discharged he invited Betty to come to his home in Norfolk for a weekend to meet his mother. Betty wanted to take a present for his mother, but she had so little money left from her wages as a student nurse, after paying for her board and lodge at the nurses' home, that she couldn't afford much. So she painstakingly made her some tatting, in the Brynna fashion, with his mother's initial (A for Anne) tatted into the pattern. She wrapped it in crepe paper and put it into a nice envelope. She loved the train journey over the flat countryside. The train clattered over the rail joints, saying "See you soon, see you soon, see you soon". She leaned back on the moquette seats. She couldn't have been happier. She could never have imagined a Brynna girl becoming the chatelaine of a country house in Norfolk.

Read the April issue of the Titchfield News to find what happened to Betty!



### Buying The Big Issue in Lockdown

Karen Postle

Have you wondered how The Big Issue vendors have been coping during the COVID-19 pandemic? Being in lockdown for the third time means that, yet again, they cannot sell their magazines and earn an income.

As you probably know, selling The Big Issue means vendors receive 'A hand up, not a hand out', creating opportunities for vulnerable and marginalised people to earn an income from selling the magazines. It has helped many people off the streets and into accommodation and regular work, often ending lives of addiction and crime.

At this time, vendors need our help more than ever and you can give this help by taking out a subscription to The Big Issue. Each edition is packed full of interesting stories and information and delivery is free – it lands on your mat with the post!

See <https://www.bigissue.com/subscribe/> for more information.

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## Book Reviews

### **Chief Inspector Gamache Series by Louise Penny, pub. Sphere**

I have read many books in Lockdowns (1,2) but was fortunate to find a new author (Louise Penny) with a series of 16 books featuring a charming, erudite, French speaking Canadian Inspector Detective, called Gamache. I recommend them to you, for light relief. The series is set in Quebec, mainly in Montreal and a small village, Three Pines, which, although it does not feature on any maps, seems a lovely place to live. Very interesting characters live there, Bistro owners, artists, a strange poet, but there are also murderers and thus murders.

Margaret Thompson

### **A Single Thread by Tracy Chevalier, pub. The Borough Press**

I've always enjoyed Tracy Chevalier's books so looked forward to reading this. It's an engaging story, all the more interesting for its local setting as its protagonist joins the broderers in Winchester Cathedral, embroidering kneelers in the early '30s. Unfortunately there seem to be some historical inaccuracies which I found distracting so the jury's out on this one.

Karen Postle

### **The Hug and While We Can't Hug by Eoin McLaughlin, pub. Faber & Faber**

Two absolutely delightful books for young children. A 2 year old and her 4 year old brother loved these. Both books tell important lessons about friendship and While We Can't Hug presents an important message for our worrying times in an amusing and gentle, child-appropriate way. Leave time to read them yourself before passing them on!

Karen Postle

### **The Girl with the Louding Voice by Abi Dare, Pub. Hodder & Stoughton**

The tale of Adunni told in her own words of her desire for education and an outlet for her louding voice in modern Nigeria. We follow Adunni from a rural village to busy Lagos encountering characters who both help and hinder her goal. Through it all Adunni's fierce determination to achieve her goal shines through - an uplifting story in face of adversity.

Lesley Blackburn

NB These and many other books, CDs, DVDs etc. are available from Hive: <https://www.hive.co.uk/>. Hive pays taxes and supports independent bookshops

A number of library services are still available during lockdown. See <https://www.hants.gov.uk/en/librariesandarchives/library/coronavirus> Download the BorrowBox Library app and login with your Hampshire Library details to access the library's collection of eAudiobooks and eBooks.

**Do send your Book Reviews, about 60-70 words long, to [magazine@stpetertitchfield.org.uk](mailto:magazine@stpetertitchfield.org.uk)**



**TITCHFIELD  
COMMUNITY  
CENTRE**

### **New Year Greetings from Titchfield Community Centre**

At the time of writing, we are hoping to reopen the Community Centre on the 4<sup>th</sup> January for a limited number of groups. This will be subject to further tier announcements. Please check our website for the latest details.

It has certainly been a challenging 12 months for us at the Centre, but the new year is the perfect time to reflect on the positive aspects of 2020. For us, the Covid crisis has highlighted the dedication of our wonderful staff and their commitment to the Centre. Thank you to our office staff, management and caretakers for keeping it all going through such uncertainty.

We are also so grateful to our remarkable team of volunteer officers who have given us their unerring support. For a charitable organisation like us, last year could have been disastrous. However, because of our devoted team, we live to fight another day and can't wait to get back to full capacity in 2021.

A big thank you also to our brilliant regular hirers for their support and understanding. We miss you very much and can't wait to have you back.

We wish all in Titchfield a healthy, happy and prosperous 2021.

### **Join us at the heart of the community**

Titchfield Community Centre has thrived for over 50 years thanks to the work of volunteers. It is their dedication and generosity of spirit that keep our doors open for our 3,000 weekly visitors (pre-Covid, of course).

Volunteering at the Centre is hugely rewarding, as well as being a great way to make new acquaintances and get involved in the wider community. There are plenty of ways to participate, regardless of your age and experience. For example, 2021 is going to be particularly important for fundraising, so if you are an 'ideas' person or a keen organiser, we'd love to hear from you.

## Titchfield on the web

Information on Titchfield ..... [www.titchfieldnews.com](http://www.titchfieldnews.com)

Information on St Peter's Church ..... [www.stpetertitchfield.org.uk](http://www.stpetertitchfield.org.uk)

Friends of St Peter's Church ..... [www.friends-of-st-peters.org](http://www.friends-of-st-peters.org)

Information on Titchfield Village Trust ..... [www.titchfieldvillagetrust.com](http://www.titchfieldvillagetrust.com)

Titchfield Community Centre ..... [www.titchfieldcommunitycentre.org.uk](http://www.titchfieldcommunitycentre.org.uk)

# St Peter's Church

Church Street, Titchfield, Hants, PO14 4AG  
[office@stpetertitchfield.org.uk](mailto:office@stpetertitchfield.org.uk)  
 01329 847003

*welcoming all celebrating life  
 sharing the journey*



## Temporary arrangements

### Worship every Sunday

During the national lockdown, we expect that our regular 9.00 am service will continue to be live streamed and then available on [stpetertitchfield.org.uk](http://stpetertitchfield.org.uk) Public worship in church will be resumed as soon as it is safe to do so.

### Church Weekday Opening Hours

Opening the Church during the week has been temporarily suspended. As soon as possible it is intended that it will re-open for private prayer every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 11.00am until 1.00pm.

### For further information

Please see the contact details at the back of this magazine and, in these fast changing times, up-to-date information is posted regularly on the church website, [stpetertitchfield.org.uk](http://stpetertitchfield.org.uk)

## From the Parish Registers

<b>Funerals</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> November	Karen Bell (54)
	20 <sup>th</sup> November	Joyce (Joy) Springett (82)
	22 <sup>nd</sup> December	John Freemantle (74)
	29 <sup>th</sup> December	Sheila Hodges (86)

## Regular Religious Broadcasts

### Sundays

6.00 am Radio Solent  
 Breakfast on Solent

6.00 am Radio 2  
 Good Morning Sunday

8.10 am Radio 4  
 Sunday Worship

1.15 pm BBC 1  
 Songs of Praise

3.00 pm Radio 3  
 Choral Evensong

### Weekdays

9.45 am Radio 4 (Long Wave)  
 The Morning Service

3.30 pm Radio 3 (Wednesday)  
 Choral Evensong

### At Any Time Day or Night

Freephone 0800 804 8044  
 "Daily Hope" - favourite hymns,  
 prayers and daily reflections  
 from the Church of England.

### Every Day

8.00 pm Pray at home with fellow parishioners and the St Peter's Prayerline, as we pray for everyone who is fighting against the Covid-19 pandemic.

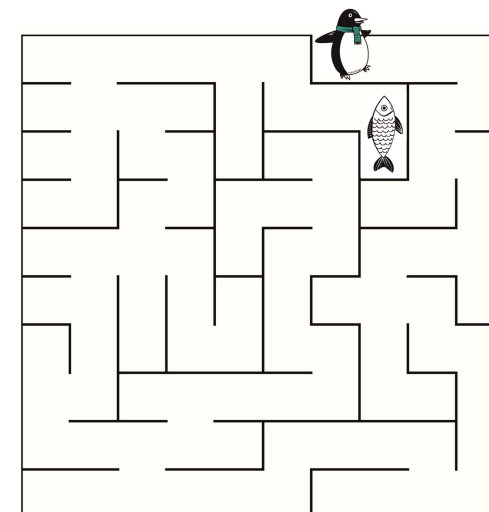
## Puzzles

### Sudoku

Fill each row, column and marked rectangle with the numbers 1 to 6

	3	5		1	
			3		
4					
		1		2	6
2				4	
		4	6		

### Can you help the penguin find its fish?





TITCHFIELD  
COMMUNITY  
CENTRE

# CONTACTS

<b>B</b>	<b>Ballroom Dance Classes</b> , James Taplin.....	01489 584502
	<b>Bowling Club</b> , Dennis Dowsett.....	01329 662545
	<b>Bridge Club</b> , Jill Mogridge.....	01329 849826
<b>C</b>	<b>Card Making</b> , Amanda Fowler.....	01329 846909
	<b>Cotton On Sewing Workshops</b> , Sheryl Collier.....	07704 065633
	<b>Crochet</b> , Donna.....	crochetcraftco@outlook.com
<b>F</b>	<b>FAREGOS (Home Education)</b> , Julie Barker.....	07748 498841
	<b>Fareham Bee Keeper Assn</b> , John Hoar.....	01329 315665
	<b>Fareham Flower Club</b> , Val Hockley.....	07961 181605
	<b>Flexercise</b> , Lindsey.....	07715 435863
	<b>French Conversation</b> , Peter Davis.....	01489 808422
	<b>Friendship &amp; Memory Café</b> , Home Instead.....	01329 282469
<b>H</b>	<b>History Society</b> , Peter Mills.....	01329 317912
<b>J</b>	<b>Jigsaw Preschool</b> , Sue Millar.....	07711 776899
<b>K</b>	<b>Karate (BOKB)</b> , Chris Bird.....	07792 666932
	<b>Kung Fu &amp; Kick Boxing</b> , Omar El-Kilany.....	07575 991855
<b>L</b>	<b>Ladies Badminton</b> , Jackie Needham.....	01329 661000
	<b>Lindy Hop/Sugarpush Tea Dance</b> , Simone Graham....	07944 255574
<b>N</b>	<b>NCT - Bumps &amp; Babies</b> , Michelle Du Preez-Dwyer.....	0844 2436130
<b>O</b>	<b>Oaklands</b> , Contact Titchfield Community Centre directly	01329 842933
	<b>OASIS (youth club)</b> , Peter Mills.....	01329 317912
<b>P</b>	<b>Perform</b> , Sam Love.....	0845 4004000
	<b>Poetry</b> , Patrick Caines.....	01329 608413
<b>R</b>	<b>REDS Dancing School</b> , Laura Whittenham.....	07851 567229
<b>S</b>	<b>Scouts (inc. Beavers and Cubs)</b> , Tracey Williams.....	07855 715503
	<b>Slimming World (Saturday)</b> , Colette Matthews.....	07727 872528
	<b>Slimming World (Tuesday)</b> , Lorraine Botham.....	07751 807409
	<b>Solent Stitchers</b> , Sandi Jones.....	01329 847930
<b>T</b>	<b>The Arts Society (Solent)</b> , Nicky Zaki.....	01329 842634
	<b>Tai-Chi</b> , Andrew Austin.....	07824 330950
	<b>Tea Pot Crafters</b> , Daphne Philpot.....	01329 286999
	<b>Tea Dance/Come Dancing</b> , Pauline Steel.....	01329 234562
	<b>Titchfield Abbey W.I.</b> , Jenny Windebank.....	01329 842807
	<b>Titchfield Auctions</b> , Isabel Farmer.....	07720 023950
	<b>Titchfield Gardeners' Club</b> , Steve Nash.....	01329 843413
	<b>Titchfield Lunch Club</b> , Ken Moore.....	01329 315615
<b>W</b>	<b>Word Wrights</b> , Eileen Everitt.....	01329 849708
<b>Y</b>	<b>Yoga</b> , Hesione Waugh.....	07794 127732

Mill Street, Titchfield, Hampshire, PO14 4AB

01329 842 933 [www.titchfieldcommunitycentre.org.uk](http://www.titchfieldcommunitycentre.org.uk)

[enquiries@titchfieldcommunitycentre.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@titchfieldcommunitycentre.org.uk)

## CHURCH AND VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

### ST PETER'S CHURCH

Vicar	Interregnum	01329 847003
Curate	Revd Janet Trevithick	01329 847003
Church Office	Open: Mon-Thurs 9 - 12	
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:office@stpetertitchfield.org.uk">office@stpetertitchfield.org.uk</a>	01329 847003
	Website <a href="http://www.stpetertitchfield.org.uk">www.stpetertitchfield.org.uk</a>	
Reader	Mr Roger Bryant	01329 230129
Churchwardens:	Ms Barbara Le Sueur	07453 808200
	Mr Peter Gordon c/o Church Office	01329 847003
P.C.C.Secretary	Mrs Helen Andrews c/o Church Office	01329 847003
Treasurer	Mrs Sandra Pereira c/o Church Office	01329 847003
Stewardship Recorder	Mr Iain Windebank c/o Church Office	01329 847003
Organist	Mr Keith Miller, c/o Church Office	01489 579160
Capt. of the Tower (Bells)	Mr Lyndon Hatfield	01329 849921
Friends of St Peter's	Mrs Pat Shirley	01329 846646
	Website <a href="http://www.friends-of-st-peters.org">www.friends-of-st-peters.org</a>	

### TITCHFIELD VILLAGE

Primary School	Reception	01329 843322
Parish Room	Lesley Blackburn - for bookings	07486 891728
	(calls taken 9am-6pm or voicemail)	
Earl of S'ton Trust	Mrs Tracey Kenney	07458 304031
Village Trust	Mr Nick Girdler	01329 847930
Community Centre	Mrs Mary-Kate Smith (Manager )	01329 842933
Jubilee Surgery	Reception	01329 844220
Jubilee Surgery Patient	Suzy Jackson	07532 168454
Participation Group	<a href="mailto:ppgchair.jubilee@gmail.com">ppgchair.jubilee@gmail.com</a>	
Bonfire Boys	Message Line	07768 283725
Titchfield Luncheon Club	Mr Ken Moores	01329 315615
Titchfield N'bourhood Forum	Mrs Ann Wheal	01329 849253
Titchfield Bowling Club	Mr Dennis Dowsett	01329 662545

### TITCHFIELD NEWS

Editorial Team	email: <a href="mailto:magazine@stpetertitchfield.org.uk">magazine@stpetertitchfield.org.uk</a>
Distribution	Karen Postle, Margaret Thompson, Karen Rizzi
Advertising	Gerry Pontefract
Reporter	Nog Grimstead
	Harry Sowerby

### YOUR LOCAL TITCHFIELD COUNCILLORS

Hampshire County Council	Mr Geoff Hockley	01329 287365
Fareham Borough Council	Mrs Connie Hockley	01329 287365
	Ms Tiffany Harper	01329 844074

### YOUR LOCAL MP

Member of Parliament	Mrs Suella Braverman	01329 233573
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Opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily represent  
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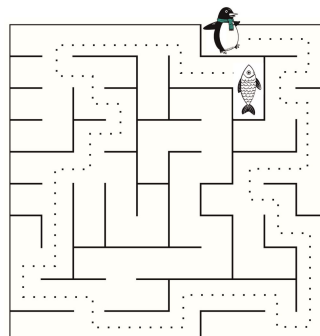
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5	1	4	6	3	2



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Or visit our website - [jigsawpreschool.com](http://jigsawpreschool.com)



## CELEBRATE WITH US

Do you have a special occasion to celebrate? At Titchfield Community Centre we have a range of party suites to meet your needs, whether it be a christening, wedding, anniversary, children's party or special birthday – including 18<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> parties. Call us today on 01329 842 933 or email enquiries@titchfieldcommunitycentre.org.uk

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**TITCHFIELD  
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