



The Parish Magazine for

£1

STOCKBRIDGE LONGSTOCK & LECKFORD

June 2022



The Parishes of Stockbridge, Longstock and Leckford in the Mid-Test Benefice

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Please contact our Rector (see details above)

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From the Rector

Inspiring!

This June will kick off with an extended bank holiday weekend to give as many people as possible some space to celebrate the 70 year (and counting) reign of Her Majesty the Queen. Those years have seen the transformation of both a commonwealth of nations as well as an inexperienced young woman who has become one of the longest serving and seasoned heads of state that has ever walked the earth. There is literally no other person alive who has been privy to as many international events and state secrets as our Sovereign.

Throughout her reign, she has always sought to be an inspiration to the people of this nation by her example of dedicated, unflinching and uncomplaining service. Not only has she set an example that other political and community leaders have failed to equal, but across her reign she has sought to modernise the institution of the monarchy to enable it to reach out to and relate to the hundreds of thousands of ordinary people who also serve their community and nation.

Last month, at the first garden party held at Buckingham Palace since before the start of the Covid pandemic, there was a full range of society to be seen – from General Officers in dress uniform to low-ranking airmen; from diplomats to local civic leaders; from the Minister for Brexit Opportunities in morning dress to many ordinary people wearing borrowed lounge suits, and even a handful of clergy. All parts of British society were graciously hosted at the home of the head of state.

The word 'inspiring' has been carefully selected. It is a word that describes the in-dwelling of the Holy Spirit, and it is through the gift of the Holy Spirit that Christians are transformed. At her coronation, the most sacred and intimate part of the ceremony, the anointing, was preceded by the singing of the Veni Creator Spiritus – an ancient hymn imploring the coming of the Holy Spirit, 'Come Holy Ghost, our souls inspire, and lighten with celestial fire . . .' It is by being filled with the Holy Spirit that Christians have been inspired and empowered in service across centuries.

We too should pray that God will fill us with His Holy Spirit and use us in His service.

The Rev'd Philip Bowden

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Cover Photo: Five riders, Stockbridge Down, by Nigel Rugman

Footers this month reflect on the quality of doing one's duty.

From the Editorial Team

Everything is warming up for a truly glorious June. Plans are afoot for Jubilee Celebrations in all our villages and there will be flags and bunting galore to lift our spirits. And seventy years of service, performed with such dedication and visible pleasure is certainly something to admire and celebrate. Rev'd Phill sums it up perfectly in the words which open our magazine.

We have been particularly delighted to include some memories of the Queen's Coronation in June 1953. We have some images from the celebrations in London from a reader who was there with her family, and a lovely description of the event in Stockbridge which was severely challenged by the weather. Two young girls with very different experiences!

We are hoping for wonderful weather for our street parties and for all the regular June activities (back at last!). St Peter's Flower Festival will take place from Friday 24th to Sunday 26th June, with the theme 'Happy and Glorious', raising funds for St Peter's. We have gardens open in Chattis Hill, Longstock and Stockbridge for the National Garden Scheme. The NGS has supported nursing and health charities since 1927. Recognising the importance of gardens to well-being, it also supports charities such as Horatio's Garden, which creates and maintains accessible gardens in NHS regional spinal injury units. A recent addition has been Maggie's, which provides support for cancer patients and their families in creatively designed centres within gardens, their most recent centre opening at Southampton General last year.

So if you would like to come along to the Flower Festival and the Open Gardens, you will be able to enjoy tea and cake, and also support a good cause!

Frances Candler, Jennifer Kidd and Thea Taylor

Copy for Magazine

Copy date for the July Magazine:

15 June 2022

Please send emails to:

editorsstockmag@gmail.com

or phone Frances on 01264 811776

Jennifer on 01264 811179 or Thea on 07730 964481

Stockbridge Town Hall Events



Weekly

Mon am	Pilates with Paula
Mon am	Pilates Unlimited with Clare
Tues am	Michelle Buhl-Nielsen Art Class
Weds am	Yoga with Dionne
Thurs am	Iyengar Yoga with Melissa
Thurs am	Stockbridge Community Market
Thurs am	Su Joy Art Class
Thurs pm	Joga
Fri am	Moo Music

This Month

Jun 1	Birdy and Voo
Jun 1	Citizen's Advice Bureau
Jun 4	Antique Fair
Jun 7-8	Infinito
Jun 7	Stockbridge Osteopathic Practice
Jun 8	NeighbourCare AGM
Jun 10	Birdy and Voo
Jun 11	South Central Makers
Jun 13	Ukraine Support
Jun 14	Stockbridge Osteopathic Practice
Jun 15	Landscape Painters
Jun 15	Andover Green Party
Jun 16	Stockbridge Parish Council
Jun 17	Birdy and Voo
Jun 17	Stockbridge Community Cinema
Jun 20-22	Wild Bazaar
Jun 21	Stockbridge Osteopathic Practice
Jun 22	Stockbridge Community Cinema
Jun 25-26	Antiques & Curios
Jun 25-26	Hawkmoor Books
Jun 27-29	Wild Bazaar
Jun 27	Ukraine Support
Jun 28	Stockbridge Osteopathic Practice
Jun 28	Longstock & Leckford WI



LONGSTOCK & LECKFORD WI

Tuesday 28 June at 6.30
in Stockbridge Town Hall

Monarchy Why has Britain's Survived? Jake Simpkin

Visitors very welcome but please phone
President Sue Hill on 811779
as numbers of guests may be limited.



FLOWER FESTIVAL 2022

St Peter's Church, Stockbridge

Theme:

'Happy & Glorious'

Friday 24th & Saturday 25th June:
10am - 6pm

Sunday 26th June: 12 Noon - 6pm

Church Service

Sunday 26th June

Teas served on the Church Lawn

2-5pm on Saturday & Sunday



Houghton WI

10am, Monday 20 June
at Houghton Village Hall

Fred Smith A Year in the Life of a Beehive

Visitors welcome
Further information from
Jane Anderton 01264 810928



Test Villages U3A

Thursday 2 June
2.00pm

Platinum Jubilee Tea at Chilbolton Village Hall Pre-booking required

u3asites.org.uk/test-villages/home

To join Test Villages U3A please email
tvu3amembership@gmail.com

Early one morning...

Traditional folk and part-songs to welcome Summer.



Andover Chamber Choir

Conductor: Andrew Wyndham

Abbotts Ann School,
Duck St, Abbotts Ann, SP11 7FE
Saturday 25th June 2022 at 7:30 p.m.
Tickets £12 on the door, under-14s free



Tickets also available from Abbotts Ann Village Shop, the Beehive Stores
(Goodworth Clatford) and the Greenfield Farm Shop

In aid of church WC fund

www.andoverchamberchoir.org.uk



The Royal British Legion Houghton and District Branch

Contact David Williams (Chairman)
01264 811072
or Iain Bell (Secretary) 01264 811636

Social evenings are held on the first Tuesday
of most months in The Greyhound.



Stockbridge Community Market

Every Thursday morning
9.30 - 11.45am

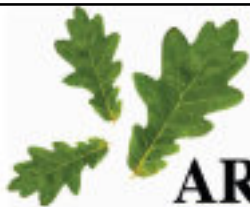
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Longstock Garden Club

A friendly garden club for the Test Valley area founded in 1980 for both experienced and inexperienced gardeners.

Our first all-day outing for two years is a visit by coach to **Kew Gardens on 14th June**

The meeting in the Hall for January 2023 is a 'Members' evening':

'The highlight of your garden year'

so please take photos of your garden and garden trips and send them to me by Oct 2022.

To see the benefits of membership, please go to www.longstockgardenclub.com

Moore

Peter



Stockbridge Community Cinema



PETITE MAMAN (U)

Friday 17 June
7.30pm (1hr 12min)

Following the death of her beloved grandmother, 8-year-old Nelly accompanies her parents to her mother's childhood home to begin the difficult process of cleaning out its contents. As Nelly explores the house and nearby woods, she is immediately drawn to a neighbour her own age building a treehouse. What follows is a tender tale of childhood grief, memory and connection. *(Subtitled)*

King Richard (12A)

Wednesday 22 June

4.15pm & 7.30pm (2hrs 24min)

Armed with a clear vision and a brazen, 78-page plan, Richard Williams is determined to write his two daughters, Venus and Serena, into history. Training on tennis courts in California, Richard shapes the girls' unyielding commitment and keen intuition. Together, the Williams family defies seemingly insurmountable odds and the prevailing expectations laid before them.

Tickets £6.00 (£5.50 + £0.50 booking fee)

available online via our website

stockbridgecinema.org.uk or via the

Ticketsource telephone booking service

0333 666 3366 (additional £1.80 fee per booking)

Wherwell History Group

8.00pm

Friday 17 June

at Chilbolton Village Hall



Annual General Meeting

followed by a talk about recent additions to the WHG archive

Please check our website at <https://www.wherwellhistory.com>

HAMPSHIRE'S FAMILY FESTIVAL

is back for 2022 with an incredible fund-raising target for our local NHS hospitals



Good Festival (formerly Hampshire Country & Garden Festival) is returning to its incredible location in the beautiful gardens of Bere Mill on the River Test in Whitchurch, on the 25th and 26th June 2022.

The festival is an annual event organised by The Hampshire Medical Fund, who purchase pioneering medical equipment for Basingstoke, Andover and Winchester NHS hospitals that is not covered by NHS budgets. The charity is aiming sky-high this year, to raise £200,000 for a state of the art machine for interventional radiology, enabling tumour ablations in patients with lung, liver & kidney cancers. The festival begins with a Saturday evening supper and auction and continues into Sunday with an all-day family festival. This family friendly event celebrates good living – with delicious food, exciting attractions, stalls, displays, talks and a delightful dog show. Visitors will have a wonderful time and critically, help to support this incredible cause that will have an impact on cancer treatment in our local NHS hospitals.

TICKETS ON SALE AT GOODFESTIVAL.CO.UK/BUY-TICKETS

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Thank you to everyone for your patience and understanding whilst we have had staffing difficulties due to COVID absence.

COVID vaccinations

We are still offering vaccinations to people aged 75 and above and those who are immunocompromised (usually under a hospital Consultant and who have been advised by them to receive additional vaccinations). We have been running COVID vaccination clinics at our Broughton Surgery. Appointments can be booked by telephoning the surgery or via a text invitation.

Masks

We are still asking patients to wear masks when they attend the surgery – both for your protection and the protection of other staff and patients. Please ensure you bring a mask with you to the surgery and wear it so it fits over both your nose and your mouth.

Trainees and Students

We said goodbye to our GP trainee, Dr Nico Rosser, in February 2022. He has now qualified as a GP and taken on a permanent post at another surgery. We have recently welcomed Dr John Metcalfe as our new trainee for his first 6-month placement of his GP training.

Before he left, Dr Nico Rosser wrote an article about being a trainee and this is available to read on our website: stockbridgesurgery.co.uk/training

On 3 May 2022, we welcome two medical students on placement with us. They may be sitting in with our staff over the coming weeks. If you are advised a student is sitting in with the doctor or nurse you are seeing, then you can tell a member of our reception staff if you are not comfortable with this.

New GP

At the end of May, we welcome Dr Lyn Phillips to the practice. She will be working on Mondays, Wednesday afternoons and Thursday afternoons. Dr Phillips is a very experienced GP and we are very pleased that she is joining our team.

Ann Spooner

SADS Autumn Production Auditions



The Stockbridge Amateur Dramatic Society (SADS) next production will be *Kindertransport* by Diane Samuels – about Eva Schlessinger, a nine-year-old girl, who is one of the 10,000 children (mostly Jewish) who were sent by their parents to the UK from Nazi Germany in the late 1930s; and her struggle, 40 years later, to come to terms with her past when she is a mother herself. Plays are sometimes described as ‘classic’ just because they are more than 20 years old and still in print but *Kindertransport* truly deserves that label. It has won numerous awards, has been performed all round the world, and is a regular feature of school drama curricula. Sadly, it has become particularly resonant this year with the war in Ukraine.

Performances are not until the 24th, 25th and 26th of November. However, we plan to hold auditions in the first week of July (so the cast can learn their words over the summer!) with a view to starting rehearsal in September. These are open to anyone – you don’t have to be a member of SADS although we ask you to join if you are cast. There are five tremendous roles available aged from 20 to 80 (the part of Eva has already been cast).

There will be a reading of the play in the Town Hall on Monday 4th July at 7:30pm. This is open to anyone and is not an audition. Turn up and read a bit if you want or just listen. It will be followed by auditions the next day, Tuesday 5th July, and Thursday 7th July at 8:00 pm – again in the Town Hall. You only need come to one of them. There is no need to prepare anything. Just come along and give it a go. If you are interested but can’t make either date, or have questions, please contact me by e-mail stockbridgeamdrams@gmail.com or calling 07738 874040.

Mark Frank (SADS Chair)

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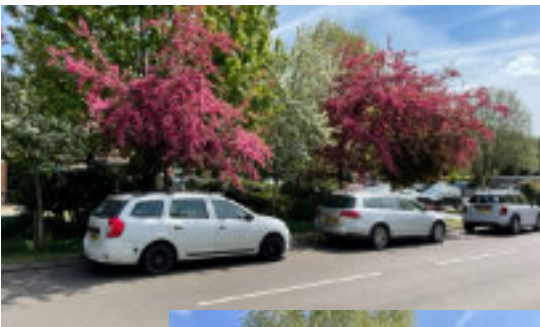
Plant a Tree for the Jubilee

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II launched a movement last year called 'The Queen's Green Canopy'. This encourages us to plant trees during her Platinum Jubilee year as a long-lasting

effort to green up our country as well as marking this remarkable platinum anniversary. Her Majesty's reign is the longest of all the sovereigns in English history.

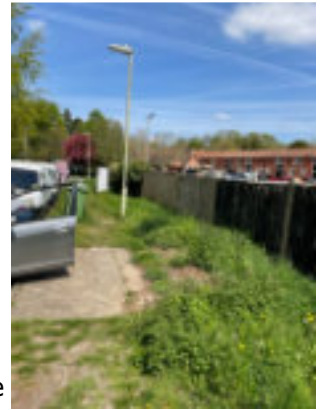
An application has been put forward to the Hampshire County Council by the Parish Council to plant a row of commemorative trees under the banner 'Plant a Tree for the Jubilee'.

Some residents of Stockbridge may be aware, as the first three pictures below show, that six flowering cherry variety trees were planted on Trafalgar Way outside the White Hart Hotel to commemorate the onset of the second Millennium and in memory of certain past residents of Stockbridge.



The new initiative will be to continue the concept with an extended avenue of several same-variety flowering cherry trees, possibly eight in total. This will run along the border of Trafalgar Way on the right-hand-side of the car park entrance to the White Hart Hotel as far as the gates to the Water Board pumping house.

The idea was put to the Parish Council by three or four stalwarts of the community together with the manager of the White Hart Hotel who all think that this a worthwhile initiative. They support the idea that it will help to enliven a rather untidy bit of the Stockbridge landscape and maybe engage people's civic pride and generosity to



contribute a modest amount through a pledge.

This project has the possibility of appealing to a cross-section of the community. So, in the hope that the county planners will warm to this plan, there is now an appeal to the goodwill in our community, rising to the occasion of the Jubilee. Funds would be raised by way of a 'Round Robin pledge' for sponsorship, payable to the Parish Council's account marked with the reference 'Plant a Tree for the Jubilee'.

The time is appropriate with the fast-approaching 5th June Jubilee celebration. It will be great to catch the spirit to make this a community effort. It will give a lift to an unruly verge of a Stockbridge road and generally set the tone in an upwards direction . . . an avenue of commemoration and celebration to add to the six Millennium flowering trees.

Robert Wright
07768 752390

Stock-U

Insert the numbers 1-9 in each row and column using each number only once.

6			5	1			3
	1					5	2
		2	8		7		
	6			4			
9							1
			9			7	
		9		3	5		
7	5					2	
4			7	6			9



Jacob King/PA Wire/PA Images.



The Queen's Platinum Jubilee June 2022

*and reminders of
Coronation Day
2 June 1953*



Street Parties

As announced in our May edition, there will be various parties in and around Stockbridge. For the High Street and for those near the High Street but not attached to any other party venue, we are holding a party on St Peter's Church lawn on Sunday 5th June at 1pm.

Please come along, bring your own food and cutlery and drinks. Table water will be available. Chairs and tables will be laid out, and we will provide paper plates and beakers.

It would be helpful if you could contact us if you are coming, so we know how many to expect. If you need help getting there, or if you need us to provide lunch for you, don't hesitate to give us a ring.

Contact: Janet Williams Tel: 01264 811072
janet.williams5@hotmail.com



Leckford Parish

Leckford Parish is having a Jubilee tea for residents from 3.00pm on 3rd June at Guildway Bungalow. It will be in the garden, hopefully, or in the hall if wet!



Any Leckford residents who would like to come are asked just to let me know - phone 810724 or email dawn542@gmail.com, just so that we have some idea of numbers.

Offers of a little help would be welcome

Dawn Williams

The Central Weekend Thursday 2 - Sunday 5 June Key Events

Thursday 2 June

The Queen's Birthday Parade (Trooping the Colour) Events begin at 10.00am.

Friday 3 June

A Service of Thanksgiving for The Queen's reign will be held at St Paul's Cathedral..

Saturday 4 June

The Derby at Epsom Downs

Platinum Party at the Palace

The BBC will stage and broadcast a special live concert from Buckingham Palace.

Sunday 5 June

The Big Jubilee Lunch

The Platinum Jubilee Pageant

The Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2 June 1953



AN INVITATION FOR YOUR DIARY
 Enjoy the glorious surroundings of Terstan Meadows and neighbourly cheer on the first Weekend of June, for the Longstock Jubilee Celebrations

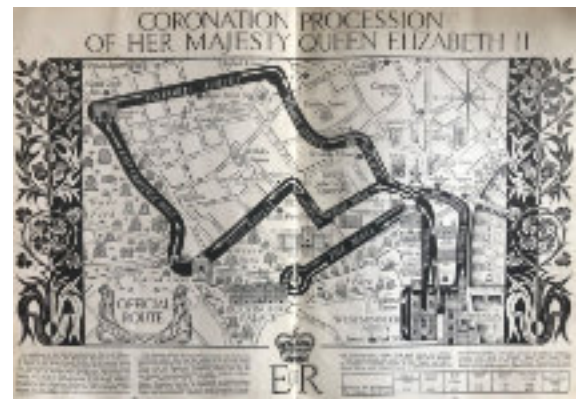
BYO BBQ and Picnic. If time to spare, please bring another dish to share as we are having a Bake-off for tea on Sunday - feel free to show off skills by making some cakes. There will be a smattering of tables, chairs and BBQs, but wonderful if you could bring more. Leave no trace, Meadows are Horses' and Nature's Space



Saturday 4th June - Terstan
 3pm - Longstock Fell Race (hopefully) returns
 5.30pm - Village BYO BBQ
 That Evening - Music and Live Screening of London

Sunday 5th June - Terstan
 11am - Thanksgiving Service
 12pm - BYO Picnic Lunch or Coronation Chicken by order
 2pm - Cricket and Lawn Games
 4pm - Tea - Cake with Bake-off

Reply with intentions/questions - 07802425381 - Cecil and Giles Burnfield

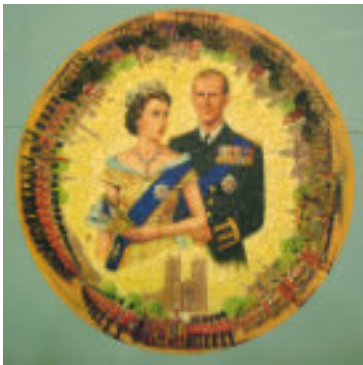


With many thanks to Sally Milligan for our unique photomontage.



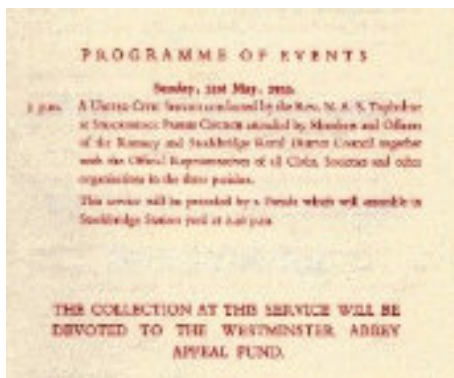
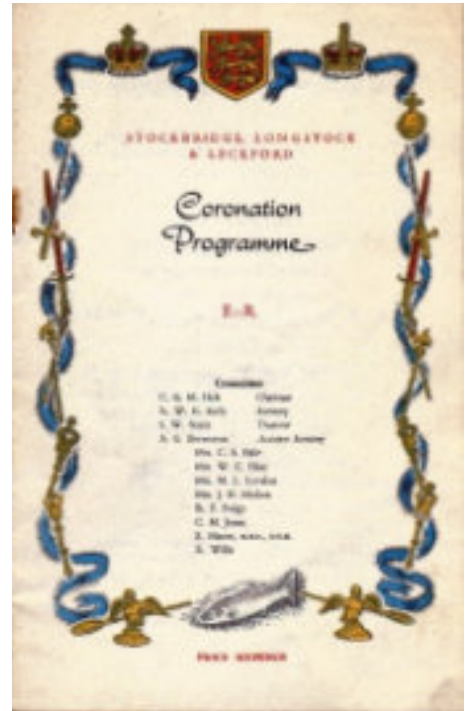
Coronation Day 2nd June 1953

Memories of Stockbridge's Celebration



The prospect of celebrations for the Coronation lifted everyone's spirits in 1953. Local shops were selling new bunting and stacks of coloured crepe paper, from which most costumes and decorations were made. There were flags, toys and streamers, and most exciting for me, my mother bought me a model of the golden coach drawn by six grey horses. She also bought some blue fabric printed with the coronation procession and made me a dress placing the procession on the border of the skirt. Rationing was still a part of our lives and receiving new toys and homemade clothes heralded a very special occasion.

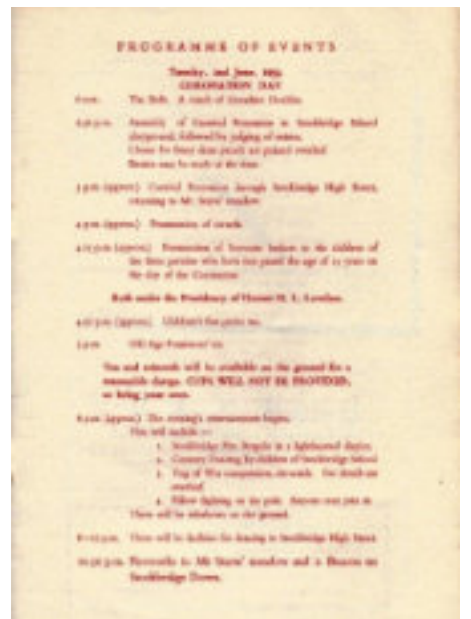
There was a buzz of activity leading up to the 2nd June. The Brownies held a pageant in the school playground and the Sunday School practised hymns to join the special Sunday service. The excitement began to build and expectations were high. Three televisions, with their tiny black and white flickering screens were obtained by people living on the High Street. We rudely peered through their windows to get a view of the screen. Radio Rentals in Andover had a television in the window which broadcast the evening programmes - only one channel available. Crowds gathered early to view the new phenomenon.



My father, a bell ringer, attended practices for the great day and I was allowed to sit on the bench in the belfry as he called out the numbers for Grandsire Doubles. The church choir, including my brother, practiced under the stern eye of Miss Ward pursuing perfection. The first day of celebration was on Sunday 31st May 1953. We all gathered in

the railway station coal yard to form a long procession to the church. I was a Brownie and marched behind the choir in front of the guides.

I had entered the Coronation Day Competition's Fancy Dress section, seven-and-under class. My mother made me a pink gathered crêpe paper overdress for my Bo Peep outfit. I was to wear my party dress and new red ballet shoes. My bonnet was also made of crêpe paper. I had a shepherd's crook and was given a sheep to lead in the procession. My brother decorated his bicycle with strips of coloured crêpe paper.



During the morning of The Day we were made to sit quietly and listen to the Coronation Service. It was so difficult for me to understand what was going on. At the crowning I remember the cry of 'God Save the Queen' from the congregation and everyone at home clapped. When the Queen was travelling back to Buckingham Palace we were allowed to go to the school playground in our costumes but it was cold and raining. My delicate ballet shoes were changed for black lace ups and my crêpe paper had started to lose its colour before we started on the long procession along the High Street. My sheep had a mind of its own and it needed to be rescued before we were over the bridge. My crêpe paper continued to deteriorate and the pink dye was running down my legs making my dress and socks pink. I was very miserable, we had all been expecting so much and it was all a bit of a disaster.



Street Party in 1953 to celebrate the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II

A tea party to celebrate the Coronation outside the flag decked Old Manse opposite the Town Hall.

Every child received a coronation mug and tea was served on long trestle tables along the street. We had sandwiches and cake with orange cordial in our new mugs.

The entertainment continued late into the evening and I remember dancing on the High Street and the Army lighting a huge bonfire, consisting mostly of old tyres, on the Downs.

About a month after the Coronation we were taken in large school groups to see a colour film of the Coronation in Winchester. It was magical and I was entranced by the colour and the ceremony. The wet, cold day in Stockbridge was completely forgotten.

Jill Goodwin

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every child born within the
bounds of these parishes
on the day of
Her Majesty's Coronation.

*Thank you to my friend Geoff Merritt for sharing his Coronation Programme and photographs with us.
The jigsaw (above, top left) was given to Geoff in Alton hospital where he spent Coronation Day, as he says, 'in the warm and dry'!*



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Stockbridge Parish Council News

Councillor Vacancy

Stockbridge Parish Council met in the Town Hall for the April meeting. It was confirmed that there was no call for a by-election after the resignation of Councillor Hill. The Council could therefore now start the process of co-option. The aim is to co-opt a new Councillor at the meeting of the Council on 16th June. Any persons interested in becoming a Councillor should contact the Clerk (clerk@stockbridgeparishcouncil.org.uk) before June 13th 2022.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Council held the Annual Parish Meeting in the Town Hall. Unfortunately, due to an outbreak of Covid in the community, the event was not well attended. However, the Council was grateful that the representatives of community groups such as Stockbridge Music, Stockbridge Community Cinema, the Town Hall, Trout 'n' About and the Venture Scouts were able to attend and let everyone know what they are doing in the next few months.

Platinum Jubilee

The Council has had produced jubilee mugs to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. These mugs will be in the style of previous jubilee mugs and will have the Council shield on the reverse. The Council will be giving out some to the primary school children.

The Council has obtained, through the Welcome Back Fund, flags and flagpoles with which to decorate the High Steet during the jubilee. It is hoped that having Union Jack flags flying along the road will give a special, exciting and patriotic feel to the High Street and to the community's celebrations.

Public Toilets and their land

TVBC has notified the Council that the application to make the Public Toilets and the land behind them assets of community value has been accepted. This now means that the land or buildings cannot be sold without the Council being notified first. This also now means that the Council can start to develop ideas as to how to make the area of land behind the toilets a community and/or recreational space for local people.

Street Furniture on High Street

The Council has started a project to improve the street furniture on the High Street. Over the next few months, the lengthsman will be rubbing down the benches and re-varnishing them. It is hoped that the bins will be re-painted and the planters along the pavements will be re-planted.

Hampshire County Council Local Transport Plan

You are invited to have your say on HCC's Local Transport Plan (LTP). This plan sets out the vision for future transport and travel infrastructure and will replace the current Local Transport Plan (LTP3)

which was developed in 2011 but is no longer relevant to today's challenges and opportunities. LPT4 describes the transport vision for 2050, the key outcomes HCC is hoping to achieve and the principles that would guide future investment and decision-making in relation to transport and travel. It sets out the roadmap for delivering the plan and how HCC would prioritise and fund it. Local Transport Plan/Hampshire County Council (hants.gov.uk) has all the relevant information and HCC asks for comments before the 26th June 2022.

Countryside Team litter pick

TVBC's Countryside team were joined by 20 volunteers from The Anton River Conservation Association (TARCA) who assisted with a large-scale litter pick along the Anton River. As residents of Stockbridge are no doubt aware, keeping the chalk streams clear from litter is key to preserving and enhancing them. If you would like to get involved in tasks like this, check out TARCA's website:

<https://www.antonriver-conservation.org.uk/>

Be Size Wise

HCC has an initiative to encourage weight loss in men. *Be Size Wise* is designed to help men who have struggled to lose weight in the past. The resource offers tips and information to support men to lose weight and get active, from virtual sessions with a coach to the NHS *Couch to 5K* app. Men (and women) with a BMI of 30+ can sign up to a free 12-week programme with *ShapeUp4Life*. Choose from online support, community sessions and a mobile app to help lose weight and start living life to the full.

Date of Next Meeting

Stockbridge Parish Council will next meet on June 16th in the Town Hall

Belinda Baker, Clerk

Fire Station Recruitment Campaign

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Over The Hedge Planting potatoes

What an impressive sight!



I was standing in a 140-acre field that had fourteen tractors working in it - all at the same time. Knowing which way to look first was very difficult.

In the first stage of planting potatoes, the tractor uses a machine that rotavates the ground first, breaking up the soil ready for planting. The soil is then moulded into ridges ready for the next operation.



Moving to the second stage in the process, the earth from ridges formed by the first tractor and machine is picked up and graded. In order to reduce damage to the potatoes and promote their growth, the larger stones (known to many as 'Hampshire diamonds') are screened out and placed in the trench left by the first machine.

The now-sorted soil leaves the sorting machine ready for the potato planting.



Seed potatoes are transported to the field in bags by tractor and trailer. Once at the field, the potatoes are lifted from the trailer and placed into the potato planter ready for planting.



The final picture shows the tractor and potato planter.



As the potato planter is pulled across the field, potatoes are placed into the soil that has been sorted and screened.

Ryan Bundy

The Story of the Tank

Brigadier David Williams, who served in the Royal Tank Regiment and finished his Army career as Commander Royal Armoured Corps in the 1st (British) Corps in Germany, is giving a talk in the Stockbridge Town Hall starting at 6.00 pm on Tuesday 19th July.



The talk, supported by comprehensive slides, will cover the 100-year history of the tank starting with its introduction, as a battle-changing British invention in the First World War, and continuing with the vital part tanks played in all armies in the Second World War and in subsequent campaigns, notably in the Middle East.



After almost eighty years of peace in Europe, tanks are once more engaged in battles in Ukraine. Images on TV screens of burnt-out and rusting hulks raise questions about whether the tank has had its day?

The talk will be structured to appeal to a wide audience, with due emphasis to stories of the men who fought in the tanks, including some local families.

The talk will last no more than forty minutes, with ample time for questions and discussion.

No tickets are required. There will be a retiring collection for the Scouts from Stockbridge who are attending the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea in 2023. Wine will be on sale before the talk starts.

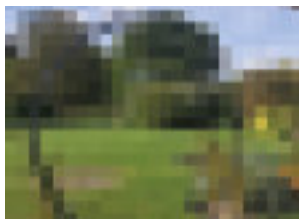


Local National Garden Scheme - June Openings

Spitfire House Chattis Hill, Stockbridge

Wednesday 8th June, 11am - 3.00pm

A country garden situated high on chalk downland. On the site of a WW11 Spitfire assembly factory with Spitfire tethering rings still visible. This garden has wildlife at its heart and includes fruit and vegetables, a small orchard, wildlife pond, woodland planting and large areas of wildflower meadow. Wander across the downs to be rewarded with extensive views.



For this open day you can pre-book your tickets in advance on the NGS website, but it is not essential. Admission: Adult, £4.00; Child, Admission by donation.

Terstan, Longstock

Sunday 19th June, 2pm - 5pm

A garden for all seasons, developed over 50 yrs into a profusely-planted, contemporary cottage garden in peaceful surroundings. There is a constantly changing display in pots, starting with tulips and continuing with many unusual plants.



Features include gravel garden, water features, cutting garden, showman's caravan and live music

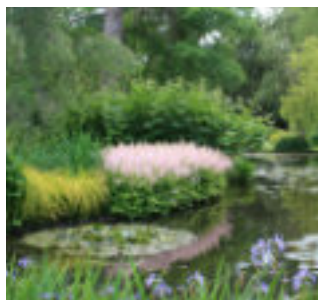
For this open day you can pre-book your tickets in advance on the NGS website, but it is not essential.

Home-made teas.

Admission: Adult, £5.00; Child, admission by donation

Longstock Park Water Garden,

Sunday 19th June, 1pm - 4pm



Famous water garden with extensive collection of aquatic and bog plants set in 7 acres of woodland with rhododendrons and azaleas. A walk through the park leads to National Collections of Buddleja and Clematis

viticella; arboretum and herbaceous border at Longstock Park Nursery.

Refreshments at Longstock Park Farm Shop.
Admission: Adult, £10.00; Child, £2.00

Stockbridge Gardens

Thursday 16th and Sunday 19th June, 2pm -5pm

Many of you will already know the five gardens which will open this year in Stockbridge. The weather has been kind this year, and a first visit or revisit to the gardens will be rewarded with a variety of planting styles and some stylish and colourful displays.

Little Wyke, next to the Town Hall, has a long mature town garden with mixed borders and fruit trees.



Trout Cottage is a small walled garden, which will inspire those with small spaces and little time to achieve tranquillity and beauty. Its over 180 plants flower for almost ten months of the year.

The Old Rectory has a partially walled garden with formal pond, fountain and planting near the house (not open) with a stream-side walk under trees, many climbing and shrub roses and a woodland area.

Old Swan House, at the east end of the High St, has modern mixed planting. There is a gravel grass garden and an orchard, as well as a pond.



Shepherds House on Winton Hill is a country garden with herbaceous borders, a kitchen garden and orchard, a belvedere overlooking the pond and plenty of seating! .

As before, the gardens won't be offering individual teas but teas can be taken on St Peter's lawn so that the church will benefit from our visitors as well as the NGS. There will also be a plant stall at the church run by Anne James who provides the lovely plant stall at the Community Market.

We look forward to seeing you in June!

Admission: Adult, £8.00, Child, Admission by donation

Thanks to the generosity of garden owners, volunteers and visitors, the National Garden Scheme has donated over £63 million to some of the UK's best-loved nursing and health and gardening charities since 1927.

Potting Shed Cuttings for Jubilee June



Gardening Events for June:

Blenheim Palace Flower Show, Woodstock
Gardeners' World Live, Birmingham
Horatio's Garden 10 Year Anniversary, Longford Castle, Salisbury
The Garden Show, Stansted Park, Rowland's Castle



Preparing your garden for the Jubilee

Our gardens may well be under scrutiny for Jubilee parties throughout this month, so some quick tips for tidying things up and refreshing areas may help. Lawns will definitely need cutting regularly this month but tidying lawn edges will give everything an instant lift if you don't have time for anything else. You can always explain you are creating a wildflower meadow... This is still a good time to use weed-and-feed for a greener, thicker lawn. Dig out long-rooted weeds such as dandelions and plantains with a fork or knife and weed borders; if time is really short, only bother with the most objectionable weeds – a nettle patch is no bad thing for butterflies, after all.

Dead head flowers in containers regularly and don't forget to nip off dried, dead leaves too. An inexpensive bag of horticultural grit is useful – spread over soil in containers it acts as mulch which keeps in moisture and straightaway gives your containers a professional edge. Colour co-ordinate the grit to match your containers – or your plants! Water tired-looking plants with a liquid feed in the evening; overnight they will suck up some much-needed water and nutrients and will look fresh and healthy. Give your plants a good feed about a week before your parties – you won't see the effects overnight but they will certainly show an effect in 4 or 5 days. If you think there will be gaps in your borders, take a tip from Gertrude Jekyll and use container-grown hostas and pelargoniums; plants bought or transplanted into large, black pots and kept watered and fed can be 'hidden' amongst foliage in borders to fill out gaps with luxurious leaves and flowers. If they need more height, stand pots on upturned bowls or bricks; hostas and ferns are particularly useful in shady areas.

If you are lucky to have garden sculptures, keep them clear of pigeon guano (this applies to benches and chairs too!); for budget interest, plant up unusual containers from car boot sales or old wheelbarrows or watering cans to add interest in odd corners of your garden.

Create intimate seating areas where visitors can sit and view your garden from different angles with

garden chairs and places to rest plates and glasses made from large logs or piles of bricks. If your garden furniture has seen better days, use throws and cushions to bring it back to life. Place the furniture so that special focal points or vistas are highlighted; don't forget to use 'borrowed' views to increase points of interest in your own garden. Make sure there are shady areas for those who don't like sitting in direct sunlight.

If you have trellis which could do with some livening up, take a tip from Salisbury Flower Festival arrangers and use cleaned and prettily painted tin cans, wire handles attached, filled with cut flowers or small trailing plants such as bacopa, ivy or lobelia and hung in groups on the trellis or wire. Remember to make a couple of drainage holes in the base of the cans if you are using live, growing plants rather than cut flowers.

If you are serving food and drink outside, bring indoors out and layer different pieces of tablecloths and napkins on your tables, with simple glass jars of flowers, to meld the two areas together. If your get-together will drift into the evening, strings of outdoor fairy lights can create a lovely atmosphere; alternatively use small tea-lights or candles in jam jars amongst low-growing plants or use solar lights along border edges or as uplighters to feature plants. A galvanized bucket can have a new life with some ice as a beer and wine cooler.

Garden get-togethers and meals should be relaxed and informal so don't get stressed if the borders aren't 'Chelsea' perfect.

Happy Jubilee June.

Micki Nadal

Stock-U Solution

From page 11

6	9	7	5	2	1	8	4	3
3	1	8	4	6	7	9	5	2
5	4	2	8	3	9	7	1	6
8	6	1	3	7	4	2	9	5
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1	8	9	2	4	3	5	6	7
7	5	6	1	9	8	3	2	4
4	2	3	7	5	6	1	8	9

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My Schooldays in the Forties and Fifties

by Geoff Merritt

We return to Geoff's recollections of schooldays. It is now 1954 and he is now regaining his strength back at Stockbridge School, after a prolonged absence through ill health.

For PT (physical training) lessons we would go outside into the playground wearing just our vests and shorts. We were sent on long runs, down the Marsh Court Road, up the Warren, along the top and back. I tried this once but did not complete the run as I was not very strong physically and quickly got out of breath. I was excused, and sat in the classroom with one or two others who had also been excused, though towards the end of my education when I was about 14, I did play a few games of football at school. Even then I would play in goal to avoid too much running about. The school used Stockbridge Football Club's Little Dean football pitch, which was then at the end of London Road, the entrance being just inside the Drove Road.



As well as being our 'Rural Science' master, Mr. Simmons was also our sports master. He took us for cricket lessons in the boys' playground; I remember bowling him out once and I managed to hit a ball bowled by him through the top window of Class Six!

What I loved doing best in my schoolwork was 'English Composition'. I just loved writing short stories. My mate, Ray Galpin, and I would see who could write the longest story from a list of subjects given to us by my favourite teacher, Mrs. Harding. We had little plays to do during the 'Drama' classes. I recall being in a play about King Arthur. I was a peasant and all I had to say, after rising from the hot water pipe that ran round the classroom, was "Good day, good knight" as the king passed by. I was so nervous that, as he passed by, I jumped up and said, "Good knight, good day!".

I did appear as a burglar once, with a real gun (a German Luger with a wooden handle) in a school play held at the Town Hall in the High Street. During some drama classes, we were asked to improvise and put on a sketch we had written for ourselves, so Jimmy Fielder and I knocked up a comedy sketch, during which we used



the huge dummy cigarette packets that were usually on display in Barber Brown's shop window. He didn't mind lending them to us as Jimmy lived next door, in the building where Evans and Partridge trade today. I also did a few impressions; one was naughtily of our school master Mr. Russell-Coates (or Brussell-Sprouts as he was affectionately nicknamed).

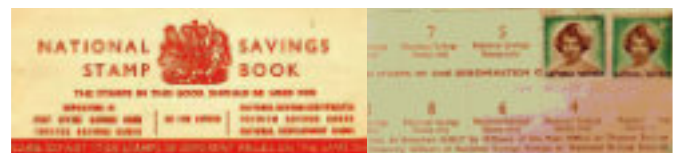
We had the 'Nit Nurse' visit the school frequently. She was the same nurse that I knew from the Andover Clinic which I had to attend every six months until I was 15 for check-ups to assess my progress of recovery from TB. Dr McCallum would see the result of a chest X-Ray done the previous week at Andover War Memorial Hospital.

We also we had to see the school doctor, who we boys feared, as we had to drop our trousers and he would push his fingers either side of our testicles and tell us to cough, checking for a hernia I would imagine, but not knowing this at the time it was a frightening thing for us boys!

The dreaded butcher, sorry, School Dentist, Mr. Chadwick, would attend annually and park his dental caravan in the boys' playground. This would put everyone's heart in their mouths. We would all have to visit the caravan to have our teeth examined; then we had to wait a week until the teacher called out our names and those whose teeth needed attending to were issued with a coloured appointment card, yellow for cocaine and pink for gas! I was nearly always issued with a pink one. I hated this, as after having a tooth pulled out, my sister May had to come and take me home. The only great thing was that if it was a morning appointment you could have the rest of the day off!

The school decided to split us all up into three competitive groups, Balmoral (blue), Glamis (gold) and Windsor (white). We could earn stars for our groups through lessons and sports; just for the record I was in Glamis.

I was always very embarrassed when the class was asked to line up to buy their 'National Savings Stamps' from the teacher. They were priced at sixpence or half-a-crown but I simply could not afford them. The Princess Anne was 6d and the Prince Charles 2/6. The stamps were introduced in 1953 and phased out in 1967.



More from Geoff next month.



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Lindy Lou's Kitchen Recipes & Crafty Corner



This Platinum Jubilee magazine deserves the simplest but most versatile cake. Here is a tasty cake that keeps well and is just as good after being frozen.

Carrot Cake with Cream Cheese Topping

12-portion traybake or 2 x 16cm deep round cakes.

Ingredients

- 375ml vegetable oil
- 300g caster sugar
- 375g self-raising flour
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tbsp baking powder
- 2 tsp ground mixed spice
- 1 tbsp cinnamon
- 6 eggs
- 330g grated carrots

For the frosting

- 100g butter
- 150g cream cheese
- 100g icing sugar

Method for the tray bake

Preheat the oven to 160°C (fan) / gas mark 3

Grease and line a large brownie tray measuring approx. 30 x 20 cm. / 12 x 8 in.

Sift all the dry ingredients into a bowl.

Place the oil and eggs into another bowl and whisk gently until combined.

Pour the egg mixture into the dry ingredients and add the carrot. Stir gently to combine but don't over-mix.

Once combined, place in the tin then bake for around 35 minutes. Test the cake is cooked by inserting a skewer into the middle of the cake. If it comes out clean, the cake is ready.

Remove from the oven and allow to cool completely.

For the frosting

Place the softened butter and cream cheese in a mixing bowl and beat with a spoon. Gradually add the icing sugar until completely mixed.

Spread over the cake and leave to set. It can be put in the fridge for an hour.

Decorate with more grated carrot or walnut pieces.

For the deep round cakes

Line the base of two loose-bottom deep round tins with greaseproof paper. Follow the method until placing the mixture into the tin and, instead, divide between the two tins. Place in the oven for approx. 55 mins., checking after 40 mins. to ensure they are not getting too brown.

These make perfect special event cakes. I split them in half horizontally, spread lemon curd over the bottom section and replace the top. I put half the frosting over the top and decorate with sparkles.

Linda Hotchen

Platinum Jubilee Lantern Arch for St. Peter's Church

We are making good progress with the Jubilee Arch project, made possible by all the hard work of those involved, and of course, the very generous donations of the community who clearly feel as strongly about realising this project as the committee do. Thank you to everybody who has donated.

The planning application and the diocesan faculty have been submitted, and we expect a positive outcome to both of these planning permissions very soon.

Due to the various planning hoops that we have had to go through, the arch will not unfortunately be installed before the bank holiday jubilee celebrations weekend. All being well, the installation will follow not long after, and we can use this as another opportunity to celebrate the special and historic occasion of the Platinum Jubilee.

Alex Lawrence



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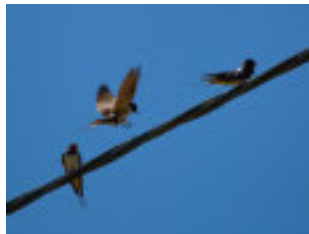
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Peregrines, Swifts and Cuckoos

There are two peregrine falcon chicks in the nestbox on the north side of Winchester Cathedral. Their mother, Winnie, looks after them carefully, feeding them with choice tiny bits of prey from her beak gently into their, sometimes keeping them warm and at other times watching over them from the parapet nearby. They are growing by the day - still white balls of fluff although in June they will develop adult feathers. Sadly, the third egg did not hatch but as Winnie has a new mate there was no certainty about whether she'd have any chicks this year. Don't forget to look on the Cathedral website and search for 'peregrines'. The chicks are now standing up and will be 'ringed' on 23 May as they will soon be exploring outside the nest. (This picture shows some other chicks to give you an idea of their fluffy appearance - Eds.) And if you are in Winchester, it's worth looking up to the north side of the Cathedral and along the parapet to see if Winnie is perched there.

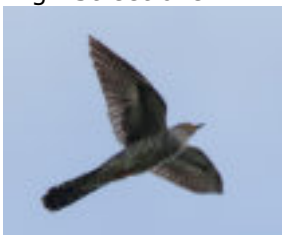


The swifts have now returned to Stockbridge but they were a long time coming. Normally they arrive by the end of April or about 1st May but this year it was not until 6th May that I spotted two flying high and then not until 8th May that I saw four swifts wheeling and screeching over the High Street. Apparently, it was the strong north wind that kept them in Europe or even further south. Since they arrived, more have joined them and




there are now at least sixteen - you may have spotted more but they fly so fast it is difficult to count. Has anyone seen one go into one of the new swiftboxes?

The cuckoo has been in full song both north and south of the High Street. I'm sure there is more than one. I first heard the cuckoo this year on Easter Sunday morning (17th April) at the far end of the Marsh, which seemed like a wonderful harbinger of spring, but now they are calling frequently and persistently on either side of the Marsh and to the north of the High Street over Stockbridge Fen. I expect many of you will know it is only the male who makes the characteristic 'cuckoo' sound; the female apparently emits a rapid series of chuckle notes (see p. 58 of *Cuckoo Cheating by Nature* by Nick Davies which is a good read if you are interested in cuckoos).



Jean Boney

(These images are taken from stock but we would love to receive some of your own photos of local bird sightings-Eds.)



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Notes from a Bookseller

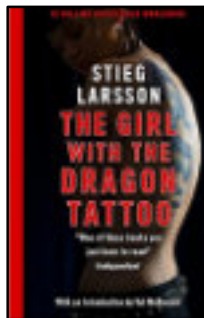


Spring is filling the hedgerows at last and here in our corner of Hampshire we are enjoying the heady hawthorn blossom and cow-parsley that line the country roads. With all this around us, 'landscape' has been very much on our minds at The Bookmark. It got us wondering why so many authors might be drawn to particular environments in which to base their stories, what is it about that place that adds dimension to the work?

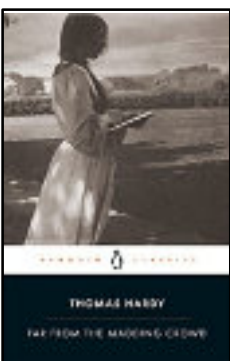


In the 'thriller' genre, is it simply a matter of continuity that PD James set her *Dalglish* novels in East Anglia, or Alexander McCall Smith's *No.1 Ladies Detective Agency* series is set in Botswana, or Andrea Camilleri's *Inspector Montalbano* in Sicily? Or is there something about the nature of these landscapes that plays a part in the narrative, as important to the writers as the characters that it helps them create?

Would Stieg Larsson's *Millennium Trilogy* be as powerful if *Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* wasn't steeped in the brooding atmosphere of the long Swedish winters? Henning Mankell's Kurt Wallander and Jo Nesbo's Harry Hole novels also belong to the 'Scandi-Noir' genre, and alongside the TV serialisations of these books and others, benefit from the impact of their landscapes on building suspense and atmosphere in their tales.



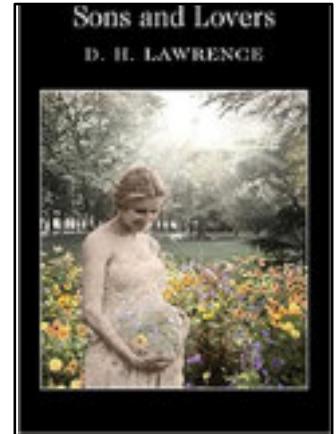
In contrast, the author Tim Winton uses his homeland of Western Australia as muse for his many novels. The barren salt plains and searing heat create an overbearing presence in his 29th book, *The Shepherd's Hut*, emphasising the alienation felt by the young protagonist, Jaxie. Winton has said of his prime inspiration that 'place' comes first; if he can't feel it, he can't picture people in it, nor can he imagine what motivates them!



Back on British soil and there are many novelists who are associated closely with landscape. In Hampshire of course, Thomas Hardy always springs to mind. The nature of rural life and work shaped many


of his characters and dictated the direction of their fate, think of Gabriel Oak in the idyllic Dorset countryside, tragically losing his flock of sheep over the cliffs into the sea, for example.

Or would DH Lawrence's *Sons and Lovers* be as powerful if it wasn't set in beautiful countryside as well as an impoverished coal-mining village, where expectations in life were severely limited?



There are many more examples of course, and in present day fiction and non-fiction we're planning to look at the effects of our local landscape on several much-admired writers. Come to hear Claire Fuller, Nicola Chester and Barney Norris describe, discuss and debate in Longstock next month. Information about LIVES IN THE LANDSCAPE is available from The Bookmark in Stockbridge and on Eventbrite.



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Church News

St Mary's Longstock



May has been a quiet month with the usual services taking place. The congregation enjoyed a fun All Age Service led by Paddy Melville with a sermon from Philip. Only a few souls (quality not quantity) made it for the Parish Communion on 8th May led by Sue Kipling. We learned that the Festival of Dedication fell on the 25th of Kislev, the lunar month which coincides with December. Darkness into light. Morning Worship, led by Maddie Hedley, was about eating habits, a new heaven and earth and love.

In June, we have the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and there will be an outdoor service in the grounds of 'Terstan', Longstock as a part of the Longstock celebrations. The service will be at 11.00am on 5 June, with me, Paddy Melville and John Rennie providing a celebration of the Queen's service to the nation and leading the congregation in a new Jubilee Hymn written for the occasion. The service will be followed by a bring and share picnic.

5th June is also the month when we celebrate Pentecost and a reminder of what this means is below.

June is also the month when the Diocese has an initiative called Generous June which seeks to engage churches, communities, and individuals with generosity, by encouraging understanding and promoting activity throughout the month of June. There is a website which has podcasts each day with a short sermon on readings selected from the Gospel of Mark. If you would like to see the material on offer, this will be available from the 1st of June. See <https://www.generousjune.co.uk/>

If you have any questions on 'the news' please contact Maddie on 810284 or email mjh723@btinternet.com

Maddie Hedley

Church Services at St Mary, Longstock for May 2022.

5 June	11.00am	Outdoor Service at 'Terstan' – Queen's Jubilee
12 June	9.30am	Parish Communion
19 June	9.30am	Morning Worship
26 June		No Service

Pentecost

Pentecost is the festival when Christians celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. It is celebrated on the Sunday which falls 50 days after Easter. It is regarded as the birthday of the Christian church, and the start of the church's mission to the world.

The Holy Spirit is the third part of the Trinity of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit that is the way Christians understand God. We open our hearts to receive the Spirit.

Pentecost comes from a Jewish harvest festival called Shavuot. The apostles were celebrating this festival when the Holy Spirit descended on them. It sounded like a very strong wind, and it looked like tongues of fire. The apostles then found themselves speaking in foreign languages, inspired by the Holy Spirit, ensuring that all those present could understand their message about Jesus. People passing by at first thought that they must be drunk but the apostle Peter told the crowd that the apostles were full of the Holy Spirit. Many thousands were baptised on that day and in the following days. The apostles and disciples were empowered and given courage by the Holy Spirit to tell people the 'good news' about Jesus and his promise of eternal life.

Why is it sometimes called Whitsunday? A tradition of some churches in ancient times was to baptise adult converts to the faith on Pentecost. The newly baptised catechumens would wear white robes on that day, so Pentecost was often called 'Whitsunday' or 'White Sunday' after these white baptismal garments. Many Christian calendars, liturgies, and hymnals (particularly those from the Episcopal/Anglican tradition) still use this term.

CHURCH MOUSE BOOKS

– No more books at present please!

Many thanks to all those who have generously donated books for sale in the 'Church Mouse' book corner of St Peter's Church. Since we have very limited storage space, I would ask you to hold onto any books you may be thinking of donating for the present time as I have nowhere to keep them. Also, we only take books, I'm afraid – not jig-saws, DVDs, toys or magazines, which can be better donated elsewhere.

Thank you,

Micki Nadal

Church News

St Peter's and Old St Peter's Stockbridge



This summer is one of celebration at St Peter's church with so many seasons, achievements, events, and occasions being celebrated at the church. We have already celebrated two baptisms and a wedding and are looking forward to celebrating a further wedding in June.

On the 26th May, the Benefice celebrated the Ascension Day together in a service at All Saints, Houghton. This service included the commissioning of all the members of the Parochial Church Councils (PCCs) across the benefice. We are so grateful to the many people at St Peter's and at the churches across the benefice who serve the church so diligently throughout the year.

Of course, the main celebration the church is looking forward to is the Feast of Pentecost, which happens to coincide with Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee on the 5th June. The Feast of Pentecost celebrates the empowering of the early Church to fulfil their calling as servants of God so this is a wonderful day to celebrate the dedication of Her Majesty to her own calling throughout so many decades. You are welcome to join the church service at 11am and of course to join in the celebration on the church lawn in the afternoon.

The celebrations of both the church and the Queen continue with the St Peter's Flower Festival 24th to 26th June. The theme this year is 'Happy & Glorious' and we very much look forward to seeing the superb arrangements on display by our talented flower arrangers. Finally, for June at least, is the celebration of St Peter's Day on the 29th June. This is our Patronal Festival celebrating St Peter as the patron saint of our local parish church. There will be a service at 10am at Old St Peter's Church that day. This is also the parish Gift Day so keep a look out for information on how to support the church in your community on this day.

No truly English season of celebration would be complete without copious amounts of tea and cake and the lawn of St Peter's will be no stranger to celebratory teas during June and July! As well as the Jubilee celebration on the 5th June, there will also be teas served on the lawn on the 16th and 19th June for the National Garden Scheme (NGS)

Gardens. Then more teas on the 25th and 26th June whilst the spectacular Flower Festival is taking place. Finally, a date for your diary, there will be more teas on the 30th and 31st July whilst the Stockbridge Open Gardens are taking place. All proceeds will be used in support of the church. If you are able to provide cakes or to volunteer your time to help with any of these dates we would be most grateful. Please contact Pauline on 810827.

Karen O'Donnell

Prayer for June

Lord, we thank you for the month of June.

The longest day, flowers and trees in all their summer glory.

We thank you for trees and pray that all we plant will flourish.

And for Pentecost – the coming of the Holy Spirit we pray for our hearts to be open and waiting to receive your Spirit, love and guidance.

If we are called to serve, let us do so with willingness,

finding ways to praise you in all we do - cleaning, gardening

and in everywhere and anything in our lives.

We pray for generous hearts so we can:

Pray for Ukraine and other war-torn countries

Give as we can to support charities working hard to provide food, clothing, water

and other help as needed.

Help refugees in whatever way we can - and

Support the local churches.

Thank you for the gift of each new day and help us work together to encourage and support one another.

Come Holy Spirit Come.

Amen

The Column

Baptisms

The Baptism of Rafferty James Stallard took place at 3.00pm at St Peter's Church on 8 May 2022.

The Baptism of Hector Reeves took place during the 11.00am service at St Peter's Church on 15 May 2022.

Weddings

There were no weddings in May.

Funerals

There were no funerals in May.

Church News

From the Area Dean

If June is anything like May, it is going to be busy! June is the time for exams at schools and colleges – although our local schools have already completed their SATs. It is also the time for fêtes and, this year, Platinum Jubilee celebrations. Wherever you go – fêtes, BBQ's, street parties, picnics and church services – please do raise a glass and a prayer to our Queen.

This month, I offer some prayers that you may wish to use at your celebrations:

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the reign of your servant, Elizabeth our Queen, and for the example of loving and faithful service which she has shown among us. Help us to follow her example of dedication, and to commit our lives to you and to one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bountiful God, giver of all good gifts, your Son taught us that, in the Kingdom of God, people would come from east and west, from north and south, to sit at table together. As we give thanks for the many years and long reign of our Queen, we ask you to bless our food, our parishes and our enjoyment of each other's company. Amen.

Your Area Dean, James

Rev. James Pitkin -
romseyareadean@gmail.com



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June Services for Stockbridge, Longstock and Leckford

5th June (Pentecost)

- 08.00 **Leckford** BCP Holy Communion
- 11.00 **Longstock** All Age Worship at 'Terstan'
- 11.00 **Stockbridge** Parish Eucharist

12th June (Trinity Sunday)

- 08.00 **Old St Peter** Holy Communion
- 09.30 **Longstock** Parish Eucharist
- 11.00 **Stockbridge** All Age Service

19th June

- 09.30 **Longstock** Morning Worship
- 11.00 **Stockbridge** Parish Eucharist
- 18.00 **Leckford** Evensong

22nd June (Wednesday)

- 10.00 **Old St Peter** Holy Communion

26th June

- 11.00 **Stockbridge** Morning Worship

29th June (St Peter's Day)(Wednesday)

- 10.00 **Old St Peter** Holy Communion



STOCKBRIDGE BELLS



Stockbridge residents may have heard the bells ringing out one Wednesday afternoon last month – this wasn't for a wedding, as several people thought, but part of The Ladies Guild of Ringers Southern District's Quarter Peal (QP) Day. I was lucky enough to take part, ringing a QP of Plain Bob Doubles at Holy Trinity Church, Wonston in the morning and another in the afternoon, of Grandsire Doubles and Plain Bob Doubles, at our own St Peter's. QP's were also attempted at St Mary's Easton and St Stephen's Sparsholt and we were delighted that we succeeded in all four QPs.

If anyone is interested in learning about bell ringing, please call me on 01264 810567 or 07563753079.

Micki Nadal

Hampshire Downs RC Parish St Thomas More

Stockbridge Services are held on
Sundays at 9.00am



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