The Villager

November 2026 Volume 55 No 9

Newsletter for Mapledurwell, Up Nately, Nately Scures & Newnham

BDBC LOCAL PLAN SCOPING CONSULTATION 2026

www.basingstoke.gov.uk/scoping-consultation-2026 **to 5pm, 20 November**

This is the first consultation in the new Local Plan process – effectively the 'pre plan-making' consultation and important as it identifies priorities to underpin the Plan. It's akin to the 'Issues & Options' consultation of the old plan-making system.

> 'It seeks views on a draft vision for the plan, a set of proposed measurable outcomes, and the key issues that should be addressed through future local planning policies.'

It's NOT at this stage about individual sites.

Consultation documents include

1. The actual *Scoping Consultation October 2026* (Q1-5)
2. A *Draft Local Plan Community Engagement Strategy* (Q6), and
3. An *Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) Scoping Report* from consultants WSP UK Ltd (Q7).

PLEASE NOTE – It's not necessary to consider all the documents or answer all the questions. PLEASE, PLEASE respond to say what is important to you.

For example the Scoping Consultation October 2026, Question 2, asks for your views on the KEY ISSUES the Plan should address...

(see Section 3, Para 3.27, pages 22 to 23)... Question 2 asks

'To what extent you agree or disagree with the key issues identified,'

and importantly

'to explain your answer and tell us whether there are other key issues...'

An answer here can be very brief, but important. For example again, if everyone in the borough said that protecting our water resources – aquifers and chalk streams – is very important to them, this is a powerful message to be accounted for.

KEY ISSUES AS PRESENTLY IDENTIFIED INCLUDE

- A deliverable spatial strategy [development strategy] informed by environmental and infrastructure capacity and constraints, including water resource and wastewater constraints
- A low-carbon and climate-resilient borough
- Maintaining the borough's distinctive natural and built character, countryside and settlement identities
- Making effective use of previously developed land and maximising opportunities for urban renewal – including improving housing standards
- Sufficient and diverse supply of homes – providing a mix of housing that supports the specific needs of different groups
- Supporting a strong, sustainable and competitive economy
- Infrastructure-first approach
- Protecting, restoring and enhancing the borough's natural environment and environmental resilience by supporting nature recovery
- Revitalising Basingstoke town centre and Basing View; regenerating Basingstoke Leisure Park.

TO RESPOND:

Online: *www.basingstoke.gov.uk/scoping-consultation-2026*
By email: *Local.plan@basingstoke.gov.uk*
By post: Local Plan, Civic Offices, London Road, Basingstoke RG21 4AH.

Villager contacts: editor, Susan Turner *su.newnham@gmail.com*; Distribution and Mapledurwell news, Sue Smart *suesmart2001@yahoo.com* 07495 367169; Up Nately News, Liz Preece 762059; Church Benefice *www.moretolife.church*

Greywell Hill Estate
HARDWOOD LOGS

Cut in the summer from naturally seasoned estate timber and stored in a ventilated barn. (Minimum carbon footprint)

Price held for two years
£150 per cubic metre delivered
£25 discount if more than 2 cubic metres ordered

Tel: Office 07434 924810
or Tom 07515 371681
or Joe 07956 055071

ROAD SAFETY SURVEY

to Thursday 05 November

www.alexbrewer.uk/campaigns/road-safety-survey-1

Alex Brewer MP has an online road safety survey for constituents and parish councils. Please for everyone to take a few minutes to complete. She says...

'HAVE YOUR SAY...You can complete the survey here:

https://digitallibdems.typeform.com/safety

'To better understand the road safety challenges our communities are facing I have developed a short survey. I would be grateful to hear your experiences and views.

'Across North East Hampshire, many villages and towns have busy roads running through their centres. Residents regularly contact me about speeding traffic, dangerous junctions, children waiting for school buses alongside roads with 60mph speed limits.

'This is about more than road safety alone. The speed and volume of traffic can affect everyday life for everyone, making it harder for people to walk locally and simply enjoy spending time in their community. Our towns and villages are places where people live, work and raise families, and local people should feel safe using them.

'Local people know their roads best and can often identify problems long before they appear in official figures. Whether your concerns relate to speeding, dangerous junctions, pedestrian safety, school routes, access to public transport, or the wider impact of traffic on daily life, I would like to hear them.

continued p2

Mapledurwell & Up Nately

ARTIST OPEN STUDIO

Local artist Katie Wilkins will have a selection of her work on show at her home in Mapledurwell on

Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th December 11-3pm



Webbs Farm House, Tunworth Road, Mapledurwell RG25 2LU

There will be a selection of oil paintings of livestock, still life, drawings, dry point etchings, cards and prints.

No obligation to purchase, but 15% of all proceeds will be donated to a local charity that supports Ukraine here in Mapledurwell.

A preview of work can be seen at *www.katiewilkins.co.uk*
Instagram *Katie_wilkins_fine_art*

Road Safety Survey

to Thursday 05 November

continued from front page

'The information gathered will help inform my discussions with Hampshire County Council, Hampshire Police and local communities as I continue to champion safer roads and support efforts to make North East Hampshire's towns and villages even better places to live.'

The survey asks

- How concerned are you about road safety in your area?
- What type of road safety issues concern you most?
- Are there specific roads or locations of concern?
- Any additional comments?

PARISH PLANNING APPLICATIONS

26/02060/FUL (Validated 27 October) Hungry Lodge, Down Lane. Change of use of agricultural land to residential garden land and erection of greenhouse.

26/01296/RET (Validated 20 October) 1 Waterside, Frog Lane. Erection of raised platform to the rear garden over a water course and erection of fence screening to northern side (retrospective).

26/02098/HSE (Validated 08 Oct) The Old School House, Greywell Road, Up Nately. Erection of detached outbuilding.

26/00970/FUL (Granted 01 Oct) Nunnery House, Tunworth Road. Change of use of land to residential; detached single-storey garage to serve approved dwelling ref 24/02002/FUL. (Amended wording to include change of use of land.)

26/01575/HSE (Validated 03 August) The Barn, Blaegrove Lane, Up Nately. Single storey rear extension, first floor front and two storey side / rear extensions.

26/01164/PIP (Pending 01 June) Land South West of Heather Lane, Up Nately. One self-build home and garage.

25/00304/HSE (Pending 26 February) 6 St Stephens Close. Erection of part first floor, two storey side and rear extension, single storey rear extensions.

24/00756/FUL (Pending 16 April 2024) Land North of Parrotts. Four detached dwellings, garages, access, parking etc.

DC Committee decision of 08 April to defer. To request further information on flood risk, and re levels of noise from M3. Subsequent report from LLFA (HCC Lead Local Flood Authority) requires further information prior to determination. 'These matters cannot be subject to condition.'



PLANNING APPEAL

APP/H1705/X/26/**3378064** (Appeal in progress) The Gamekeepers. Certificate of lawful development for the existing use of the Gamekeepers as a restaurant.

PARISH TREE APPLICATIONS

T/00540/26/TCA (Validated 29 October) Lumarden, Tunworth Road. T1 Beech - Monolith to approx 3-4metres height around the lower crown break.

T/00460/26/TCA (Approve 26 October) Meadow Hill, Tunworth Road. G1 – mixed hedge, crown lift trees to 2m to assist in fence maintenance. T1-Oak, remove low limb on northern growing parallel to hedge to assist hedge cutting.

T/00392/26/TCA (Approve 23 Sept) Rose Cottage, Tunworth Road. T1 – Ash fell, heavy dieback and stem canker. T2 – Horse chestnut, reduce over-extended limb over garage by 3m. G1 – Copper Beech, crown lift to 3m over the garden and 5m over the road.

UP NATELY COFFEE MORNING

Coffee will be at Linbern on Friday 6th November, 10-12. Please let Hazel know if you plan to be there, 01256 762648.



The United Parish of Newnham with Nately Scures with Mapledurwell with Up Nately with Greywell

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

Sunday 08 November 10.50am
St Stephen's Up Nately.
ALL WELCOME

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 18 November 6.45pm Village Hall meeting room, everyone welcome.



'BACK TO THE LAND GIRLS'

The Mapledurwell and Up Nately Village Hall put on another drama from the Badapple Theatre Company last month. Once again we were given a really enjoyable evening watching a fun play, this time on the Land Girls from the war.

The two actresses, Ellen Carnazza and Pip Cook, were a whirl of action in amazingly organised stage props for nonstop mini acts depicting their lives working and living on the farm.

Fast action, fast quips and vivid story telling and singing kept us on our seats. Half time came all too soon and the distribution of magnums to sustain us was most welcome. The second half was equally fun, but also gave us some reminders of the serious aspects of living through WW2.

All praise for the production company front and back stage.

AND all praise to the Village Hall Committee for the hard work organising, preparing for, presenting and clearing up another great evening. Where else can you come to an evening with welcoming drink, half time magnums and a fun drama on our doorstep all for £20.

Government guidance on preparing for an emergency

www.gov.uk/government/news/households-encouraged-to-take-small-simple-steps-to-stay-prepared-in-an-emergency

Government advice updated 22 October encourages households to take a few steps to be prepared if everyday services are temporarily disrupted.

AIMS

- To help people feel prepared for severe weather
- to bolster UK's preparedness for emergencies, in line with European peers.

To keep at home... Government recommends

- Drinking water and supply of non-perishable food for at least three days
- Essential prescription medicines and medical supplies
- A battery or wind-up torch and spare batteries
- A battery or wind-up radio
- Charged power banks for mobile phones
- Blankets, warm clothing and bedding
- Basic first aid supplies
- Hand sanitiser and hygiene products
- A small amount of cash in case card payments unavailable
- Important telephone numbers written down
- Additional supplies for households with babies, carers, pets.

The Priority Services Register

The Priority Services Register (PSR) is a free service that gives extra support including help if your electricity, gas or water supply is ever interrupted.

To join the Priority Services Register *www.thepsr.co.uk/#join-psr*

Registration is via the local electricity network operator (SSEN). Your details can then be shared with utility suppliers – electricity, gas, water – so you don't need to register with each organisation.

Eligibility includes, but not limited to...

- Of pensionable age
- With children aged five or under at home
- Medically dependent on utility services
- A health condition or reduced mobility
- A mental health or cognitive condition
- Hearing, visual impairment, English not first language
- Temporarily needing extra support after leaving hospital or a bereavement.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

BDBC news release *10810, published on 30 Oct 2026*

www.basingstoke.gov.uk/press-releases

Minister for Local Government, Devolution and Regional Growth, Jim McMahon, told Parliament on 29 October that Government remains committed to the local government reorganisation programme. However ministers are still considering the best way forward for the areas where it paused reorganisation in September, including Hampshire, with an outcome promised by early next year.

The original government decision would have replaced the 14 existing county, city, borough and district councils in Hampshire with four new unitary councils – including a North Hampshire Council covering BDBC, Hart and Rushmoor.

Council Leader, Cllr Paul Harvey said: 'We have made a thorough and robust case for a North Hampshire unitary council, and this was overwhelmingly supported by our residents, businesses, community and voluntary sector, and public service partners.

'Local government reorganisation gives the opportunity to bring services together and rethink how they are delivered.'

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government said that local elections will go ahead in May 2027 on existing council boundaries, with new councils still being established for 2029 and elections to shadow councils in May 2028.

Update from Hampshire County Council

https://comms.hants.gov.uk/cr/AQig4xYQkIQEGOeI6www-N46Ov49hx4Cn3ho5fIkR-cHUdgQoWmOa8vwqpfdKjRDDEY

The Minister for Local Government, Devolution and Growth has confirmed that Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) will take place across Hampshire, Southampton, Portsmouth and Isle of Wight in April 2029, with elections to whatever new councils are formed during reorganisation (known as 'shadow councils'), taking place in 2028.

'However, no decision has yet been made about what the new council arrangements will look like. An initial decision is expected before Christmas or early next year.'

Newnham & Nately Scures









HARVEST SUPPER THANK YOUS

To Trudy for organising, to Sarah and Geoff for hosting and to everyone who contributed; to Jane for setting up the room, to Joanna for organising the raffle, to Jeff for the bar, to Helen, Sophia and Liz and everyone else who helped on the evening. Also to Richard for his customary speech, representing the VCC and farmers. He reviewed the challenging weather faced by farmers this summer and thanked everyone for their contributions to the community.

NOTES FROM THE OCTOBER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Present Parish councillors, clerk, Ward Cllr Kate Tuck, Hook Action Against Overdevelopment.

Ward Cllr report and discussion...

BDBC Local Plan Scoping Consultation to 5pm on Friday 20 November (*see also front page*).

This is akin to the *Issues & Options* consultation of the old Plan-making system – which in the past was the one least responded to. To emphasise the importance of this consultation in documenting issues local residents believe are important. Sets out considerations to underpin the Plan.

No need for residents to consider all documents or answer all questions, but vital to say what is important to them. If have everyone in the borough saying 'this is important to me...' then that is an identified issue in the Plan's evidence base that can't be discounted or overlooked.

In looking at the *Integrated Impact Assessment* (IIA), consider cumulative impact, environmental outcomes, mention chalk streams. Critical for us to have input and engagement with Natural England and the Environment Agency.

Re South East Water appeal against Environment Agency decision to not further extend their Greywell abstraction licence; final submission of documents now due end this month (previously mid Oct), but not in public domain and no dates available, no Inspector yet appointed.

National Scheme of Delegation for planning decisions comes into force 31 October. This requires that all householder applications and small development sites of under 10 houses will be decided by officers and can't be called to Committee. Ward Councillors will no longer be able to call an application to committee and there will be no referral on the basis of public objections. Thus a need going forward to engage early with any sensitive or potentially problematic application.

At the moment the Planning Dept is continuing to push back against unsuitable applications and to refuse where consider there is a good case to do so. Should such a decision be overturned at Appeal, will generally avoid having costs awarded against the borough if the reasons for refusal are sound. In every case to seek to present the truth of the situation; is this proposal for a good development that will work in this location?

NPPF August 2026 includes some good things and some not so good...

Ref chapter 19 on 'Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment', Plan-making Policy (PMP) N1: Identifying Environmental Opportunities & Safeguards:

Chalk streams are specifically mentioned (PMP N1.1a.):
'... identify other features which require particular consideration in managing development due to their environmental value such as chalk streams.'

Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) now seen as more important, given more weight. Not that they outweigh development, but a material consideration which must have regard to (PMP N1.1c.):
'... Areas which could become of particular importance for nature identified in Local Nature Recovery Strategies should be taken into account as opportunities to integrate development with environmental restoration, but should not necessarily preclude the allocation of land for development.'

'A new NPPF, and a new Plan-making process, we are all learning.' Parish Council recorded its thanks to Kate.

continued next page

ARE YOU PREPARED FOR AN EMERGENCY?

Recent Government guidance encourages all households to be prepared to manage independently for up to 72 hours should essential services be disrupted. While major incidents are uncommon, severe weather, flooding, power cuts, water supply interruptions, telecommunications failures, or other infrastructure problems can affect rural communities such as ours. The Government's advice is that being prepared for three days can help households remain safe and comfortable while assistance is prioritised for the most vulnerable.

Our Parish includes several small hamlets, isolated properties and a residential park home community. Experience has shown that rural areas can sometimes take longer to regain normal services following major weather events, making a little preparation particularly worthwhile.

What Should Households Keep at Home?

The Government recommends that every household should consider having:

- Drinking water for at least three days (approximately three litres per person per day).
- Three days' supply of non-perishable food.
- Essential prescription medicines and medical supplies.
- A battery or wind-up torch and spare batteries.
- A battery or wind-up radio.
- Charged power banks for mobile phones.
- Blankets, warm clothing and bedding.
- Basic first aid supplies.
- Hand sanitiser and hygiene products.
- A small amount of cash in case card payments are unavailable.
- Important telephone numbers written down and kept in a safe place.

Households with babies, pets, carers, or people with medical needs should consider any additional supplies they may require.

LOOKING AFTER EACH OTHER

One of the greatest strengths of our Parish is its community spirit. During emergencies, neighbours provide invaluable help to one another. Please consider checking on elderly residents, those living alone, and anyone who may need additional assistance during extended service interruptions.

It may also be helpful to exchange contact details with nearby neighbours so that information and support can be shared if telephone or internet services are affected.

Further Information – find detailed guidance and a household preparedness checklist through the Government's 'Be Ready' campaign.

Being prepared does not mean expecting the worst. Simple, sensible steps taken in advance can make a significant difference should an unexpected disruption occur.

Thank you for helping to keep our community resilient and prepared.

Paul Gaskell, Chairman, Newnham Parish Council

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES *cont*

Iron Bull at Water End Local concerns raised re internal works and skip-loads removed. Cllr Tuck confirmed that as the building isn't listed, owners aren't restricted as to what they do inside.

Subsequent email received from BDBC enforcement officer confirmed:

'We cannot formally investigate the internal works to the public house as we cannot investigate potential breach matters. Internal works to this building does not require planning permission; external works would be development that we can review.

'It is noted that there is concern that there will be a change of use of the public house, but no evidence at this stage... Only when a change of use has occurred can Enforcement investigate a breach of planning control. I have however contacted the site owner to ask what works are occurring.'

Agreed an ACV application to be submitted from the Parish Council.

continued next page

PARISH PLANNING APPLICATIONS

26/02137/HSE (Validated 14 October) Tally-Ho, Newnham Road. Widening existing vehicular access and driveway and resurfacing driveway and garden path. Replacement of north-western boundary fencing and rear garden gate. Formation of stepped entrance plinth with associated landscaping

26/02000/HSE (Validated 28 Sept) Newnham House, Ridge Lane. Installation of a swimming pool, patio area, shed/ plant room and air source heat pump

26/02001/HSE (Validated 28 Sept) Newnham House, Ridge Ln. Replacement shed to the rear of Coach House**.**

26/01760/RET (Validated 24 August) Nately Scures House, Scures Hill. Raised platform containing swimming pool, outbuilding with a subterranean plant room (Retrospective).

26/01683/ROC (Grant 06 October) Land Adjacent to Blackstocks Lane. Variation of con 2 of 25/02704/ROC (One new dwelling, new access and associated landscaping) – for the proposed addition of a detached garage.

LODGE FARM, ODIHAM PARISH

26/01844/OUT (Validated 30 October) Land At Lodge Farm, Hook Road, North Warnborough. Outline planning application (with all matters reserved except access) for the phased construction of up to 100,000m^2 (GIA) of floorspace for flexible uses within Use Class B2 and/or B8 (including ancillary office space and associated plant and equipment); demolition of existing residential dwelling; associated infrastructure including earthworks, parking, servicing, landscaping, drainage, and vehicular and pedestrian access (including Public Right of Way diversion).

NEWNHAM COMMUNITY'S



October winners are
- Claire Eales (15) = £100
- Christopher Symons (70) = £50
- Jeff Ford (54) = £25

Congratulations to all, Tracey



https://newnhamclubroom.org.uk/
Clubroom HIRE Wifi available
To book tel 07802 972722 or email bookings@newnhamclubroom.org.uk

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 17 November, 7pm, Clubroom. Everyone welcome.

Newnham & Nately Scures

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES *cont...*

Land at Owens Farm Julia Abrahams and John Taylor from Hook Action Against Over-development (HAAO) attended to discuss ongoing responses to Owen's Farm application, plus other developments proposals around Hook.

Hart Local Plan Reg 23 consultation; to respond by 07 December. At this stage all submitted sites included with no selection process; goes without saying Owen's Farm and Lodge Farm are included. Hart's weakening stance on protecting Gaps between settlements particularly noted.

Road safety survey from Alex Brewer MP *(see front page).* Agreed priorities for Parish Council response:

- A30 speed limit approaching Water End and through Nately Scures
- Crossing A30 at Water End
- Condition of pavement beside A30 Scures Hill westbound
- Traffic volume, size and speed in Newnham Road and Newnham Lane as described by many Newnham residents. Noting in particular broken road edges (also associated with lack of highway drainage) a particular danger to cyclists and motor cyclists; citing a recent accident where motorcyclist injured.

Bus shelter replacement in progress, like-for-like, but in Oak with Cedar shingle roof (roof frame is softwood).

A30 pavements (eastbound) restricted width and uneven surface logged on HCC website: enquiry ref 21905870. HCC conclusion: 'No works required at this time.' Agreed to follow up, but also seek alternative means.

A30 traffic calming Agreed to revisit request to Highways for community funded 'gate' features on Scures Hill.

Ditching at Barracks track junction with Old School Road. To be scheduled via Parish Lengthsman asap.

Newnham Green

To record thanks to Cliff Holmes for 'unknown Tommy' silhouette to stand on Newnham Green for Remembrance; permission received from Earl of Malmesbury.

Maintenance schedule 2027/28. Aim to continue staggered works schedule and patchwork of habitats. To prioritise community use and frequent cutting of amenity areas. Less frequent cutting elsewhere including by pond and ditches. Noting Parish Council legal duty to enhance biodiversity.

Church Notices

'Journeying together,
we worship God and
serve the community'
www.united-parish.org.uk
www.moretolife.church

From the Parish Registers

Memorial Service: Phyllis Payne at St Swithun's Nately Scures on October 23rd.



From the Benefice Ministry Team

Our lectionary readings (at the time of writing) have included two interesting incidents from Matthew's gospel (chapter 21); firstly Jesus angrily overturns the tables of the money-changers in the temple and, secondly, we read of a quite extraordinary scene where he curses a fig tree which then withers and dies.

I once heard a very helpful reflection on these two episodes (but from Mark's gospel) by Rowan Williams on the podcast *Question Mark* (hosted by David Payne and Stefan Smart). His reflections help shed some light on what Jesus is doing here and what it might mean for us today living as communities of his disciples.

It's as if Jesus is staging for the disciples something that is going on in his mind and heart. Jesus is looking for signs of life. He is not finding it in the temple, nor is he finding it with the fig tree.

In the temple, instead of a place of welcome and hospitality for people of all nations to come and worship God, he finds, instead, signs of an anxious, busy, and rather corrupt religious obsessiveness. When Jesus curses the fig tree it is like he is saying that this kind of life which is obsessive, anxious and fearful of God has now withered up and something else is about to happen or, indeed, something is already happening.

What Jesus is looking for is a kind of life that breaks through the ordinary cycles of human ages and activity. He is looking for the kind of life that belongs to and with God's future. And what Jesus is about is that divine future here and now. Where Jesus is, God's life and love and reality comes pouring in.

It may well not be the season for figs but the good news is that God's action cuts right through the ordinary seasons and cycles of our lives and existence.

So instead of waiting around passively for the future or hyperactively trying to control it, we are to keep our eyes and ears open for God's action coming amongst us unexpectedly. God being present to heal, forgive and challenge.

Maybe we can be praying together that Jesus might clear the clutter to open up a fresh possibility of the promise of God's future in us, our families, communities and churches.

Can we let go of the temptation to think we need to be hyper busy trying to persuade God to be kind to us, and, instead, open up some space where that future of love and grace can come in and be real in and for us.

Paul Dadd
Children & Youth Pastor.

CHURCH SERVICES NOVEMBER INTO DECEMBER

Sunday 08 Nov	10.50am St Stephen's Up Nately, United Parish Remembrance
Sunday 15 Nov	9am St Mary's Greywell, CW Holy Communion 11am St Mary's Mapledurwell, Informal Service
Sunday 22 Nov	10.30am St Nicholas' Newnham, BCP Holy Communion (said) 11am St Stephen's Up Nately, Morning Worship
Sunday 29 Nov	11am All Saints' Odiham, Benefice CW Holy Communion
Sunday 06 Dec	9am St Mary's Mapledurwell, CW Holy Communion 11am St Mary's Greywell, CW Holy Communion.



Helen Chatfield
Children & Youth Outreach Pastor
More to Life network of Churches
North Hampshire Downs Benefice

KIDSZONE

Hi Everyone!

As we step into November and the air turns crisp, we begin to notice the world changing around us. The long, golden days of summer have quietly slipped away, and now the mornings feel cooler, the evenings arrive earlier, and the trees are beginning their annual fireworks display of reds, oranges, yellows, and browns. Leaves swirl at our feet, conkers appear in our pockets, and the whole world seems to whisper: 'It's time for something new.'

This autumn brings a change for me too. After many happy years serving as your Youth and Families Pastor, I will be moving on after Christmas. It has been so much fun to walk alongside you – playing games, asking big questions, exploring faith, laughing together, and discovering God's love in so many creative ways. Saying goodbye to a season we've loved is never easy. But just like the trees letting go of their leaves, sometimes we have to release one chapter so that God can begin another.

The Bible reminds us that change is part of God's beautiful rhythm for the world. In *Ecclesiastes* we read: 'To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven.' Autumn teaches us that even when things shift, God is still at work – growing us, guiding us, and helping us become who we are meant to be. And just as the trees trust that new leaves will come in spring, we can trust that God has good things ahead for each of us.

Many of you will know how much I love being outdoors and, as you enjoy the outdoors this month, here's a simple autumn craft you can try – an Autumn creation mandala. A mandala is a circular pattern that reminds us of God's creativity and the beauty of order in nature. The photo shows one we made at church in South Warnborough.



A mandala is a circular pattern that reminds us of God's creativity and the beauty of order in nature

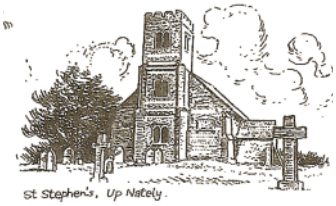
Go for a walk and collect fallen treasures: colourful leaves, acorns, conkers, pinecones, feathers, tiny sticks, or anything that catches your eye. When you get home (or even right there in the park), find a clear space and begin to arrange your items in a circle. Start with something special in the centre – a bright leaf or a shiny conker – and then build outwards, placing items in repeating patterns. You'll soon see a beautiful design forming, made entirely from God's autumn gifts. Take a photo to remember it, or leave it outdoors as a little offering of creativity and joy. I'd love to see what you do – just email the photo to me at *youth@moretolife.church* .

As the season turns, I want to thank you all for the love, laughter, and learning we've shared. I will miss you deeply (thought remember I'm not going anywhere until Christmas!). But as the leaves fall and the seasons turn, let us trust that God is always doing something new, and through it all, His love stays steady, bright, and wonderfully close.

God Bless, Helen







The United Parish of Newnham with Nately Scures with Mapledurwell with Up Nately with Greywell

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

Sunday 08 November 10.50am
St Stephen's Up Nately

ALL WELCOME

more+

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

North Hampshire Downs MU

November sees the start of the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence which runs from 25th November to 10th December. As usual, Mothers' Union members from around the diocese will gather outside Winchester Cathedral for a prayer vigil between 12noon and 2pm on Wednesday 25th November.

All are welcome to join us for, even if only for half an hour.

As part of their action against gender-based violence, Mothers' Union launched their 'Rise Up' campaign in 2023 to raise awareness of domestic violence and support those who suffer from it. The letters in 'Rise Up' stand for Respond, Inform, Support, Empower, Unite and Pray.

The statistics on Domestic Abuse are shocking with an estimated 1.6 million women in this country experiencing domestic abuse every year. One in seven children and young people under 18 will have lived with domestic violence at some point in their childhood.

Within our branch we support families in the local Women's Refuge by providing clothing and Christmas gifts for them.

To find out more about Mothers' Union or our branch, please contact Sue Murphy on 01252 845011 or *suemurphymubranch@outlook.com*.

THE JUBILEE CHOIR – BRAHMS REQUIEM

Sunday 15 November 7pm
All Saints' Odiham

Tickets £15, free for 18 and under, from Katharine Jane in Odiham High Street, Lynn Lymer on 07837 571708 or *www.jubileechoir.co.uk*,

HOOK CHORAL SOCIETY AUTUMN CONCERT

Saturday 21 November, 7pm
St John's Hook

Tickets are £18 (16 each for parties of four or more) from *hookchoral.co.uk*, or £20 on the door on the night.

To hear us rehearse you may do so any Tuesday evening at St John's Hook.

FRIENDS OF ST MICHAEL'S CAROL SERVICE

Tuesday 08 December from 6pm
All Saints' Odiham.

Doors open 6pm, service at 7pm.

Canapes and wine service before the service and mince pies after.

Tickets £40 from Katherine Jane, High Street, Odiham or *www.stmichaelshospice.org.uk/events.*

BASINGSTOKE CHORAL SOCIETY FESTIVE CHARITY CONCERT

Wednesday 09 December 7.30pm
Queen Mary's College

Tickets: *http://tiny.cc/bcscarols*

Tickets £10 for adults, £2.50 under 18s collection for local charity Forever Singing.

Forever Singing is a Basingstoke-based charity supporting adults living with cognitive, physical and mental health challenges through the joy and benefits of singing.

X Barn

CROSS BARN ODIHAM

20 Nov: Film: *Tuner.* Genre – crime, drama, romance, thriller; 107 mins, cert 15: Dustin Hoffman, Leo Woodall; Director Daniel Roher. *'An easy, unforced drama that mixes romcom moments with a relaxed crime thriller,'* the *Guardian.*

FARNBOROUGH CRAFT GUILD
Autumn Craft Show
Saturday 21 Nov, 10am - 4pm

Bespoke handmade gifts for sale by local craftspeople.

farnboroughcraftguild.org.uk

27 Nov: Film: *Midwinter Break.* Genre: Drama, Relationship, A Touch of Romance; 90 mins cert A:Lesley Manville, Ciaran Hinds; Director Polly Findlay. Based on the novel by Bernard MacLaverty, who co-wrote the screenplay. Featuring a couple who relocated to Glasgow from Northern Ireland following a traumatic episode during the Troubles. *'Thoughtful, intimate, and anchored by exceptional performances,' Moviereview.*

HOOK BOOKS community book exchange and sale, 50p per book Elizabeth Hall, Hook First Thursday of every month from 2:-4pm
Book donations Monday through Friday from 9am to 12pm.

ODIHAM BOOK EXCHANGE, Bridewell, Odiham. Mondays and Thursdays 2-4.30pm; Saturdays 10am-12.30. Membership fee £1, under 18 free. Bring from one to six books to swap.

The Tesco grants programme relaunched as the Fruit & Veg grant

We are short of projects across Hook and Express store at Hartley Wintney. This is for any group around Hook area that has a Children and Young People project. Although this is a rolling programme, we have an upcoming cut-off the 11th of December 2026. We would recommend applying as soon as you can but well before the Christmas break. The forms have been simplified, a cost breakdown is not required at this stage, link to apply:
www.tescoplc.com/fruit-and-veg-grants

You can apply for up to £1,500, the project should be 50% food or food-linked in some way. Some ideas below but not limited to...

- Food growing, polytunnels, raised beds, composters, seeds, plants, children-sized tools, weed membrane fabric, solar irrigation, etc
- Breakfast clubs, after school clubs, holiday hunger programmes
- Cookery classes, ovens, kitchen utensils etc
- Food and nutrition education linked projects such as understanding nutritional labels, sensory food activities, one to one sessions linked to mental health and eating, building a positive relationship with food.
- Sensory water play activity ie washing fruit and veg, rainwater collection and irrigation building, pipes, funnels, pumps wheels etc
- Sports activities such as football, rugby, cricket, swimming etc. incorporating a before/after start session around hydration, recovery, nutrition etc. Fruit & veg snacks
- Smoothie making station, blenders, juicers for fresh orange, apple juice and of course the purchase of the fruit and veg to juice!

Do let me know if you would like to apply. Kind regards, Usman Malik, Community Enabler, Groundwork South. 07561 708283, My working days are Tuesday to Thursday.

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