

A Risen Existence?

The month of May is one of my favourite months for several reasons. It begins with my birthday (this year I turn 40!) and the Spring Bank Holiday. As the month progresses the weather gets warmer, the days longer and all around new signs of life blossom and grow. And this year, as Easter was late, we remain in the season of Easter – right through to Pentecost Sunday on the 9th June. On Easter Day we celebrated Jesus' power over death, his resurrection to new life and His promise of eternal life to all who will trust in Him. During the Easter season we remain joyful, expectant as we rejoice that Jesus is our risen Saviour. But what is resurrection all about?



Resurrection and new life

New life is amazing; be it the tiniest spring flowers like snowdrops or aconites, followed by crocuses, daffodils, apple blossom, magnolias and camellias – each brings the certainty that the cold, rain filled days are over and now there is permission to look forward to warmer, sunnier days.

There is something about the human psyche that responds to new life. Many people will pause to 'coo' over a baby, a puppy, kitten or indeed anything new born. There are all sorts of scientific reasons why we are drawn to new life – but part of it must be that it gives us a sense of hope, of life beyond the grim realities of the everyday, of a future. Just as spring flowers intimate that winter is passing and summer is round the corner, so also Jesus' resurrection points us to the fact that the old order is passing, and new creation is just about to happen. However, this analogy only goes so far – spring flowers will of course die before summer arrives and will only have new life again next Spring – their new life is cyclical, interwoven with death. Whereas Jesus' is not. Jesus rose to new life and will never die again. And

***New life
is amazing***



even better, Jesus promises new life, eternal life to all who will trust and accept Him.

Resurrection and end times

That is not all, however. Jesus' resurrection signalled far, far more than a dead person living; it marked the start of a new creation – a rebellion against evil, corruption and oppression – but a creation not yet fully realised, a creation yet to be fulfilled. As a result, the world is as it always was with its wars, heartache, poverty and oppression, but with glimmers of end time perfection. In the midst of conflict and aggression, we can, from time to time, taste moments of reconciliation and compassion. Occasions when the parent of a murdered son can forgive his killers, when a community, like Christchurch NZ, can rise against individuals who sought to terrorize it and make it a better place, when we can rise above the petty arguments that spoil our human relationships are, for me, all a slice of the end times now. Some are dramatic world-changing occasions; others are small and apparently insignificant. Some affect whole nations and continents, others just one or two individuals. The occasions may only be momentary, but their effects linger on, suggesting that new creation is possible, and that transformation can happen.

Believing in the resurrection

Believing in the resurrection allows us to see the world with a long-term view, a perspective that looks backwards to the resurrection and forward to the end times, recognising traces of resurrection and end times in what is happening now. Believing in the resurrection can and should transform not only how we view the world, but how we live in it. We should become people in whom others can see new life, and people who introduce others to that new life wherever the world is stultifying and life-denying. Resurrection made a difference not only to Jesus, and the earliest disciples who witnessed it, but also to us as we live out our lives day by day.



All Saints Church Services

Sunday 5th May: 3rd Sunday of Easter

8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Parish Communion
6.00pm NO EVENING SERVICE

Sunday 12th May: 4th Sunday of Easter

8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Family Praise with Baptism
6.00pm Evensong

Saturday 18th May

3.30pm Messy Church

Sunday 19th May: 5th Sunday of Easter

8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Parish Communion with Mission slot
6.00pm Informal Service

Sunday 26th May: 6th Sunday of Easter

8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Parish Communion
6.00pm Evensong

Morning Prayer is said
Mon-Fri at
8.30am –
everyone is most
welcome.



The church is open during daylight hours, for private prayer. If you wish to light a candle, there is a candle stand in the chapel.

Next Messy Church – Saturday 18th May at 3.30

For all families with children.

The whole family is welcome to Messy Church,
grandparents and carers included.

Join us in this fun-filled afternoon of craft, singing and eating together.

We meet in the Church Hall from 3.30pm – 5.30pm.



Further information at

www.allsaintsdenmead.org.uk/messy-church
or from Revd. Emma Racklyeft 023 9226 2647

Living the resurrection

Resurrection gives us reason to rejoice, to hope, to trust. Even though we live through hard, confusing times, our feet can be planted on the rock, our souls anchored in the hope that Jesus brings. This does not mean a lack of suffering or pain – but it does give us faith. Faith is about keeping going despite what we feel like today, tomorrow or in the future. Living the resurrection life includes expecting the sudden, powerful presence of risen Christ in the midst of our uncertainty or loss – but trudging on whether we feel this presence or not. One of the most powerful witnesses to this was Mother Teresa. She inspired many in their Christian journey – yet she admitted that for many years in her life she did not feel the presence of Jesus, but she kept on going, trusting, believing. Living the resurrection life does not imply we feel the resurrection life in us all the time, but that we cling to it whatever life throws at us and seek to live out the principles of life beyond death, hope beyond despair and joy beyond sorrow in our everyday lives.

Christ's resurrection makes possible our own risen experience – alleluia!

Every blessing,

Revd Emma

Suddenly

by R S Thomas

As I had always known
he would come, unannounced,
remarkable merely for the absence
of clamour. So truth must appear
to the thinker; so, at a stage
of the experiment, the answer
must quietly emerge. I looked
at him, not with the eye
only, but with the whole
of my being, overflowing with
him as a chalice would
with the sea. Yet was he
no more there than before,
his area occupied
by the unhaloed presences.
You could put your hand
in him without consciousness
of his wounds. The gamblers
at the foot of the unnoticed
cross went on with
their dicing; yet the invisible
garment for which they played
was no longer at stake, but worn
by him in this risen existence.

Why do you go?....

– Continuing our occasional series on the various services and activities at All Saints Church.

Messy Church

I had seen the sign outside All Saints Church a few times advertising Messy Church . I had absolutely no idea what it was or what to expect but was intrigued enough to go along one Saturday afternoon and find out.

We were warmly welcomed by Revd. Emma as we arrived. The church hall was filled with tables and each one had a craft or activity for my children to get involved with. The crafts are varied and suitable for all ages and the children can pick and choose what they would like to do. There are some toys available to keep younger children entertained too.



We had such fun at our first visit and after seeing how much our children enjoyed themselves we now go along every month. It has



been the perfect introduction to church for us as a family. We craft, we learn, we pray, we sing, we eat and we make new friends.



I am so pleased we started going and hopefully if you're intrigued like I was we'll see you next time in amongst the glue and paint.

Samantha Crewe

All Saints Concert Success!

On 23rd March the Hampshire Police Male Voice Choir performed a sell-out concert in All Saints Church which was greatly enjoyed by everyone who came.

We listened to a wonderfully varied repertoire, from favourites such as Ave Maria and The Lord is My Light, to Alexander's Ragtime Band and Band of Brothers, along with captivating violin and vocal solos, a most moving arrangement of Nella Fantasia (based on the theme Gabriel's Oboe from the film The Mission)... and many more.

We are extremely grateful to the Choir for making this fundraising event possible as many in the audience would be unable to travel to other venues to hear them, so it is a privilege to welcome them into the heart of our village community.

The evening raised £2000 for church funds to enable us to continue our ministry in the local community and outward giving to local and overseas charities.



Our next concert is by The Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines Collingwood on Wednesday 27th November but tickets sold extremely quickly as usual and it is now SOLD OUT.

Book of Remembrance

It was recently decided by the PCC that a Book of Remembrance would be a fitting way to enable people to have a lasting memorial of departed loved ones.

This has now been put in place, in its own oak cabinet, after a prayer of blessing during the Communion Service on 7th of April. It is dedicated to the memory of Mrs Ruth Grant, who was Organist and Choirmaster here for fifty years.



During the service, Edna Goodman gave the following tribute to Ruth.

Mrs Ruth Grant came to Denmead in the late 1950s. She was a domestic science teacher at the Southern Grammar School for girls in North End Portsmouth. She and Bob, her husband, were both from the Isle of Wight.

When the organist at that time retired, Ruth was asked to take over temporarily; that status lasted 50 years! The first vicar of Denmead served for 50 years and Ruth is the only person since to have equaled that.

As time went on she built up a big choir, and she was devoted to her young choristers. She ensured that the older ones attended summer schools in Bath, York and other places of musical excellence. The choristers were encouraged to engage in the life of the church – singing at the summer fete, taking

part in concerts of serious church music and sometimes presenting their own concerts.

Ruth ensured that the choir had treats, visits to enhance their musical knowledge and prowess and trips to the pantomime.

One day whilst my husband was giving Ruth a lift from Waterlooville our eldest son said “Mrs Grant do you think I could join the choir?” She replied “Yes I think that might be possible – but you will have to take the test.” He joined. His younger brother was also in the choir from a young age.

My boys like many other young people are grateful to Ruth for introducing them to choral music.

Every other year Ruth used to put on a Music Hall evening at All Saints. This

involved many people from the village and they were hilarious.

Ruth began Denmead Choral Society when the community centre opened and gave two concerts a year for community association funds.

“...She has done so much for music in this area”

She was choir master of Hambledon Arts Society, led several other choirs and belonged to Portsmouth Choral Union and the Portsmouth Festival Choir.

She was devoted to the Women's Institute where her musical and culinary talents were much appreciated.

She made celebration cakes for the Church and many other people. She and Bob organised the all Saints harvest supper for many years. She gave music lessons to hundreds of children and adults. A visitor to a DVA meeting said “Oh there is Mrs Grant! She has done so much for music in this area.”

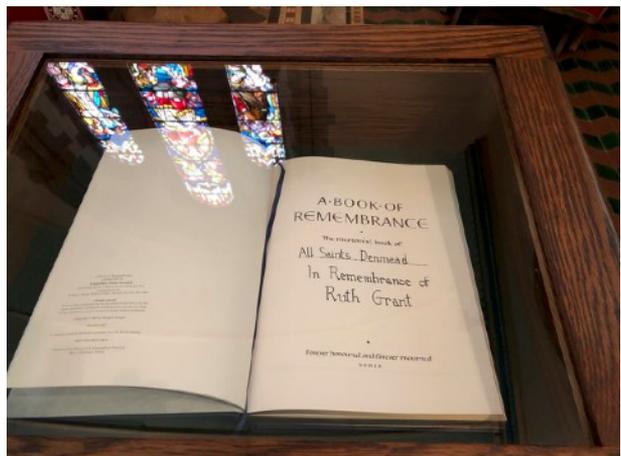
Ruth was a woman of many parts: modest, self-effacing and

with many talents. Music was her life. She was meticulous, devoted, loyal and with a good sense of humour: she could be firm, maybe difficult, but was exceedingly kind and generous.

So, how are we remembering Ruth? If she were here and we could say thank you for all you gave selflessly to All Saints Church over 50 years – for all the lives touched, showing people the joy of music, she would perhaps give a little smile and say “For me?” quite surprised. “But I was only doing my job”.

I think she would like this memorial as it will be long-lasting, added-to, touched and on show. Better than a plaque on the organ!

She was a dear friend and many of us still miss her.



Denmead Community Centre

Denmead Film Night 25th May – Mary Poppins Returns

In Depression-era London, a now-grown Jane and Michael Banks, along with Michael's three children, are visited by the enigmatic Mary Poppins following a personal loss. Through her unique magical skills, and with the aid of her friend Jack, she helps the family rediscover the joy and wonder missing in their lives. With Emily Blunt as Mary, Ben Whishaw and Emily Mortimer as the adult Banks children, and cameos from Meryl Streep and Dick Van Dyke.

Italian Course

Whether you are a complete beginner or have a basic knowledge Giuseppe will teach you to use basic structures of the Italian language in order to express yourself with day-to-day situations, such as introducing yourself and family, ordering food and drinks, booking a hotel and finding your way around town. For more details contact Giuseppe on 07751 929500.

If you would like to receive our electronic newsletter detailing the events and activities held at the Community Centre, just visit our website www.denmeadca.com and click "join the email list".

Winchester City Council

After 17 years representing the Denmead Ward on Winchester City Council I have taken the difficult decision to stand down and concentrate on my responsibilities as a Cabinet Member at Hampshire County Council. I will, of course, continue to represent the residents of Denmead for all county related issues and will attend the monthly meetings which are held on the first Saturday of every month at The Heath Room, All Saints Church, Denmead, at 10.00am.

Patricia Stallard

Hampshire County Council

Member for Winchester Southern Parishes

Denmead Afternoon Women's Institute

At our April meeting we welcomed Don and Kim Tocher and Tracy Ahearn to tell us about the work of the Portsmouth Street Pastors. Street Pastoring was started in London in 2003 with the Portsmouth group in June 2007. There are 50+ people from 22 different churches from the area. They operate in small groups of about six people, going out to the Portsmouth Guildhall area from late evening until early morning on Fridays and Saturdays. Since 2011 they have also been patrolling Southsea area once a month.

They listen, care and help people in need

They listen, care and help people in need – many of them being university students. Practical help may involve giving flip flops to young ladies whose high-heeled shoes are unsuitable for a night of dancing and clubbing. They frequently pick up bottles and cans which can be potential weapons. This helped to produce a 30% reduction in violent crime in the first year of their presence.

The competition for an item from Portsmouth was won by Rosemary Simpson with Joan Elliott second. The monthly flower of the month was won by Dee Smith with Joan Elliott second.

We continue our monthly lunch dates and this month will meet on Tuesday 14th. We will again be taking part in the County Darts Competition this year and also the County Quiz and the Skittles competition. Future plans include a visit to the Poppy Factory on Wednesday 22nd May and a trip on Chichester Canal on Monday 16th September when we will be able to use the Communicare minibus to take us to Chichester.

This month's meeting on Wednesday 1st will be our Annual Meeting. This will include the election of Committee and officers. We will also discuss the two resolutions being presented at the National Annual Meeting in June. There will be no competitions.

We invite all ladies to our meetings held on the first Wednesday of the month from 2 to 4pm in the Memorial Hall, Hambledon Road. We have talks and demonstrations on a wide range of subjects so there is something to suit all tastes and interests. If you have recently retired or moved to the village the WI is the ideal way to make new friends or renew old friendships as well as learning new skills.

If you are unable to attend an afternoon meeting the Evening Institute would welcome you to their meetings at 7.30pm on the third Wednesday (except December when they meet on the second Wednesday.)

Joan Downing (9226 5458)

Denmead Community Café

Bringing us together

Saturday 1st June 2019

10am – 12.30pm @ All Saints Church Hall, Denmead

What's it about?

Helping you to connect with your community. You may not have the confidence or know where to start.

Come along and meet new friends over coffee and a chat.

Find out what's going on in the area.

Make connections.

Chat and have fun in a comfortable, relaxed and safe environment.



Hosted by the lovely Denmead Belles WI

For more information please contact us

denmeadbellesec@hampshirewi.org.uk

Denmead Village Association

At the March meeting the Chairman advised the members that the committee is to have a further look at the Carpenters Field and see what the developers are going to do. Building is likely to start very shortly. He then introduced Jane Jeffares to talk about being a guide at Winchester Cathedral.



She explained that as a child her father had introduced her to cathedrals, stately homes etc and she developed an interest in architectural history. During her time as a teacher she took children to Winchester Cathedral and the children found it a “Wow” experience, and at that point she decided to become a Cathedral guide. Each year the Cathedral has an Open Evening, and after retiring she went to one. It starts with Evensong, followed by introductions to each aspect of cathedral life; maintenance, embroiderers etc, including the man who carves the candles.

Her first training session covered every aspect of the cathedral, including architecture, the font, Jane Austen’s grave etc. During the training speakers talked about their particular interest, and half way through the training there was a written test. Trainees were allocated to an experienced mentor; and hers was extremely helpful. The next stage was to deliver the tour to friends and family. Finally, the trainee does a tour with an experienced guide and members of the public. After six months’ training, in April 2014 all the newly qualified guides were presented with their Pallium (the sash worn by the guides). Each guide is expected to do two two-hour sessions per week. After a further six months new guides are invited to a Guides Evening, when they are presented with their certificate.

Now she is part of the Open Evening; she was a steward at the Flower Festival and does a specialist tour; she has now become a mentor to a trainee.

If you are not already a member of DVA why not join us? The next meeting will be on Friday 17th May when Christine Bury will talk about a Tale of Two Abbeys. The annual subscription is £3, and our meetings are held in All Saints Church Hall at 7.30pm, but you would be very welcome to come initially as a guest. For further information email dvatreasurer@btinternet.com or visit our website.

Denmead Twinning Association

Our Big Quiz

Do you know the answers to these questions:

- What is the capital of Liechtenstein?
- Name the Captain of the Titanic when it sank.

Many of us didn't get them right at the quiz (answers below) but we had a fun evening with delicious fish and chips at half-time. Keith Hayward was our excellent quizmaster, ably supported by Paula, his wife.

One team who did know most of the answers are shown here; they won the trophy and some bottles of wine (French perhaps?)

Visiting France

We are looking forward to our annual meeting with our French twins from Saint Georges Les Baillargeaux, near Poitiers. We go there for a very long weekend at the end of May. Before leaving we shall get together to practice the songs we shall be singing for them at one of the dinners.

Quiz answers: Vaduz, Captain Smith.

We are always looking for new members to join us. Interested? Please contact Patrick Binks 9226 2912.



Thinking caps about to go on!



The winning team

Denmead Horticultural Society

www.denmeadhorticuralsociety.btck.co.uk

Martyn Cox's talk in April on Clever Ways to Grow Edibles was a popular subject attracting quite a few visitors to our meeting. Not everyone has the space to grow vegetables in the traditional way and in recent years varieties suitable for container growing have been developed – round or stump rooted carrots, spring onions, mixed salad leaves and Hestia, a bush form of runner bean work well. Courgette Black Forest can be trained up trellis making use of vertical space, tumbling tomatoes such as Hundreds & Thousands do well in hanging baskets and salad potatoes such as Pink Fir Apple and Ratte produce a good yield grown in bags.

Martyn suggested many attractive types of container as well as recycling wooden crates, baskets, colanders, pans and even catering size food cans with holes drilled in the base and lined to protect roots from over heating. Old drink bottles, strips of guttering and plastic troughs can be used to create green walls of salad vegetables and herbs. Vegetables can be grown in attractive patterns in potager style beds or mixed with ornamental plants in borders choosing varieties with attractive foliage and structure such as Bright Lights chard, purple podded French beans and Tuscan or Redbor kale.

We were given so many ideas and shown so many inspiring pictures that I'm sure

everyone went home determined to try out some of Martyn's suggestions for growing our own vegetables.



Also in April we had a successful Spring Show with an increase in the number of entries and of visitors who came to see the displays of flowers, vegetables, pot plants and all the wonderful baking, handicrafts and floral art.

On 7th May the subject of our evening meeting is Alpines & Succulents. These groups of plants are becoming more popular and we will learn how to grow and care for them. Peter Liverman, Chairman of the West Sussex Alpine Garden Society will give the talk and Leesa Barrett will bring plants from her nursery. 7.30pm in the Church Hall, visitors welcome, £2.

*Liz Williams, 023 9226 9642,
liz@greensleeves.eclipse.co.uk*

Probus Club

Waterlooville Probus Club provides a meeting place for retired or semi-retired, professional or business, ladies and gentlemen. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 'The Chairmakers', Worlds End, Hambledon, PO7 4QX.



The next meeting will be held on the 14th of May, from 12.00 noon to 3.00 pm. We meet for a drink and a chat with fellow members, and after a 3-course lunch, our guest speaker, Dawn Perrier, will give a presentation entitled 'The Mary Rose'.

If you would like further information on the Probus Club, please visit our web site <http://waterloovilleprobusclub.webplus.net>, or contact our Secretary, Peter Quine, on 079 2662 0530 or by e-mail to peterpia1989@outlook.com.

Useful Local Contact Numbers

Health Centre: 023 9223 9630

The Registrar of Births and Deaths: Appointments Only. Telephone: (01489) 894044

General Visiting, and Help in Bereavement – please contact Church Office: 9226 8757

Age Concern Hampshire, Village Agent: Lin Powell
07791 012 304

Denmead Community Care Group: (COMMUNICARE) 023 9223 9630



Denmead Health Centre



Denmead Community Centre

Denmead Community Centre: 9225 6132

9am - 3pm, Monday-Friday

Memorial Hall Bookings:

Mrs S Thomas, 9235 5993

Police Contact No: 08450 45 45 45

Burial Ground enquiries: 9224 7947

Denmead Parish Council: 9224 7947

Winchester City Council 01962 840222