

Dear Friends,

As I sit to type this letter, three years have passed since I (and my family) came to join you here in Denmead – the time has gone by so quickly; we do so love living and serving here. As I sit tapping at my keyboard, I am also aware of the heavy, noisy rain tipping down outside, and gosh what a lot of rain we've had this winter. Everywhere is soaked through and our garden is more like a swamp! I'm longing for some spring sunny days, but first we have February – and this year it is a whole day longer, for we are in a leap year. This 29th day can prove important for some... traditionally this is the one day in which a woman can propose to her partner!



Right in the middle of February we have Valentine's Day – an opportunity to express our thoughts and feelings to our loved ones. There are all sorts of traditions associated with Valentine's Day, but the origin began with the story of a priest. A priest called Valentine, who disobeyed the Emperor Claudius II.

Emperor Claudius II had declared that no one could be married for he wanted young men to remain single so they could be sent to fight in war. Valentine ignored this edict and married young couples in secret. One day he was caught, thrown into prison and then killed on the 14th February. He apparently left a note for the jailer's daughter, thanking her for her support whilst he was in prison. He very simply signed it, 'love from your-Valentine.' Each one of us has a valentine – someone who loves us, and cares for us and wants to walk each day with us – and that is Jesus Christ. And like any relationship, we have to work at getting to know Jesus, by spending time with Him – and of course as Lent approaches, this is a good season to develop and strengthen our relationship with God.

Lent is a time for focussing on our spiritual lives. It begins on Ash Wednesday, the 26th Feb, with a Communion Service at 7.30pm at All Saints. During this



service there is opportunity, if you wish, to be marked with the sign of a cross on your forehead – a symbol that we are mortal, and it is by God's grace and love that we are saved. During Lent people set time aside to read their Bibles, to pray, to study and grow in their faith.

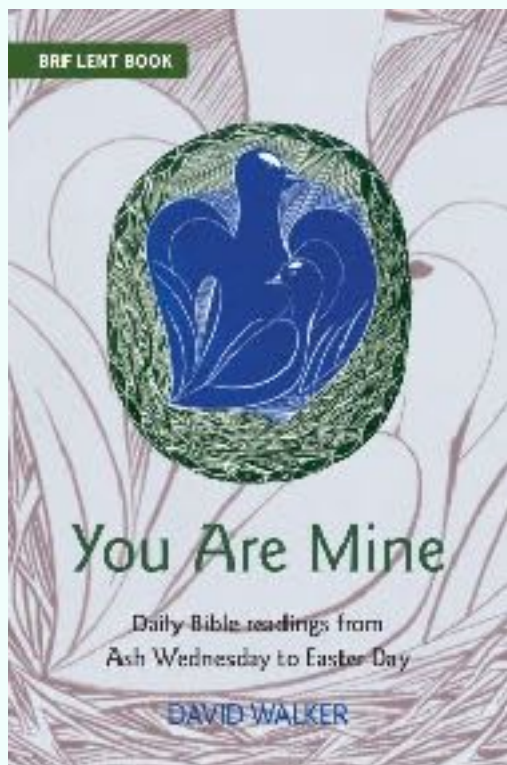
This year, Christians across the village will be reading a Lent book 'You are Mine' written by David Walker. David explores different aspects of human belonging through Scripture and story in order to help us recognise the different ways in which we are God's beloved. Each day there is a Bible reading, with a short reflection and suggested prayer which can be read privately. It poses some questions to think and pray about. We will be forming a couple of Lent Groups which will meet once a week, for 6 weeks, to share together, talk about the themes the book presents, and pray for each other. Both the book, and the Lent Groups are open for all. If you would like to join in, please

come and pick up a book from the back of church and there you will also find sign-up sheets for the different Lent groups with more details about time and location. Any questions do speak to me or ask at the Parish Office.

My hope is that as we read this book together, we might grow in our faith, deepen our trust in God and know Jesus' love in our lives.

With every blessing,

*Rev'd Emma*



# All Saints Church Services

## *Sunday 2nd February - Candlemas*

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Parish Communion and Stewardship Campaign

6.00pm Healing Service

## *Sunday 9th February – 3rd Sunday before Lent*

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Family Praise 6.00pm Evensong

## *Saturday 15th February*

3.30-5.30pm Messy Church

## *Sunday 16th February – 2nd Sunday before Lent*

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Parish Communion 6.00pm Informal Worship

## *Sunday 23rd February – 1st Sunday before Lent*

8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am All Age Communion

6.00pm Evensong

## *Wednesday 26th February – Ash Wednesday*

7.30pm Ash Wednesday Holy Communion  
& Imposition of Ashes

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.

Please note: that from Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January our 09.30am service Has moved to 10.00am.

This is for a six-month trial period and will then be reviewed.

## From the Registers

### Funerals

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January

Mrs Jean Morgan

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January

Mr Paul Stallard

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January

Mr George Long

## Next Messy Church dates: 15th February and 21<sup>st</sup> March

For all families with pre-school/primary aged children. The whole family is welcome to Messy Church – grandparents and carers included.

Join us for this fun-filled afternoon of craft, games, singing, Bible story, prayers and sharing a buffet meal together. We meet in the Church Hall from 3.30pm - 5.30pm.

Further information can be found at [www.allsaintsdenmead.org.uk/messy-church](http://www.allsaintsdenmead.org.uk/messy-church) or from Revd. Emma Racklyeft on 023 9226 2647, or from Lewis Jones [youth@allsaintsdenmead.org.uk](mailto:youth@allsaintsdenmead.org.uk)



## Sacred Heart Catholic Church

*The Church of the Sacred Heart and St Peter the Apostle*  
356 London Road, Waterlooville, Hampshire PO7 7SR

Parish Priest: Rev Mgr Canon Jeremy Garratt (023) 9226 2289  
[shspa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:shspa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) [www.waterlooville-catholic.org.uk](http://www.waterlooville-catholic.org.uk)



### Mass Times

Saturday Vigil Mass: 6.15pm

Sunday Family Mass: 10.30am (including Children's Liturgy)

Sunday Evening Folk Mass 6.30pm

*Please refer to Newsletter for weekday Mass times.*



# Celebration of the Christmas Story

Thank you to everyone who came to the Carol Service on Sunday 22nd Dec at All Saints.

It was great to share God's story of love and salvation as we read Scripture, sang some of our favourite Christian carols, listened to our wonderful choir and gave thanks in prayer for the gift of Jesus, Emmanuel - God with us.

Thanks to all who were involved in planning, preparing, leading, singing, serving refreshments and reading.

During the evening we also heard about the work of a local charity, The Rainbow Centre from Sarah Hudson, who has sent this message:

*The Rainbow Centre supports adults and children with neurological conditions by utilising the techniques of Conductive Education. Conductive Education is a system of learning and provides improved mobility giving greater independence, builds self-esteem, develops physical stamina and teaches daily*



*Fr Jeremy Garratt of Sacred Heart Catholic Church led the prayers*

living skills.. It also improve social and verbalisation skills.

The Charity was delighted to be selected as the local charity to benefit from the retiring collection at All Saints Carol Service on 22nd December.

Sarah Hudson, Corporate Fundraiser attended the Service and said 'The donation of £528.85 is tremendous and will make a huge difference to those we support with Parkinsons, Stroke, MS, Cerebral Palsy and head injuries, thank you so much for your generous support'.



At the end of the day, love and compassion will win. - Terry Waite  
Never look down on anybody unless you're helping him up. - Jesse Jackson

## World Day of Prayer 2020

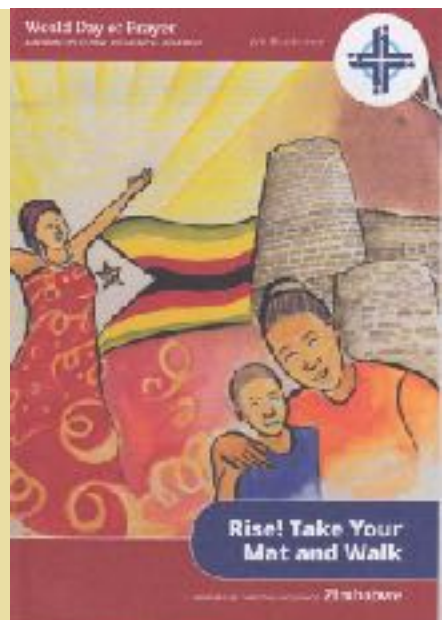
World Day of Prayer is the largest ecumenical movement in the world. This year's service has been prepared by the Christian women of Zimbabwe and focuses on reconciliation, peace and love.

Please join us for our local service:

**Friday March 6th, at 2pm**

**Christchurch, Portsdown**

*Followed by refreshments*



# Lent Lunches 2020



Often many people will observe Lent by giving up something, reflecting the wilderness experience Jesus faced for forty days and nights. This might mean giving up chocolate, or alcohol, or meat, or some other treat.

To mark the start and end of Lent, All Saints (along with our Catholic friends) will be hosting two Lent Lunches in our Church Hall.

The first is on **Friday 28th February at 12.30pm.**

The second is on **Friday 10th April – Good Friday from 12 noon.**

A simple lunch of bread and tasty homemade soup is served. A donation of approximately £3-5 per person is suggested and the money given to support the work of the local Waterlooville foodbank.

I do commend these Friday lunch times to you, see you there!

*Revd Emma*

.....  
 When you get tangled up in your problems, be still.  
 God wants you to be still so HE can untangle the knot. - Anon  
 God wants spiritual fruit, not religious nuts. - Anon  
 .....

## Denmead Twinning Association

By the time this article goes out, we shall have held our AGM and Members' Meal at Barnard's Restaurant in the village. We are particularly looking forward to the meal this year as we have had some wonderful times there in the past and these days the restaurant is rarely open in the evening.

Our New Year resolutions often include getting fit, going out, having fun, meeting friends. Well, you can do all this and have a great evening at our next social event at the very end of February.

We shall be having an American Line Dance evening, being shown how to do the steps by a professional line dance teacher from Denmead, helped by some of

her friends who know what they are doing. So, come along to watch or learn, dressed for the part in jeans and check shirts.



The date is 29 February in All Saints' Church hall. Tickets are £9 for members, £10 for non-members, including a light supper; available from John Byrne 023 9225 3621 or [byrnejv@gmail.com](mailto:byrnejv@gmail.com)

Interested in joining us or you have any questions - please contact Patrick Binks 9226 2912.

## Pastoral Care and Home Visiting

If you are lonely, sick or housebound or would just like someone to visit you for a chat and a cuppa, All Saints has a confidential Pastoral Care Team that can help.

Please phone the Church Office on 9226 8757; if the answerphone is on leave a message and we will phone you back.

*Karen Gaskin, Pastoral Care Team Leader and Revd Emma.*

## Bereavement Support

There is a monthly 'Tea and Friendship' afternoon for anyone recently bereaved. This is an informal time when people can meet others, have tea and make friends.

We meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month between 2-4pm in the church hall. For more information please phone All Saints Church office 9226 8757.



## Denmead Horticultural Society

[.denmeadhorticulturalsociety.btck.co.uk](http://denmeadhorticulturalsociety.btck.co.uk)

In 2020 we celebrate 70 years of our summer show, 1950 was the first one held after the war although we understand the society existed before that. I've been reading some gardening books from the 1940's and 50s and it's interesting to reflect on how things have changed in the last 70 years, not always for the better.

- ❖ Then flowerpots were made of terracotta, seeds were sown in wooden boxes and plants protected with glass cloches. Now we all have piles of plastic pots and trays that can't be recycled and biodegradable materials are being developed to replace them.
- ❖ Gardening was hard work and the books give detailed instructions for double digging, trenching and incorporating manure. Now we make compost and use mulches; raised beds and container growing suit our smaller gardens; 'no-dig' which saves time and protects soil structure and its microbes is being adopted.
- ❖ The countryside with hedgerows, ponds, woods, meadows and field margins supporting an abundance of flowers and insects was taken for granted. Now we mourn the loss of habitat and growing wild flowers, tree planting and re-wilding have become fashionable.

- ❖ Pests and diseases were treated with chemicals containing arsenic, mercury and nicotine and now new horrors such as neonicotinoids harm our bees and aminopyralid contaminates compost. Many chemicals have been banned and there is increased interest in growing organically.
- ❖ In the vegetable garden 'taters and greens' dominated; marrows were grown but not courgettes; peppers, chillies, squash and garlic were considered to be novelties. Seed was saved and local varieties of vegetables and fruit were propagated. Many of these heritage varieties were banned from sale by EU regulations but have been protected by organisations such as the Garden Organic Heritage Seed Library.
- ❖ In the flower garden rockeries, rose beds and crazy paving were popular and the books have chapters on growing iris, carnations, chrysanthemums and dahlias. There were no garden centres so plants were bought in season, bare rooted from the nursery. Now we have a fantastic range of container grown plants available to buy all year round and gardening is as popular as ever.

Memories: How have your gardens and gardening changed over the years and what are your



earliest memories of the Horticultural Society? I'm collecting anecdotes and pictures if you would like to share them.

On Tuesday 4th February our talk is 'Havant Thicket Reservoir – more than just a reservoir'. A speaker from Portsmouth Water will tell us how the reservoir is being developed with wildlife in mind. 7.30pm in the Church Hall, visitors welcome, £2.

Liz Williams, 023 9226 9642, [liz@greensleeves.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:liz@greensleeves.eclipse.co.uk)

## Denmead Support Group

### Race Night

**Denmead Community Centre, 1st February**

7pm – first race 7.30

Films of genuine races for you to place your bets and have lots of fun whilst supporting you local hospice.

**Tickets £10** from [patricia.bailey333@gmail.com](mailto:patricia.bailey333@gmail.com) 07947 611699

Bring your own drinks. Generous nibbles provided.

### Sunday Lunch

**Denmead Community Centre, 15th March 1.15pm**

Three course lunch with a glass of wine.

**Tickets £15**

from [patricia.bailey333@gmail.com](mailto:patricia.bailey333@gmail.com) 07947611699

All profits to the ROWANS HOSPICE

### Spring Sale and Coffee Morning

Hats, Handbags and Accessories

craft tables. Green Box Opening

**All Saints Church Hall, April 18th 10.00 am**



# CAB



Lesley Rose, Advice Services Manager for Citizens Advice Winchester District, gives advice on keeping an elderly relation safe at home.

**Q** *My elderly mother had a fall when I was visiting her recently and although she wasn't badly injured, she lives alone and I'm worried what would happen if she fell again when she is on her own. Is she eligible for any free alarm systems?*

**A** A personal alarm is a good way of helping older or less abled people feel safe at home and remain independent for longer. They also offer peace of mind to family and friends who can't always be there to help.

There is an enormous variety of alarm systems on offer, so it's worth doing some research as to what would work best for you. The cheapest alarms make a loud noise when activated to alert anyone nearby that there is a problem, whereas some of the more sophisticated have an in-built motion sensor which can detect an unexpected movement and automatically make contact with a call centre or family member.

Some local authorities run their own community alarm systems which may be subsidised or even free for those assessed as having eligible care needs.

If your mother lives in Hampshire then it's worth getting in touch with Connect to Support Hampshire (<https://www.connecttosupporthampshire.org.uk/home>) as they may fund the provision of a personal alarm (if she is deemed eligible) through their preferred provider.

If you need to purchase one privately then do shop around. Personal alarms are available from a large number of organisations including local authorities and charities such as Age UK as well as commercial companies.



# WINTER WALK 6

## The Vine, Hambledon

**Saturday 29th February 2020 – 10am**

This walk takes us initially around part of Hambledon then onto the path leading through the upper part of the churchyard, after which it is a left turn into Church Lane next to the primary school. From the elevated position of the lane we will enjoy fine views over Lithey's Hangar; then, at Three Corners junction adjacent to the B2150 road to Winchester, our route continues in a clockwise direction along Green Lane. We remain on lanes for some distance



*View from Church Lane toward Lithey's Hangar*

before completing the walk on the bridleway adjacent to Beckless Farm and footpath over Windmill Down alongside the extension to the Hambledon Vineyard. The final stretch is downhill through the vineyard itself before passing the eastern wall of the village church.



As usual on the winter walks there is the opportunity to have lunch after the walk which will be taken in The Vine. Please arrive early if you wish to pre-order from the menu that will be available.

Parking is limited in the village hall CP and there will be a charge of £1 per vehicle – please share transport, if possible. For further details or if you have any queries please email me at martinlewis20@hotmail.com



*The footpaths through Hambledon Vineyard and the local church yard.*

**WALK DETAILS:**

**Duration - 2hrs Distance - 7.1km (4.3 miles)**  
**Walk grade – EASY**

**At least half of this walk will be on lanes with only the initial and latter stretches on footpaths – a short section takes in a bridleway but this has a solid surface. There are no stiles to negotiate.**

.....

Laugh every day - it's like inner jogging. - Anon

Growing old is inevitable, growing up is optional. - Anon

Be more concerned with your character than your reputation. Your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are. - Anon

.....

## Denmead Evening Women's Institute

Over the Autumn months we have had some very good speakers and enjoyed our evening meetings.

As usual in August we had a friendly fun meeting and we played 'New Age Kurling' which made for a lot of laughter. We also enjoyed a light meal which gave members time to talk and enjoy each other's company.

September is our birthday month and we were entertained by a young lady – Jennifer Parker – who gave us a light hearted look at the role of a soprano. She had a lovely voice and explained the scenario with regards to the opera numbers before singing them to us. The lighter songs were very familiar and we joined in as and when we could. It was an evening thoroughly enjoyed by all.

A change of scene for our October meeting when we were introduced to 'Wildlife in Tanzania' which was an interesting journey.

We held our Autumn Fayre at the beginning of November and raised funds towards future educational outings.

November we had a talk by Mr. Mark Watts with regards to Winchester Prison.

This was a very interesting evening informing us of lots of facts not only about the prison but life 'inside'!

December saw us being entertained by a quite a large number of gentlemen of the Solent City Choir.

Beautiful, unaccompanied singing entranced us and they then let us join in with a number of Christmas numbers which left us happy and looking forward to the Christmas season.

As we start the New Year our first meeting is a members' evening when it is planned to have a games evening. This will involve several types of games in which there will be four to a table and they play the games of their choice for a period of time then move on to the next table.

We have lots of new speakers to entertain us for the Spring: The Role of a Town Cryer, Gardening for Television, Eleanor Waterhouse & Kate Bennett (runners up at the Great Allotment Challenge). April is a members' choice evening when the resolutions discussion will take place. May sees us having come full circle when we have our AGM and possible change of committee.

All the interesting meetings and an outing in March to Kenwood House, plus Titchfield Festival Theatre in April are just two of the outings proposed for 2020.



Guests would be most welcome and can attend up to 3 meetings free of charge. The WI offers women the opportunity to make friends, learn new skills, and campaign on wide ranging issues. We are a relaxed and welcoming group where you can enjoy interesting speakers, lunches outings and much more.

*Gill Lancashire*

## Denmead Afternoon Women's Institute

Some of our members attended the Group Carol Service at St Georges Church in Waterlooville where Terry Walmsley represented us in one of the readings.

In January, instead of our monthly meeting, members enjoyed a Festive New Year lunch at Barnards.

Over a leisurely lunch members could socialise, exchange news and get to know some people better.

We will be taking part, once again, in the County Darts Tournament in the Spring. This enables us to meet members from other parts of the area and exchange news and views,

Some members will be attending the twice yearly County Meeting at Portsmouth Guildhall in March when the guest speaker will be Ben Fogle. Our future plans include a visit to West

Dean Gardens and taking part in the County Quiz and Skittles Tournament.

Our next monthly meeting will be on Wednesday 5th March when we look forward to the return visit of John Pitman to talk about Shopping in the High Street 1940 – 1950. John's previous talk about growing up in that era was most relevant to many members, and he will no doubt revive memories of a much more leisurely pace of life. The competition will be for an item from the 1950s.

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 monthly talks and demonstrations, with a relevant competition, on a wide range of subjects so there is something to suit all tastes and interests.

The WI was formed in Canada to teach mothers about health and hygiene and to teach rural crafts to farmer's wives but it's scope has widened to include subjects such as public speaking, music and dance, computing and car maintenance. 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. We sit informally around small tables not in formal rows and introduce you to other members so you will not feel alone.



You are welcome to come as a visitor to “try us out” or if a particular subject is of interest to you.

Contrary to popular belief we are a group of ladies with a young outlook who do more than sing Jerusalem and make jam. We meet informally for lunch once a month and also take part in the county darts, skittles, and quiz and attend the Group Meetings when we socialise with members from the other five institutes in our Group. Members attend the twice

yearly County meeting which includes a well known guest speaker.

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)*

## 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 Community Centre: 9225 6132**  
**9am - 3pm, Monday-Friday**

**Memorial Hall Bookings:**

**Mrs S Thomas: 07534 024388**

**Police Contact No: 08450 45 45 45**

**Burial Ground enquiries: 9224 7947**

**Denmead Parish Council: 9224 7947**

**Winchester City Council 01962 840222**