

The Bridge

70 pence

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March 2021

A monthly view of community life in the parishes of Boldre and South Baddesley



Countdown to the
printed Bridge

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THE BRIDGE

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Thank you. LG



Simon Says

The Vicar's Letter



Dear Friends,

Easter is not far off, but before we can celebrate the joy of the empty tomb we must first pass through the cross of Good Friday – and God knows, the past few months have felt something of a cross to bear for many of us! But without the cross there can be no Easter Day!

And yet in our culture we so often seek to miss out the cross – we want to lose weight without the exercise or diet regime; we want to make money without taking any risk; we want to be good at something without having to put in the years of hard work and dedication.

In short we want it all without having to pay any price. We want to do things the quick and easy way – the way that demands little of us and from which we hope to gain the greatest reward with the smallest effort. And yet we know at heart that unless we are willing to endure the struggle and the sacrifice the final gain is rarely what we hoped it would be.

The Christian life is no different. Christ asks us to, 'take up our cross daily, and follow him'. Taking up our cross is at the heart of what Lent is about. This is not an act of miserable, half-hearted, pious self-sacrifice but rather a celebration – an act of joyful self-abandonment and laying aside of all that keeps us from being the people God made us to be – people who like him love freely and unconditionally.

Such self abandonment is not easy because we have become secure and comfortable in what we know - even when it's not for our best – and to lay it aside can be a frightening and uncomfortable prospect.

When we are afraid and uncertain we need to remind ourselves that behind the suffering of cross there is the risen Christ.

What might we lay aside so that we can better become the people we were made to be? What has the suffering of the last few months revealed to us about the society in which we live that we need to do differently in the coming years? What cross are we being called to bear so that we can not only truly celebrate Easter but also live something more of the life that Christ promises to all who follow him – 'Life to the full.'

I wish you all a continuing fruitful Lent in which you might discover the joy of self-sacrifice that leads to an Easter full of New Life.

Yours in Christ

Simon



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- Over 60's Lunch Club** Monday's fortnightly
673213 or 673744
- Children's mini-athletics** AM Tuesdays
07739 394385
- Pilley Bridge Club** PM Tuesdays 623543
- Yoga** Tuesday evenings 07789 689649
- Singing in Harmony for dementia** AM Wednesday
fortnightly 718749
- Ballroom and Latin American dancing 3 times per
week 645061
- Scrabble** Wednesday evening Sep to March
675708
- Pilates** Thursday mornings 07973 892235
- Parkinson's Society** Third Thursdays
- South Baddesley W I** Second Thurs aft monthly
675313
- Boldre W I** First Thurs aft. monthly
673858
- Yoga** Friday morning
626237

PERKINS YOUTH HALL

- Card Making** First Wed of month 7.30 – 9.30 pm
and next day 10 – 12
Contact Sally Bowman 673910
- Sewing Class** Second and Fourth Mon monthly
674210
- Yoga** Tuesday morning weekly
- Sewing Class** Third Wednesday monthly
689087
- Pilates** Friday morning weekly
01425 674813

Everyone is welcome to join in these activities. To find out more please ring the telephone number listed.

For all Hall Booking Enquiries

Contact : Sarah Wallbridge 672913
sarahwallbridge@sky.com

Cover Story

Bluebells in Hundred lane Portmore

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Thank you to all those who have donated this year to this charity, You have raised the marvellous sum of £706.23 of which £223.80 was raised by **William Gilpin School**.

Thank you all so much for your generosity.

Pim

Letter from the editor



February is always a long month even though it has the fewest number of days. This year is no exception, we have completed a number of jigsaws and walked every day, when it was not raining. We hope to get back to printing the Bridge next month, so I'm keeping my fingers crossed for some relaxation of the lockdown by the end of March. Spring is just peeking through the ground and the sight of daffodils and bluebells is always a welcome sign that the weather is getting warmer. Once the village activities start up again we can expect to see bumper editions of the Bridge for the rest of the year ?

Regards

Derek

When will we print the Bridge ?

The Bridge is an important link in the community and we know that the printed edition is widely appreciated. During the current restrictions It is necessary for us to put the Bridge online but we will be back to a printed edition as soon as conditions allow. We are aware that there are a number of readers who for whatever reason are unfortunately not able to read the copy online and have paid for the Bridge to be delivered. Their continued support is very welcome .

Whilst the digital version gives us the opportunity to distribute freely to a wider audience in the parish and beyond, it does so at the generosity of those people who have subscribed annually to receive the Bridge on a monthly basis. We are grateful for the support of our advertisers and subscribers, whose income after costs, are used to directly support the PCC's of both Boldre and South Baddesley. However, to quote the thoughts of a previous vicar of Boldre, John Hayter "It is more important to get **The Bridge** broadcast by any means than the income."

Editor

Copy for the Bridge

We welcome copy from all sources to help promote the parish and the community. Please be aware that copy should be with your Editor or a sub-editor by the 14th of the previous month. Your article should be in Word format or a compatible alternative (not Apple 'Pages') and sent electronically by email as an attachment. If you are unable to word-process your article yourself, perhaps a friend could type it up for you and email it to The Bridge? derek.tilley@mac.com . Publication cannot be guaranteed if material is received after the deadline or is in an unacceptable format.

Ed.

Mouland Drainage

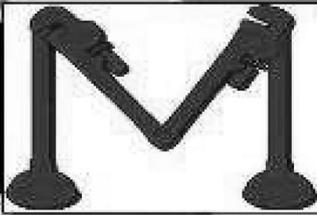
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Apricots, peaches.



Line bottom of dish with fruit. Cream sugar and butter, add flour and Jordan's mixture, lemon rind and cinnamon, and spread over fruit. Bake in a moderate oven for 20-30 minutes.

*muesli mix (Recipe taken with kind permission from **The Boldre Cook Book**)

NB - recipes are always welcome, for me to publish.

Bridgett

EASTER, EGGS AND ALL THAT JAZZ

Canon Andrew Neaum

For ten years before coming to Boldre, I celebrated Easter twice. I was priest to the Macedonian Orthodox community as well as to the Anglican in my last parish. The Orthodox Easter is usually on a different date from ours.

The stench of hard-boiled eggs

At the end of the Macedonian Easter Vigil, lots of hard-boiled, red-dyed eggs were distributed to everyone. We tucked into them with gusto. Flakes of shell littered the carpet. The church narthex began to smell like a "fart factory", as one of my earthier old ladies put it. A pair of expensive vacuum cleaners, purring like Bentleys, dealt with the eggshell flakes. The pong lingered.

Hugely nutritious as well as beautiful, eggs have gathered to themselves all sorts of symbolic and religious significance. 60,000 year old engraved ostrich eggs have been discovered in Africa, celebrating something other than Easter.

One of the oddest things about the Macedonian Easter celebrations, was how few people came forward to receive communion. Out of a full church only one or two elderly women, and a handful of little children, received the sacrament. This is because the Lenten fast was too severe for most folk to bear. Children and the very old were exempted from the fast.

No eggs or prostitutes in Lent

Eggs, as well as meat and dairy products, were forbidden. This used to be the case in the Western Church too. Hence "Shrove Tuesday", the last day before Lent being called Pancake Day ("Mardi Gras" in French, "Fat Tuesday"). A day to eat up all eggs and dairy produce before Lent began.

With the arrival of Easter, the eating of eggs resumed. Because hens don't stop laying to order, there would be plenty to hand. They were often hard boiled for ease of handling and to help keep them longer. All sorts of egg recipes evolved to deal with the glut. A common one was a meatloaf with eggs in it to accompany Easter's dinner.

In parts of Spain there is the tasty "hornazo", made with flour and yeast and stuffed with pork loin, bacon, spicy chorizo sausage and eggs. In Salamanca it is traditionally eaten out of doors, during the "Lunes de Aguas" ("Monday of the Waters") festival. The name is said to derive from a twisting of the word *enagua*, or petticoat, which the prostitutes of the town used to wear under their dresses. During Lent the local prostitutes were banished to the other side of the Tames river so that the town's many students were not distracted from their Lenten religious observances. On the "Monday of the Waters", the students of the town threw a party on the banks of the river to celebrate the return of the women. Eating "hornazo" was part of the celebration.

Egg jarping and egg hopping

In the Eastern Churches, Easter eggs are dyed red to represent the blood of Christ shed on the Cross. The hard shell of the egg symbolises the sealed tomb of Christ and the cracking of the shell symbolises his resurrection from the dead, his bursting from the tomb. Easter eggs are blessed by the priest at the end of the Paschal Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) and distributed to the faithful.

In many of the Eastern Churches egg symbolism has retained its variety and richness. All sorts of local traditions, games, pastimes and recipes to do with eggs remain associated with Easter. Even in the England old traditions survive in pockets of the country. Egg jarping, egg hopping and Pace Egg Plays, for example. Decorating eggs is also a widely practised art.

A vestige of authenticity

Commerce has done its worst to reduce Easter's symbolism, beauty, truth and tradition to mere profit. The hollow, chocolate egg is a good symbol of this. With nothing inside, it is empty of meaning and disappointing to eat. The only chocolate Easter eggs I relish are filled with marshmallow. True marshmallow is made from genuine egg white. Such eggs retain, therefore, a vestige of authenticity. They are all the more delicious for that.

EASTER LILIES AT ST JOHN'S

After the disappointment of last year, The Flower Guild are preparing for Easter at St John's. If you would like to give an Easter Lily in memory of a loved one then please contact Elaine on 01590 676496 or email samfenning@yahoo.co.uk. The cost is £3.50 per lily. Please remember to include your loved one's name so it can be displayed in the church this Easter. Cheques should be made payable to Boldre Church Flower Fund and sent to Berries, Church Lane, Pilley, SO41 5QL.



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Boldre Parish Council

The Council will be holding its annual assembly for 2021 on the 15th of March at 19:00. The annual assembly is an opportunity for the Parish Council to report on its achievements over the last 12 months and for an open forum for members of the public to ask questions or report concerns. The annual assembly in 2020 was not held due to COVID-19. This year, it will be held remotely over Zoom. Please look out for details on the Parish Notice Boards, Facebook and the Boldre Parish Council website.

Work is continuing to move the current play area to allow a new hall to be built to house Pilley Community Stores. Several designs have been received and are being assessed. An outline proposal has been passed to Boldre War Memorial Hall to allow the planning application to proceed but this is not the final design. A working group will narrow the current options and work with the NPA to finalise suitable design and materials. There is some concern over the safe provision of a playground during the construction of the new hall. This will be discussed with the NPA.

Concerns were raised that applicants who submit a planning application within the Parish are not aware that the Parish Council will debate the application and submit a recommendation to the planning authority. The council agreed to check with the local planning authorities that applicants are notified of this fact. If you are involved in a planning application within the Parish, please contact the Clerk to find out when your application will be discussed. If you wish to make a statement about your planning application, you can make an appointment to do so at the start of the meeting it is discussed at. When planning applications are being considered by Boldre Parish Council's own Planning Group they base all their recommendations on the National Policy guidelines, the policies which are set by the National Park Authority and by the Parish Council's own Design Statement which has particular regard to the very local character of its particular landscape within both the New Forest and the Solent coastline.

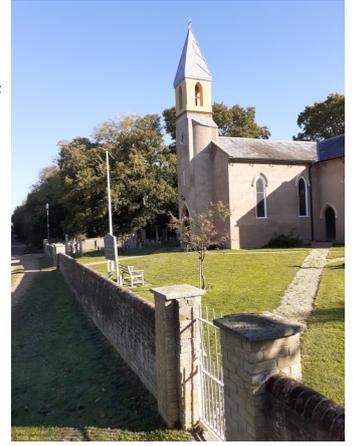
NFDC approached the Council about a potential site for affordable housing in Pilley. Though the Council understands the need for this, the site in question was not considered suitable due to its small size. Concern was also raised over the sale of affordable housing to the private market. It was considered important that affordable housing is supplied in such a way to prevent its subsequent sale.

The Council was pleased to co-opt Vincent Slattery into the final vacant position on the council and look forward to welcoming him to our next meeting. The date for the next Parish Council meeting is March 8th. This will be an online meeting and details will be made available for the public to join.

OM

A missive from South Baddesley

'Hope springs eternal' – I cannot remember where that was first written, or in what context, but the sight of daffodils starting to blossom at the foot of the wall in front of the church gives me a vision of that hope. A hope that as the days get longer, the prospects increase of ending the lockdown that has held us housebound for most of this year to date.



As we move through the season of Lent, when we reflect on the journey of Jesus Christ through his ministry to his death on the cross and his glorious resurrection at Easter, we can understand the temptations he must have faced in the wilderness.

As we contemplate the wilderness of confinement and isolation from our families there is a temptation to ignore all the rules and do something really wild. Perhaps even have a clandestine gathering with the family just so we can embrace our loved ones. A parishioner recently said to me that 'never again would those simple things in life, such as a hug, be taken for granted'.

I am writing this before the 'road map' for leaving lockdown has been issued, but little snippets suggest that re-uniting families is a priority. I hope that is the case, for everyone's sake.

The greatest boost to our hopes of an earlier release from lockdown has come in the form of vaccinations on a scale never seen before. The excitement generated as people share their experiences of their own 'Jabs' has been a joy to behold. Just as the first tentative buds of the daffodils open and hopes of Spring rise, so the first inoculations gave a stir to the hopes of a way out of lockdown and a return to normal life.

The news has come too late for some things – it is still far too early to hold mass events, so the Pylewell Fete has been deferred, in the hope that we might be able to hold the event later in the year. We remain hopeful.....

Church life continues to centre around the weekly recordings, and I can only marvel at the patience of faithful people as they endure my fumbling attempts to provide some semblance of worship. There is a genuine hope, not least from myself, that we can escape from these recordings and resume services in Church. I hope that this will be possible by Easter, when the spread of vaccinations will give people confidence that they can attend services (socially distanced, of course) and celebrate our Risen Lord's victory over the forces of darkness.

So, with our hopes of a glorious Spring like last year rising with every additional flower blossom, let us journey through Lent to a joyous celebration on Easter Sunday.

God Bless

Richard

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mike@lymingtonrestoration.co.uk

The other side of the Crossroads

Our own Plummers

Water has been flowing very full and fast in the recent very wet conditions. There was great excitement and some consternation one morning when an eel, approximately 1 metre in length was observed working its way, backwards, from Brook House through 50mm chicken wire on its way back to the river. An extended slither along the road to the ford was supervised to ensure no untimely vehicular intervention occurred. We wonder if this was a 'first', or can anyone report such an incident in the past?



Photo: Kate Mills

I have a plant of *Garrya elliptica* James Roof in one of my borders. It is an evergreen shrub which should have green catkins in January and February. For years now my plant has sat and sulked until last year when I got fed up with it sitting doing nothing much, I warned it that it was for the chop if it didn't improve. This year it was covered in masses of long, pale green catkins in the darkest time of the year. It is worth talking to plants! Local walks have been a pleasure and a sanity saver for most of us during the last year. Footpaths have been trod in all weathers and alternative routes to Pilley Community Store and wider afield, to Lymington and beyond have been explored. How very lucky we are to have the forest around us, the sea so close at hand and the chance to observe wildlife in a quieter, tourist-free environment. Walking in the Yorkshire Dales in the autumn is a plan which once more has become a possibility. Treading new ground must be something we are all longing for; but how I hate that term 'staycation'!

With more walkers on the roads, the cycling population should surely be more cautious as they speed round our country bends or pedal two or three abreast along our narrow roads. This is a plea for them to let us know they are approaching from behind – using a bell, or by calling out a cheery warning. We've been on this high saddle before – please spread the word.

For my birthday I was given a wildlife camera. It is motion activated and works in daylight or the dark. I was very pleased and anticipated putting it in the garden straight away. I should have known better! It required eight batteries, so rechargeable ones were ordered; it also needed a thing called an SD card which I managed to order with help, since there seem to be many different ones. When these things arrived and were inserted in the camera, I then had to work out what to do! Again with help, I managed it and positioned my gift in the garden. So far I have filmed many blue tits and two wood pigeons! I have high hopes for the summer!

Maybe we'll be in print this month and your Bridge delivered to your door or maybe not. However you receive it, keep enjoying your magazine and please do give us feedback. Our editors also like to receive anecdotes and articles of interest as well as photos of local interest which might make the cover!



Letters to the Editor 'a view from the Bridge'

Gregory Family history research pandemic -1918

Dear Editor

My father-in-law was born and grew up in the New Forest. He told us (during his lifetime) many interesting stories about his childhood and the current situation that we are in (the Pandemic) has prompted me to recall one of them and I would be interested to find out more if possible but am not sure how to proceed.

He was born in South Baddesley in 1905 and was obviously still a boy of 13 years old in 1918-19 when the Spanish Flu pandemic was about. He used to relate the tale that a whole family in that area all perished in that pandemic. I would be interested in learning the names of the family and any more information i.e. where they lived, where they were buried etc. I am researching our family ancestry and wondered perhaps if there may have been a connection. Any help would be gratefully appreciated.

My Father in law and his sister were born in East Boldre and lived in the area until the mid 1950s, before moving to the midlands. His father worked at the Pylewell Estate for many years prior to then.

I would be grateful if any of your readers has any knowledge or tales to tell about the family or the 1918 pandemic in the area, please get in touch by email to moira.gregory1@btinternet.com

Many thanks
Moira Gregory

The Pheasant



There's a beautiful pheasant
Who's not very pleasant
And he's strutting about on my lawn.
He's quick on his feet
And so hard to defeat
And his shouting awakes us at dawn.

He likes brassica lunches,
Fresh green shoots he crunches
He can run with incredible speed
With my blackbirds he's made friends
But his manners he must mend
And his diet must only be weeds.

FP

**THE VIEW FROM JUNE'S
BENCH
A sidelong glance
from a Friend of
St John's**



Now I have the challenge again, can I write something interesting that does not mention the virus? Oh yes, "media! this could include last month's issue of The Bridge? I will attempt a critique of the February digital issue, a suitable target for my sidelong glance I trust...

My first impression naturally was from the opening page, the words of our top man **Simon, The Vicar's Letter**. Our needing the presence of devil or God depending on circumstances, invites my "glance" to be upwards or downwards, an interesting set of choices.

On the rest of the page, **Simon's** copy of Brian Bliston's poem really had me going, looking for a punch line that would render it acceptable... But the technique of reading backwards, beats any explanation possible, I am most impressed.

For later pages, my review is limited by available print space, but the lovely photo of the newly wedded couple Donna and Alan deserves my attention, I must send them my heartfelt thoughts and good wishes.

Book reviews and South Baddesley makes good reading for both today and the future.

Onwards to the St. Nicholas Singers, pictured Christmas carol singing in the rain. A lovely way to help our villagers survive loneliness in these troubled times. Then Canon Andrew remembers joy from foreign lands, exotic pets of magnificent diversity almost defy description. From cheetahs to chameleons, wildlife is fascinating and the reminder that "the lilies of the field that neither toil nor spin", is his way of defining worship of God through nature. The ever-present paradox is thoughtful reading.

The joke (Zooming), is amusing, I will think up one of my own, try to keep a cheerful tone.

The Other Side of the Crossroads with its colourful display and Jill's beautiful ponies made pleasant reading, the reminder to pay our dues for this magazine in digital or paper format and mention of our indispensable Community Shop.

Simon's blowing the dust off the bible, brought us poetically up to sitting by The River Bend, too enjoyable to go unmentioned here.

Emma's crochet work defy critique, if you have not already looked on it, please do so.

Mental health from Hampshire County Council brings up the end of my review, my own words I will leave to you.

Now, what about my anecdotes of life back in the 1950's? My tales of ships and cats brings us back to good old Lymington and memories of my childhood. Locomotion was by Steam Train the Lymo Express, we went to secondary school in Brockenhurst. The single train on a single railway track was controlled by a single key, trains were only allowed one way at any one time. The key looked like a large leather handbag and was passed from driver to driver. My defining memory is of my brother Brian who was befriended by Jumbo Miller, a steam locomotive driver. It was 1949 and my brother who was 14years old would ride with him on the footplate, steaming off towards Brock, soot rattling around their ears. Rumour has it that on occasion my brother would drive the train, something health and safety would never allow today.

So that's it, I must bring my memories to an end for this month, finishing with my usual admonition, we must all look forward to beating the virus with the help of vaccination, hopefully to be free, optimistically, perhaps even by the end of this year?

Jack Gittoes

FROM OUR CHURCH REGISTERS January 2021		
BAPTISM		
St John's	24 January	Fraser ROBBINS
Marriage		
FUNERALS/SERVICES OF THANKSGIVING & ASHES INTERMENTS		
St John's	25 January	Rosemary TIMMS
St John's	27 January	Pat TANNER

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wasn't there
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St John's Boldre & St Mary's South Baddesley Services March 2021

Every Wednesday at 10.30 am Holy Communion at St Nicholas' Chapel, Pilley.
SO41 5QG, next to the Boldre War Memorial Hall

SERVICES ARE PROVISIONAL, CHURCHES MAY BE OPEN, DEPENDENT ON LOCK-DOWN RESTRICTIONS. CHECK NOTICE BOARDS FOR UP TO DATE INFORMATION.

Sunday 7 March Lent 3	St John's Boldre	St Mary the Virgin	St. Nicholas's Pilley
8.00am			Holy Communion BCP
		Recorded Evensong	
10.30am	Morning Prayer plus a Recorded Service		
14 March Mothering Sunday	St John's Boldre	St Mary the Virgin	St. Nicholas's Pilley
8.00am			Holy Communion BCP
9.30am		Recorded Family Service	
10.30am	Morning Prayer & Posies plus a Recorded Service		
21 Mar Lent 5 Passion Sunday	St John's Boldre	St Mary the Virgin	St. Nicholas's Pilley
8.00am			Holy Communion BCP
9.30am		Recorded Holy communion CW	
10.30am	Morning Prayer plus a Recorded Service		
28 March Palm Sunday Lent 5	St John's Boldre	St Mary the Virgin	St. Nicholas's Pilley
8.00am			Holy Communion BCP
9.30am		Family Palm Sunday Service Outside, with donkey	
10.30am	Palm Blessing, donkey plus a Recorded Service		
HOLY WEEK	St John's Boldre	St Mary the Virgin	St. Nicholas's Pilley
Monday March 29			8.00am Holy Communion
Tuesday March 30			8.00am Holy Communion
Wednesday March 31			10.30am Holy Communion
Maundy Thursday April 1	7.00pm Last Supper Garden of Repose	7.00pm Holy Communion	
Good Friday April 2	2.00pm Devotional Service	5.00pm Tenebrae	
4 April EASTER DAY	St John's Boldre	St Mary the Virgin	St. Nicholas's Pilley
6.00am		Sunrise Service and HC	
8.00am	<i>(there will be a St John's recorded Easter service)</i>		Paschal Candle and Holy Communion BCP
9.00am	Holy Communion To Book: Phone or email		
9.30am		Easter Service Festal Communion	
10.30am	Holy Communion To Book: Phone or email		



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