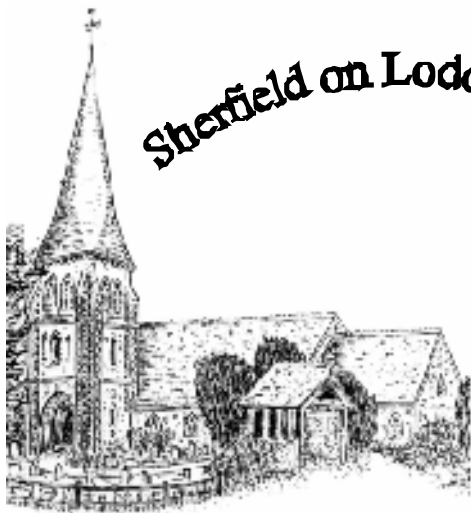


# LODDON VALLEY LINK

May 2006

*Sherfield on Loddon,  
Stratfield Saye,*



*With Stratfield Turgis*



*Hartley Wespall*

**The Parish Newsletter**

No. 384



## The Most Precious Gift in the World

When I was about 9 years old I bought a little enamel brooch for my mother. She still wears it today and has always valued it beyond its worth.

It was announced recently that the precious jewellery of the late Princess Margaret is to be sold in order to pay death duties. Unlike my mother's brooch, if it were for sale, there will be many buyers willing to pay large amounts for these items.

If you have a moment, ask yourself this question: Which is the most precious gift I have, and why is it precious?

A friend said to me that if her house were on fire – she didn't have children at the time- the one possession she would want to rescue would be her photo album. The reason for her choice was because her pictures reminded her of family and friends.

If you are young then you may well be planning on finding that lucrative pathway to getting all you want in this life. If you are retired you may well have achieved much of what you wanted, and be surrounded by many precious things.

There is something incredibly precious that we all have access to and yet so easily damage, disregard and even throw away- good relationships. Living, loving, accepting relationships with other people are priceless. So often it is relationships with others that make us what we are and give meaning to our lives. How about doing a stock take and discovering how rich you are.

So why am I sharing this thought with you? It's because I have just read in the Bible these words of Jesus: "I am with you always, to the very end of the age" [Matthew 28:20]. It reminded me of the precious relationship we can all have with God as our heavenly Father. Don't throw it away.

Christian greetings,

## **BREACH LANE CHAPEL – MAY 2006**

SUN 7 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Family Worship led by Rev. Chris Russell
	11am	Sunday School
SAT 13 <sup>th</sup>	4pm	Informal Worship led by Rev Bob Politt
SUN 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Family Worship led by Mavis Hinds
	11am	Sunday School
	3pm	Bible Study
	5pm	Informal Worship led by Geoff Belsham
MON 15 <sup>th</sup>	7pm	Property Committee
THU 18 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Mid Week Event
FRI 19 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Games Evening
SAT 20 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Open Morning at Chapel – Bring and Buy sale for Tear Fund
	2.30pm	Disabled Christian Fellowship at Frimley Road
SUN 21 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	Family Worship led by Ruth Russell
	11am	Sunday School
MON 22 <sup>nd</sup>	8pm	Bible Study at Cross House, Bramley
THU 25 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Bible Study
SUN 28 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Family Worship led by Ray Ursell
	11am	Sunday School

plus

Every	10.30am	Open Morning at Chapel (please phone to check)
Tuesday	7pm	Tuesday Club at Ashwood Centre, Winkiebury

Contacts:-

Rev. Chris Russell 01276 21469      Geoff Belsham 01256 882534

**Roman Catholic Mass at Breach Lane Chapel  
every Sunday at 8.45am.**

# Parish Register

## Funerals

Patricia FARR	4-04-06	Sherfield
Tom MEAD	11-04-06	Hartley Wespall
Stan SOLLEY	24-04-06	Sherfield

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### Saturday Monthly Informal Worship

The next informal worship at the Baptist chapel  
will be

4.00-5.00pm 13<sup>th</sup> May 2006.

For Christians of all denominations.

Revd Bob Politt

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### Toddler Time

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> MAY

4.00-4.30pm

St Leonard's Church, Sherfield

Nursery Rhymes, Story, Prayer

Healthy refreshments for the toddlers.

Meet on the red carpet in church

All welcome!

Contact Revd Bob Politt for information.

01256 882209





## Spring Flowers in the Churchyards



Those of you who have visited the churchyards recently will have noticed the increasing number of spring flowers appearing as more people are planting bulbs. Just to remind you that it is not permitted to plant trees, shrubs and bedding plants, but bulbs are always welcome. Please carry on planting bulbs!

It is always good to see people caring for grave spaces, as this helps the Church Councils with maintenance. Please do remember that if you wish to introduce any item on to a grave space it is necessary to consult with the rector before doing so. Rarely are there any problems but to save embarrassment and misunderstanding your cooperation in this way is very much appreciated.

In response to a request, unfortunately plastic flowers are not permitted in churchyards within the Diocese of Winchester. Also, as dustbin space is very limited please would people attending grave spaces be kind enough to remove their own debris.



Thank you for all your help and support.

Revd Bob Politt



## THANK YOU FOR CLEANING ST LEONARD'S

Many villagers in Sherfield would like to express their thanks to the team of people who keep the church clean and tidy, week after week. This year we have lost two members of the cleaning team and wonder if there are two others out there who would like to join us. We clean in twos or threes and are needed about four times annually.

We will be having an evening meeting to arrange next year's rota at 7.30pm on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 33, Northfield Road.



If you are interested, please contact Rody on 01256 882209.

## Text for the Month

John 20 : 30 -31

Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

The NIV Bible

## Prayer for the Month.

Lord Jesus Christ, this is a season of new beginnings – not just your glorious resurrection from the dead, but the resurrection of broken dreams, crushed hopes, shattered faith – and we praise you for it. Yet it's hard sometimes to believe such new beginnings apply to us, that we too can start again. We look at our own situations - the problems which refuse to go away, the mistakes we go on making – and we see little prospect of change, no reason to believe life can be any different. But you have promised that we shall be born again, that anyone who trusts in you will become a new creation; renewed, remade, refreshed through your grace. We can celebrate your promise of resurrection for all, your gift of new life from old and we praise for it. Risen saviour, conqueror of sin and death raise us to newness of life. As we pray in Your name. Amen.

## Prayer Points for May

Continue to pray for the defeat of terrorist activities throughout the world but most especially in Iraq and the Middle East and Afghanistan.

Pray for rain in the drought effective parts of East Africa where cattle are dying and crops failing and the people facing famine and starvation as a result.

Pray for our local communities that we may be aware of the needs of those around us and respond with love and care giving of our time and energy unsparingly.

Pray for all the children facing the start of the examination season.

Pray for the success of Percy's Plant sale that it may be an occasion of fun and friendship as well as being successful in raising money for the Church Steeple.





PERCY'S PLANT SALE  
and  
Daisy's Cake sale



with

Morning coffee or tea.

Raffle

"Guess the weight of the hamper".



To be held at

ORCHARD LEA,

Sherfield on Loddon

(Along Goddard's Lane from the shop, pass the  
cricket field on the left and Orchard Lea  
is next left, after the bus-stop).



on

Saturday 13th May

at

10am until 12 mid-day



If you would like to donate  
your surplus seedlings, potted plants  
(labelled please!), a homemade or shop  
bought cake or a raffle prize, please bring them to  
1, Orchard Lea on Friday 12th May  
or telephone

Sheena or Brian Archer 01256 882099



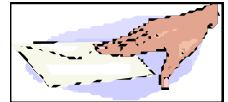
All proceeds to St. Leonard's  
Church Restoration Appeal

## Editorial

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this month's magazine, it is as usual a very packed edition with lots of activities and events for everyone, at which your support is greatly appreciated. Thank you very much to Terry Raisborough who has written this month's Feature Article (p. 24-27). It is an interesting account of her gardening experiences and how she has transformed her garden at White Gables, Breach Lane. Terry and her husband Brian open their garden to the public under the National Garden Scheme, raising money for charity and their next 'open day' will take place on 2nd July. Terry provided me with such a volume of interesting material that I have divided her article in Parts 1 & 2 and we can look forward to Part 2 being published within the next couple of months.

### ENVELOPE APPEAL

A huge thank you to everyone who has donated money to our envelope appeal to help finance the magazine. We are very pleased to report that the total collected to date is £779.79. This will go towards the costs of printing the Loddon Valley Link.



Thank You!

Finally. Please Note:

- i May 16th is the deadline for articles for the June issue.
- i Your editor for the next issue of the Link will be Sheena Archer. Contact details can be found on Page 49.

Claire Osborne. Editor

### Please Note

- i The Management Committee of the Loddon Link cannot accept for publication any item received anonymously. Please supply your name and address with material you wish to be considered for publication.
- i Announcements, invitations or advertisements cannot be accepted from third parties. Only someone directly involved in the event should submit copy for consideration for publication.
- i Please note that the Committee cannot be held responsible for the reliability or quality of any work or service provided by advertisers.

**ST MARY'S CHURCH  
HARTLEY WESPALL**



**A FLOWER FESTIVAL**

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**SATURDAY 6TH MAY 2006 10am to 5 pm**

**SUNDAY 7TH MAY 2006 10am to 3pm**

**Closing with SONGS OF PRAISE AT 4pm**

**Refreshments available**

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**RNLI (Lifeboats)**

The Mortimer & District Branch's Plant Sale will be held on  
Saturday 20th May, at St. John's Hall, Mortimer,  
from 10.30am to 3.30pm.

With Spring coming thoughts are turning to gardening. With these thoughts in mind and decisions being made as to what you will need, please make a date to come to the sale. Perhaps those of you with green fingers might consider taking a few extra cuttings and planting an extra box or two of seeds to help the Lifeboats. We welcome annuals, herbaceous plants, small shrubs, vegetable plants, herbs and indoor plants. We are also looking for garden tools and garden ornaments. If you can help please phone either of the following numbers :

0118 9744359 or 01256 881540

# HARTLEY WESPALL PARISH COUNCIL

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The meeting will be held on **Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> June 2006 at 8.00pm**  
in the Liddell Hall, Sherfield on Loddon.

### AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Apologies for absence
3. Chairman's Statement.
4. Short Presentation from Mathew Beal – Area Rights of Way Officer – North West for Hampshire County Council
5. Accounts 2005/2006
6. Traffic calming in the village – A proposal for new 'Gateways' to the village will be presented by Richard Hague Assistant Area Manager (Traffic Management Group) for Hampshire County Council
7. Questions and any other business
8. Close of Meeting

Some people in Basingstoke need support to live the life they want  
You could be an advocate and.....

Listen



Help them  
speak up



Support them  
to make  
choices



Most of us have somebody to rely on and talk things through with, but for people with learning disabilities this is not always the case. As a volunteer advocate you can make a real difference to someone's life. A few hours a month and a common sense approach are all you need – interested?

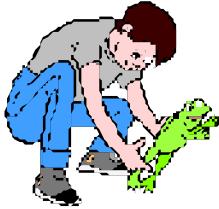
Call us at: **Speakeasy Advocacy**

Telephone: 01256 332795

Email: [speakeasy.advocacy@btconnect.com](mailto:speakeasy.advocacy@btconnect.com)

Providing a Voice and Support for people with Learning Difficulties, Autism and/or Asperger Syndrome

Registered Charity No. 1108304



## TOAD MIGRATION 2006

Thank you to the many volunteers who helped our very late toads cross the road this year. Hopefully next year will be back to normal and our younger volunteers will be able to get involved more as the clocks won't have gone forward!!

Please can everyone now phone with their numbers so we can add up the total.

Please call Jackie or Tony on 01256 771223 or 882764.

THANK YOU ALL

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## From the Rotary Club of Basingstoke

### Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May. Charity Walk.

This is a long standing unusual fundraising concept. It enables supporters of a particular charity to raise funds without the work involved in organising and promoting with the inevitable financial risk involved.

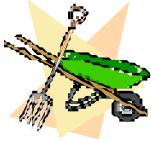


For a nominal entry fee (to cover our expenses) walkers are provided with sponsor forms and can enjoy the company of several hundred other like minded citizens and look forward to a free BBQ at the end.

Because we have found that many of the participants are not regular walkers the distance is kept to 4 and 8 miles taking in the lovely and exhilarating high country around Hannington and East Oakley with views across the downs, Kingsclere and other parts of North Hampshire. Many of the paths on the walk are not public footpaths.

Contact: Terry Scrase

The Rotary Club of Basingstoke. Tel. 01256 322522



## **Sherfield & District Gardening Club**



Do you enjoy gardening?

Would you like to meet like minded people to swap ideas?

We are an informal club with members abilities ranging from little gardening experience to prize winners and everyone in between! We plan to have a varied programme including talks from experts and garden visits. Discount for members at Whittewater Nursery, Heckfield and from Thompson and Morgan seed catalogues.

New members are always welcome.

We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month in The Liddell Hall in Sherfield at 8.00pm

May 3<sup>rd</sup> - Blossom Walk at Blackmoor Estate, Selborne - Booking Essential

May 15<sup>th</sup> - Garden visit to The Old Rectory, Burghfield - Booking Essential

June 19<sup>th</sup> - Talk by Carol Nottage - Designing and building a garden for Chelsea

For more details contact Linda on 882341

We would like to thank The Shop, Scats and Sherdons for their kind support

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### **Stratfield Saye Groups**

Are there any people living in Stratfield Saye who would like to form either a gardening, history or book group?

Also any ladies who would like to form a women's group of some kind

If you are interested, please ring me on 01256 883328 and hopefully we can get something arranged.

Linda Shergold

# **COFFEE MORNING AND ART SALE**



**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2006  
10.00 am – 12.00 noon.**

**at Broadlands,  
Reading Road  
Sherfield on Loddon**



**Admission by donation to include  
coffee, tea or soft drink**

**Bring and Buy to include cakes  
Raffle  
Art work**

**The original water colours by Donald Dawson from  
which the greetings cards sold at St. Leonard's Church  
were taken, will be on exhibition and offered for sale  
(with one for raffling)**

**Plus further art work from members of the  
Stratfield Saye Art Class**

**In aid of the St. Leonard's Church Restoration Fund**

## **A GARDENING BUG! (Part 1)** **by Terry Raisborough**

I was very surprised and honoured to be asked to contribute to the Loddon Link as I and my family, husband Brian and sons Alex and Adam, still feel like new comers to our lovely village!

We moved into White Gables, Breach Lane, on 11<sup>th</sup> July 1996, after I had persuaded Brian that 'we' had outgrown the garden of our previous house in Viables which had measured only 37 ft x 30 ft. The move had been pre-empted by my appearance on a Channel Four Garden Club programme the previous year. The programme had concentrated on plants ideal for drought conditions, and I had been lucky enough to have been selected to appear with presenter Matthew Biggs, as I specialised in growing tropical plants and climbers albeit in an old wooden lean to conservatory. I had been a TV star for a day and this had whetted my appetite for pastures new and bigger!!

Brian did not know what he had let himself in for with the move to Sherfield-on-Loddon. The garden at White Gables was a bleak affair containing a huge rubbish tip, hollows and hillocks, couch grass, brambles, nettles, bind weed - you name it we grew it, none of it on the level, the only things lacking were shrubs and plants!



**THE GARDEN 'BEFORE'**

So I started digging - every day, every weekend, every holiday, every evening after work! The grass started to disappear, borders started to take shape, plants appeared, first in tens, then hundreds and even thousands! Brian started to panic with my obsessive behaviour but he was always there with a ready cup of tea! I started to hone my skills, first in planting, then in designing and finally in propagating. My one greenhouse doubled to two, and then the old summerhouse we inherited became a winter haven for my tender exotic collection.



After six years of hard graft, in April 2003, I entered a national competition in Gardens Monthly magazine for category Flower Gardener of the Year. My before and after photos of the garden must have impressed the judges as they awarded me the title and also first prize of £1,000 worth of Bradstone landscaping products! This was an extremely useful prize as I could finally get rid of the old school carpet that had been acting as a patio base and weed inhibitor for two years! Brian stopped panicking and started to take notice of what I was actually achieving outside in the garden. That was when I hit him with the news. I felt I was ready to open the garden and invite the public under the auspices of the National Garden Scheme. Up until then dog walkers had been dragged in off the lane every time they asked me how the garden was getting along - I was now getting more adventurous and perhaps even confident!

Two judges came to see me and the garden was approved. Our first Open Day was on 6 July 2004. What a day! We greeted over 270 people and raised over £1,000 for charity. Brian said 'never again'; I said 'it'll be even better next year!' And it was!

## THE OPEN DAY



Two weeks after our open day I watched the TV as BBC Gardeners World advertised their annual competition BBC Gardener of the Year. I thought why not? So I entered. A four page form arrived in due course asking various questions about my gardening expertise or lack of it, and requesting five photos of our garden. This was subsequently followed by a call from the TV producer Rosemary Edwards asking whether I would be prepared to undertake a home phone quiz on horticulture as I was in the final 100! Twenty minutes and 24 questions later, I eventually put the phone down mentally exhausted! I only discovered later, incidentally, sometime after the final judging that I had finished top in this part of the competition.

A few days later Rosemary rang again to inform me that I had made it to the final 20 contestants. Rosemary and a horticultural expert would be visiting to view and video the garden, as this formed part of the judging process. The visit was an experience; the expert asked never-ending questions about my plants while the producer videoed the whole garden.

Three days later I received THE CALL! I had made it through as a finalist! My immediate reaction was one of elated joy. Brian was much amused by this picture of madness jumping around screeching yes, yes, yes, quickly followed by tears of utter desolation and oh no, no, no, what have I let myself in for? .....

.....to be continued.....

**(READ ALL ABOUT TERRY'S EXPERIENCES AT THE BBC GARDENER OF THE YEAR COMPETITION IN A NEAR FUTURE EDITION OF THE MAGAZINE)**

Brian and I will be opening our garden again to the public under the National Garden Scheme on **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2006, 1.00pm to 5.00pm**. Tea and cakes next door at Cathy's.

We look forward to seeing you all then!!!

Terry Raisborough



# Sherfield Summer Fete

## Saturday, June 10th

Do you want to run a stall?

Can you help on the day?

Then please contact:

Jane Brydges on 01256 881979

## Ladies & Gentlemen



## After Fete Dance

### Sat. June 10th

8.00 pm until Late

Licensed Bar Dancing to Fuzed

£12 per ticket

Hot & Cold Buffet

Tickets from

Tickets from

Tracy 882503

Wendy 881007





# SHERFIELD PARISH COUNCIL



[www.sherfieldonloddon-pc.gov.uk](http://www.sherfieldonloddon-pc.gov.uk)

This magazine, and much more, can be seen online here.

## **CALOR 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY VILLAGE OF THE YEAR COMPETITION; "BEST OF THE BEST"**

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who took part in our competition entry in April. So many people were involved and gave their all to show the judges what a special village Sherfield is. Calor advises that the regional judging continues until the end of May and so we are unlikely to know how we fared until the beginning of June. If we have won the regional round, we will be judged again some time between 10 and 18 July. Fingers crossed!

## **COLOURING COMPETITION**

Those of you who visited us on 19<sup>th</sup> might have noticed the super picture of the Mill which was on display in the Garden Room, drawn by 4 year old Taran Angell. Thank you Taran, a prize is on it's way to you.

## **WOODLAND**

Remedial work has recently been completed on the triangular area of woodland, adjacent to the telephone exchange. The land was purchased by the Parish Council as a public amenity, using developer's contributions.

## **BASKETGOALS**

The new units seem to be getting plenty of use; a layer of Astroturf is due to be added to each of the concrete pads very soon.

## **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

The Sherfield-on-Loddon Annual Parish Meeting will be held in the Village Hall on **Tuesday 9 May 2006**, at 8pm.



## Tallest Sunflower Competition

Visit the Sherfield and District Gardening Club stand at the fete on 10<sup>th</sup> June to collect your sunflower and entry form.

Category One Age 14 and under  
Category Two Age 15 and over  
Entry £1.00

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize in each category £15.00**

**Sponsored by The Shop**

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### Getting a Life with Bananas

*“Never Underestimate the Power of a Woman”*  
– *Ladies’ Home Journal, Masthead*

I stopped at a stall near Dartmoor to buy some bananas – three pounds for 99p. The trader, oddly, had the dazed look about him that suggested that he didn’t belong in that game – more a kind of KPMG accounts juggler. I gave him a pound and said “Keep the change” and he said “Thank you, sir”. I asked “What’s an educated man doing selling bananas?” He replied “I was a management consultant working all hours. The kids were grown up, so education was out of the way and one day my wife said ‘I’m beginning to forget what you look like. I don’t want wealth; I want you.’ So I looked around, quit the race and this is the result.” I said “But you still have your books to do.” He said “I get home. My wife counts the money; wives are good at that. I tap the computer for twenty minutes and then we eat. I look at my wife; I like what I see. We’re happy. Life’s a bowl of cherries.” “Or a bunch of bananas?” I asked. “With custard!” he said, grinning.

John Batt

*True story. The bible references are Mark 8: verse 36 and Matthew 16: verse 26. “For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul.”*



## NEWS FROM BRAMLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL MAY 2006

**Summer is just around the corner but we have been very busy since the last report.**

We have received a cheque for £2,500 from The Foundation for Sport and the Arts as a grant towards the new lighting frame. This has been installed in the hall and has been used at discos and the Yr. R, Yr. 1 and Yr. 2 Christmas productions. The lights are now much safer to use and manage.

We have also received a cheque for £300 from the AWE to help towards the cost of installing cycle racks near the pedestrian entrance at the front of the school. These will be in place as soon as we can organise with the County.

### **A message from Oliver Chambers (Yr 4 pupil)**

Thank you for helping me to collect mobile phones and old coins for the Blue Peter Child Line Appeal. Together, we collected 25 old mobile phones and 14 mugs of coins. This will help Child Line receive 137 more calls from children.

Yours sincerely, Oliver Chambers

**The Prince's Trust Team** handed over the new garden area on Friday 10th March 2006. It was amazing to see how much could be completed in 9 days. The team really worked hard. New plants and trees have been planted, and we also have a Bramley Fish design made out of flowers. The Gazette reported about the handover on Thursday 30 March 2006. Our aim is to remove the remaining tree stumps and branches. We can then buy more seats/ benches and open the fences for the children to use during the break and lunchtimes. It will be a welcomed addition for the children who enjoy reading or sitting talking with friends during the breaks.

The new environmental area, inside the fenced off part of the old field, has had the next phase completed. The ponds have been lined and filled. We are now awaiting the arrival of the water butts so that we can keep the ponds filled.

**HANDCRAFT FAIR**  
at  
**LONDON STREET UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**  
on  
**SATURDAY 13TH MAY**

**10.00 am to 4.00 pm**

**50p entry or £1 per family**

Tea, coffee, snacks, cake stall, craft demonstrations, original artwork, teddy bears, hand painted ostrich eggs, home produced honey, hand made sweets, spinning and weaving, hand turned wood, jewellery & bags

A date for your diary

**The Friends of Hartley Wespall**

will be holding the ever-popular

**VILLAGE FETE**

On Sunday 25th June 2006 at 2.00 pm



**WHIST DRIVE**  
12th May  
at 7.30pm in  
Sherfield Village Hall  
Admission £1.50



# ***Village Hall Matters!***



Sherfield on Loddon Village Hall

## **Village Hall Committee Minutes**

A copy will now be displayed on an internal Village Hall notice board.

Please let your Committee know what events you'd like to see in the Village Hall in the future and we'll try to oblige.



'Tales of Otherness', (held on 31st March) proves you don't need flashing lights, gizmos and gadgets to entertain; you just need great voices, good stories, and a sprinkling of imagination! Thanks to Natalie, her team & all those who supported the event. Sadly, some of you missed a great evening!



## **Sponsored Walk Sunday 14th May**

Sponsor members of your Village Hall Committee to walk

over hill and dale to raise funds towards the new **Sound System**

Could you join POSH and boost support for our Village Hall?

Membership is £12 per family per year. Come to the open Coffee Morning on Sat 13th May at 10.30 - an opportunity

## **Diary Dates**

### **Socatots**

**Thursday mornings**

**Sat. 13 May 10:30**

**Coffee Morning**

**Hog Roast & Live Jazz Band**

**Saturday 8 July**

**Casino Night**

**Saturday 28 October**

**60s & 70s Disco**

**Sat. 18 November**

**Concert Band**

**Sat. 16 December**

# The Women's Institute

Reported by Val Denny



This month was our birthday meeting so we had wine on arrival, an iced birthday cake and lots of extra goodies for tea. We had decided against wearing Easter Bonnets but the Craft group had nevertheless provided one on each table (?). They had found little straw hats to put on little 'glass' hat-stands, all decorated with sprays of spring flowers and blossom. Each special meeting the Craft group surprise us with the table decorations; these were absolutely charming, so pretty and delicate.

Reports on the Spring Council meeting and other activities were held over until May. Dee Bulpitt would lead a walk in Pamber Forest. (It went very well.) There was a follow-up letter from Onyx to queries raised at the Incinerator visit :- a) only plastic bottles marked CODE 1 PET or CODE 2 HOPE are biodegradable, b) Telephone directories with yellow pages are not.

Our speaker, Gwen Appleton, told us about her years as a hostess/ courier for a company running Singles holidays - "Three complaints and you're out!" She is a lively, funny, interesting speaker and kept us very well entertained with her adventures. She also gave us a useful Croatian word - MOWLAM - which, according to inflection, means 'Yes', 'No', 'Pardon', 'Please', 'Thank you', 'Excuse me', 'Sorry' or 'Oi!' We all went home happy, merry and full thanks to the hard work of many, not least the washers-up with over fifty wine-glasses, cups, saucers and plates to do. 'Mowlam' to you all.



## EVERGREEN CLUB

Reporter – Jean Wright

On April 1st the Evergreen Club held their Spring Fayre which was a success and raised £540. Many thanks to all the Sherfield Businesses, also Tesco and Trawlerman, for their most generous support.

The club meeting was held on April 3rd. Our speaker was Graham Smith from the Aldershot Military Museum. He brought some interesting slides along to show us.

The Easter Lunch on April 13th at the Mill seemed to be enjoyed by everyone. This ended a very busy month for the club.

Our next meeting will be held on May 1st and this will be the Club's 6th Birthday Party when Michael Turvey will be our entertainer.



**Sadly I have to report the death of my husband, Stanley Solley, who lived in Northfield Road, Sherfield, for the last 50 years. He died at the Hollies Nursing Home, Burghfield Common on the 6th April, having suffered a stroke in November 2005. I know for him it was a happy release, but he will be sadly missed.**

**I would like to thank the many friends and neighbours who have expressed their sympathy and support at this difficult and sad time.**

**Mrs Veronica Solley, 52 Northfield Road, Sherfield**



## Hampshire Cricket Board

The Hampshire Cricket Board are pleased to announce that the fixtures for the highly rated **Disability XI**, will again play their home matches at **Stratfield Turgis C.C.**

The team compete in the National County Championship, under the directive of the E.C.B.

This season there are 8 counties competing in two groups. The Southern group consists of Hampshire – Isle of Wight – Wales and Hertfordshire.

Hants will be hoping to equal or improve on last season's semi-final which they lost to the eventual champions Warwickshire. The final of which was played at the Rosebowl.

All the current season's fixtures, results, rules and archive reports can be found at [www.bacd.co.uk](http://www.bacd.co.uk).

Each match is of maximum 40 overs per side. All normal rules apply. The major change this season is that a normal cricket ball will be used, replacing the much maligned 'Incrediball'.

**HOME FIXTURE DATES : I.O.W. 18<sup>th</sup> JUNE 1.30 pm**  
**WALES 25<sup>th</sup> JUNE 1.30 pm**  
**HERTS 16<sup>th</sup> JULY 1.30 pm**

Disabilities are physical and / or learning, either inherited or acquired. New players and supporters are always welcome. Full information from

**Jeff Levick – co-ordinator 01962 620247**  
**Martin Turvey – Captain 07785 580456**

So why not spend a sunny summer afternoon watching some highly competitive and entertaining cricket at **Stratfield Turgis**.

*The bar will be open and you will be made most welcome.*

Letters to the Editor

Dear Claire Osborne,

April 2006

We have only been living in Sherfield since October 2005. We moved from London. The village is beautiful and we love living here. We walk to the pond and the beautiful little ducklings are here. The speed of the cars is careless and far too fast. We were there last week and the ducklings were crossing the road and cars rushed by. It would be such a shame to have any of the ducklings run over through sheer carelessness. Most of the cars seem to be using the road as a cut through to Bramley. You cannot sit peacefully by the pond. Perhaps something more could be done, like putting ramps on the road, forcing cars to slow down. We thought that when we moved out of London everyone would drive more carefully but it appears that this is not the case.

Yours sincerely, Mrs Pamela Maynard (16 Goddards Close)

Dear Editor,

March 2006

My wife Helen and I have been together for a few years now. We delight in our children although they seem to grow up and move on so fast nowadays. I am writing to you in the hope that my appeal will touch the hearts of your readers. As I have already mentioned Helen and I love children so every year as the first buds of spring start to show and the crocuses poke their heads out of the soil we turn our minds to procreation. The trouble is over the last few years our normal 'Lover's Alleys' have started to disappear. We are quite a private couple and don't like to go about our business in public so have to travel in order to find alternatives. This has meant crossing busy roads which can be quite dangerous when you can only walk slowly let me tell you. So can I please ask that when removing the undergrowth from around the pond and on the common your readers spare a thought for me and do it a little less vigorously.

Yours sincerely, Derek 'the Drake' Duck

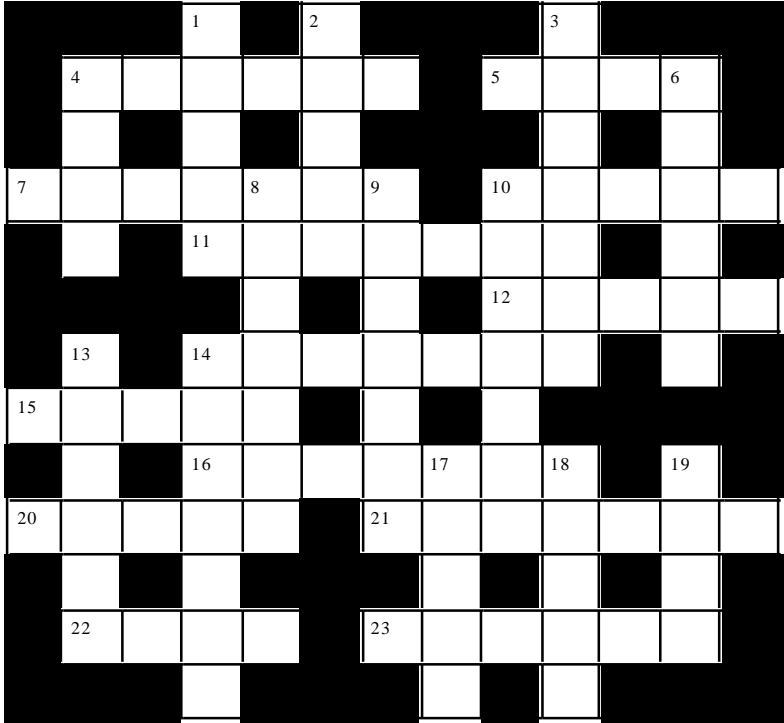
Dear Editor (Loddon Link),

April 2006

I am writing to appeal to your readers to drive very carefully all around the village. This morning I lost my husband to a careless driver on the Reading Road outside Wessex House. Having mown him down they didn't even have the courtesy to stop and check whether he was OK or move his broken body. I know that people are usually fairly careful when they approach the 2 ponds but they do not appreciate that we cross the road in other places and that, particularly at this time of year, we have to cross other roads around the village. This was not my first loss on the road - last year I lost one of my babies just 100 metres further along the road but I do hope that it is my last. My only consolation is that I don't have eggs to hatch this year as that would have been difficult alone. We had heard that there were some shrubs around Wessex House that were quite comfortable for egg-making which is why we had crossed the road.

Yours sincerely, Helen 'the hen' Duck

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**CLUES ACROSS:**

- 4. BIBLICAL LAND (6)
- 5. FIT (4)
- 7. HE MADE HEAVEN AND EARTH (7)
- 10. ANAESTHETIC (5)
- 11. PROMINENT (7)
- 12. THEY HOLD BAPTISMAL WATER (5)
- 14. AROMATIC SUBSTANCE USED IN TOBACCO (7)
- 15. PULSE (5)
- 16. MEN OF THE CHURCH (7)
- 20. THREE WHEELER (5)
- 21. IT'S ON A CHURCH (7)
- 22. PART OF THE FOOT (4)
- 23. JESUS WAS SEEN ON THE ROAD THAT WENT HERE (6)

**CLUES DOWN:**

- 1. OLD INDIAN COINS (5)
- 2. SING (5)
- 3. AIDER (7)
- 4. BE CONCERNED (4)
- 6. HAPPENINGS (6)
- 8. DUE FOR DUTY (7)
- 9. TEARERS (7)
- 10. MAKE (7)
- 13. PLACE OF WORSHIP (6)
- 14. SHELLFISH (7)
- 17. THINGS (5)
- 18. PART OF A FLOWER (5)
- 19. AND (4)

**ANSWERS TO PREVIOUS CROSSWORD:**

ACROSS: 1.MARK 5.CAIN 7.NEEDIER 8.KNITTING 10.AVER  
 12.LOOP 14.DISCIPLE 16.ADHHERENT 17.NAVE 18.LYRE  
 19.PENITENT 22.CHRISTS 23.ERNE 24.KING

DOWN: 1.MONK 2.KNOT 3.REKINDLE 4.SING 5.CREATION  
 6.NEAR 9.NOONDAY 11.ENLIVEN 13.PRESENCE 15.SATANIST  
 18.LUKE 19.PURE 20.TASK 21.TRUG

## Loddon Valley Link Management Committee

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**Deputy Chairman:** Revd. Bob Politt Tel. 882209  
**Hartley Representative:** Dr. John Williams Tel. 882705  
**Stratfield Representative:** Mr. Eric Price Tel: 881402  
**Sherfield Park Rep:** Mr Chris Wright Tel: 880436

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<b>NB. The final date for material for the next edition is the 16th of April.</b>	

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