

# ***THE LINK***

*The Magazine of The Knightley Parishes*

## **Newnham Gardens**

**Open for the NGS**

**Sunday 4th. May 11am to 5pm**

**£6 adults and children under 12 free**

**4 beautiful gardens**

**Plant sales**

**Light Lunches**

**Teas**



***April 2025***

**No. 404**

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***Badby ☘ Newnham ☘ Charwelton ☘ Fawsley ☘ Preston Capes***

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# THE KNIGHTLEY PARISHES

[www.knightleybenefice.org.uk](http://www.knightleybenefice.org.uk)

An on-line version of this magazine in colour is available on the web site

## Services for April 2025

	6 April <b>I</b> Lent 5	13 April <b>II</b> PALM SUNDAY	20 April <b>III</b> EASTER	27 April <b>IV</b> Easter 2	4 May <b>I</b> Easter 3
Badby	11:00 Holy Communion CW [GS]	<b>10.00</b>  <b>United Benefice Service</b>  of  <b>Holy Communion (CW)</b>  at  <b>Newnham [MB]</b>	11:00 Holy Communion CW [GS]	11:00 Morning Worship [Lay HW]	11:00 Holy Communion CW [GS]
Newnham	X		10:00 Holy Communion CW [AS]	11:00 Holy Communion CW [GS]	X
Charwelton	09:15 Holy Communion BCP (Church) [GS]		10:00 Holy Communion BCP [LT]	17:00 Evensong BCP (Church) [Lay GH]	09:15 Holy Communion BCP (Church) [GS]
Fawsley	X		11:00 Holy Communion BCP [SB]	X	X
Preston Capes	X		09:15 Holy Communion CW [SB]	10:00 Morning Prayer BCP / CW [Lay GH]	X

### OTHER SERVICES

For HOLY WEEK see page 3

Tuesday 22 April

6.30 pm

Badby

ESOW

# SUNDAY READINGS

## Principal Service CW

- for other services see Lectionary

Date	Feast	OT Reading	NT Reading	Gospel
6 Apr	Lent 5	Isa. 43, 16-21	Phil. 3, 4b-14	John 12, 1-8
13 Apr	PALM SUNDAY	Isa. 50, 4-9a	Phil. 2, 5-11	Luke 22, 14, -23,end
17 Apr	Maundy Thursday	Exod. 12 1-4 & 11-14	1 Cor. 11, 23-26	John 13 1-17 & 31b-35
20 Apr	EASTER	Acts 10, 34-43	1 Cor. 15, 19-26	John 20, 1-18
27 Apr	Easter 2	Acts 5, 27-32	Rev. 1, 4-8	John 20, 19-end
4 May	Easter 3	Acts 9, 1-6	Rev. 5, 11-end	John 21, 1-19

### Services for Holy Week

<b>Monday 14 April</b>	1930 Compline at Charwelton Chapel
<b>Tuesday 15 April</b>	1930 Compline at Badby
<b>Wednesday 16 April</b>	1930 Compline at Preston Capes
<b>Maundy Thursday 17 April</b>	1930 Holy Communion UBS at Badby
<b>Good Friday 18 April</b>	1000 Stations of the Cross at Fawsley
	1400 Vigil & Devotion at Charwelton Chapel

## FROM THE REGISTERS

### HOLY MATRIMONY



at Newnham  
on 21st. February  
Elizabeth May Barker  
and  
James William Ramon Wood  
[by Rev'd Canon Ann Slater]

*Blessed are you, heavenly Father  
You give joy to bridegroom and bride*

### IN MEMORIAM



at Newnham  
on 14th. March  
Interment of Ashes  
of  
John Gilbert Pett  
[by Rev'd Lesley Tomalin]

*Grant him peace,  
and let light perpetual shine upon him*

# EDITORIAL

So what have you given up for Lent?

*“The purpose of Lent is the preparation of the believer for Easter through prayer, fasting, and alms-giving (the 3 pillars of Lent), as well as mortifying the flesh, repentance of sins, simple living, and self denial.”*

You should be able to think of something in that lot! How about giving up dieting or stop cutting back on alcohol? Or you could give up pancakes, or hot cross buns, or Easter eggs; or red wine (just drink white). You could give up The News, Donald Trump, or buying products exported from the USA, or even go the full Benedictine of poverty, chastity and obedience; (a bit like marriage really!).

It puts me in mind of when we lived in Bahrain nearly 60 years ago where the Muslim population took Ramadan (a similar period of fasting etc.) much more seriously than we do Lent. We had a lovely cheerful houseboy called Suleiman whose family lived in Oman but he had left them there to come to Bahrain to earn money to send back home. He took Ramadan very seriously and observed a strict starvation during the day including not drinking even water despite temperatures of 35<sup>o</sup> to 40<sup>o</sup>+. I felt very sorry for him as he went about his work sweating profusely in our not-very-well-air-conditioned flat but unable to slake his thirst. Yet despite all that he would sometimes bring little delicacies which he had cooked for us. Then as soon as the sun set we could see from our balcony the inhabitants of the neighbouring houses all coming out into the streets or onto their rooves where they would cheerfully and noisily “break fast”.

Last week I encountered in Tesco a woman I had not seen for many, many years though I had looked after her and her family when she was a small child. She greeted me with expressions of delight and we had a long chat, but when I asked “and how are your family?” she replied “They are all very well thank you. My eldest will be 30 this year”....

Another reminder of the passing years occurred when I saw “Cold Comfort Farm” at Badby Film

Society recently. The last shot was of a couple taking to the air in what I am sure was a Tiger Moth, which took me straight back to my youth when I got my Private Pilot’s Licence in a Tiger Moth in 1958.

Those were the days!!

Coming back up to date, our hedgehogs have not yet put in an appearance in daylight (though we have seen what appears to be some hedgehog poo on the lawn) but the other night we saw on the nesting box camera that a blue tit was fast asleep in the box. The box was quite bare, not a sign of a nest or nesting materials, and that has been repeated for the last several nights. Perhaps like a seasoned house-hunter he/she is trying it out before making a firm offer.

*[Stop Press! As I prepare to send this to the printers I see straw etc. in the box!]*

David



## SUDOKU

*[With thanks to Robin Baker]*

Puzzle 112  
- Mild

3					2	8		6
				3		5		
8	6	9			7	1		
9		7	2		1			
	4						7	
			3		4	2		9
		1	6			9	3	2
		6		9				
4		3	7					8

Puzzle 113 -  
Difficult

				1	7		6	9
	6				5		4	
		8			4			3
1	8		6				3	
	7				3		1	6
4			3			7		
	6			4				8
8	3		7	9				

***[Solutions on p. 11]***

# PASTORAL LETTER

## Start where you are

Nothing seems to have caused more upset over recent months than the meeting in the Oval Office between the President of the United States (and his entourage) and the President of Ukraine. Personally, I found it very painful to watch, but what can I do? Perhaps we are too often left in total frustration or helpless anger as world-shaping news seeps into the security of our living rooms. Here's the good news: Just because you can't change everything doesn't mean you can't change anything.

When I was a curate in Bristol Diocese, the former Archbishop of York, Stuart Blanch, visited the curates and asked how many of us were working in large parishes. Many of us dutifully raised our hands. He said, "Just because you can't visit everybody doesn't mean that you can't visit anybody." That principle is true in a number of areas of life. Just because you cannot bring peace to the Middle East or to Ukraine, does not mean that you cannot work for peace in your family, or amongst your work colleagues, or in your community, or even in your church. Start where you are.

When Jesus left his disciples, he told them to begin changing the world

where they were (in Jerusalem) and then move on from there, to the ends of the earth. That's great advice. Start where you are.

In the 6th Century BC, the Chinese philosopher, Lao Tzu, said, "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." Take that single step. However helpless we feel when watching the news and however appalled we are at the conduct of leaders, we can start to make a difference where we are.

Jesus said, "If you give even a cup of cold water to one of the least of my followers, you will surely be rewarded." Most of us can manage a cup of cold water. Start where you are and, in this year of prayer, surround your action in prayer. Like the young boy at the 'Feeding of the Five Thousand', put your offering into Jesus's hands and watch him do extraordinary things.



*The Venerable Richard Ormston  
Archdeacon of Northampton*

# BENEFICE PAGE

## EVENING SERVICE OF THE WORD

This short service is held once a month on the Tuesday evening following the third Sunday at St Mary's Badby at 6.30pm. There is always a brief talk about someone inspirational. All welcome! The next dates are 22 April and 20 May.

## BADBY AND DISTRICT FILM SOCIETY

**Friday 28th Mar: The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry (2023)** Harold is an ordinary man who has passed through life, living on the side lines, until he goes to post a letter one day... and just keeps walking. Based on the 2012 novel of the same name by Rachel Joyce, the film stars Jim Broadbent & Penelope Wilton. The critics loved it: "impeccably acted, sincerely intended and often beautifully shot ... Broadbent is a wonder, so real and sincere it doesn't feel like acting... and Wilton equals him." [103 mins, 12 certificate]

## Saturday 12th April: The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess (1993)

Our Supper at the Opera series continues with the acclaimed 1993 film version of the Gershwins' musical masterpiece, starring Willard White as Porgy and Cynthia Haymon as Bess. It's based on the original Glyndebourne production, directed and adapted for the screen by Trevor Nunn, with the London Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Simon Rattle. [183 mins, Exempt certificate]

## Friday 25th April: Hot Fuzz (2007)

Buddy cop action comedy set in the scenic cathedral city of Wells. Directed by Edgar Wright, it stars Simon Pegg as an overachieving London police sergeant who is transferred to a village where the easygoing officers object to his fervour for regulations. According to the critics: "The brilliant minds behind 'Shaun of the Dead' successfully take a shot at the buddy cop genre; the result is a biting satirical and

hugely entertaining parody."  
[116 mins, 15 certificate]

## HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Spring has sprung! The leadership team members are delighted to announce that a host of golden daffodils will be planted around Badby in Autumn. The current location of existing bulbs has been noted and new planting will be sensitive of (and complementary to) these locations. In other news the chair and secretary have moved to Paris for a couple of years (or so) and whilst they will be back, they are keen for someone to take over as on a temporary basis. Volunteers should contact Rich or Tori Green.

## NGS OPEN GARDENS

Four gorgeous gardens in Badby will open for charity from 1-5pm on Sunday 18 May 2025. Everyone is welcome, including families. Look for bright yellow signs on the day directing to gardens. Entry is £6 by cash or card at the gardens or book in advance via the NGS website ([ngs.org.uk](http://ngs.org.uk)). All proceeds go to the National Gardens Scheme. There are refreshments available too at St Mary's Church in Badby, including cake, and all proceeds support the church. We can't wait to welcome you.



**Ruth Mackman, celebrant**

Wedding and anniversary celebrations  
Funerals and memorials, including pre-arranging  
your own funeral service, scattering of ashes

I can help you mark life's important events with  
a bespoke ceremony. I'm experienced, caring  
and professional, based in Badby, nr Daventry.

Contact me on 07591 166551  
[ruthmackman@btinternet.com](mailto:ruthmackman@btinternet.com)  
[www.ruthmackman.co.uk](http://www.ruthmackman.co.uk)

# PARISH NOTICES

## BADBY

Correspondent - Geoff Pullin (gcsspullin@yahoo.com)

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

	Reader	Sidesman	Coffee
6 Apr	G. Nelson J. Hall	N. Shaw F. Williams	C. Richards
17 Apr	J. Jordan	F. Williams J. Jordan	N/A
20 Apr	P. Wakeford G. Nelson	C. Nelson G. Nelson	N. Shaw
27 Apr	J. Hall F. Williams	F. Williams J. Hall	A, Syred

There will be a Holy Communion service in St. Mary's on Maundy Thursday at 7.30pm.

### CHURCH CLEANING ROTA FOR APRIL

w/b 31 March Gillie Morley, Ann Skinner  
w/b 7 Jan Cooper, Moira Cooper  
w/b 14 Jo Hind, Judy Jordan, Gill Nelson  
w/b 21 Ann Cotton, Monique Shortt, Ann Syred  
w/b 28 Gillie Morley, Ann Skinner

### CHURCH FLOWERS

The church will be decorated for Easter on Saturday, 19 April. If you would like to make a donation towards lilies in memory of a loved one, please contact Jackie at [jackiepeel22@gmail.com](mailto:jackiepeel22@gmail.com).

### T 4 U

On Friday 4 April, from 2.30 - 4.30pm, come early for tea and cake and Grand Plant Swap. Bring seeds, seedlings, plug plants, cuttings, bulbs, divided plants, roots, little plants, ground cover plants, flowers, herbs, fruit, shrubs or vegs. Looking forward to seeing you.

### LENT SOUP LUNCHES

There are three more Lent soup lunches given in aid of St. Mary's Church. Come and join in for some hot soup and fresh bread, and pay £5 (or more if you can). Contact the hosts to see if they still have

spaces. Lunches start at 12.15 and end at 2pm.

Date	Hosts	Where	Contact
Wed 2 Apr	Church-wardens	Badby church	williamsf33 3@aol.com 07752 384969
Tue 8 Apr	Julianna Hall	Gable Cottage	juliannahall @btinternet .com 07802 714556
Wed 16 Apr	C&G Nelson	The Cottage	01327 300034 gillian.nelso n@talktalk. net

### CHURCH DRAW

The winners in March were: 1st: Christopher Nelson;  
2nd: Megan Bedding; 3rd: Claudette Gardner.

### BELLS RINGING

We have had more requests than usual to ring our bells:

- \* Mon 7 Apr: 4.30 - 5.30pm quarter peal - Devon ringers
- \* Sat 26 Apr: 11.15am - 12 noon Bicester ringers
- \* Sun 27 Apr: 2.30 - 3.30pm quarter peal for local team.

### THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

A joyous coming-together of all the clubs and societies of the parish to celebrate our achievements of the past year will be held on Wednesday 9 April from 7pm in the village hall. Wine, juice and nibbles - everyone welcome!

### BADBY VILLAGE HALL

Bluebell Teas will be served on Sunday 4 and Monday 5 May, 1pm to 5pm. If you can help by baking a cake or assisting on either day serving in the hall or directing cars, please contact Ann Cotton (01327 640107).

## COFFEE MORNING

St. Mary's will be holding its monthly coffee morning on Tuesday 15 April from 10.30am till noon. All are welcome to join us to see the Church draw being made and to enjoy our coffee, cake and chat.

## BADBY & FAWSLEY WI

On Thursday 10th April we will be having a "Yoga for all" session lead by local Yoga Instructor, Chris Reid. We will be shown some simple exercises that can be done either sitting or standing. To book a free visit to this thriving and friendly WI contact Jan Cooper on [jancooper2012@me.com](mailto:jancooper2012@me.com) or Jackie Peel on [jackiepeel22@gmail.com](mailto:jackiepeel22@gmail.com)

## 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF VE DAY

On 11 May, the Sunday following VE Day, Badby Church will be holding a special service of thanksgiving at 11 am to mark the end of the Second World War in Europe. After the service we will be celebrating with a picnic and live music, in the churchyard (or in the church if the weather is awful). Bring your own picnic, drinks, chairs and gazebo, and join in the fun! This will be a Badby community event, so no entrance fee and no ticket required. Any offers of help to put up gazebos and bunting will be gratefully received!

## HOG ROAST

We are delighted to be holding a hog roast in aid of St. Mary's Church for all in the village on Sunday 27 July from 2pm till the evening, by kind permission of Sue and Neil Berry at the Old Forge. Tickets are £20 a head and there will be a paying bar. Contact Jo Hind [johind@talktalk.net](mailto:johind@talktalk.net) or Judy Jordan [judyjordan27@gmail.com](mailto:judyjordan27@gmail.com). Put the date in your diary now!



## NEWNHAM

Correspondent - Vacant

## ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting takes place on Tuesday 1st April at 2.00pm in the Church. All are

welcome to attend and vote for the Churchwardens, but only those on the Electoral Roll can vote in the other elections. This is an opportunity to raise questions or have your say about the running of the church. Maybe you have an interest in the building, but at this time not the worship aspect of the church. Any thoughts on raising funds for the maintenance of the building would be much appreciated. It takes the current congregation a long time to raise £1000 to replace just a small piece of crumbling stone. If you are unable to get to the meeting, but have thoughts, or ideas you would like to raise, please contact the PCC secretary, Janet Rees at [jmr3349@hotmail.com](mailto:jmr3349@hotmail.com).

## SCHOOL

On March 5th pupils from Newnham Primary school performed brilliantly in the annual DRET Nevil Holt Cross Country Finals, with strong performances from all age groups and especially from the girls!

Special mention should be made of Savannah, a year 1 pupil, who was invited to be a guest runner in the Year 3/4 girls race and who finished 5th against much older runners. Well done!

## CHURCH MAINTENANCE

Maintaining a 600 year old building is constant and ongoing. At the moment consideration is being given to re-placing/laying the large stones in the Church porch which currently present a trip hazard.

Several of the small cobblestones in the path leading from the Church gate to the porch have been levelled thanks to Steve Haynes.

## NEWNHAM CLEANING ROTA FOR APRIL

April 6th. Mrs. Cooke and Mrs. Wood

April 13th. Ms. J Minor

April 20th. Mr. and Mrs. Rees

April 27th. Mr. and Mrs. Wood

## CLASSICS and COFFEE

On Saturday 26th April from 10.00 am Jeff Lawrence will be hosting his third Classic (cars) and Coffee morning at 3 Westbrook, Newnham. If you have a classic/interesting car or motorcycle you would like



to display contact Jeff asap on (01327) 705085 or (07801) 399157) Proceeds in aid of Church funds.

### 200 CLUB

The winners of the March draw are:-

£50 prize - N Fleet No 189

£25 prize - J Vale No 172

£25 prize - N Fleet No 189

(And no, that's not a typo. No. 189 was pulled out of the bag twice.)

### NEWNHAM HISTORY SOCIETY.

Monday 28th April at 7pm in Newnham Village Hall

#### Waging a secret war

As part of our VE Day celebrations Jean Yates will talk on the localism spies and secrets of World War Two.

Tickets £3 for member and £6 for non members on the door or from [Judithdorkins@btinternet.com](mailto:Judithdorkins@btinternet.com)

### NEWNHAM VE DAY CELEBRATIONS.

8th May - Our Beacon Party begins at 7.30pm on Walkers Hill (NN11 3HH). Please walk or catch the shuttle bus from the village. Howe and Co. fish and chips at 8pm, The Tribute read at 9pm and the Beacon will be lit at 9.30pm.

10th May. Village Party on The Green from 1pm. 1940s music, food from Maria's Kitchen, live music from The Mangoes and Nathan and Friends, stalls and games. Get your 40s fancy dress ready, make your model spitfire and bake your competition biscuits. See [www.newnhamvillage.co.uk/VEDay](http://www.newnhamvillage.co.uk/VEDay) for competition details and more information on the celebrations. Please purchase your Marquee tickets as soon as possible to help the organisers from [judithdorkins@btinternet.com](mailto:judithdorkins@btinternet.com)

### NEWNHAM WI

It is with pleasure that I am able to confirm that Newnham WI will be able to continue, as a new Committee has been appointed. We will therefore be able to continue with our exciting diary of events and Speakers. We will be meeting in the Village Hall on the 17th April at 7.30 and once a month on the 3rd Thursday of every month. If you would like to know more about Newnham WI please contact Sophie on 07711123981 or Chris on 07927465404, or e-mail us at [NewnhamWI@outlook.com](mailto:NewnhamWI@outlook.com)

### COMEDY NIGHT

Newnham Village Hall 14th June 7pm -show starts 8pm

Another night of fun and laughter with the comedy crate. The line up includes well known star Hal Cruttenden of TV and comedy circuit fame. Great value bar. Tickets £15 from [www.comedycrate.co.uk](http://www.comedycrate.co.uk).



### CHARWELTON

Correspondent - David Pound  
([davidpound1939@talktalk.net](mailto:davidpound1939@talktalk.net))

	Reader/Sidesman	Flowers
6 Apr	David Pound	Elizabeth Bird
20 Apr	David Pound	
27 Apr	Amanda McCree	
4 May	<i>Fiona Spencer</i>	

Chapel cleaning	
April	June Pound
May	Fiona Spencer

The Easter Sunday service will be at 10 am in the church and taken by the Revd Lesley Tomalin from Holy Cross, Daventry. Please do join us.

### EASTER AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Saturday 19th April: Collect a quiz sheet from outside the hall (from 10am) and take part in an Easter themed quiz trail around the village, then join us for tea and home-made cakes in the village hall from 3pm. There will be arts and crafts for children to do, and don't forget your hard boiled egg for our annual egg rolling competition!

### ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting, to which you are warmly invited, will take place on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April at 7.30 in the Chapel. We're keen to recruit new people who can bring fresh ideas to the PCC. If that might be you, you can find out more at this meeting.

**CHURCHYARD TIDY**  
Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April

Could you spare some time between 9am and 12noon to help our spring tidy-up of the churchyard? There are various jobs that need to be done: clearing the 'moat' around the church; pruning of low trees; clearing the path; re-staining two benches; etc. Please contact Penny (details below) if you can help.

**HELP REQUIRED**  
**BRASS BAND CONCERT 5<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

We'd like to host a brass band concert in the church on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July but there is too much for our small team to manage without extra help. Could you perhaps:

- Be the event co-ordinator
- Lend a gazebo for the bar
- Help set up the church and the bar
- Help set up the parking and manage it on the night
- Help move tables and chairs from the village hall and back afterwards
- Identify a local supplier of portable WCs at a reasonable price
- Help publicise the event
- Sell tickets
- Serve at the bar

If you can do any of these, please contact Penny [pennycory@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:pennycory@yahoo.co.uk) or 01327 700550  
Unfortunately, if we can't find enough helpers by 4<sup>th</sup> April we'll have to drop the idea.

**100 CLUB**

Recent winners of the 100 Club draw are as follows:  
January No. 22 - Ken Maplethorpe  
February No. 12 - Trish Willoughby  
March No. 65 - David Boulton

**WHIST DRIVE**

Unfortunately we have had to cancel the April whist drive due to other commitments. Hope to see people in May.



**FAWSLEY**  
Correspondent - Vacant

**LITTER PICK**

Many thanks to those who participated and collected bags of litter picked up from the roadside. Also, a special thanks to Richard and Sue Jarvis for providing the refreshments to the volunteers afterwards.

**EASTER SERVICES**

We will be having a 10:00am Stations of the Cross service on Good Friday with Rev Greg Shaw and an 11:00am Easter Day Communion Service with Rev Steve Benoy.

**APCM**

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on 29th April at 2:00pm in the church. All those on the church electoral role can attend and vote on matters affecting the church.



**PRESTON CAPES**

Correspondent - Claire Hoare  
[caghoare@gmail.com](mailto:caghoare@gmail.com)

	<b>Reader</b>	<b>Sidesman</b>	<b>Cleaning</b>
<b>20 Apr</b>	Luke Bridgeman	Anabel Lewis-Bowen	
<b>27 Apr</b>	Bridget Whittaker	Peter Smith	

**ANNUAL VESTRY AND PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

Friday 25th April at 17.00 in the church

Anyone is allowed to attend, with people on Electoral Roll able to vote.  
Please do attend, it is only a short meeting. There is still time to fill in an Electoral Roll, forms available, or there are copies in the church. Please contact [caghoare@gmail.com](mailto:caghoare@gmail.com)

**INTERREGNUM**

A year since Rev Malcolm Ingham left, unfortunately

we are still without a Rector. However there is to be a further advertising in May, from which we hope for some applicants. Meanwhile we have been wonderfully looked after by regulars, Rev Greg Shaw and Rev Celia Parkes, and other excellent retired Bishops and Priests. Thanks to the organisation by Mary Wood and Vivienne Baker who field the task of making the bookings. We are most grateful, and it is working well.

PERFECT PLANT SALE AND COFFEE MORNING  
Monday 9th May at The Old Rectory 10.00 - 12.30

A new venue this year - please come to purchase your plants, cakes and marmalades. Entry will include limitless coffee/tea and biscuits.

A chance to see the wonderful garden at The Old Rectory.

### EASTER FLOWERS

All flower arrangers, please can you put your flowers in the church by Saturday morning.



## DIARY

This diary records the proposed dates of any benefice, parish or village events. We hope that this will help those planning such events to know what else is going on and therefore be able to avoid any unhelpful clashes of dates.

If you know, or become aware, of events which ought to be recorded please let David Pound, or your village Link correspondent, know.

Events known about so far are:



### April

- 1 Newnham APCM
- 7 Badby quarter peal
- 9 Badby Annual Parish Meeting
- 12 Film Soc opera BVH
- 19 Charwelton Easter children's event
- 23 Charwelton APCM
- 25 Film Soc BVH
- 26 Newnham Classic Cars and Coffee
- 26 Bicester ringers at Badby
- 27 Badby quarter peal

29 Badby PCC

### May

- 4 Newnham NGS Open Gardens
- 4/5 Badby Bluebell Teas
- 4 ? Charwelton Yard Sale
- 6 Newnham PCC
- 7 Charwelton PCC
- 8 VE Day 80 Beacon Newnham
- 8 VE 80 Badby
- 9 Preston Capes Perfect Plant sale
- 10 VE Day 80 Village Party Newnham
- 18 Badby NGS Open Gardens
- 27 Badby APCM
- 30 Film Soc BVH

### June

- 8 Newnham Village Open Gardens
- 16 Badby bells dismantled
- 27 Film Soc BVH

### July

- 1 Newnham PCC
- 2 Charwelton PCC
- 10 Newnham Coffee Morning at Jim & Mary Wood's
- 25 Film Soc BVH
- 27 Badby church hog roast
- 29 Badby PCC

### September

- 1 Badby bells due back
- 2 Newnham PCC
- 3 Charwelton PCC
- 13 Film Soc opera BVH
- 19 Charwelton Quiz Night
- 23 Badby PCC
- 26 Film Soc BVH

## SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

Solution 112

3	7	5	9	1	2	8	4	6
1	2	4	8	3	6	5	9	7
8	6	9	4	5	7	1	2	3
9	3	7	2	6	1	4	8	5
6	4	2	5	8	9	3	7	1
5	1	8	3	7	4	2	9	6
7	5	1	6	4	8	9	3	2
2	8	6	1	9	3	7	5	4
4	9	3	7	2	5	6	1	8

Solution 113

3	2	4	8	1	7	5	6	9
7	8	1	9	3	5	2	4	6
5	9	3	2	6	4	1	7	8
1	8	5	6	4	2	9	3	7
6	4	3	1	7	8	6	2	5
2	7	9	5	8	3	4	1	6
4	1	6	3	5	8	7	9	2
9	5	7	4	2	6	3	8	1
8	3	2	7	9	1	6	5	4

## Pots & Plans: what to do in your garden this April

*Phillip Turvil*  
Garden designer in Badby  
[BrightenMyGarden.com](http://BrightenMyGarden.com)

### Sowing vegetables

I love sowing veg seeds. So it's hard to resist filling up every space and pot during April.

Instead I restrain myself, and sow seeds little and often. This 'succession' sowing gives lots of smaller harvests over time. This staggered cropping also gives 'horticultural insurance' if one batch of plants falls foul of a pest or the weather.

Leave 3-4 weeks between sowing: carrots, beetroot, lettuce, pea, coriander, rocket, spinach, French beans, radish, mini cabbage. Plus spring onions, basil, cilantro, dill, kohlrabi, mizuna, Swiss chard... and other crops that are harvestable within a few weeks of sowing.

### Prune early spring flowering shrubs

Forsythia and Ribes have done their thing with a blaze of colour. Now's the time to prune. Cut back flowered stems to a strong bud and remove any dead and congested wood. This encourages new growth and ensures a bountiful display next year. Snip, shape, and secure that future floral show.

### Start mowing lawns regularly

Lawns are growing fast. Raise the mower blades for the first few cuts, then gradually lower them. Regular mowing keeps the grass healthy and weakens weeds. Sharp mower blades help a lot as they give healthier cuts and speed up mowing.

### Check garden structures

April is a good time to assess your garden structures. Check fences, trellises, archways, and sheds for damage. This is a useful before the spring growth of heavy climbers and before border plants reduce access. Repair or replace any broken structures. I also like to clean patios and decking with a brush or powerwasher for safer access during spring cocktails.

### In with the spuds

It's time to plant out seed potatoes about six inches deep. Plant 1ft apart in rows 1.5ft apart (more if growing larger 'maincrop' varieties). You needn't dig the soil beforehand, unless removing perennial weeds or the soil is very compact. Growing and harvesting potatoes will in fact loosen up the soil nicely for another veg crop later in the year or next.

The weather is still chilly, so protect emerging potato shoots from frost with horticultural fleece. Then once your plants are about 1ft tall, 'earth-up' by pulling up soil from between rows to partially cover the leaves (leaving 6in. of growth above ground each time). Repeat once or twice as plants grow. This increases yield.

### Check young trees

Many young trees die when their stakes and ties become too tight or rub off bark. Check your trees this spring and each season to ensure ties are supportive, but not restrictive. Or remove the stake if the tree is robust without support.

Right, I'm off to do some weeding.

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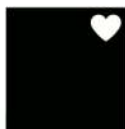


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# **NEWNHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

**CHAIRMAN – Gary Hammersley**

07887 634936 [chair@newnhamparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:chair@newnhamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## **Council Update**

As well as standard agenda material, the March meeting discussed updates on flood prevention, the forthcoming local elections and the Church path railings project.

We continue to work closely with West Northants Council and the Badby Flood Warden in response to the **flooding** in Newnham in November 2024, and with a view to finding a long-term solution to minimise flood risks in the area.

Amongst other interventions, this will include clearing of ditches on the Preston Capes Road and regular gully clearing.

The Parish Council are looking into supplying sandbags to residents in and around Badby Road and Bradbury Road to provide aid should they be required whilst the long-term solutions are being implemented. In the autumn there will be a public event for residents to fill and take away sandbags in case of emergency.

Unfortunately, there is no quick-fix solution, but we will endeavour to accomplish, and lobby for, the work that is required to prevent future flooding.

In addition to the work in response to November's flooding, we are continuing to push West Northants Council to complete the remaining phases of the drainage work which focussed on The Green last summer. The work remaining is the examination and clearance of the drainage system on Daventry Road and Newnham Hill, to reduce the volume of water flowing down the road into the village.

The **grass mowing** season has started! The Parish Council is responsible for the mowing of the Greens and open spaces, the verges within the village, the Churchyard and the Burial Ground. Grass will be mown weekly until July, then fortnightly thereafter. If you feel that areas are being missed, please contact the Council so that we can bring this to the attention of the contractor.

Preparations for the **celebration of the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day** continue to take shape. There will be a Beacon bonfire on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May with a party on The Green on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May. The marquee has been booked and the Newnham band has re-formed, 1940s dress will be encouraged, there will be '40s themed food and there are rumours that the Newnham choir will be resurrected to perform songs from this era.

West Northamptonshire Council Unitary and **Parish Council elections** will be held on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025. Voters will be able to vote for candidates to fill parish council seats (if the election is contested), and all of West Northamptonshire Council's seats (1<sup>st</sup> May elections will elect 76 councillors to represent 35 wards)

I would like to thank Jim Simpson and Jude Dorkins for planting the daffodils in front of the new village entrance signs, and to thank Deidre Mobbs for all she does for the snowdrop spectacle in the village.

The **next Parish Council Meeting is Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April**, starting at **7.00pm** in the **Village Hall**. For agendas and minutes go to [www.newnhamparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.newnhamparishcouncil.gov.uk)



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[Telephone codes 01327 unless stated otherwise]

[www.knightleybenefice.org.uk](http://www.knightleybenefice.org.uk)

**Rector:** *Vacant*

**Benefice Secretary:** *Vacant*

**Benefice Treasurer:** Christopher Nelson, The Cottage, Church Hill, Badby, NN11 3AR 300034 [chris.c.nelson@talktalk.net](mailto:chris.c.nelson@talktalk.net)

**Ministry Team:** Gerard Hoare, Susan Rose, Graham White

**Lay Pastoral Minister:** Graham White

**Benefice Children's Officer** Susan Rose (879053)

**Parish Visiting:** Requests for visiting should be made to the co-ordinators who will pass them on.

**Link Editor:** David Pound, Forge End, Church Street, Charwelton. NN11 3YT 260006 [davidpound1939@talktalk.net](mailto:davidpound1939@talktalk.net)

**Copy deadlines - Editorial, 20th of the month; Advertising 18th. of the month please.**

**Advertising:** [knightleybenefice@gmail.com](mailto:knightleybenefice@gmail.com)

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Vacant

### Secretary:

Vacant

### Treasurer:

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**Visiting co-ordinator:** Vacant

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### Treasurer:

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