

THE LINK

APRIL & MAY 2020



THE BENEFICE OF
FARWAY, OFFWELL & WIDWORTHY

OPENING THOUGHTS

During the 1970's when we were doing field research in the Western Province of Zambia, we were living in an operational area for guerrilla armies fighting the wars for independence in Angola, Southwest Africa (now Namibia) and Southern Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) so life was a bit tense at times. We also had some less than congenial cohabitantes in the old mission house we had been lent, including mambas, scorpions, spiders and army ants. My daily prayers always included Psalm 91, God's promise that for those who dwell in His shelter, vs 11 "He will give His angels charge concerning you, To guard you in all your ways." On one occasion, we were staying on a friend's isolated ranch, I was alone in the house, it was after night fall and I heard a number of men moving around the outside. With no means of summonsing help, I prayed for seven foot tall angels with flaming swords to surround the house, turned on all the lights and went and sat on the veranda with an old newspaper, pretending to read. I don't know what those guerrillas actually saw but they melted away into the night as quickly as they had come. Shortly after we left, the house was machine-gunned.

Today, Covid-19 is our "deadly pestilence" of which the psalmist speaks but God is as faithful and true to us now as He has always been, "Because he has loved me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him securely on high, because he has known My name". So say your prayers, read Psalm 91 (see page 23) and wash your hands!

Mim Prins, Widworthy

Benefice Coffee Morning

for all our Parishes

Not happening in April and May

but usually on the 3rd Thursday
of every month

From 10:30am to 12 noon

At Offwell Social Club Room

This is for everyone. Whether you go to church or not you will be made very welcome. You just have to enjoy coffee, home made cake and a chat!



BENEFICE CHURCHWARDENS FARWAY

Tara Huffman 01404 871372

Robin Banks 01404 871355

OFFWELL

Jonathan Paveley 01404 831450

Marion Hutchinson 01404 830055

WIDWORTHY

Mim Prins 01404 831688

Mary Wakeley 01404 831345

Village Websites

Farway www.farwaydevon.org.uk

Offwell www.offwell.org

Widworthy www.widworthyparish.co.uk

Please visit the continually updated Offwell website for information and helpful links.

The Parishes LINK is the magazine of the three Parishes of FARWAY, OFFWELL and WIDWORTHY. Views expressed here are not necessarily the opinion of the Editor or the Community. Submissions, BY THE 15th OF THE MONTH, should be sent, preferably by email in text, Word, JPG, PDF or PNG format, to the editor at parisheslink@gmail.com The editor reserves the right to delay or refuse publication of articles for reasons of decorum, space or practicality.

A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus



Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious,
be with those who care for the sick,
and lift up all who are brought low;

that we may find comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen.



The above prayer and other resources, including online services, can be found on the Church of England website: www.churchofengland.org

Our regular services have been suspended, but St Mary's in Offwell will be holding a time of prayer and reflection every Sunday morning at 10am
- see more details on page 4 for Offwell.



BIBLE READINGS

These readings are used in our Sunday services, but we are also encouraged to read them for ourselves at home.

April 5 th Palm Sunday	Matthew 21:1-11	Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29	Philippians 2:5-11	Matthew 26:14 - 27:66
Good Friday	Isaiah 52:13-53	Psalm 22	Hebrews 10:16-25	John 18:1 - 19:42
Easter Sun- day	Acts 10:34-43	Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24	Colossians 3:1-4	John 20:1-18
April 19 th	Acts 2:14a, 22-32	Psalm 16	1 Peter 1:3-9	John 20:19-31
April 26 th	Acts 2:14a, 36-41	Psalm 116: 1-4, 12-19	1 Peter 1:17-23	Luke 24:13-35
May 3 rd	Acts 2:42-47	Psalm 23	1 Peter 2:19-25	John 10:1-10
May 10 th	Acts 7:55-60	Psalm 31:1-5, 15- 16	1 Peter 2:2-10	John 14:1-14
May 17 th	Acts 17:22-31	Psalm 66:8-20	1 Peter 3:13-22	John 14:15-21
May 24 th	Acts 1:6-14	Psalm 68: 1-10, 32-35	1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11	John 17:1-11
May 31 st Pentecost	Acts 2:1-21	Psalm 104: 24-34, 35b	1 Corinthians 12:3b-13	John 20:19-23

OFFWELL



Our regular services have been suspended but St Mary's in Offwell will be holding a time of prayer and reflection every Sunday morning at 10am. Everyone is welcome to attend but please keep 2 metres apart and hand sanitizer should be used before entering and leaving if possible.

If there is someone you would like us to pray for at this time please let the church-wardens know or put their name on the prayer board in the church.

A **FaceBook** group has been set up for Offwell villagers to offer support and information. Search for '**Offwell Together**'. It's a closed group so anyone wishing to join must apply.



Carol Hayes has compiled a '**Reflections on Easter**' display of hymns, poems and prose in the church during Easter week.

LADIES LUNCH CLUB

Looking ahead to when life returns to some kind of normality, would you like to join a friendly group of ladies who meet for lunch and a chat on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Hare & Hounds, 12.30pm for 1.00pm? (The August meeting is an afternoon cream tea) If you would like to attend on a monthly or an ad-hoc basis then please contact Marian on:

Tel: 831066 or Email tuckers@offwell.com

Dates for your diary:

Friday 15th May -Jonathan is hoping to put on another **Wine Tasting** evening, with ploughman's supper. We will let you know whether this event can still go ahead nearer the time

Sunday 12th July - Cream Tea

Saturday 12th Sept. – Open Churches Day

Friday 2nd October – Harvest Supper

* See the new 'Diary' inside the back cover

More details of these events nearer the time

St. Mary's is hoping to hold a **Poetry Exhibition** for budding poets from the village from the Spring over the year. The intention is to have a rolling series of poems displayed in the church for a limited period and rotated as new poems are submitted.

For further details to contact Jonathan on 01404 831450.

Fish and Chips return to Offwell on **Saturday April 4th** Frying in the hall car-park from 6:00 - 7:30pm
Back now for the first Saturday in every month, up to and including December.

OFFWELL FLOWER & PRODUCE SHOW

Jams and cakes and flowers abound
There so much to look around
Make your cakes and paint your art
It's such fun when you take part
Take your photos, grow your herbs
Write your poems with poignant words
The main thing of course
You have to remember
The Flower Show is on
The 12th of September

A reminder that the photo classes are:

- ⇒ **Splash of Colour**
- ⇒ **Down on the Farm**
- ⇒ **Food**

OFFWELL



On a cold Saturday morning at the end of January, twenty of us gathered together in Offwell Village Hall to attend a First Aid Course. The course was run by The Community Trust, (which is the organisation that provided Offwell with our defibrillator) and was sponsored by ORSA (Offwell Rural Services Association). We received clear and succinct training and everyone agreed it was one of the most informative training courses any of us had attended previously. Thank you to ORSA for sponsoring the course and to the staff from The Community Trust for their wealth of interesting and useful information.

OFFWELL CRAFTERS

Do you have unfinished or even un-started projects hidden away in cupboards or drawers? Sewing, knitting, cross-stitch, crochet, tapestry, bead-work, card making or anything else? A friendly but small group have been meeting on Wednesday evenings in each others homes and, when life returns to normal, would welcome new members. If we've been stuck at home, we may well have lots to 'show and tell' by then! To find out more call Marian on 831066 or Dawn on 831719.



BURN'S NIGHT in January

"What a fantastic night "

"I can't remember when I last laughed so much!"

- are just two of the comments received after a really successful Burns Night celebration in the Village Hall. Eighty six canny souls feasted on a traditional starter then applauded as the haggis was piped in, followed by the whisky toast. Tatties and neeps joined the haggis on the plate, and the meal was completed with Cranachan for dessert. The evening then descended into marvellous chaos when the caller began the Ceilidh! Such fun was had by all those who joined in the dancing and just as much by those watching from the sidelines. The fabulous sum of £1270.90 was raised, to be divided between the Offwell Woodland Centre and the Honiton Admiral Nurse. A huge thank you to the band of willing helpers who worked so hard to make it such a successful night and to all those who came along.



The **quiz in February** was a well attended and enjoyable evening. Over £370 was raised for the church. Thanks to everyone who contributed in any way.





For support during these difficult times Pat Beard is co-ordinating help within the village.

Contact Pat on:

Email: patriciabeard@tiscali.co.uk

Tel: 01404 87144

FRIDAY NIGHTS FARWAY Village Hall

Farway Winter League Skittles Matches have been cancelled.

The bar is closed till further notice.

FARWAY METHODIST CHURCH

We will not be having any services in April or May.

In the mean-time we wish everyone our Blessings for a very Happy and Peaceful Easter.

From everyone at Farway Methodist Church



£ FUNDING ‘THE LINK’ £

“While advertising pays for a majority of the cost of the Link, donations allow us to ensure that advertising does not comprise most of the content of the Link but allows us to have more news items and other community notices. It is the intention to increase the size of the Link to include more such articles from our communities so voluntary donations become more important. A small contribution goes a long way.”

“Advertising in the Link does work for local tradesmen as it is a publication that many people keep at hand for the two month issue period. One recent advertiser – Andy Sparks – commented that he was pleasantly surprised how much work just his first advert in the Link generated, not just in Farway, Offwell and Widworthy, but also from neighbouring villages.”

Donations can be made by:

Cash or cheque in an envelope to your local church with a note to say that it's for 'The Link'

BACS payments directly to 'The Link' bank account:-

Sort code: 30-90-37

Account No: 28344660

ADVERTISING RATES

Prices per issue

Commercial Rates

Black & White

(inside pages only)

Full Page £20.00

Half Page £10.00

Quarter Page £5.00

Colour

Full page inside £30.00

Half page inside £15.00

Quarter page inside £7.50

Back page - already taken

Non-commercial Rates

(i.e. Charities, Fundraising Events)

25% Discount

To enquire please email:

parisheslink@gmail.com

WIDWORTHY



"God is not self-isolating. St Cuthbert's remains open during the day for private prayer and reflection. Jesus who calmed the raging storm for His disciples is still here with us today to calm our fears."

A FaceBook group has been set up called '**Spotted Wilmington'**

A great way to keep in touch with the local community for those who use Facebook. It's a closed group so anyone wishing to join must apply. It has already had postings about how we might get a community approach to support older and vulnerable people so I would expect this would be a good way for those either offering or needing help to get in touch.

NORTHLÉIGH

This was supposed to be an advert of regular activities in Northleigh but COVID19 has somewhat overtaken us!

NORTHLÉIGH VILLAGE HALL - all activities have been cancelled until further notice including the Sunday Bar opening

ST GILES CHURCH - all services have been suspended until further notice. The Church is still open. You are welcome to use this place for prayer or just somewhere quiet to sit. We have no hand washing facilities or sanitising gel, so please act carefully for the sake of others.

Northleigh Contacts

Ella McConnell Clerk to Northleigh Parish Council Tel: 07548 158560

Pam Mayall Churchwarden Tel:01404 871397

John Platt Churchwarden Tel:01297 552416

Caroline Hurford Secretary Northleigh Village Hall Tel:01404 871395

Our Local Clergy

Fr Steven Martin 01297 553180 rector@holyford.org

The Reverend Prebendary John Lees 01297 551351

Please send your contributions for the **June/July** Link magazine as soon as you have them, by **15th May at the latest**. Email: parisheslink@gmail.com
Please note - Late submissions may not be included.

Offwell C of E Primary School

Our Core Values: Honesty, Loyalty, Caring, Sharing and Forgiveness.

admin@offwell-primary.devon.sch.uk www.offwell-primary.devon.sch.uk

Tel: 01404 831417



All of the Year 6 (ages 10 to 11) children at Offwell School are currently undertaking a new challenge. We asked two of the children taking part to write a summary of this and what it means to them.

The Torbay and Devon Civic Award was started 15 years ago by a teacher [Karen Thomson] from Torbay. She felt there was a gap in our learning, so she set up this award to inspire us to help the people around us, show respect and develop our characters to make us good citizens for the future.

The aim of the award is to prove your participation in five main areas. These are:

⇒ *Active Citizenship in our school community: reading buddies, school council, house captains.*

⇒ *Active Citizenship in our home community - beach cleans, Brownies, Scouts*

⇒ *An active hobby [ies]*

⇒ *A non-active hobby [ies]*

⇒ *A residential experience and adventure training. This can be back dated to year 5.*

Finally, you are also required to adopt a cause or charity and find a way to raise money for it.

The Torbay and Devon Civic Award is a fun challenge to take part in and complete. When you have finished a section you feel good about yourself and feel that you have helped. It's an important award as you are helping charities, your local community and your school community. The Civic Award does a great deal to develop our characters. It is giving us an opportunity to learn about the wider world, show our compassion and take responsibility for positive change.

There is an assessment day in June, where assessors come into schools and look at our folders. They will talk to us about the work we have been doing to try to complete the award.

By Ella and Alana

Some of our children have already achieved amazing things with many more in the pipeline. Aubrey swam 5km and raised around £300 for the RNLI; Rosie organised a cake stall and with the help of two other Year 6 children, Lilly-Grace and Layla raised nearly £150 for Cancer Research UK. We are immensely proud of them all.



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Six of our Year 5 children (ages 9 to 10) recently took part in one of the 'Youth Speaks' competitions organised by The Rotary Club for local schools. These competitions were instigated to give children a chance to let their voices be heard on subjects that matter to them – it also presents a great opportunity for children to experience the challenges (and thrills) of public speaking!

The teams are made up of three children who each take on a formal role as either: Chair, Main Speaker or Proposer of the Vote of Thanks. They decide on the topic themselves and write their own speeches, which they then practise at school to ensure the specified times are met. Offwell sent in two teams: Lilly-May, Oliver and Jamie spoke about 'The Rhino: an endangered species' and Sophie, Jessica and Freya felt strongly about 'Flooding: an environmental issue'. Below are excerpts from the speeches on flooding; the next issue will include excerpts from the other team's speech. Sophie opened the proceedings as Chair, welcoming the audience and the panel. She spoke about, "The worst flood in England was called the Thames Flood and took place on 7 January 1928 when the River Thames in London burst its banks." She also commented on, "The government has spent over £1.2 billion on flood defences."

Jessica, as Main Speaker, stressed how flooding is a global issue and produced research of flooding in the US, China as well as Lynmouth, "a catastrophic event" and Boscastle "exactly 52 years to the day of the flood in Lynmouth". She said, "In the United States floods are now killing more people than tornadoes, hurricanes and lightning" and "China has experienced three of the world's biggest floods between 1887 and 1938." Jess went on to say, "As mentioned by the Chair, the government are spending over £1.2 billion on flood defences. Only yesterday, the Chancellor announced in his Budget that £2.6 billion will be available for new flood projects. I think the flood defences do not provide enough protection...To prevent future floods, we need to have better flood warning systems, tackle climate change, have water storage areas and much more." The Speaker was then asked a question by the audience, "Why is there more flooding recently?". After a brief deliberation, her answer was, "It is probably down to climate change because, as the atmosphere gets warmer, more water evaporates, then condenses in the clouds, so making rain."

Freya gave the Vote of Thanks, in which she said she hoped the audience and panel had learned more about flooding. She also said, "Thank you for listening to our speeches. We have very much enjoyed being here today."

Mrs Legg, Headteacher, who accompanied the teams, said she was impressed with how composed they all were. She said they spoke with conviction and were clear of their facts having completed excellent research. "It's a wonderful opportunity for our young people to develop confidence and public speaking skills, which will be of undoubtedly benefit for their future careers, whatever they may be. It also makes me very optimistic that our future is in safe hands."

The Grazing Cow

Farm Shop

Opened March 2020

Rosie Cooke first opened her small café on the A35 in October 2016 and it very quickly became apparent that more space was needed. Two years later, in September 2018, the popular Grazing Cow Café opened its doors. Now Rosie has fulfilled her dream to open her own Farm Shop.

Rosie, and her brother Philip, were brought up at Sutton Barton Farm and it was always expected that Philip would run the dairy herd with his father Andy Cooke. For Rosie, her career path was not quite so straight forward. A confident and determined young woman Rosie had always liked cooking, particularly cakes and deserts, and at one time there were plans to open a Farm Shop near Sutton Barton but that fell at the planning stage.



After a spell as a Financial Analyst with FlyBe Rosie decided to resign two months before her wedding day with no idea what the future might hold. During that summer Rosie worked with her cousin at Otter Valley Field Kitchen at Monkton, travelling each day along the A35, passing Sundial Garden Centre which had recently closed. The owners were soon convinced of Rosie's plans for a café and, true to form, neither Rosie's new husband nor her

parents were informed of her decision until after the contract was signed.

Rosie is very keen on home grown produce and her suppliers, for both veg and meat, are all located in the West Country.

As well as veg and meat the shop sells Lyme Bay wines, Annings Cider, Otter and Branscombe ales and Burts crisps. Sutton Lucy milk (produced by Rosie's brother and sister-in-law) is available in plastic bottles and can also be collected

from the shop using your own recyclable glass bottles.



Rosie is keen that customers should not be afraid to ask for food items that are not presently on the shelves, perhaps most importantly, **there will be a local home delivery service .**



**Shop open: Monday - Friday 9am - 6pm,
Saturday 9am - 4pm, Sunday 9am - 12:30pm**

OFFWELL WOODS

Those of you who have visited Offwell Woods recently will have noticed that the main track through the woods has been widened and reinforced. This is in preparation for the felling and removal of the Western Hemlock conifers behind the log cabin over the next few months. Offwell Woods is designated as a PAWS, Previous Ancient Woodland Site. The records for Offwell as woodland date back to the 17th century and Forestry England are keen to restore the number of native trees and will be replanting the felled area with English Oaks and other native species.

Assisting in the process of restoring the woodland, pupils from Offwell Primary school will be soon be planting young saplings near the Lakeside Classroom. This is an area which has recently been cleared of dead rhododendron by the dedicated team of woodland volunteers. If you get the chance why not take the time to walk through the woods and make the most of seeing woodland and lakes in late winter/early spring.



Plastic Bottle Caps

Approximately 300 million tons of plastic are produced globally each year, with bottle caps amongst the top five biggest contributors to plastic pollution. The heavy-duty plastic from which bottle tops are made can take many years to break down and, unfortunately, the vast majority of local authorities do not have the equipment to process them.

Environmental charities have been looking at ways of recycling them and an eco-initiative, started by churches in Chichester, has now been adopted by Budleigh Salterton's Lions Club. They collect the milk bottle tops for a company in the South West who manufacture items for children's toys and other general use items that can be made from this particular type of plastic. This company in turn donates a small amount, per kilogram, to an agreed charity.

John Tristram, bell captain at St. Mary's, read about the Lions Club scheme in 'Honiton Churches Together' magazine. Offwell School has been collecting plastic bottle tops for some time and John has now placed a **collection box in the porch at St. Mary's** so that everyone in the village can donate their redundant tops.

If you are reluctant to put your plastic bottle tops in the landfill bin there is now an eco-alternative.

A CAMPANOLOGIST'S TALE

I had told various people that my motivation for learning to ring was that one day I would like to ring the bells of Belbroughton, Worcestershire, where my family had lived for over 200 years, providing several Rectors, and building impressive houses which still stand, unfortunately no longer in family ownership. The 6 bells installed in 1781 were rehung in 1969 and the tenor was scrapped to make a new treble. the 'family' bells are consequently the 2 :Rev Thos Tristram gave £5.5.0 (my great great great grandfather). the 3 : John Tristram Jnr Esq gave £10.10.0 (attorney at law, his 1st cousin), and the tenor 9.25cwt: John Tristram Senior Esq gave £50.0.0 (High Sheriff of Worcestershire, his great-uncle). My eldest daughter Victoria and my wife organised a surprise birthday weekend to celebrate my 80th. We went to Belbroughton to meet members of the History Society who shared with us various documents relating to my family history going back to 1610 when the earliest Tristram rector came to the village. I was also able to talk about some elements of my family history which were new to them. We then adjourned to the Church where I was able to go into the bell chamber to see the bells, and then rang call changes and some courses of Plain Hunt on the various bells associated with my family. Next we went to the village hall, which is a grade 2 listed tithe barn. It happened that the annual quiz of the northern branch of the Worcestershire ringers was being hosted by Belbroughton ringers, the previous year's winners. The 3 Tristramps formed a team. Sadly we failed to shine, though not being entirely disgraced, coming 11th of 22 teams. We were pleased to hear from the tower captain that our ringing was commended by entries on the village Facebook page. The long weekend proved sunny and entirely pleasurable and I was able to visit other children and grandchildren on the way back to Devon. So that is one item off my bucket list.

John Tristram



After Easter, Carol Hayes will set up an exhibition in St. Mary's church about the Offwell bells and Bellringing.

OPEN THE BOOK

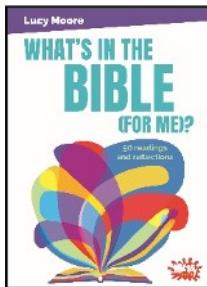
Is a project which offers primary school children an opportunity to hear key Bible stories, from a team of Christians from local churches, who present the stories during assemblies/acts of Collective Worship. Each presentation takes around 10–15 minutes and can be incorporated into a wider school assembly, or can stand alone.

Our parish team have just finished the module 'More About Jesus' and the theme has moved back to some stories from the Old Testament. The March story was Moses and the Burning Bush. It's hard to tell who enjoys these sessions more – the children or the team!



BOOK REVIEW

What's in the Bible (for me)? - 50 readings and reflections . By Lucy Moore, BRF, £4.99



Lucy Moore's pocket-sized guide to the Bible takes readers on an epic journey through 4,000 years of history. Spanning Old and New Testaments in 50 bite-sized readings, the founder and leader of Messy Church writes for families and individuals who are new to the Bible: its riches, puzzles and complexities.

With wisdom, insight and humour, she connects Old and New Testament stories to each other and to 21st-century experience: manna in the wilderness to the 'daily bread' of the Lord's Prayer. For anyone who wonders where to start reading the Bible, this is the perfect introduction and companion.

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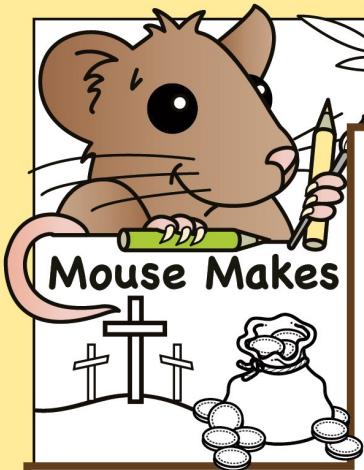
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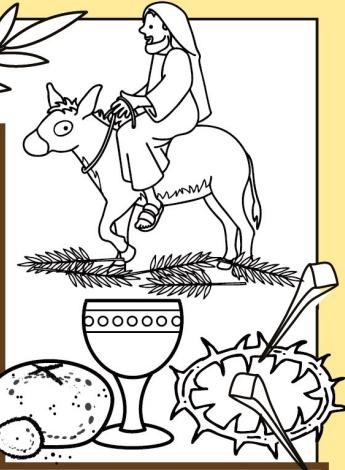
TAKEAWAY OPTION

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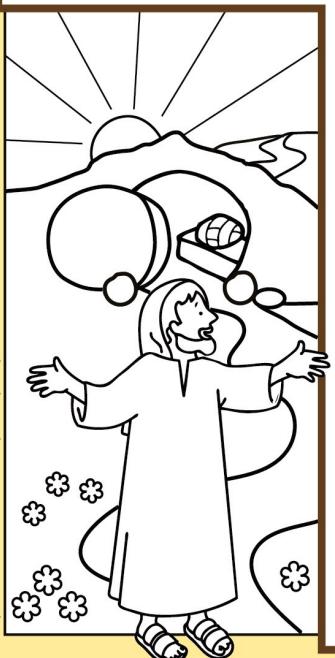
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BETRAY • KISS • ARREST • MESSIAH
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THORNS • ROBE • TREE • NAILS
CROSS • SPIRIT • DARKNESS
TEMPLE • DEATH • LOTS • DICE
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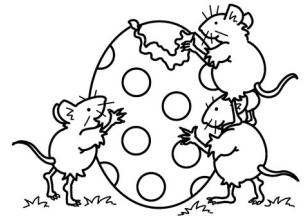
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EASTER EGGS

The egg, an ancient symbol of new life, has been associated with pagan festivals celebrating Spring. From a Christian perspective Easter eggs are said to represent Jesus' emergence from the tomb and resurrection. Egg facts and traditions are many and varied. Here are just some:



1. Easter Eggs symbolise fertility and rebirth
2. Ostrich eggs were placed in ancient Egyptian graves 5,000 years ago.
3. Orthodox Eastern Catholic churches dye their Easter eggs red to represent the blood of Christ.
4. In Poland churches bless Easter eggs on Holy Saturday.
5. In Scotland and the North of England eggs are rolled downhill on Easter Sunday.
Rolling easter eggs was a popular annual custom in parts of America from as early as the 1850s, with children rolling eggs on Easter Monday (and sometimes Good Friday) outside the White House in Washington.
6. In Germany eggs decorate trees and bushes to represent Easter egg trees.
7. The world's largest Easter egg weighed 4 tons and was over 27ft tall (a chocolate festival in Argentina).
8. The world's smallest Easter egg fits on the head of a pin. It was made from real chocolate and wrapped in real gold foil.
9. In previous centuries people gave gifts of eggs carved from wood and precious stones.
10. In Spain, Holy Week, or Semana Santa, is a week of spectacular street processions. Easter eggs are exchanged after the dawn service on Easter Sunday.
11. In Italy children receive an over-sized hollow chocolate egg with a surprise toy inside. There is no Easter bunny leaving hidden coloured eggs – they are more likely to be decorating the table for dinner on Easter Sunday.
12. Why Easter bunnies? The rabbit was the symbol of Eostra – the pagan Germanic goddess of Spring and fertility. Legend has it that the Easter bunny lays, decorates and hides eggs as they are a symbol of new life.
13. In Latvia they colour eggs with onion skins, a natural way to give the eggs a beautiful reddish-brown tone. They also use chamomile, red beets, blueberries, coffee or black tea and turmeric.
14. The first Faberge egg was requested by Czar Alexander III as an Easter gift to his wife, Czarina Maria. The House of Faberge made around 52 imperial eggs of which 46 have survived. The eggs have the most exotic decoration and one was purchased at a flea market in America for just \$14,000. Estimates of its worth are as high as \$33million.
15. In the medieval period eating eggs was forbidden during Lent. On Easter Sunday the fast ended and eggs were considered an important part of the feasting celebrations.
16. The custom of the Easter egg hunt comes from Germany. Some believe that its origins date back to the late 16th century when the Protestant reformer, Martin Luther, organised egg hunts for the congregation. The men would hide the eggs for the women and children to find.

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Here is your new page for listing the planned events for the three churches and villages. Sadly, many of them are currently suspended and it is uncertain if and when others will happen. But rather than abandon the page, here is a taster of what we can look forward to when life returns to normal.

All events are subject to change or cancellation.

2020 DIARY DATES

1 st Wednesday of month	OFFWELL	Men's Breakfast Club - temp. suspended
2 nd Wednesday of month	OFFWELL	Ladies Lunch Club - temp. suspended
3 rd Thursday of month	OFFWELL	Benefice Coffee morning - temp. suspended
Every Friday	OFFWELL	FISH & CHIPS in village car park, 6:00-7:30pm
April, Tuesday 7 th	FARWAY VH	Annual Parochial Church Meeting - cancelled
April, Thursday 16 th	OFFWELL	Annual Parish Council Meeting - cancelled
May, Friday 15 th	OFFWELL	WINE TASTING TBA if happening
May, Sunday 17 th	FARWAY	Rogation Sunday WALK - cancelled
July, Sunday 12 th	OFFWELL	CREAM TEA
July, Saturday 18 th	FARWAY VH	FLOWER SHOW
July, Sunday 19 th	FARWAY	Methodist Church CREAM TEA
Sept. Saturday 12 th	OFFWELL	OPEN CHURCHES DAY
Sept. Saturday 12 th	OFFWELL VH	FLOWER & PRODUCE SHOW
Oct. Friday 2 nd	OFFWELL VH	HARVEST SUPPER
Oct. Sunday 11 th	FARWAY	Methodist Church Harvest Thanksgiving
Nov. TBA	OFFWELL VH	QUIZ NIGHT

Bible Reading: part of Psalm 91, verses 2-7

I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust". Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence . He will cover you with his feathers and under His wings you will find refuge; His faithfulness will be your shield and rampart. You will not fear the terror of the night nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday. A thousand may fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand but it will not come near you.



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