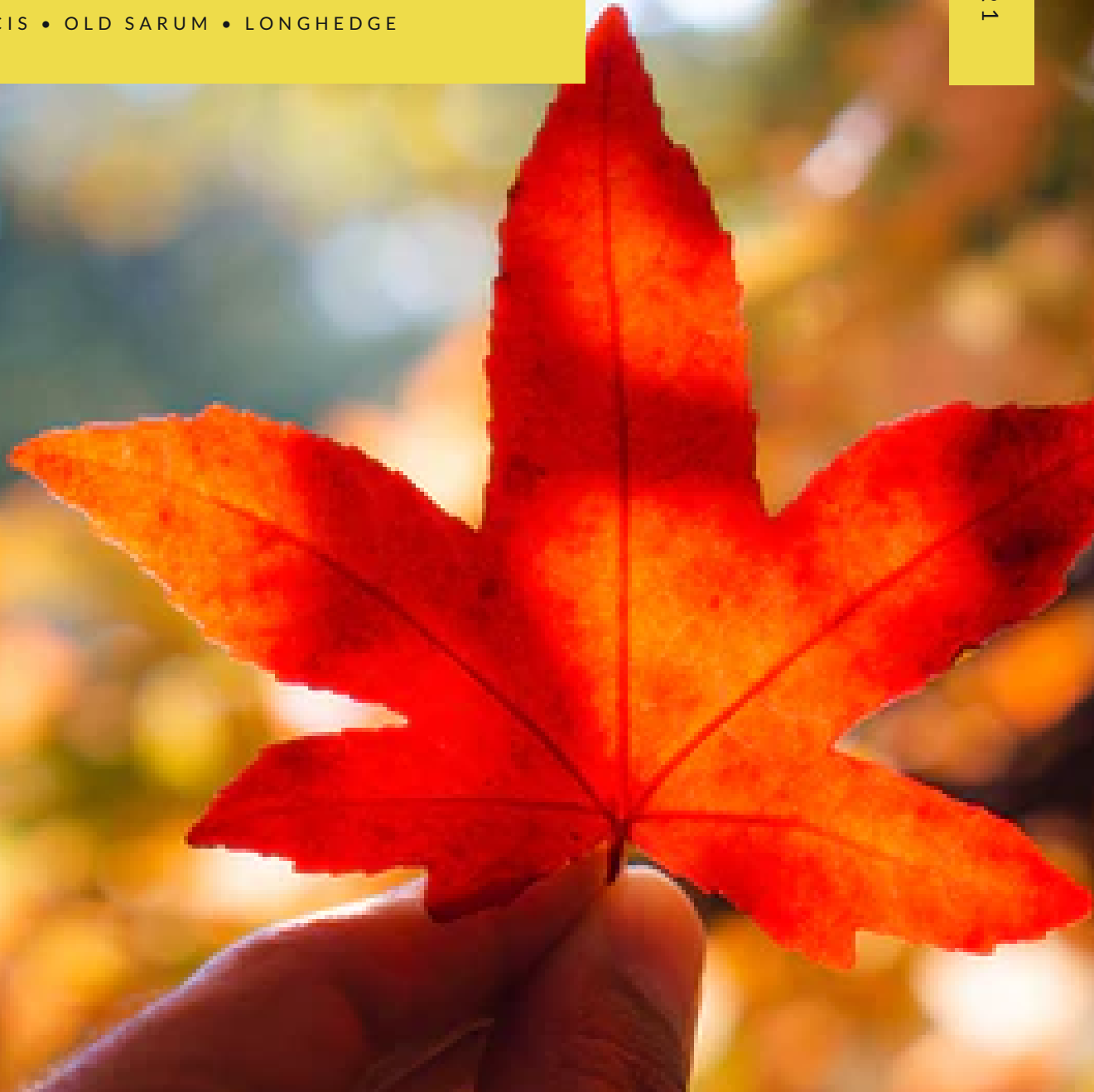


# The Link

ST FRANCIS • OLD SARUM • LONGHEDGE

NOVEMBER 21



## WHAT'S ON AT HOPE CHURCH

Messy Church

## MISSION FOCUS

Read the latest from  
Sudan & South Sudan

## WHAT'S ON AT ST FRANCIS

Join us for Remembrance at  
10.15 on Sunday 14th

## Contacts

| Role               | Name                  | Phone         | Email                                |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| Vicar              | Jean de Garis         | 01722 334214  | vicar@st-francischurch.org.uk        |
| Curate             | Mary Terry            | 01722 349 886 | curate@st-francischurch.org.uk       |
| Hope Church        | Will & Sophie Burditt | 01722 237318  | oldsarum@st-francischurch.org.uk     |
| Parish Office      | Jane Franchi          | 01722 413644  | admin@st-francischurch.org.uk        |
| Bookings Enquiries | Alan Goldie           | 01722 329114  | asac.goldie@gmail.com                |
| Children & Family  | Katie Ollivierre      | 07899 962057  | family@st-francischurch.org.uk       |
| Worship            | Rory Malone           | 07704777512   | worship@st-francischurch.org.uk      |
| Church Warden      | Chris Taylor          | 01722 338312  | st.francis.warden@gmail.com          |
| Church Warden      | Tom Wilkins           |               | tomchurchwarden@gmail.com            |
| Safeguarding St F  | Karen Scott           | 01722 410381  | safeguarding@st-francischurch.org.uk |
| Safeguarding Hope  | Jean Filtness         | 01722 330728  | Jeanfiltness@gmail.com               |

### Autumn Programme at St Francis

## November

7th James 4 : 11 - 17

14th Rev 21 : 1-7

*Joint Service at 10.15am for Remembrance*

7pm LLF 3

21st James 5: 1 - 12

7pm Encounter

28th James 5 : 13 - 20 (Multiplex)

7pm LLF 4

### SUNDAY SERVICES AT ST FRANCIS

9.30 on the Green (young families)

9.30 traditional service in church

11am modern worship (all ages)

## December

5th Luke 21: 25 - 36 *Toy Service*

12th Luke 3 : 1 - 6

7pm LLF 5

19th James 3 : 1 - 12

*Joint Carol Service at 10.30am*

7pm Encounter

24th 6pm Candle Service

11pm Holy Communion

25th 10am All Age Worship

26th 9.30 Traditional Service only

14th Nov 50 and Beyond Bring and Share lunch after church

19th Nov and 17 Dec Strictly Come Ladies at 7.30pm

5th Dec Carols in the Hangar Old Sarum Airfield at 3pm

17th Dec Carols at Friday Cafe with St Francis Singers 10am

10th Dec 50 and Beyond Afternoon Tea at 2.30

As a child I was fascinated by the surprising claims of Erich von Däniken. He wrote several books speculating that extraterrestrial visitors to our planet thousands of years ago had shaped early human culture. His best-selling work *“Chariots of the Gods?”* proposed that ancient astronauts had come to earth. This idea, over the decades, has spawned a thousand sci-fi films which I find entertaining, though seriously unlikely!

Having said all that, I was still amazed and thrilled this week. A visitor from a different world landed just behind my home in a neighbour’s garden this week. Yes, it was a meteorite. The solar system is strewn with fabulously ancient rocks – often much older than the earth. Pretty regularly these small rocks are drawn into the gravitational pull of our planet. As they plunge towards us at perhaps 50,000 mph they get so hot, that most simply burn up. We see them as “shooting stars”: they are meteors. But some rocks are just big enough to survive their violent plunge through the atmosphere and they land on earth in a blaze of extreme white light. It happened again this week.



The tiny meteorite – perhaps the size of a grain of rice – landed in my neighbour’s flower bed amidst small stones, incinerating several plants. It left blackened pebbles as evidence that it had landed.

The Good News of Jesus has some echoes. The unknowable God of the vast universe visited us 2,000 years ago. He came not just in unimaginable power, but also in unfathomable love. This was no remote UFO sighting. He came to share our lives completely, to live with us; to die for us; and to reveal the resurrection to all who trust him.



My neighbour who saw the arrival of the meteorite in the early morning darkness described it as an incredibly bright light. It reminded me of a Christmas reading about the arrival of Jesus:

“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.” *John 1.14*

If you would like to have a chat with someone about this world or the next, feel free to give me a call or send me an email.

Jean de Garis

Vicar of St Francis, St Lawrence and Hope Church  
01722 334214      vicar@st-francischurch.org.uk

## MESSY CHURCH RETURNS!

Hope Church are really enjoying being able to meet again in person for Messy Church on the second Sunday of each month. On 10<sup>th</sup> October our theme for the session was “Making a joyful noise unto the Lord”, which we did with gusto. The craft activities included making megaphones from paper cups and stomp sticks from short lengths of wooden broom handles embellished with tin cans and bottle top “jingles”. We also made squeakers from lolly sticks, paper and elastic bands. The whole ensemble was put together for a rendition of the song “Shine!”, which certainly raised the roof! In between the crafts we enjoyed a snack of pancakes and jam. We’d love to see you at our next Messy Church – 14<sup>th</sup> November.



*Making megaphones*

On other Sunday mornings we are thinking about how we can reflect what we have been learning about the nature of God in our daily lives, in our neighbourhood and in our city, which presents challenges for all of us – but we believe that all of us, more than ever need faith, hope, and love! At our Connect Groups we meet fortnightly to unpack this theme further – these are great opportunities to gather in small groups, to ask questions, discuss and support one another.



## Harvest Flowers

It was so lovely to have real flowers in St Francis again for our Harvest services. Thank you to all the arrangers for bringing so much colour into church!



JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL  
OLD SARUM AND LONGHEDGE  
CAROL SERVICE

**CAROLS**

**IN THE HANGAR**

**3PM | 5TH DECEMBER**

AT BOSCOMBE DOWN AVIATION  
COLLECTION

*Hope*  
CHURCH



# Ladybirds

Pre-School

Ladybirds Pre-school is your local childcare setting that has long established ties within our community located in St Francis Church hall. We are a free flow setting, this allows the children to decide where they want to learn, be it in our indoor area where their imaginations and creativity are inspired or in our exciting outside space.

We currently have spaces so please get in touch using the contact information below if you would like more information or to arrange a visit.



[Ladybirdssp1@gmail.com](mailto:Ladybirdssp1@gmail.com) 01722 502234





## POPPIES

It was 100 years ago this month, on 11<sup>th</sup> Nov 1921, that Remembrance poppies were sold for the first time in British and Commonwealth countries to commemorate military personnel who died in war.

Amid the mud, blood and carnage of trench warfare in World War 1, tens of thousands of bright red poppies had grown, marking the graves of the fallen. This led John McCrae, a Canadian army physician who had lost a colleague, to write "In Flanders Fields",

*In Flanders fields, the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row  
That mark our place, and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly.*

This image inspired the adoption of a red poppy as the symbol of all soldiers who had died in conflict. In the UK they are sold by the Royal British Legion to raise funds for current and former members of the British Armed Forces. Around 30 million poppies are sold each year.

Can you find these words in the word search?

Remembrance

Graves

Military

Trench

Poppies

Fallen

Personnel

Warfare

Sold

Flanders

Mud

Thousands

Countries

Fields

Blood

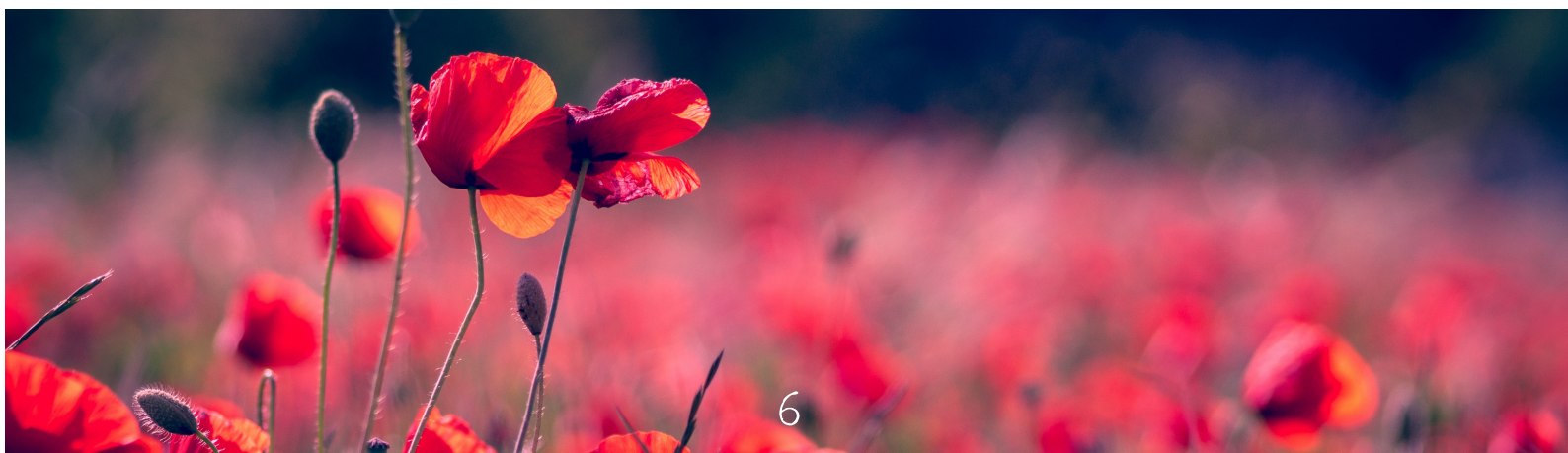
Bright

Commemorate

Symbol

Carnage

Red



# Word Search

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | I | P | O | P | P | I | E | S | F | I | N | R |
| Y | P | O | E | R | C | S | T | S | L | D | M | R |
| R | E | M | E | M | B | R | A | N | C | E | O | E |
| A | R | C | O | U | N | T | R | I | E | S | B | B |
| T | S | D | N | A | S | U | O | H | T | E | L | A |
| I | O | E | E | B | A | R | M | R | C | R | E | P |
| L | N | Y | G | R | A | V | E | S | A | A | M | L |
| I | N | E | S | I | Y | N | M | D | R | F | F | E |
| M | E | O | E | G | C | U | M | D | N | R | I | N |
| N | L | D | S | H | D | B | O | A | A | A | E | N |
| D | L | G | L | T | B | O | C | C | G | W | L | S |
| L | A | O | A | E | L | M | L | T | E | U | D | F |
| O | F | I | M | B | T | L | O | B | M | Y | S | D |

# BOOK CORNER

## HOW TO TELL YOUR LIFE STORY

Ever wondered how to tell the story of all the ways God has been at work in your life, maybe through many decades?

Or have you struggled with your life story, looking to rewrite the narrative and bring a change of direction?

Two British writers - one a professional communicator and journalist, the other a psychologist, actor and priest - have been tackling these issues in newly-published books.

Corporate communicator and blogger Kate Nicholas has written 'Soul's Scribe,' (Authentic) a guide to help Christians 'connect their story with God's narrative' and communicate their journey of faith in an honest, engaging way.

Kate, formerly international communications director for World Vision, firmly believes that every Christian has a 'soul story' to tell. She encourages her readers to explore how they have experienced God in the 'different chapters' of their lives.

'Soul's Scribe' is both a helpful guide for any Christian wanting to share their testimony in an engaging, insightful way, and also a tool for reflection, as readers look back over their lives and see where God has been at work.

In contrast, André Radmall, a psychologist and trained actor, who is also a Church of England priest, has written 'Get Unstuck: Change the Script, Change your Life' (Rethink Press) as a way of helping people understand the narrative they tell about their lives - and seek to change it.

André, a minister in St Albans, Herts, says: "I'm aiming to give a practical roadmap for people to change the scripts that block their way to freedom and allow them to step into the performance of their lives."

The book, aimed at a broad readership beyond churchgoers, is structured in three 'acts,' and focussed on understanding the current 'story' we tell about ourselves, rehearsing new stories, and then putting them into action.

Two books. Two different perspectives. But both are rooted in the writers' commitment to help people understand their lives, and the stories they have to tell.

God is at work in all our lives. Sometimes we need to stop, take a breath... and see what the Almighty is seeking to do in and through us, in this season of our lives. Maybe even today.



## **THANK GOD FOR .....THE COLOURS OF AUTUMN**

Who can resist the blazing colours of the trees in their autumn glory? From the bright yellows of the sycamores, to the reds and oranges of the cherries and the maples, and the golden browns of the beeches, the trees are resplendent during a few short weeks at the end of October and the beginning of November. It's almost impossible to resist the urge to kick up the leaves as they lie in drifts on the woodland floor. Or to collect some particularly attractive specimens to take home, even though we know they won't last long.

Autumn is a beautiful time of year and the leaves on the trees are not the only source of colour at this time. The hedgerows are still starred with fruits, especially the rose hips. Shiny rich brown conkers lie thickly on the ground under the horse chestnut trees. And for those who take the time to look, there is a wealth of fungi growing on and around the woodland trees. They come in all shapes and sizes and some, such as the poisonous red fly agaric, are very brightly coloured.

Meanwhile, in the garden, Michaelmas daisies, late-flowering Japanese anemones, gauras and rudbeckias continue to flower until the first frosts.



The beauties of Autumn give us all a much needed morale boost as the days grow shorter and the weather begins to close in for the winter. Thank God for the beautiful colours

## OUT AND ABOUT IN THE PARISH - HUDSON'S FIELD

We are very lucky in our parish that we have several areas of open space to enjoy. At the southern end there's Victoria Park, Old Sarum Castle and Hudson's Field and, at the northern end, there are all the open areas built into the Old Sarum and Longhedge estates. The parish is also adjacent to the country park between Hampton Park and Hilltop Way/Downsway.

I have often wondered how Hudson's Field got its name. I assumed it was named after a Mr Hudson – but who was he? Apparently it was Alderman John Cattell Hudson, mayor of Salisbury in 1926-7, who left £3000 in his will towards the purchase of the land we know as Hudson's Field. Hudson was keenly interested in preserving the natural beauty of the city and adding to its open spaces. He was particularly concerned to restrict housing development to prevent it encroaching on Old Sarum Castle.



At one time in Hudson's Field there was a shelter with a water fountain and a tablet (now gone) which contained the following inscription: "This shelter and the 44 acres of land surrounding it were provided by the (Salisbury) corporation to safeguard the view of Old Sarum, and as a place of recreation for the public. A grant of one-third was made by the executors under the will of Alderman J.C. Hudson, Mayor of this city."

Hudson was editor of the Salisbury Times and took a great interest in all city affairs. As well as being chairman of the Ancient Buildings Committee, he was also a member of the Town Planning Committee, striving to save the city from any new developments that threatened to spoil its historic beauty.

## SUDAN AND SOUTH SUDAN



On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October St Francis Church hosted an amazing day for 90 delegates celebrating the link between our Diocese of Salisbury and the churches in Sudan and South Sudan.

Most of the Deaneries (geographical clusters of parishes) are linked with a specific diocese in South Sudan. We heard inspiring accounts of what the

amazing people of the Sudans are achieving with the very limited resources we are able to send them. There are clean water projects, lots of schools, midwives, hospitals and building work to celebrate. After decades of civil war and recent political instability, there are wonderful stories of girls getting an education, young people being trained in effective farming practices, and business studies.

There were also stories of heartbreak too. Climate change isn't the future – it is happening right now. Although South Sudan is hot (it never dropped below 42°C during the day when I was there), there are often 9 months of rain. The devastating floods in South Sudan this last year have led to 1.2 million people being displaced within their own country.

One of the highlights of our day was the presentation by the South Sudanese Ambassador to the UK in the morning. She delivered an extraordinarily detailed account of the progress and challenges they are going through in writing a new constitution for the country and the difficulty there is to get all parties to sign up to it.

If you ever want to pray for the peoples of the Sudans, pray for courage and wisdom for their church and civic leaders. Despite apparently insurmountable difficulties, the vast majority are committed to tread the path that leads to lasting peace with justice for all their peoples.

I had the honour of sitting next to the Ambassador, Agnes Oswaha, who is a committed Christian. She surprised me by taking a selfie . . . and sending it to me.



Jean de Garis

## Prayer for November

Father,

In these short, dark days of November, with all the uncertainties and complications in our new Covid 19 landscape, help us to feel the reassurance of Your presence in the gift of each new day. Help us to be guided through the darkness by Your light – by Jesus, who will never leave us or forsake us.

In His name – the name above pandemics and shortages and rising bills and all anxieties – we pray.

Amen.

EVERY THIRD SUNDAY  
18th November 7pm  
**ENCOUNTER**  
**NIGHTS**  
THE MONTH OF



## WOMEN'S BREAKFAST



SATURDAY NOVEMBER 6TH 9 - 11.30AM

ST FRANCIS

£3

LADIES,

Join us for breakfast, we'd love to see you!

An opportunity to eat, chat, worship and pray

Please RSVP by Monday 1st November, including any dietary requirements to [admin@st-francischurch.org.uk](mailto:admin@st-francischurch.org.uk)

# CONNECT @ ST FRANCIS

## TEDDYBEARS TODDLER GROUP

THURSDAY  
MORNINGS  
10AM

St Francis Church  
£2 per family  
family@st-francischurch.org.uk



# 50

*and beyond...*

We hope to see you at our coming events. The events are open to all, so feel free to invite a neighbour or friend!

Sunday November 14th 12:30 pm  
Bring and Share lunch in the Church Hall after the Remembrance service at St Francis Church! Please bring a dish to share. Drinks will be provided.

For information, please contact Kris or John Smith at kris@richardson.net or 01722500274.



St Francis Mother's Union Prayer & Fellowship Group meet on the second Wednesday of the month in the Beatrice Room from 9.45 am to start our meeting at 10.00 a.m. On Wednesday 10th November our topic is 'Metamorphosis'. This will be followed by our usual time for coffee or tea and biscuits and some socialising.

Parish Communion is at 11.00 a.m. (usually attended mainly by our small group) and we hope others might think of joining us for this service.

You would be most welcome to coffee beforehand at 10.40.

## STRICTLY COME LADIES

Join us in the Beatrice Room at 7.30pm on Friday November 19th for an evening of paper based crafts. Bring scissors, ruler, pencil and if you have any, coloured pens, glue /glue sticks. All welcome, bring a friend! For more info phone Jenny Pankhurst tel:328761; April Hall tel:414296 or email:

jacky.macleod1@ntlworld.com



## ST FRANCIS COMMUNITY SINGERS ARE MEETING AGAIN!

If you like singing, come and join us at St Francis on Mondays 3.00pm - 4.00pm

Tea and biscuits beforehand at 2.30pm

We have a super, well qualified, young bubbly leader who always gets us laughing! It's all very informal .... No audition! .... £5 a session

For more information call Di on 07733 433615

13





# Aquagas Salisbury

Plumbing and Heating

**Gas & Oil Maintenance**

**Boiler Replacements**

**Solar Heating**

**All Renewable Energies**

**Installation - Repairs - Services**

**All General Plumbing**

**Work Undertaken**

**For a competitive quote call:**

**07966 156197**

45 Empire Road, Salisbury, Wilts

# I. N. NEWMAN LTD

**FUNERAL DIRECTORS**



Monumental Masons



**OFFICES IN SALISBURY AND FORDINGBRIDGE**

- + 24 hour day/night service
- + Home visits if required
- + Pre-Pay Funeral Plans
- + Help with all funeral aspects

- + Flowers arranged
- + Service sheets
- + Funeral catering
- + A complete service

Private Chapels of Rest

Griffin House  
55 Winchester Street  
Salisbury  
Wilts  
SP1 1HL  
TEL: 01722 413136

Griffin Mews  
22 High Street  
Fordingbridge  
Hants  
SP6 1AX  
TEL: 01425 656286

**INDEPENDENT FAMILY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BUSINESS**

**Established friendly & professional Heating & Electrical Services company supporting all your oil, gas, LPG & electrical needs.**



- ◆ Highly efficient heating & electrical solutions designed & installed.
- ◆ Bespoke swimming pool heating solutions provided, with smart controls.
- ◆ Underfloor heating design, installation & overhaul.
- ◆ We also offer emergency breakdown, repairs, servicing & Certification.

**t: 01722 417873 | e: sales@ahs-heating.co.uk**



**www.ahs-heating.co.uk**



***No Money Up Front***  
***No Hidden Costs***  
***No Job Too Small***

We are a Local Property Maintenance & Garden Service Company That Undertakes All Types of Work In Property Maintenance & Provides a **Fast Reliable Friendly Service at Competitive Prices**

For a Free Quotation Contact Matthew or Russell On  
**07787 806850 ~ 07782 267346 Office 01722 414899**

**www.rmselectbuilders.co.uk**  
*See Web Site for More Details & Offers*



# SCOUT Christmas Post



Last Day of Posting

**Tuesday 7th December 2021**

Delivered in the South Wiltshire area

**only 30p** using the *Scout Christmas Stamps*.

Post in the special boxes located throughout the area.

## **Locations where stamps can be delivered:**

*Alderbury, Allington, Amesbury, Barford St Martin, Berwick St James, Boscombe, Boscombe down, Bishopstone, Bowerchalke, Broadchalke, Britford, Bulford, Burcombe, Charlton All Saints, Cholderton, Clarendon, Codford, Coombe Bissett, Dinton, Downton, Durnfords, Durrington, East Grimstead, Ebbesbourne Wake, Farley, Figheldean, Firsdown, Ford, Fordingridge, Fovant, Gomeldon, Great Wishford, Hale, Hamptworth, Harnham, Homington, Idmiston, Landford, Langfords, Larkhill, Laverstock, Longhedge, Lopcombe, Lover, Morgans Vale, Netheravon, Nomansland, Netherhampton, Newton Tony, Nunton, Odstock, Old Sarum, Orcheston, Pitton, Porton, Quidhamton, Redlynch, Salisbury, Shrewton, South Newton, Stapleford, Stoford, Stratford Tony, Tilshead, West Dean, West Grimstead, Whaddon, Whiteparish, Wilsford, Wilton, Winterbournes, Winterslow, Woodfalls, Woodfords, Wylye.*

**SUPPORT YOUR  
LOCAL SCOUT GROUP**



## **Stamps for sale and post boxes:**

- **Rachel Squire, 1 Assisi Road, Salisbury, 01722 339006**
- **Emma Turner, Castlemere, Stratford Sub Castle, 01722 341445**
- **Stratford Motors Garage, Mill Lane, Stratford Sub Castle**
  - **Co-op, Castle Road, Salisbury**