

Thorngate Newsletter



MARCH



Thank you to all who have previously sponsored this newsletter

Garden Club

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, March 19th at 7.30pm in Lockerley Memorial Hall when Andrew Hunt will give a talk about the gardens of Kingston Lacey throughout the seasons. The visit to King John's house and garden in Romsey has been put back from April 9th to Thursday, April 16th. We propose to start at 10.30am with a tour of the house, followed by the garden tour. The cost is £10 each and includes tea or coffee and cake. Please let us know if you would like to come.

Don't forget our plant sale on May 9th. Time to start propagating again!

Thank you! Nicola Bell (chairman)

A Taste of the "Stans" - Travels on the Silk Road

Share some memories of a trip to Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. The evening will include a slideshow and talk about the beautiful scenery, dramatic mountains, remote villages and impressive architecture along the Silk Road in central Asia. Tickets will include a taster portion of the Tajik national dish, "Plov" (vegetarian version available), and a drink.

Tickets are £10, available from Andy and Liz Holton, 01794 340993. 7.30 pm in Lockerley Memorial Hall on Saturday 21st March.

All proceeds are for Lockerley Memorial Hall.

Village Lunch Club

Do you live in East or West Tytherley, Lockerley or East Dean? Come and meet your friends and make new ones over a home-cooked lunch in Lockerley Memorial Hall, on the following dates each month. Just £7 for 2 courses and a glass of wine or soft drink. There's a small raffle for Charity and a quiz too. 12 noon - 2.30pm.

Sundays

22 March (avoids Mothering Sunday), 17 May, 19 July, 20 September, 15 November

Fridays

17 April, 19 June, 16 October, 11 December.

Please get in touch if you'd like to know more - phone Liz - 01794 340993.

Thorngate Village Care Group

Our local support network of volunteers ready to help, all DBS checked, insured and ready, willing and able to help in so many ways - lifts to medical and other appointments, prescription and shopping collection, other support, eg form filling, phone calls etc.

The Care Group is affiliated to the Good Neighbours Network and covers Lockerley, East Dean, East and West Tytherley and the Hampshire residents of West Dean.

Requests for help - contact any coordinator

Lockerley/East Dean - Diana 07464 956759 or Liz 340993

Tytherleys - Barbara 341672, Julie 340850, or Lucia 07799

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Penny and Zaria Lyon wish to say a very big 'Thank you' to all the wonderful people who were so helpful, kind and supportive throughout David Lyons' last months of struggle with ill health.

We would especially like to thank the Thorngate Care Group for all the journeys, advice, shopping and lovely hot dinners.

Also we must thank all the dear people, who came out to assist no matter what time of day/night, often under very difficult circumstances.

Bless you all for your dearly given time and kindness.

Some important emails sent to the Editor have not been getting through, which has been very upsetting. Now, please email both newsletter@lockerley.org.uk and jamespitkin@priest.com with items for the Newsletter.

Many thanks, from Phil the Editor and James the Vicar

200 Club February 2026 Winners;

£30 #93 Patricia Needell

£25 #186 Scott Allin

We have numbers available to anyone who wishes to join the 200 Club. Each number is £18 for the year with 1/3 of the funds raised given back in the monthly prize draws and 2/3 of the funds donated to Lockerley & E Dean War Memorial Hall.

Please contact Mandy if you are a winner or wish to join!

e: 200club@lockerleyvillagehall.org.uk

m: 07717 258702

t: 01794 340252

Lockerley & East Dean Fete

Saturday 20th June 2026

If you would like to be involved in this year's fete, please contact philwebb39@gmail.com

Any help much appreciated!



Caterpillars Playgroup

Every Tuesday during term-time 10:00 – 11am

£2.00 'play as you go'

Lockerley Primary School

We invite you to come along to our new playgroup,
from birth to 5year olds.

There will be songs, stories Craft and toys.

Run by an Early Years Practitioner

We have baby-weighing scales

Refreshments served

No need to sign up, just come along and join the fun.

Little Fishes

Little Fishes is a singing and music-making group for babies, pre-school children and their parents and carers.

It is supported by Lockerley Church and runs every Monday morning in term-time in Lockerley Memorial Hall between 9.30am and 10.15am.



It is led by singing teacher Annie Tatnall and the cost is £3 per family for each session.

There is no need to book. Just come along, meet new people and have some fun!

If you would like to know more phone Sally on 01794 340215 or email annietatnall@hotmail.com

THE PORTHOLE MURDER - A True Crime Talk by Paul Stickler

 St Peter's Church, West Tytherley

 Friday 15 May  7.00pm (doors open 6.30pm)

An Actress. A ship. A porthole. In 1947, 21-year-old Gay Gibson disappeared aboard a ship bound for Southampton from Cape Town. What followed became one of the most extraordinary murder cases of the 20th century. This gripping presentation traces Gay Gibson's life and her last known movements, examining the account given by the first-class deck steward tried for her murder and his extraordinary behaviour in throwing her body through a cabin porthole. The trial had a fascinating aftermath and this talk reveals information not previously disclosed in the public domain. Join us for an absorbing evening of true crime, history, and courtroom drama.

Tickets

This event is raising funds for refurbishment and repairs to St Peter's Church. £17.50 (or £15 Early Bird before Monday 20 April). Tickets include a glass of wine or soft drink and canapes.

Tickets will go on sale shortly, so please hold the date and email lucillacarr02@gmail.com if you'd like to be notified when booking is open.

Lockerley Primary School

We are a small village school which has a big impact on all of the pupils' learning. We are committed to providing an enriched and inspiring curriculum delivered through personalised teaching. We get to know each child as an individual and have a drive for all children to achieve personal success.

During this Spring Term life at Lockerley has been bright and full of rich learning experiences. We have seen children enjoy and explore the school grounds, take part in sporting activities and theme days, as well as undertake exciting curriculum learning. Despite the weather being so wet, we have continued to prioritise getting the children out into nature using all of our outside areas - so much fun can be had splashing in puddles!

Last week we celebrated Mental Health week and NSPCC Number Day. Children came to school dressed in 'Number or Maths related' costumes and completed a wide range of Maths activities and games whilst in their Houses all in aid of NSPCC. Visit our Facebook page to keep up to date with all we have been doing.

Easter Service

We warmly invite you to our Easter Church Service at St John's Church on **Friday 27th March at 9am.**

Travelling Pantry

The Travelling Pantry visits Lockerley every Tuesday morning 11 - 12am in the village hall. The Travelling Pantry is a community van run by the Unity charity, offering a selection of fresh and packaged food to customers in order to help them make their food budget go further. The cost is £5.00 each time you visit the pantry, selecting twelve items per visit along with any free items. (One visit per week). Food in the pantry is either grown, is surplus, donated or purchased food through funding received by Unity.

Sarah Rolle Trust

Established 1731

The Trust makes grants for educational purposes for people who are:

- Under 25
- Live in Lockerley with East Dean or East Tytherley

Lockerley and West Tytherley Primary Schools have been supported as have local groups and individuals. There is no 'means test' – all are encouraged to apply.

The Trustees next meeting is on 24 March 2026.

Please send your application to the Secretary by 14 March 2026. Postal or e-mail applications may be submitted.

You can get an application form from:

www.lockerley.org.uk/index.php/social-groups/sarah-rolle-trust

e-mail:sarahrolle1731@gmail.com

Lockerley & West Tytherley Schools

Secretary, Holly Lodge, Top Green, Lockerley, SO51 0JP (01794 279194)

West Tytherley C of E Primary School: Going Back into "The Pit"!

After many years, we are thrilled to be taking down the "out of bounds" sign and reopening a much-loved part of our grounds: "The Pit"!

Historically nicknamed "The Pit", this special area has long been a brilliant and memorable feature of our school site. Thanks to the hard work of a wonderful group of volunteers, the space has now been cleared and carefully prepared. The council has inspected the trees to ensure everything is safe and we are delighted to say it's ready once again for adventure, exploration and fun. "The Pit" will now be used for forest school activities, giving our children even more opportunities to learn, discover and grow through outdoor experiences.

We spoke to a former pupil who remembers "The Pit" from their own schooldays:

"As a former pupil, I remember 'The Pit' very fondly. It felt like a great adventure being allowed to play there. The simple pleasure of playing in the dirt with friends gave a real sense of creativity and joy while being immersed in nature!"

We can't wait to see a new generation of children making memories in "The Pit"!

At West Tytherley, learning outdoors and making the most of our extensive grounds is a vital part of our educational approach. We are passionate about providing opportunities for children to connect with nature, build resilience and spark their imaginations. As part of this commitment, we are about to begin work on our greenhouse and allotment area and we would love the community to be involved. Whether you can help with digging and planting, donate seeds or soil, or simply help spread the word, your support would be hugely appreciated. Our first working party will be on **Saturday 7th March at 2.00pm**.

If you would like to get involved, please contact the team at schoolveggarden@gmail.com

For little ones aged 0-4 and their grown-ups!



Please join us for child-led play, crafts, singing and biscuits! Friday (term time only), 9.30-11 @ King Edwards Hall, West Tytherley £2 per family.

CALLING ALL KNITTERS!

We would love your help with knitting some poppies for us to go towards the making of a Remembrance Day Memorial Banner for St Peter's Church, West Tytherley.

For more information and patterns please email Helen Vincent on helen@helenvincent.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

Nota Bene Singers – The Light We Cast

St Peters Church, Stockbridge

8th March @ 5pm

Tickets £25

Available on the door or in advance from John Oldfield – 07837 866308 or oldfieldjr0@gmail.com

The East India Company: The Corporation the Changed the World, by Prof. John McAleer

Stockbridge Town Hall

26th March @ 6.30 for 7pm

Tickets £20

To register for this event please send a cheque, payable to St Peter's Stockbridge PCC and ref Talk 26 March on the back, to John Oldfield, 5 Wheelers Yard, Oxford Road, Sutton Scotney, Winchester SO21 3OZ.

Community Lunches in Lent

Come for a soup, bread and cheese lunch on Saturdays in Lent between 12 and 2pm

Donations to UNICEF are asked for – no set amount! All of the money goes into a 'Jar of Grace' which UNICEF use to provide lifesaving supplies to ensure children have access to clean water, medical care, adequate nutrition, protection and education. Each week the Lunch is in a different place.

Saturday	Venues and Hosts
7 th March	Manor Cottage, Frenchmoor Lane, East Dean SP5 1HA (Nick and Suky Turner) <i>(Parking at The Old Brewers SP5 1HU)</i>
14 th March	Coach House, East Tytherley SP5 1LE (Rob Scoones & Joanne Nash)
21 st March	Lockerley Water House (Heather Bowyer)
28 th March	Lockerley & East Dean Memorial Hall SO51 OJG (Diana Ayles and Nicky Bell)

DIARY OF EVENTS

Visit the website www.lockerley.org.uk and www.easttytherleyvillage.com for up to date diary and news entries

Greetings from Lockerley Baptist Church

We meet each Sunday at 10.30am for morning worship. Anyone is welcome to join us at this service which is followed with tea or coffee and biscuits.

Our next Coffee Morning will be held on Wednesday 18th March in the back hall from 10am to 12 Noon. Please come and join us. Light refreshments including home-made cake and savouries will be available.

If you would like any further information or help please phone Brian or Marion on 01794 341980. (New number)



St Winfrith's, East Dean



St Peter's, East Tytherley



St John's, Lockerley



St Peter's, West Tytherley

Lent

For all of March we are in the 'Season' of Lent. Lent (the 'lengthening' of the days) is an old English word meaning Spring. In earliest times it was observed by those who were preparing for their Baptism at Easter. Later the 40 days of Lent were identified with the 40 days when Jesus was tested in the wilderness. It is an opportunity for Christians humbly to re-examine their lives and through prayer, study and self-denial, to renew their love for God. Here, we have Community Lunches, raising funds for UNICEF, and also by having a 'Lent Course' in addition to our usual services. I hope that you will feel able to join in with one or more of these activities.

Lent Course – Thursdays in Lent - 7pm in Wellow Village Hall, Buttons Lane SO51 6BR

Screenings of 'The Chosen' (TV Series on the life of Jesus)

www.thechosen.tv/en-us with snacks and discussion (5th, 12th, 19th and 26th March)

As Spring comes we are resuming our services in East Tytherley Church with a 'Short but Sweet' Service at 9.30am on Sunday 8th March. It is very much like a 'School Assembly', with songs, prayers, a Bible Reading and a Story. It lasts just 25 mins – but wrap up warmly as the heating won't be on!

Sue and I have now moved out of Lockerley Vicarage to our new home at Crispins, Lockerley SO51 0JJ. The Bishop has given permission to me continuing as Vicar and Rector now working out of a new home.

Your Vicar and Rector, James

	8 th Mar	15 th Mar	22 nd Mar	29 th March
East Dean	9am (BCP) Communion	8am (BCP) Communion	6pm (BCP) Evensong	1030am Palm Sunday Benefice Service in Sherfield English
East Tytherley	9.30am Short but Sweet	-	-	
Lockerley	1030am Eucharist	1030am Celebration	1030am Eucharist	
Sherfield English	11am Morning Prayer	11am Family Service	11am Morning Prayer	
West Tytherley	8am (BCP) Communion	9am Eucharist	9am (BCP) Matins	
Wellow	9.15am Sung Eucharist	9.15am Sung Eucharist	8.15am (BCP) Communion 9.15am (BCP) Matins	

Facebook page and access to Services: www.facebook.com/groups/thorngateandblackwaterchurches

Monday to Saturday: 9am Online Morning Prayer and 9pm Online Night Prayer

Notes: BCP – Traditional services from the Book of Common Prayer, all other services are Modern Language from Common Worship

There are 20 minute mid-week Communion Services every Wednesday in Lockerley at 9am

Church Contacts:		Items for the April Edition Newsletter to be sent or given to:	
Rector: Rev James Pitkin, Crispins, Lockerley SO51 0JJ Tel: 01794-340635 e-mail jamespitkin@priest.com Associate Priest: Rev Sara-Jane Stevens revsj@btinternet.com Associate Priest: Rev Nick Flood 01794-323731 Associate Priest: Rev Joanna Percival joanna.percival@btinternet.com Associate Priest: Rev Sue Pitkin revsuepitkin@gmail.com Curate: Rev Yin-Yin Bull Yin-Yin@tandbchurches.org.uk ☎ 07726-692452 Reader: John Niblett 01794-340587		The Vicar (contact details on the left) Or email newsletter@lockerley.org.uk By 12 Noon Latest 15th March	
Churchwardens:			
Lockerley	West Tytherley	East Dean	East Tytherley
Robert Wallace 07766318975	Sheridan O'Shea 01794-340253	Nicky Bell 01794-341228	Rob Scoones 01794-341269
Sally Masters 01794-340215	Lucilla Carr 01794-340831	Diana Ayles 07464956759	