

Boaz Open Day and Plant Sale

Saturday 23rd May, 1-4 pm at Hill Farm

Live music, tractor rides, craft stalls, a massive plant sale, homemade jam and chutney and cream teas in the Boaz Café. Everyone is welcome.

Plant sale in aid of Crawley Village Hall

Today!

There will be a plant sale at Crawley Village Hall on **Sunday 17th May**, 2 – 5.30 pm, whilst Little Court is open for the National Gardens Scheme.

Teas will also be served in the hall with the usual array of delicious cakes. Do come along!

Christian Aid Week ends this weekend. Thanks to all who supported our Littleton Plant Exchange, where we raised £644, Our collecting continues until the end of May, and the first £1K raised will be match-funded. Little red envelopes are around our churches - please return

them to the Benefice Office. Or just quite simply use this!

Thanks.

Peter and Maggie Lippiett



Wherwell Flower Festival, Open Gardens and Plant Sale

Sunday 31st May, 1-5.00 pm

There will be 7 gardens plus the flower arrangements in the Church, plant stall and teas. One of the gardens has never been open before and has incredible views across the valley. So do take this opportunity to visit, buy from the stall and partake of afternoon tea!

This event will be to raise funds for repairs to the chiming mechanism of the church bells.

If anyone can help with donations of flowers to decorate the church or cakes to be sold with teas at the village hall, please contact Jenny Boileay 07802 434724 or Jo Baughen 07766 881815

Please send all items for Across the Downs to Carol Ward: email carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk, or telephone 01962 883185, by 12.00 noon Thursday at the latest. **If you would like to receive future editions of the newsletter by email, please contact me on the above address.** Thank you.

Across the Downs

Church News Sheet for the Downs Parishes of
Chilbolton, Crawley, Littleton, Sparsholt and Wherwell
Rector: Revd Kevin Rogers 01962 880845

Sunday 17th May 2026



Services for Sunday 17th May

Seventh Sunday of Easter

8.30 am (Sp) Holy Communion (BCP)

10.00 am (Ch) Morning Worship

10.00 am (Cr) Holy Communion

6.00 pm (Li) Service of Peace and Wholeness



Services for Sunday 24th May

Pentecost (Whit Sunday)

9.00 am (Wh) Holy Communion (BCP)

10.00 am (Li) Morning Worship

10.00 am (Sp) Morning Worship

Prayer for the Week – *Seventh Sunday of Easter*

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings: Acts 1: 6-14 1 Peter 4: 12-14; 5: 6-11
John 17: 1-11 Psalm 68: 1-10; 32-end

Banns of Marriage

(Cr) Max Cotgrave & Hannah Jolly 3rd Time of Reading
(Sp) Elliot Mawhinney & Alice Appleby 3rd Time of Reading

Pilgrim Places, Holy Lives

May 25th – 21st June

This summer the Church of England offers a new reflection campaign centred around pilgrimage – places and stories that help us feel part of something bigger on our journey towards God. Booklets and other resources will be available.

www.churchofengland.org/faith-life/pilgrim-places-holy-lives-gospel-journey-early-english-saints

Trinity Service

A great opportunity to meet others across the Benefice and enjoy the outdoors

31st May 2026 11:00 am

@ Northwood Park

Outdoor All Age Family Service with Communion

Bring & Share lunch.

Games for children

Coffee/tea and cake provided

Please bring: deck chair/rug, plate/cutlery, food to share

We'd love you to join us - please do sign up on the sheet at the back of church to help us know numbers.

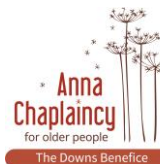


Littleton Lounge 'Anna'versary

Tuesday 19th May, 10 – 12 noon

Littleton Church Room

It's our 'ANNA' versary!



Help us to celebrate one year of Anna Chaplaincy in the Downs Benefice.
Drop in between 10 am and noon for tea, coffee, cake, chat and good company!
Everyone welcome.

DIARY

Monday 18th May

10.00–11.30am (Li) St Catherine's Toddler Group. *Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886*

11.30 am (Ch) Thanksgiving service – Richard (Rick) Franke, *(followed by private Interment of Ashes)*

2.15 pm (Li) Flowerdown Holy Communion

2.30 pm (Sp) Sparsholt School Welcome Worship, in the Church

Tuesday 19th May

10.00 – noon (Li) Littleton Lounge celebrating 1-year 'Anna'-versary, in the Church Room (see opposite)

7.30 pm (Li) Littleton PCC meeting

Wednesday 20th May

1.30 pm (Wh) Wherwell Prayer Meeting, at Dancing Ledge, Fullerton Rd, Wherwell

Thursday 21st May

4.15 pm (Li) Prayers for those on the Benefice Prayer List, in view of morning service

Friday 22nd May

2.30 pm (Wh) Thanksgiving Service – Alan Rowles *(to be followed by Interment of ashes, including those of Jill Rowles)*

Saturday 23rd May

Please note

Revd Kevin and Lorna will be away on their annual leave from **Monday 11th May to Sunday 31st May (inclusive)**. Please could you contact the Benefice Office (office@downsbenefice.org.uk / 01962 880 845) with any requests, queries or concerns during this period.