

# Newchurch Noticeboard

Issue 6 May-August 2026



## OUR FREE COMMUNITY PARISH MAGAZINE

A look around Newchurch Parish - what's happening, local news and views of people and places, a little history ...

### WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE

What's on in the Parish

Page

2

Newchurch Parish Mayday Picnic + Maypoles

3

All Saints Church and Supporters Group + Lions Show

4

Newchurch Primary School

5

Memories of Apse Heath 'Island Maid' Sweet Factory

6

My Hobby - Metal Detecting

7

The Footpaths of Newchurch + Footpath Surveys

10

Three decades ago ...

11

Puzzle Time

12

Newchurch Show

13

Newchurch Ghost Stories - part 2

14

Our Parish Council + Puzzle Time answers

15

Advertisers

8,9,16

Hello to all in Newchurch Parish and welcome to new readers!

Our magazine is published 3 times a year, and is funded by our valued advertisers and distributed free throughout the Parish.

Thanks, as ever, to all those who deliver our magazine. New distributors are always welcome . . . and it's a chance to see some of the beautiful gardens in the Parish and to meet some new people.

Spare copies of the magazine are available at Raj's Premier and in halls around the Parish, and the magazine is on the Parish Council website. There you can also find the Parish directory, Newchurch Network. Please get in touch if you'd like a printed copy.

Let us know what's going on in your clubs and we can spread the word for you and on the Parish Council website and notice-boards, also any changes so we can keep Newchurch Network up to date.

### **What's on in the Parish**

Please see the Newchurch Network on the Parish Council website ([newchurchparish.co.uk](http://newchurchparish.co.uk)) for details of when and where local clubs and activity groups meet and how to contact them.

If you'd like your club programme advertised, please let us know and we're happy to find a spot in the magazine to promote your activities.

The Parish Council website and six Parish notice-boards are also available to advertise what's going on - just send a poster or details to the Parish Clerk [clerk@newchurchparish.co.uk](mailto:clerk@newchurchparish.co.uk) - or phone on 07528 359937.

**DISTRIBUTED TO 1250+ HOUSEHOLDS:** 3 times a year by councillors and residents (new distributors welcome)

**EDITORIAL:** Rosey Messing      [rosey.messing@talk21.com](mailto:rosey.messing@talk21.com)

**NEXT ISSUE:** Autumn **2026** - Articles, feedback, ideas welcomed by 1 Aug

**ADVERTISING:** Steve Jewell      [iow54@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:iow54@yahoo.co.uk)

Businesses are invited to join our advertisers - half page ads and smaller - reasonable rates - please get in touch to discuss.

**PRINTED BY: Careprint PO36 8ED** 01983 664888 [orders@careprint.uk](mailto:orders@careprint.uk)

**PRODUCED BY NEWCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL**

*Disclaimer: All articles and advertisements are taken in good faith.*

*Newchurch Parish Council cannot be responsible for any legal queries resulting from these.*

*Submitted articles do not necessarily reflect the view of the Parish Council.*

## **PARISH MAYDAY PICNIC ~ 4<sup>th</sup> May ~ 12-4pm ~ Newchurch**

*Come lasses and lads, take leave of your Dads, and away to the maypole high!*

*For ev'ry fair has a sweetheart there, and a fiddler standing by ...*

What would a Mayday Picnic be without young people 'dancing the May'? Of course there'll be a maypole - with young people from our school doing a few dances (and no doubt some parishioners might like to have a go too!).

On the green by the Church, there will be stalls, craft, biscuit decorating, beer van, tombola, a jazz ensemble, parachute and games for the youngsters, Viking re-enactment group (lock up your wives and daughters!), the Ability Dogs for Young People tent will be there - with puppies and games and bric-a-brac! Yes, all the fun of the fair - and entry is free!

In the Parish Hall, come to Alverstone Art Group's gallery, also meet an ARP Warden (with a stirrup pump and a 'fire' to put out). In the Church, come and enjoy a choir concert, some bell-ringing, flower-arranging, and please support the Church Tower Fund (see page 4).

Come and find out about our many local clubs and activity groups who will be promoting and fund-raising, and this is an opportunity to get information on some of our local businesses. There will be tea and cake in the Church Hall, a wine tombola, guess the weight of the cake, so you may like to bring some cash for that, and for other items on sale.

All Newchurch residents (old, young and in-between!) are invited to bring their picnics and join the fun, and please remember your neighbours who haven't got transport and bring them along too - and, if needed, the Church Hall offers somewhere to sit and have a cuppa and a natter. If your dog wants to come with you, please keep him/her on a lead and close to you (and no nasty accidents please).

Parking will be in the village car park and along roads where permitted, with a drop-off point and limited disabled parking at the Pointer Inn car park, where you'll also find a fire engine and some vintage vehicles.

The long range weather forecast is looking good at the moment - fingers crossed that we won't have to relocate to the Church and village halls ...

We hope to see you there - May the Fourth be with you!!

**Maypoles:** This tradition goes back to a time long ago when the new Spring was welcomed by celebrating around a tall tree, its buds starting to burst, symbolising the start of a new growing season. By the Middle Ages, it became an opportunity to meet up and have some fun, though it was banned during The Reformation. The Victorians popularised this Mayday tradition and introduced some new dance routines, and children throughout the following century enjoyed the fun. It's a happy occasion that is starting to come back.

## All Saints Church

Currently, we do not have a regular Vicar at All Saints. **Please check the Noticeboards for details of Services and how to make bookings.**

*Churchwardens: Gill Rouse 01983 864842, Clive Allen 01983 401084*

**>>> NEW DEFIBRILLATOR ON THE CHURCH WALL <<<**

### All Saints Church Supporters Group

We invite local residents and those interested in restoring the Church Tower to its former glory to join All Saints Church Supporters Group. The annual subscription is £15 per annum (£25 per couple).

If you would like to become a member please contact, our Membership Secretary, Clive - 01983 401084 / 07391 447224 / crallen@sky.com

**\*\*\*\*\*SAVE THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARY\*\*\*\*\***

All Saints Church Newchurch Supporters Group are holding another

**FABULOUS BARN DANCE with the  
CAULKHEADS CEILIDH BAND**

on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2026 7pm to 10pm

To be held in the Newchurch School Community Hall

Tickets: £10.00 - please contact: 01983 400364

Bring your own drinks & nibbles and enjoy a great evening of  
Live Music & Dancing

All proceeds from this evening to All Saints Church Tower Fund-

Thank you for your support

Go no further than Lake for a great night out ...

**Best of the West End!**

**LIONS DAY CENTRE LAKE**

**SATURDAY 25TH APRIL - 7PM - £10 PER PERSON**

**INCLUDES LIVE ENTERTAINMENT & FOOD**

**PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN DRINK!**

Janet 07712 921064 / Steve 07834 680374 / Sue 01983 406900

## Newchurch Primary School



*Newchurch School 2020 (before the fences)*

Our primary school building, here in School Lane, is the location of current education for the many pupils who attend, not only from Newchurch Parish, also further afield. The Victorian building has been renovated and extended over the years, including the main hall, originally Community Hall added from NPS&CA Garlic Festival funds. In the grounds of the school, there was also once a nursery for pre-school children, a facility particularly popular with working parents. Our attractive school building has not always been where local young people learned their Reading, 'Riting and 'Rithmetic!

Education before the 1880s was a church matter. Lessons took place in Langbridge in the 'School Room', probably from the late 18th century, and served the local area, though not all children attended as many were in some form of employment, usually agriculture, there was no time or perceived need for such things as schooling. A prominent schoolmaster at this time was Richard Forward who lived in Old School House in Langbridge. There is a memorial stone in his honour in the church yard. The words are now hard to decipher:

"This Stone is erected by Voluntary contributions to the Memory of the late  
RICHARD FORWARD who filled the situation of Vestry Clerk 51 Years,  
Parish Schoolmaster 53 Years and Church Clerk 24 Years for this Parish  
and terminated his Earthly career JULY 25 1826 AGED 76 Years"

*In yonder sacred pile his voice was wont to sound,  
And now his body rests within this hallowed ground;  
He taught the peasant boy to read and use the pen,  
His Earthly toils are o'er; He's cried his last AMEN*

Following the 1870 Education Act, the Newchurch and Wroxall School Board was formed after a number of meetings of the parishioners in the 'School Room' at Langbridge. 'Board Schools' were built in the two villages and opened in 1873. Newchurch 'Endowed School' for boys and girls appears on the 1882 OS map. The Newchurch school was for 110 boys and girls and 53 infants; Wroxall was for 250 children. By about 1910, the Isle of Wight County Educational Committee listed it as Newchurch Elementary

## Memories of Apse Heath 'Island Maid' Sweet Factory

*by Steve Jewell*

Who remembers the sweet factory in Apse Heath, known for traditional sweets like humbugs and mints? This confectionery business likely originated from a Shanklin rock shop that became Island Maid, connecting to local families and becoming a notable Isle of Wight brand sold at places like The Needles.

I researched this topic after Jill Green mentioned it - she remembered asking if she could work there in 1976, only to be told there were no jobs going, also that the pay was terrible! The manager there, Paul Cavachuiti, provided the following quotes from employees and others connected with the original business. Do you recognise anyone - and when the factory closed?

"I worked there in the 1980s making Isle of Wight shortbread in the building opposite where Raj's Premier store is now - that's where they did the packing. The factory was around the corner where the newly built houses are set back from the road."

"I remember the rock factory in Green Lane, I used to go there with my friends as kids, the ladies who worked there used to get us to go to the shop to buy their cigarettes and in return we got a bag of broken rock. I can still smell it now, so very sweet but gorgeous."

"Island Maid, originally Shanklin Rock shop, had a sweet factory in Green Lane Shanklin I worked there. The manager of that, Ralph, started Island Maid in Apse Heath, I think. There is a shop in Sandown where Wray's was, and I think it's also sold at the Needles."

"I worked there as a Saturday girl and in school holidays aged 14 - probably wouldn't be allowed to do that now. I wrapped fudge and coconut ice among other things, and even had a go at rolling the rock!"

"It was originally the bakehouse owned by my ancestors, the Taylors. This old postcard shows the horse and cart by the Apse Heath shop, and



my grandmother Ethel as a little girl. Her sister Eva is there too. I remember Ethel working in the sweet factory when my brother Dave Lane and I were children and I think that Eva did too. Eva's house is the one in the background next to the space that had a circular raised flower bed, and Ethel's house was next door."

## My Hobby - Metal Detecting

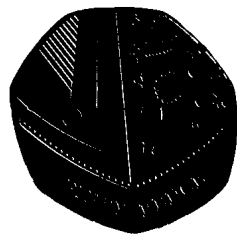
Hello everyone. I'm Ray, a metal detectorist living in Newchurch. It's something I really enjoy and have been doing for over 10 years. There's an almost unexplainable feeling when I turn over a sod of earth and see, for the first time in perhaps hundreds of years, the face of someone who existed such a long time ago, stamped onto a small coin, now in my hand, glinting in the sun's light. Plus the sheer exhilaration attached to reaching into sodden soil and lifting out of the often muddy hole an artefact, previously used by our ancestors maybe for trading, decoration or work. But before going on I need to infuse a point of reality. I mostly find junk! Aluminium drink cans or the dreaded ring-pulls and loads of old iron bits of farming equipment colloquially referred to as BOAT (Bits Off A Tractor) by some of my colleagues.

And 'Yes' there is such a thing as 'The Gold Dance'. Only performed if a piece of gold is found, and then not by everyone. The dancing part of the hobby is frowned upon if an over-excited new-comer starts to make a fuss over their first find of any kind, which is not unusual. On such occasions, a sympathetic more experienced member will have a brief word in their ear about the dancing, without quelling their enthusiasm and having previously signalled 'false alarm' to the rest of us legging it across the field. Lesson learned by the new-be who now remains waiting to dance, usually for quite a while, and more often than not it may never occur.

I've been fortunate and have done the dance twice. The first time was on a local farmer's field and the second time was on the beach, making sure no-one was around beforehand. I might be enthusiastic but I don't want to come across as an absolute dolt!

The field find was unusual to say the least. It was a Japanese Gold Yen. When translated the motive read 'Great Japan Year of Meiji' dating it to 1874. The addition of a loop turned it into a cufflink, reducing its value. Not that I would ever sell it. However, I was pleased to give the farmer half its value and am happy to say it now forms the centre piece of my collection.

*Japanese Gold Yen size comparison  
with 50p piece. The loop is on the back.*



Editor's note: If you'd like to find out more about metal detecting or are a land-owner who would like to know what is waiting to be discovered on your land, please get in touch with your details. I will forward your enquiry on to Ray. [roseymessing@talk21.com](mailto:roseymessing@talk21.com)

**Request for clean jars by local jam maker:** "I make jams/marmalade to sell for charity. If you have any spare jars, please drop them into the box in the Parish Hall when open (Post Office: Tue/Fri 8:30-10:30, NMVC: Fri eve). Thank you."

*Island*  
**MEMORIALS**

Bespoke, Traditional and Contemporary Memorials  
Crafted in Natural Stone, Granite & Marble.  
Additional Inscriptions & Renovations.



Presented by: Jason French



British Register of Accredited  
Memorial Masons

**Tel: 01983 866495**

[www.islandmemorials.co.uk](http://www.islandmemorials.co.uk)    [islandmemorials@gmail.com](mailto:islandmemorials@gmail.com)

Island Memorials Ltd  
Providing A Complete Monumental Masonry Service  
to the Island Community

**BP BOON WINDOW CLEANING**

A stylized logo consisting of three jagged, black mountain peaks of varying heights, arranged in a row.

**07484 806 531**

**Brian Boon**

**80 New Street Newport PO30 1PX**

## *William Hall*

**INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

OFFICE AND CHAPELS (24 HOURS)

PERSONAL ATTENTION DAY OR NIGHT

*Full funeral services arranged to individual requirements*

\* PRIVATE CHAPELS OF REST \* FLEXIBLE PAYMENT PLANS \*  
\* CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY \*

**Sunnybrow, Winford Road, Newchurch, Isle of Wight PO36 0JX**

**(01983) 868688**

*www.williamhallfuneraldirectors.com*

## SPRINGWOOD

### *Woodland Burials*

For details of burials that have important benefits  
for the environment contact

**WILLIAM HALL**

**INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

**Winford Road, Newchurch, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO36 0JX**

**(01983) 868688**

*www.springwood-cemetery.com*



## The Pointer Inn

Everyone's welcome in our little village pub - here in the heart of Newchurch. Come and enjoy our good traditional home-made food. We've just launched our new menu for the summer - classic dishes and our famous pies. Pie and a pint from £17.95.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

***Mark, Luci and the Team***

**Bookings: 865202**

## **The Footpaths of Newchurch** *by Jill Green*

On the last Footpath page, I did say that a path can't be closed unless there is a proper Extinguishment Order, and when one is proposed, one of the reasons that a landowner can give when wanting to remove a path is that the path is not being used - so it is not required. When I walk around our lovely footpaths, I am pleased to see that they are being walked - so please continue - it's so important to walk them regularly.

We have three different kinds of Rights of Way - Footpaths, Bridle Paths, and BOATs. These were known as Green Lanes, which is just what they are. Now they're known as Byways Open to All Traffic. They are closed to motor vehicles in the winter - to save them from being churned up.

The footpath map of Newchurch Parish is too intricate to include here. A good place to see all the paths on the Island is at [wightpaths.co.uk](http://wightpaths.co.uk). There you can see all our 67 Newchurch paths - so many to choose from - and how they lead on to other paths in the adjacent parishes.

### **Footpath Surveys**

The Island footpaths are surveyed every single year by the Ramblers' Footpath Representative for each Parish to check they are in a walkable condition, and they report any problems found. Every few years, our Council's Rights of Way (ROW) team ask for help to do an in-depth survey of the Island's paths to check the 'footpath furniture' - gates, stiles, footbridges, boardwalks, signage, etc, and to report back their findings. Jill is our Newchurch footpath representative and she volunteered to cover the paths here, and she invited me to give her a hand.

It's a very interesting and satisfying task. ROW supply us with a detailed map of each path and we walk along slowly, making observations and recording relevant findings on the map, along with written descriptions.

Sometimes it is clear that the path walked is not exactly as shown on a map, sometimes signage is incorrect or has become unreadable. On the odd occasion, we have found a sign pointing in completely the wrong direction ... perhaps an extremely strong wind or, more probably, a local prankster!

It's very exciting how efficiently things get fixed. A wonderful team of volunteers go out and do most things really quickly, unless there are significant works to be done or major funding is required.

### Three decades ago ...

Our parish directory Newchurch Network contains details of clubs and associations that meet in the Parish, as well as contact information for the five locations that are available for events and activities - Church, Parish, Alverstone, Watery Lane and Community (School) Halls. Thirty years ago, there were three places of worship - All Saints, Apse Heath Methodist and Langbridge Congregational, and the Methodist Church provided a seventh hall for bookings. Only All Saints remains, and sadly without a vicar at the moment.

It's interesting to compare our current directory with that from three decades ago.

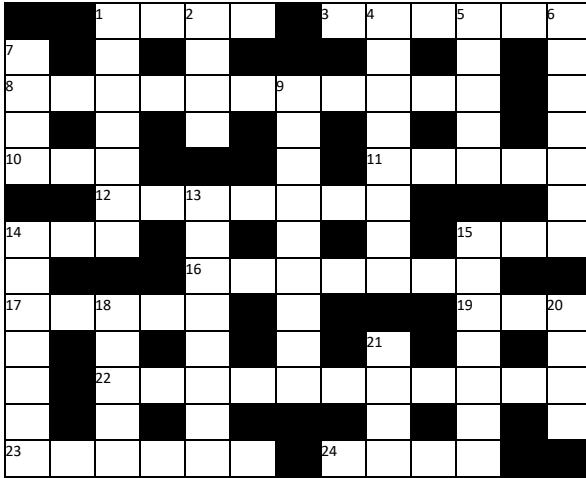
Many of the clubs were active due to parishioners like Jack Lavers, John Smith and his wife, Alex Ludin, Maggie King, Jean Peters, Maisie Goodchild, and many others taking the lead. So - what's gone? No longer in existence are groups like Alverstone Poetry Group, Apse Heath Over 60's, Evergreen Luncheon Club, Line Dancing, Newchurch WI (though a Ladies' Group remains in its place), Ladies Choir, Newchurch Art Group, Parish History Society, ROOTS Family History Club, and Neighbourhood Watch at Newchurch and Queenbower. The Pointer Inn once boasted a Petanque Club, and Darts, Cribbage and Pool, all of which had competitive teams that took part in various leagues.

The 2003 directory also included Newchurch Parish Community Partnership, established with funds from the IoW Council to pursue projects of assistance to the local community, and Newchurch Twinning Association, established in 1990, which developed a friendship between Villainville in Normandy and our Parish. There were annual exchanges, and an active friendship developed, initially also linking our primary schools.

For the young people, there was the Newchurch Nursery next to the School, MCAFE Football Coaching, and Brownies for the girls, also a Scout Group with Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, just recently disbanded.

The annual Horticultural Show was a firm favourite, well supported, and with competitive classes (and trophies) which included fruit and a great variety of vegetables, plants, fantastic flower arrangements, poetry, photography and wonderful cakes and produce.

Some will also remember the whist and beetle drives, the Newchurch L.E.T.S (Local Exchange Trading Scheme), the Alverstone Natural History Club, the Afternoon Tea Pot Club. We were also once blessed with a weekly visit from the Library Bus. And what fun we had watching the Newchurch Drama Group's regular plays, their performances of Reverend Bamford's Newchurch Pageant, and of course the annual pantos - Oh, yes we did!



**Across**

- 1 Filth (4)
- 3 Chest tray (6)
- 8 Lawmaking body (11)
- 10 Constricting snake (3)
- 11 Attire (5)
- 12 White ant (7)
- 14 Pursue to court (3)
- 15 Anger (3)
- 16 Flourish (7)
- 17 Marten (5)
- 19 Church seat (3)
- 22 Motivated type (4,7)
- 23 Rugby match end (2-4)
- 24 As well as (4)

**Down**

- 1 Settle abroad (7)
- 2 Barrel (4)
- 4 UK baseball (8)
- 5 In what place (5)
- 6 Swift reply (7)
- 7 Fat (4)
- 9 Australia/NZ (9)
- 13 Mutinied (8)
- 14 Keep going (7)
- 15 Impelling movement (7)
- 18 Foundation (5)
- 20 Point out danger (4)
- 21 Court security (4)

**Puzzle Time** (Answers on page 15)

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

T	A	U	R	U	S	S	C	E
V	I	R	G	C	A	N	A	E
U	R	A	A	A	I	R	P	O
G	E	M	I	N	I	P	R	I
A	S	E	L	C	C	S	I	P
R	A	Z	O	E	L	C	C	R
B	Q	V	I	R	G	O	C	O
I	U	R	U	S	X	S	O	C
L	A	G	P	I	S	C	E	S

**ZODIAC WORDSEARCH**

Which 3 signs are missing?

## Newchurch Show

There are many of us in the Parish who may remember the Newchurch Horticultural Shows, as mentioned on page 11. Well before that there was the Newchurch Show - the location was Reverend Francis John Bamford's Vicarage lawn - the garden of the private residence that is now called Greystones.

Reverend Bamford was quite a character - responsible for all manner of activities in the Parish - tea dances, entertainments, shows in the Church Hall, the enactment of the Newchurch Pageant, along with regular whist and beetle drives. In 1912, he even applied to become the village Scout Master, but it seems that it never came about. In fact, the 1st Newchurch Scout Group only started in 1975. Sadly, it has closed recently, and the few remaining young people have gone to 1st Godshill Group.

In the following poem, Jack Lavers recalls the fun that was to be had at Newchurch Show; it includes some interesting details.

### Nostalgia *J.D.Lavers*

O Newchurch Show, our Newchurch Show,  
Such memories of long ago.  
The Vicarage field, the crowded tent,  
The parish folk on pleasure bent;  
For all the parish gathered there,  
The great day of the village year,  
And everyone knew everyone  
With all their news to hear.

And still can be recalled the scent  
Of flowers and fruit within the tent,  
The giant parsnips, onions, peas,  
There never were such giants as these!  
Carnations, pansies, roses too –  
The winner's names were there to view,  
And everyone knew everyone,  
Old friendships to renew.

Outside the tent, so much to see,  
Jim Hayden's swings, the tent for tea,  
The skittles with a pig as prize  
And coconuts on stands for shies,  
Brading Band with music gay,  
The children's races under way,  
And everyone knew everyone  
To make the perfect day.

Soon after tea the sinking sun  
Would smile upon the mile run,  
The sack race and the egg and spoon  
And whether wanting more or no  
The time arrived to homeward go,  
And everyone told everyone  
"We'll meet at next year's Show".

O Newchurch Show, our Newchurch Show,  
What fun it was at Newchurch Show.

Don't miss out on Newchurch Horticultural Society's Annual Trip, supported by a grant from NPS&CA. Contact Glendda Graves on 404041.

## Newchurch Ghost Stories - part two

Knighton Gorges is said to be the most haunted place on the Island, but there have been other reports of strange happenings in the Parish.

Wisteria Cottage and The Bakery used to be the village shop and Post Office, run by John and Joy Sandell. The Bakery was once the village bakery - the oven is still there - and over the years since, several people have witnessed one, sometimes two, 'misty' men in the building, working as if they were making bread - kneading and rolling - and some folk have even smelt bread baking. Fifteen or so years ago, a man knocked on the door of Wisteria Cottage, saying that he was aware of the hauntings. He said he could release the spirits. He 'interviewed' the baker and recorded his story - written in a strange hand. He also said that there was the spirit of a young lady by the garden pond, and also took notes from her - in a different style of writing. He left and it seems he was successful. Since his visit, there have been no reports of hauntings at The Bakery or Wisteria Cottage.

Just down the road on The Shute is 5 The Square, once the residence of the parish clergyman and later, the second pub in the village 'The Five Bells'. The lady who lived there up to about thirty years ago said that things used to be moved about on the shelf. She thought it was the ghost of the old clergyman.

And further down The Shute, the man who lived in the old cottage called Hillside until about fifteen years ago was convinced that there was a poltergeist in his home. He called her Rosie, and said that she did no harm, though sometimes she moved things about when he was redecorating the place. Her naughtiest prank was to prevent him from getting into the house one evening when he returned home from work. The back of a chair was wedged under the front door handle - it took some effort for him to force his way into the cottage.

Down at Langbridge is Old School House, where the schoolmaster lived long ago. Sadly, two children drowned in the well there. When he was doing some extensive renovations in the building, a local builder, a very tough and sceptical man, said that he could not stay in the house after dark - he could feel an uncomfortable presence there.

There are surely other strange tales. Do you have any stories to tell ?

### *Passing thoughts*

"I expect to pass through this world only once. Any good thing therefore that I can do or any kindness I can show to any fellow human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer nor neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again." *William Penn*

"A goal without a plan remains a dream." *Graffiti on a Dubai bridge (Hopefully the bridge and the quote are still there...)*

## Our Parish Council (PC)

<https://newchurchparish.co.uk> [clerk@newchurchparish.co.uk](mailto:clerk@newchurchparish.co.uk) 07528 359937

Looking back through previous issues of Newchurch Noticeboard, it is clear that several topics continue to be of concern to parishioners and Parish Councillors alike (road safety, highway maintenance, unauthorised development, dog fouling).

**COUNTY ELECTION:** Registered electors have already received poll cards for the Election being held on Thursday 7th May for County Councillors (we will share ours with Havenstreet and Ashley). It has been confirmed that the Isle of Wight County Council will retain its current status as a unitary authority.

**BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX:** Uncharacteristically this year, the PC has increased the precept by 10%, but statistics can be misleading! This is specifically because our car park in School Lane will need resurfacing within a few years. We have resolved to do this rather than having to borrow capital for the project.

Parishioners may be interested to know that the Isle of Wight Council has posted details of the structures and responsibilities of its directorates together with the salaries of 'Senior and Middle Managers' on its website at: <https://www.iow.gov.uk/article/2718/organisational-structure-and-responsibilities>

**PARISH PICNIC** - postponed from Autumn 2025 will be held on Monday 4th May (see details in this issue). During the event, Parish Councillors hope to be available in the Parish Hall, also generally involved in the activities.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: Mon 18th May:** 7pm - Annual Parish Meeting in The Parish Hall, High Street, Newchurch - followed immediately by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council. All are welcome.

(Please note that our PC meets at 7pm every 3rd Monday each month).

### PUZZLE TIME (Page 12) ANSWERS

█	M	U	C	K	█	D	R	A	W	E	R	9	7	3	4	8	2	1	6	5	
F	█	I	█	A	█	█	O	█	H	█	I	5	4	6	7	9	1	3	8	2	█
L	E	G	I	S	L	A	T	U	R	E	█	1	8	2	6	3	5	9	4	7	█
A	█	R	█	K	█	N	█	N	█	R	█	4	2	9	3	7	8	6	5	1	█
B	O	A	█	█	T	█	D	R	E	S	S	7	3	1	5	4	6	2	9	8	█
█	█	T	E	R	M	I	T	E	█	█	█	8	6	5	1	2	9	4	7	3	█
S	U	E	█	E	█	P	█	R	█	I	R	E	3	1	4	8	6	7	5	2	9
U	█	█	█	B	L	O	S	S	O	M	█	6	9	8	2	5	3	7	1	4	█
S	A	B	L	E	█	D	█	█	█	P	E	W	3	1	4	8	6	7	5	2	9
T	█	A	█	L	█	E	█	B	█	E	█	A	6	9	8	2	5	3	7	1	4
A	█	S	E	L	F	S	T	A	R	T	E	R	2	5	7	9	1	4	8	3	6
I	█	I	█	E	█	█	█	I	█	U	█	N	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
N	O	S	I	D	E	█	█	A	L	S	O	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█

WORDSEARCH: The missing signs are SAGITARRIUS, CAPRICORN, AQUARIUS

*CAREPRINT AD*

**Tel: 01983  
866006**

Unit 1, Winford Farm,  
Watery Lane, Newchurch,  
Sandown,  
Isle of Wight,  
PO36 0LX

**UNIQUE  
WINDOWS  
(IOW) LIMITED**

**Email: [info@uniquewindowsiow.co.uk](mailto:info@uniquewindowsiow.co.uk)**

Please mention that you saw these ads in Newchurch Noticeboard magazine. Thank you.