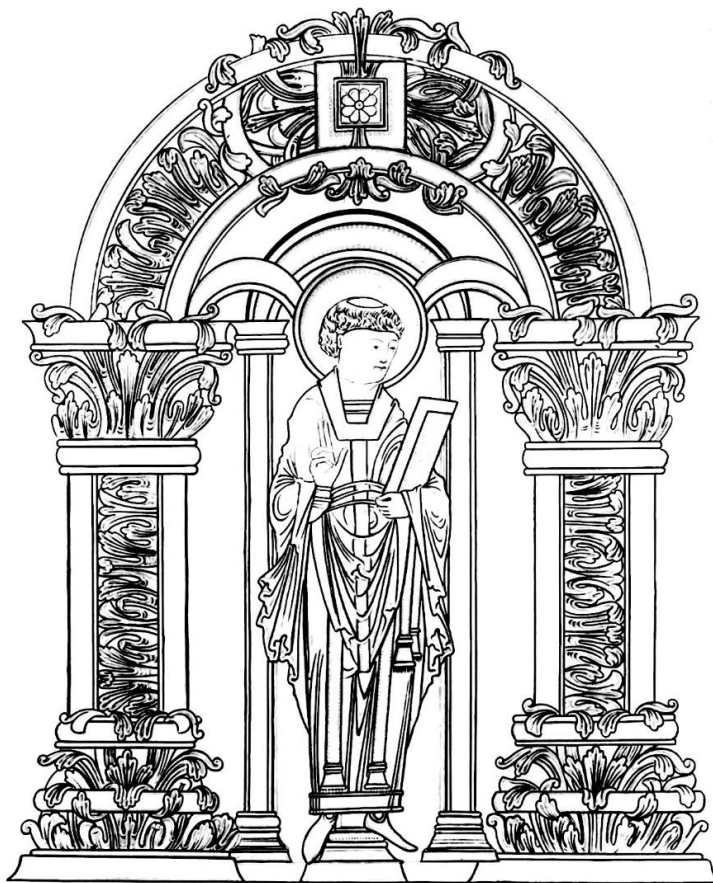


Doddington, Newnham & Wychling Newsletter

JULY 2026



ST SWITHIN'S DAY - 15TH JULY

ST SWITHIN'S DAY IF THOU DOST RAIN
FOR FORTY DAYS IT WILL REMAIN
ST SWITHIN'S DAY IF THOU BE FAIR
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CHURCH SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE JULY 2026

2nd July	11.00am	Holy Communion	Wychling
5th July	9.00am	Morning Prayer	via website & FB
<i>Trinity 5</i>	10.30am	Benefice Service HC <i>To welcome our new curate</i>	Teynham
12th July	9.00am	Morning Prayer	via website & FB
<i>Trinity 6</i>	10.30am	All Together Now	Lynsted
	10.30am	Holy Communion	Newnham
	10.30am	Holy Communion	Oare
	10.30am	Morning Prayer	Throwley
19th July	9.00am	Morning Prayer	via website & FB
<i>Trinity 7</i>	9.00am	Breakfast Church	Oare
	10.30am	Holy Communion	Teynham
	10.30am	Holy Communion	Norton
	10.30am	Warm Hearts Gathering	Doddington Village Hall
	10.30am	Morning Worship	Eastling
26th July	9.00am	Morning Prayer	via website & FB
<i>Trinity 4</i>	10.30am	Family Holy Communion	Lynsted
	10.30am	Morning Worship	Newnham
	10.30am	Morning Worship	Oare
	10.30am	Holy Communion	Throwley
	4.00pm	Evensong	Teynham

Together in Boots – Friday 24th July from Doddington Church 2.00pm

Mindful walk – return to church for tea and cake

Please check church notices and online for any potential change in services to those published above.

www.kingsdownandcreekside.co.uk

Rector: Paula Jardine-Rose Parish Office: 01795 521831

Church Wardens Contact Details:

Newnham: Bruce Leckie (01795) 890550

Dave Buckett (01795) 890240

Doddington: Les Roberts 07944 284173

Matthew Jevons (01795) 886341

Wychling: Robbie Jardine (01795) 886165

The Benefice of Kingsdown & Creekside with High Downs

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Ordinary is defined by the Cambridge Dictionary as "not different or unexpected in any way". It does not mention anything about the Church Calendar, even though we are now in "Ordinary Time" until the First Sunday of Advent on 29th November. This is also the first Sunday of the Church's year. Ordinary Time is in contrast to Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, and Lent, Easter, Ascension Day and Pentecost.

During Ordinary Time the liturgical colour is green, which is a respite for churchwardens who don't have to consider changing the colours in church! Because the term "ordinary" comes from the Latin ordinalis (meaning "numbered" or "ordered"), the season focuses on counting the weeks of the church year while meditating on Christ's public ministry and teachings, rather than the dictionary definition!

No day is ordinary or usual. Every day is a gift from God. *"The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness"* (Lamentations 3:22-23). My brother-in-law, who has terminal prostate cancer gets up every day thanking God for the gift of another day. It is good to get up and immediately thank God for the gift of a new day and for the unexpected and expected events that will happen. It is also good to ask God to help you by His Spirit for every day. He gives and will equip.

No day is ordinary and no person is ordinary. As you may know, I follow football and, as you are reading this, will probably be watching the "Round of 32" matches in the World Cup. Earlier today I was watching a video about Jurgen Klopp, former manager of the, then successful, Liverpool side. Two former players were talking about his remarkable management style and charismatic personality. I could never be like that. But, I can't bemoan the fact that God didn't make me Jurgen Klopp, because he made me "me". God uniquely creates each person differently. So, every day, you can also thank God to making you "you" and ask Him to help you use the qualities He has given you to help others and glorify Him.

The two former Liverpool footballers were asked what was the big message Jurgen Klopp gave to his players and staff. They said "Whatever, you do, give it 100%". Jurgen Klopp is a Christian. Colossians 3.23 says *"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for people"*.

Remember. No day is ordinary, but every day is a gift from God. No-one is ordinary, God has made us all different. Give 100% of what you have been given while you can.

Yours in Christ

Rev'd Jim Pye



Newnham Village Fete 2026

Newnham Village Fete took place on 13th June 2026, and despite some nervous weather watching the two weeks before, the weather on the day was pretty near perfect. The event was really busy with lots of people and families in attendance, all with big smiles on their faces, as they rolled dice, wanged wellies, tried to win coconuts, and took beating the keeper very seriously. And when all that was done enjoyed some refreshing lemonade, teas, and cakes in the hall.

An event like this cannot take place without all of the help people provide, whether that is running a stall, setting up and taking down, donating prizes for the raffles or various stalls, and baking for the tea-room, so thank you all very much. The one thing people who join in on the day always say is how much they enjoy it and to quote 'I enjoyed it much more than I thought I would, sign me up for next year', and we are always on the look out for volunteers and new ideas.

At the time of writing, we are still counting the pennies, but we believe we have managed to make a healthy profit this year of around £1,300 which will be donated to local causes.

Newnham Village Fete Committee

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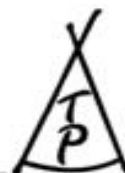
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Doddington Village Hall (unless otherwise stated)

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Valley Players: Tuesday evenings, September to December from 7.30pm. If you are interested in helping or taking part in future productions pop in and leave your name and contact details. Backstage help particularly welcome. Contacts Les Roberts 07944284173

Buddies Parent and Toddler Group: Friday morning (term-time) 9 to 10.30am. All children aged 0-4 and their carers are most welcome. New **Contact**: Amy – email: amykemp788@gmail.com

Guitar Group: The Chequers, Wednesdays 7.30-9.30 pm. All levels welcome.

Yoga: every Tuesday 10am and Sundays. Bookings and contact details via <https://bookwhen.com/https-christstookesyoga-co-uk>

Monthly

Doddington Parish Council: 2nd Monday 7.30 pm. Local residents welcome to observe, and there is a section for questions and comments from the public.

Historical Research Group: 4th Monday 7.30pm. Exploring local history and archaeology in the three parishes. Now back meeting regularly. Contact: Karen Potts karenpotts@gmail.com

Games Afternoon: First Wednesday of each month, 1-3pm. Tea/coffee. Email Lesley Lesleyboast@live.co.uk

What's On Tai Chi with Rhonda: selected Mondays @ 7pm for an hour: For more information and bookings please email: bex.taichi@yahoo.co.uk; Mob: 07985 001782.

Newnham Village Hall (unless otherwise stated)

Weekly

U3A Art Group: Every Monday afternoon 1-4pm. Contact: Sue 01795 890627.

Newnham Brownies: 5.30pm - 7.00pm every Tuesday (term-time only). To join & find out more about Brownies, please go to www.girlguiding.org.uk to register your child's interest on the GO Membership system. You will be contacted within a few days about local packs and contacts.

Outdoor Gym Club- Start time changed from 11.15 am to 9.30 am every Wednesday

Monthly

Newnham Parish Council Meeting: 2nd Thursday each month at 7.30pm

Nearby towns and villages

Stalisfield Youth Club: Meet twice monthly in Stalisfield Village Hall 7-8.30pm .

Contact: Catherine Norwood, email: clnorwood@doctors.org.uk



Zumba: Day and evening classes in Teynham, Faversham and Eastling. Contact Leigh Miles 01795 890149, 07873431952, leigh.fitness@btinternet.com, or www.milesdanceandfitness.com

Useful contacts

Doddington Neighbourhood Watch: To be kept informed of local incidents and general notifications issued by the Kent NHW police, please email: neighbourhoodwatch.doddington@yahoo.com

Angela Dye is your Neighbourhood Watch contact for Newnham. email: angeladye@gmail.com

Suspicious happenings should be reported by phone on 101, or 999 in an emergency.

Scams – for help and advice with online scams contact Citizens Advice scams action on 080250 5050

Doddington and Newnham online: www.doddingtonkent.uk <https://www.newnham-pc.gov.uk/>

Facebook: Doddington Village and Newnham Village each have their own Facebook sites

Helen Whately: MP for Faversham and Mid Kent - email: helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk

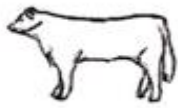
Address: House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA. Tel: 020 7219 6472

Terry Thompson: Ward Member for East Downs: TerryThompson@swale.gov.uk. Phone.07968810638.

Rich Lehmann - County Councillor for Swale East. Tel: 03000 415013 email- Rich.Lehmann@kent.gov.uk

Claire Jones, KCC Community Warden – 07779 876993 claire.jones4@kent.gov.uk

PC Gary Morris, Swale Beat Officer for East Downs – gary.morris@kent.police.uk



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DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Chairman: Steve Coates 07960 110551, Vice Chairman: Colin Jones 886857,
Kevin Attwood 886395, Kirsty Clark 886109, Graham Cuthbert 886365,
Kevin Fraser 07581 884529 and Linda Lumsden 886376
Clerk: Wendy Licence 01622 739324
To email the Council please use: doddingtonpc@gmail.com**

This is a brief summary of the meeting held on 9 June 2026

HIGHWAYS

The road sweep of the Old Lenham Road, requested in November 2025, still has not been carried out. As a result, the Parish Council has lodged a formal Stage 2 complaint with Swale Borough Council.

The date for the inspection of the drains in the Old Lenham Road still has not been confirmed and County Councillor Rich Lehmann will be asked to intervene.

Anyone can report an issue with a road by logging faults on the KCC portal:

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-or-track-a-problem-on-the-road-or-pavement>

PARISH COUNCIL HISTORIC DOCUMENTS

The council has recently reviewed a number of historic documents in its possession. All of these will be made available to the Wychling, Doddington & Newnham History Group for members to examine. Any documents which are no longer required by the Council will be offered to a local archive.

SPEED WATCH

Speed Watch sessions continue in the village with encouraging results in the education of drivers. Data from the sessions is sent to the Police. The Speed Watch team is well supported by the Police who hold their own enforcement sessions in the area.

PLAYING FIELD

An arboricultural report has been completed and work to clear trees of deadwood has been agreed.

Councillors assessed the rewilding project adjacent to the Playing Field, noted comments made by residents and agreed to discontinue with the scheme.

FINANCE

The internal audit has been completed and the Annual Return has been signed off. The Council has certified exemption from a limited assurance review as its turnover is less than £25,000.

**Date of next Parish Council Meeting:
Monday 13 July at 7.30pm in Doddington Village Hall**

You are welcome to attend the meetings which include a public participation section where residents can, at the Chairman's discretion, address the Council for up to three minutes on any topic of concern.

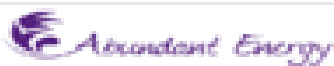
<https://doddingtonkentparishcouncil.gov.uk/> - Don't forget to sign up for email alerts.

Doddington & District Village Show

Saturday 12th September, Doddington Village Hall

Show schedules now available from: Doddington Service Station -
Doughty's Butchers - Newnham Church porch - Doddington Village Hall

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NEWNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Emma Turner 07879 225544, Councillors Sue Gunner 890627, Matthew Fray 07756 257521, Angela Dye, Don Cockrill and Jane Crampton. Clerk: clerk@newnham-pc.gov.uk

This is a brief summary of the Parish Council Meeting held 11th June 2026 Full minutes can be found at www.newnham-pc.gov.uk

Matters Arising

Cllr Cockrill will provide an update on the proposed generator at the next meeting. Cllr Cockrill confirmed the discharge water pipe passed Wineycock had been roaring and he was taking this up further with the MP.

Open Session

Cllr Thompson noted that the woodland in Newnham had been sold. PC Tancock confirmed there was a police surgery on 30th June between 1pm and 3pm at Painters Forstal community centre. He noted that there had been a burglary and advised everyone to lock their sheds.

Speedwatch

Contact had been made with the Speedwatch organiser and the current equipment that Newnham holds was inspected. Councillors are due to meet with Alan Watson and will advise further. It was agreed to start advertising for volunteers after the fete.

Finance

The end of year accounts for 2025-2026 were proposed by Cllr Cockrill and seconded by Cllr Crampton and were unanimously approved. Payments were approved.

Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2025/26

The Annual Governance Statement (Section 1) agreed by the Council and signed by the Chair. The Accounting Statements (Section 2) was approved by the Council and signed by the Chair. It was proposed by Cllr Turner, seconded by Cllr Cockrill and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to agree the Certificate of Exemption AGAR 2025/26 and it was signed by the Chair.**

Items for Report

Eastern Area Committee had changed its name and was due to take place, Cllr Cockrill will attend virtually. Repairs to pot-holes in Wineycock were noted, but considered to be random.

The plant and seed exchanged in the telephone box was noted to be working well. There had been a request for deer signage along Faversham Road and Cllr Thompson suggested national landscape funding. The War Memorial was raised, as it was looking unusually untidy and Cllr Turner will check whether there are any issues Newnham can assist with.

Residents were urged to report any nuisance bikes, as the more reports are likely to lead to better action being taken.

**KEEP KENT SAFE
LATEST ALERTS**



Alerts from Kent Trading Standards

A police scam has been targeting residents this week in many parts of Kent. Residents are receiving phone calls falsely claiming their bank account has been compromised, their card needs replacing, a family member has been arrested, they must buy gold or a courier will come to collect their card, cash or gold.

These are scams. The police will never ask for your financial details over the phone or send someone to collect your card, cash, or valuables. If this happens to you, call your bank immediately using 159 or [report to Kent Police](https://kent.police.uk).

Doorstep criminals have been active this week in Canterbury, Whitstable, West Malling, Tunbridge Wells and Gravesend pressuring residents into paying for unnecessary gardening, driveway, building or loft work.

Please be alert and warn your vulnerable friends and family to never respond to cold callers as you will pay a high cost for unnecessary and poor-quality work.

If you need work done on your home or garden use a safe, local trader from [Trading Standards Checked](https://tradingstandardschecked.co.uk).

Report cold callers anonymously to the charity CrimeStoppers on 0800 555 111 or online at <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/>.

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The PSTN Switch-Off (Public Switched Telephone Network)

By January 2027, the UK's old copper phone network will be switched off, area by area. For most residents it is straightforward, but for older or vulnerable people, particularly those with telecare alarms, pendant alarms, or no mobile phone, it can be confusing and potentially risky if they are not prepared in time.

The following checklist covering everything a home phone user needs to check has been put together by a company called Phonely www.phonely.co.uk.

PSTN SWITCH-OFF CHECKLIST - Here's what to do now, in plain English.

STEP 01 - DON'T WAIT. START PLANNING NOW - Your provider should write to you before your line is switched, but letters can come late, get missed, or not arrive at all. Acting early gives you choice and avoids the rush.

STEP 02 ASK YOUR PROVIDER WHEN YOUR AREA IS SCHEDULED - The switch-off is rolling out area by area across the UK. Call your provider and ask directly. Don't wait for a letter. Knowing your date helps you sort everything else in good time.

STEP 03 CHECK IF YOUR HOME PHONE WILL STILL WORK - Most, older corded phones that plug directly into the wall socket will not work on the new digital network without an adapter. Check with your provider. Many will supply one free of charge or replace your handset.

STEP 04 CHECK ANY PERSONAL OR MEDICAL ALARM - If you or someone in your home uses a telecare device, such as a lifeline pendant alarm, fall detector or emergency call button, contact the alarm provider before anything changes. These devices often rely on the phone line and may need replacing or reconfiguring.

STEP 05 CHECK YOUR HOME BURGLAR ALARM - Many home alarm systems use the phone line to contact a monitoring centre if they're triggered. Contact your alarm company to ask if your system is switch-off ready.

STEP 06 KNOW WHAT HAPPENS IF THE POWER OR INTERNET GOES DOWN - Unlike a traditional landline, your new digital phone needs your broadband router switched on and working. If the power goes out or your internet drops, it won't work.

STEP 07 ASK YOUR BROADBAND PROVIDER ABOUT EMERGENCY CALL BACKUP - Your broadband provider is required by Ofcom to offer you a way to call 999 during a power cut, usually a battery backup unit for your router, free of charge if you rely on your landline and don't have another device, such as a mobile phone. Contact them directly to find out more about battery backups.

STEP 08 WRITE DOWN YOUR KEY PHONE NUMBERS TODAY - In case of any disruption during the switch, keep a few important numbers written down somewhere easy to find: your doctor's surgery, a family member, and your provider's customer service number.

STEP 09 ASK FOR HELP, SOONER RATHER THAN LATER - You don't have to figure this out alone. Your provider must offer assisted migration support, and charities like Age UK can help. The earlier you ask, the more time there is to get it right.

Help shape the countryside you love

www.kent.gov.uk/kentdowns

Residents across Newnham, Doddington and adjacent villages are being invited to have their say on the future of the Kent Downs National Landscape as a public consultation opens on a draft five-year Management Plan. The consultation runs until 19th July.

The plan sets out how the Kent Downs — one of Kent's most treasured landscapes and home to the North Downs Way National Trail — will be cared for, enhanced and enjoyed in the years ahead. It also plays a key role in shaping priorities for nature recovery, farming, climate action, access and tourism across the area.

The draft Management Plan follows an extensive public engagement phase, in which more than 1,200 people and organisations took part. They shared what they value about the landscape, what they think makes it special, and what matters most when it comes to its future care and enjoyment. This feedback has directly shaped the draft Plan now being consulted on.

Covering almost a quarter of Kent and stretching from the White Cliffs of Dover to the Surrey border, the Kent Downs is one of the south east's most visited and valued landscapes. Residents, businesses, farmers and community groups are now being encouraged to take part in the consultation and help shape its future.

Find out more and have your say at: www.kent.gov.uk/kentdowns

NEWNHAM VILLAGE HALL LOTTERY

The winning numbers in the
May Draws are as follows

1st 71
2nd 32
3rd 49

The Hall Committee would like to thank all our members for their continued support. New members are welcome – numbers cost £2 per month. Contact Julie on 01795890205 or julied103@hotmail.com for more information

The Queens Regimental Association

... would like to issue an invitation to the **monthly veterans' breakfast** held at the Jon Wright Memorial Field (formerly Kennels Field).

Their Secretary, Alisdair Goulden, advises that they provide free breakfasts for any veteran; and welcome attendance by any of their local friends who want to come and hear about the work that we are doing at the Rehabilitation Centre and have breakfast with us (a donation is welcome!)



Join us for good food & good company – **Event dates for 2026**
10am on 30th Aug, 27 Sept, 18th Oct.

Games Afternoon!

The chance to meet with others and play different board or card games.

Tea & coffee available

Weds 1st July, 1-3pm
Doddington Village Hall.

Thank you - Lesleyboast@live.co.uk

Choir
Cantiana

Summer Concert

11th July 2026
7.30pm

St John the Baptist Church,
Doddington

Tickets £10

from Doddington Service Station

cantianachoir@gmail.com

National Theatre Live - the best of British theatre.

Filmed live productions on screen at
Doddington Village Hall.

Friday 31st July 7.30pm

£5. Bring your own drinks and nibbles.
Ice creams available.

Rescheduled from June

Les Liaisons Dangereuses

by Christopher Hampton, based on the novel by Pierre Choderlos de Laclos, directed by Marianne Elliott



BAFTA Award-winner Lesley Manville (*Phantom Thread*) joins Aidan Turner (*Rivals*) in a striking new staging. Among the glittering salons of the super-rich, one misstep can mean ruin.

Filmed live on stage at the National Theatre, Marianne Elliott (*Angels in America*) directs this thrilling game of love, lies, and social warfare.



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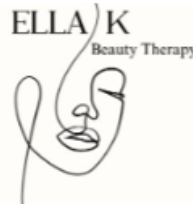
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Notes from WDN History Group – ‘Listed lists’

If you haven't watched Kevin McCloud's series 'Listed Britain', have a look on catch-up (Channel 4). There's five episodes travelling the length and breadth of the country uncovering stories behind some of Britain's most remarkable buildings and structures. It's quite a range (of old, new, and unusual) from Chatsworth House to Coventry Cathedral, even the Penguin Pool at London Zoo!

There are over 60 listed buildings in our three parishes. No surprise that all three parish churches are on the list and the many old houses and farm buildings. But did you know that the red telephone kiosk in Newnham is listed as the design is considered a milestone of 20th century industrial design. And then there is the 18th century chest tomb in Doddington churchyard (see photo) inscribed to Edward Bentham, who lived at Down Court.



Listing is a legal protection, so that alterations which might change the character of a building need consent from local planning authorities. A limited number of ancient monuments were given protection in 1882; however the main effort to list and protect buildings came about due to the extensive damage caused by bombing during the Second World War and the need to decide whether to restore or rebuild properties. The Town and Country Planning Act of 1947 with its more comprehensive listing process then developed from the wartime system.

Nature Notes

Ants are remarkable insects. They share common ancestry with bees and wasps, and all ant species are 'social' insects with egg-laying queens, non-reproductive female workers, and males which exist only for reproduction. They can form large, long-lived colonies and individual queens can live for a number of years. Ants are considered to be 'ecosystem engineers' as they can move huge amounts of soil (Yellow Meadow Ants may move up to 7 tonnes of soil per hectare per year where they are particularly dense), and maybe almost as effective as earthworms in turning over soil.

They also have a strong effect on other plant and animal species. Many ant species are predatory, preying on other invertebrates. Others are very dependent on aphids, eating the sugary honeydew which aphids produce as a waste product, and tending and protecting the aphids: Yellow Meadow Ants even bring aphids into their nests before settling down to winter hibernation, as if corralling cattle. A number of different plants get ants to distribute their seeds by producing seeds which have an external fat body – ants will collect the seeds and carry them back to the nest, before feeding on the fat body and then chucking the rest of the seed away – when it can then germinate.

There are around 60 species of ant in the British Isles, and I have records of 11 different species locally (5 just in the garden), though there are undoubtedly more to be found. Mostly we don't notice ants unless, like the common Black Ant will often do, they come into the house. Many species either live almost entirely underground (like the Yellow Meadow Ant) or spend most of their time in tree-tops with aphids. When we do notice them, it's usually on a flying-ant day. What we call flying ants are the winged sexual generation produced each year: newly produced queens and males which emerge in huge numbers and mate. The males then die, and the mated queens then disperse, land, bite off their own wings and start founding new colonies. Emerging together in huge numbers (apparently triggered by local weather conditions) increases the chances of successful reproduction, and reduces the chances of being eaten by a Starling, gull or other predator.

Want to know more about ants? This low-cost guide is excellent <https://www.field-studies-council.org/shop/publications/ants-aidgap/>.



Helping wildlife thrive in Newnham by growing together; sharing ideas and creating nature-friendly gardens and village spaces.

This month's focus is on **water**.

Whatever birds, mammals or insects visit your garden they all have one thing in common: they get thirsty. Not for them the delights of The George but simple clean H₂O to drink, and maybe also to bathe and to fish. Of all the things you could do to make your garden wildlife friendly, providing water is top of the list. You could literally be a lifesaver for a dehydrated critter.

If your space is very limited, a saucer filled with gravel and topped up with water will provide a place for insects to drink. If you have slightly more room, a shallow bowl on the ground will also allow birds and mammals to drink and bathe. If you're able to really splash out, a pond is well worth the space and it'll reward you in bucketfuls.

Ponds don't have to be huge to be useful – any size container will do. There's good advice to be found, for example <https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/actions/how-create-mini-pond>. If you're going to create a large pond it's worth doing all the research first, including the possibility of a swale (a shallow channel for storm water). It's not the sort of thing you want to have to re-site, or even re-model, later on!

Whatever you do, make sure it's safe for you and your family, and also that it has safe, easy access and exits for visiting wildlife. One word of caution: don't introduce frogspawn, or anything from another pond as you could spread disease. I wouldn't add fish either. Just be patient. Build it and they will come.

Mary Golder-Hayes

Our wildlife are not the only ones dependent on water. We have generally been able to rely on it being 'on tap' when we need it. However, that seems to be changing. Water is a precious resource and one which we can no longer take for granted.

We have been warned that water shortages are now inevitable throughout the summer, and whatever we can do to save any excess now will pay dividends when, probably rather than if, the taps run dry.

When we first moved to Newnham, we were shocked how quickly our cesspit filled up. (Just 6 weeks with normal toilet, washing up and showering etc.) We realised that, aside from the expense, so much perfectly clean water was going straight down the drain, to be mixed with dirty water, to be processed all over again.

Water butts are invaluable in saving not just rainwater, which can also be in short supply over the summer, but also clean water from the house that would otherwise head straight back into the sewage system.

To save it going into the cesspit, we have got into the habit of saving clean water run when waiting for hot/cold water to come through the taps and pour it into a water butt kept outside the back door. This is then used to water the garden, fill the bird baths etc. and is also a handy reserve to flush the loo should there ever be a problem with supply.

For more information about storing water effectively and safely head to the RHS website:

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/garden-jobs/water-collecting-storing-and-using>

Grey water from baths and showers can also be used for watering most areas of the garden, if harsh chemicals and soaps aren't used. However, this is best used the same day as, after 24 hours, bacteria can build up if stored. The areas that you should be wary of using grey water would be on edible crops.

The RHS also have good information about using grey water in the garden: <https://www.rhs.org.uk/science/gardening-in-a-changing-world/water-use-in-gardens/using-grey-water>.

As well as the ways that using water in the garden can help garden wildlife directly, frugal water usage can prevent lower water levels and reduced oxygen in waterways, helping to create a healthier habitat for fish and other aquatic species to survive. And we only need to see the number of reports of overflows into rivers and around our coastline, to realise that the current systems just cannot deal with the amount of wastewater that needs processing.

And an additional bonus, we have halved the costs of cesspit emptying!

Clare Woolston

**Share your own ideas and projects:
Facebook group: Wild About Newnham**



DIARY OF EVENTS – 2026

1 st July 1.00–3.00pm	Games Afternoon (see page 14)	Doddington Village Hall
9 th July 7.30pm	Newnham Parish Council	Newnham Village Hall
11 th July 7.30pm	Cantiana Choir Concert (see page 14)	Doddington Church
13 th July 7.30pm	Doddington Parish Council	Doddington Village Hall
19 th July 10.30am	Warm Hearts Gathering (see page 3)	Doddington Village Hall
24 th July 2.00pm	Together in Boots (see page 3)	Doddington Church
31 st July, 7.30pm	National Theatre Live (see page 14)	Doddington Village Hall
8 th August 12.20–17.00pm	Doddington Ukulele Festival	Chequers Inn
30 th August 10.00am	QRRA Veterans' Breakfast (see page 14)	John Wright Memorial Field
12 th September	Doddington & District Village Show (see page 9)	Doddington Village Hall

and see page 7 for regular events and activities

MOBILE LIBRARY

Sunnyside, Doddington. Wednesday mornings 9.45am to 10.15am
(fortnightly excluding bank holidays).

Next dates: 1st July, 15th July, 29th July



WHAT HAVE WE BEEN READING? – *THE METEORITES, Encounters with Outer Space & Deep Time* by Helen Gordon (2025).

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? – A mind-boggling account of the direct contact with the extra-terrestrial that even you or I could experience! Beautifully written with a very human touch. The author intertwines cutting-edge scientific research, with the work of amateur astronomers and obsessive collectors. From people collecting cosmic dust on top of Rochester Cathedral, to geologists digging up a meteorite-hit patch of a suburban front drive in the Cotswolds, to the incredible prices paid at the World Meteorite Fair, to nomadic Bedouins collecting meteorites from the Sahara Desert in a 20th century 'gold rush'. Plenty of accounts from art, folklore and history as well as the amazing scientific facts.

WAS IT ON THE MOBILE LIBRARY? – Yes, an impulse pick from the shelves.



Did you know Newnham has a village WhatsApp group, where we share news, advice and information or ask for help when needed? All villagers are welcome to join.
Contact Steve on 07540898617

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