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NOVEMBER 2026



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CHURCH SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE NOVEMBER 2026

1st November	9.00am	Morning Prayer	via website & FB
All Saints	**9.00am***	**Holy Communion**	**Doddington**
All Souls	10.30am	Morning Worship	Teynham
	10.30am	Morning Worship Harvest	Norton
	10.30am	Holy Communion	Eastling
	**** Please note time change for this month***		
8th November	9.00am	Morning Prayer	via website & FB
Remembrance	10.30am	Remembrance	Lynsted
	10.30am	Remembrance	Oare
	10.30am	Remembrance	Throwley
	3.00pm	**Remembrance**	**Doddington & Newnham War Memorial**
15th November	9.00am	Morning Prayer	via website & FB
2 b4 Advent	9.00am	Breakfast Church	Oare
Safeguarding Sun	10.30am	Morning Worship	Teynham
	10.30am	Holy Communion	Norton
	10.30am	Delaune Memorial Service	Newnham
	10.30am	**Warm Hearts Gathering**	**Doddington Village Hall**
	10.30am	Morning Worship	Eastling
22nd November	9.00am	Morning Prayer	via website & FB
Christ the King	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
29th November	**10.30am**	**Benefice Holy Communion**	**Newnham**
Advent 1	4.00pm	Lantern Service	Oare

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

www.kingsdownandcreekside.co.uk

Rector: Paula Jardine-RoseParish 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

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Warm Hearts Gathering

Sunday 15th November 10.30am -11.30am

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FAITH FEATURE - CLOTHED WITH LOVE

In true British tradition, let's talk about the weather. The weather seems to change from one day to the next, leaving us wondering what to wear: a T-shirt or pullover, a winter coat or light jacket. We have to make a choice, although we may still end up feeling either too hot or too cold. In his letter to the Colossians, St Paul uses the image of clothing to describe the Christian life. He urges believers to put on the qualities of Christ and, above all, to clothe themselves with love.

The Colossians lived in the ancient city of Colossae, situated on an important trade route through the Lycus River Valley in the Roman province of Asia Minor, in what is now modern-day Turkey. The city was known for its "Colossinum", a rich, dark-red woollen cloth.

Paul calls the believers to "put on love". Love is presented as a garment more beautiful and significant than even the celebrated red robes of Colossae. It reveals the believer's true identity as a follower of Christ and makes that belonging visible to others.

To clothe ourselves with love is an intentional choice we make each day, just like our choice of physical clothes, and through our love, compassionate words and actions, we reflect his character and make his love visible in a broken world.

Ultimately, love is the most beautiful and defining garment that anyone can wear. It shows that we belong to Christ and invites others to see something of his grace and glory through us. Amen

Rev. Paula

Newnham Church Ground Force Saturday 7th November at 9am

The Church Wardens would like to invite you to an autumn clean-up of the grounds of Newnham Church and the Newnham Lane Cemetery from 9am to 12 noon. We hope you will be able to join us if only for an hour or so. Because of the efforts of David, Zoe & Jo around the church and Richard in the cemetery, much of the work will be leaf raking, weeding and pruning. However, the inside of the church needs some cleaning and tidying, especially in those less accessible areas so please bring some cleaning materials and your portable hoover if you have one. There will be some gardening equipment available to use but please feel free to bring your own gear.
Robert will be bringing his pick-up truck to cart the prunings away, no village bonfires!

There will be tea, coffee and snacks available in the church during the morning.

Contacts—Bruce 890550 or David 890240

Friends of Kent Churches Ride & Stride



Many thanks to all those who sponsored me for this year's cycle ride. I visited 34 churches along the Augustine Camino route from Newnham to Ramsgate raising **£634.20**.

Bruce Leckie

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Thanks!



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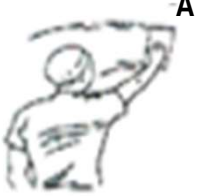
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Doddington Village Hall (unless otherwise stated)

Weekly

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 9.30am. Bookings and contact details: Anita Keith 07789 200628 www.createcalm.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 karennpotts@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: *M*eet 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

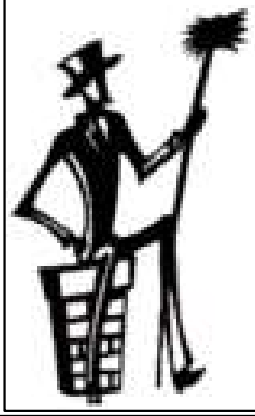
Claire Jones, KCC Community Warden – 07779 876993 claire.jones4@kent.gov.uk

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 12 October 2026

PLANNING MATTERS

Proposed Highsted Park
Ref: 21/503914/EIOUT Location: Land South And East Of Sittingbourne Kent
Ref: 21/503906/EIOUT Location: Land To The West Of Teynham London Road Teynham
The Council continues to work with the Teynham & Highsted Community Action Group and a decision on the proposals is expected in November.

Ref: 26/503103/FULL
Address: Bistock, Old Thatch Doddington Lane Doddington Kent ME9 0AX
Proposal: Erection of a summer house (retrospective).
Councillors considered the application and had no comment to make.

FLOWER BED BY THE CHEQUERS
The Council is extremely grateful to Mr and Mrs Law for replanting and maintaining this area.

HIGHWAYS
Kent Highways has still not reinstated the agreed six-monthly inspections of the drains in the Old Lenham Road. The matter has now been escalated to a formal complaint, and a response has been promised by 20 October. A full road sweep to clear encroaching vegetation and other accumulated detritus is scheduled for 7 December.

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

PLAYING FIELD
A decision on the grant application to improve the play area is expected in November.

PARKING ON PAVEMENTS
This continues to be an issue in the village and creates a hazard for pedestrians especially those in wheel chairs or pushing buggies. The Parish Council would like to remind residents to park considerately and if you have visitors or business customers, please ask them not to park on the pavement. Thank you for helping to keep pedestrians safe.

POLICE
Poaching and hare coursing remain a big problem and a police priority. If residents witness an incident call 999 if the offenders are currently on land, there is an immediate threat to people, wildlife or property, or vehicles are actively involved.
Please do not approach suspected poachers. Instead, make a note of descriptions of offenders, vehicle registrations, locations and times, and report the information to police as soon as possible.
If the incident is not an emergency please report the matter via the Kent Police website https://www.kent.police.uk/. or phone 101.
Information can also be provided anonymously through Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

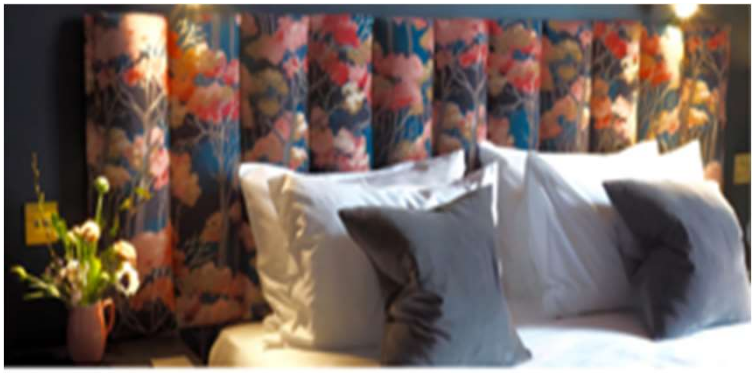
DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

Monday 9 November 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/

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NEWNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Emma Turner 07879 225544, Councillors Sue Gunner 890627, Matthew Fray, Angela Dye, Don Cockrill and Jane Crampton.

Clerk: clerk@newnham-pc.gov.uk

Minutes from Meeting 8th October 2026
Newnham Village Hall
Present: Cllrs Turner, Dye, Crampton and Woolston
In attendance: Parish Clerk, 2 members of the public
Absent: Cllr Fray
Apologies were noted from Cllr Lehmann

2627/032 Apologies for Absence
Apologies were received from Cllrs Gunner and Cockrill.

2627/033 Declarations of Interest
None

2627/034 Co-option of Parish Councillor
Cllr Turner proposed, seconded by Cllr Dye and on being put to the meeting it was RESOLVED to co-opted Paul Woolston as a parish councillor.

2627/035 Minutes of the Previous Meeting
Cllr Turner proposed, seconded by Cllr Crampton and on being put to the meeting the Minutes of the Meeting dated 10th September 2026 were approved.

2627/036 Matters Arising
None

2627/037 Open Session
A member of the public noted that the village hall required a new cooker and asked whether the parish council would purchase one. It was reported that a repair was currently being sought in the first instance.
PC Gary Morris's report was noted.
A report of flytipping in Frith Road had been made. Lake Newnham was raised and will be reported to KCC for action.

2627/038 Village Hall – Community Resilience
A second quote for a battery back up was awaited, together with a quote for WIFI. The battery would be sited in a fireproof cupboard and would enable the village hall to be used as a warm hub during power cuts.

2627/039 Speedwatch
No further update.

2627/040 Finance
The Clerk confirmed that second precept payment had been received.

2627/041 Items for Report
There was an interest in running events in the village hall, such as baby rhyme time for parents and babies.
The distinction between the two Highsted was made, with Newnham being part of the Highsted Action Group and not Five Parishes.

The meeting closed at 8.04pm
The next meeting will take place on 12th November 2026 at 7.30pm

Newnham Church Clock Update

Earlier in the year, visiting bell ringers discovered that part of the refurbished mechanism for the clock chiming hammer was fouling the tenor bell. Consequently, clock chiming was disabled to avoid the risk of damage. It has taken a long time and a lot of cajoling to get the Cumbria Clock Company to address the issue. A site visit took place finally on 13th October. The issue has now been resolved and hour striking during the day has resumed. The restoration works are now complete.

Feedback after initial recommissioning, a good while back now, was that chiming was not as loud as before the restoration works. Chiming is now as loud as it can be within the limitations of the hammer mechanism. We have removed the baffling from the louvres in attempt to increase the volume experienced outside.

Bruce Leckie

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Doddington, Chequers	**0934…..1208…..1438**
Lynsted Church	0940…..1214…..1444
Teynham Railway Station	0949…..1220…..1450
Oare, Three Mariners	1000…..1230…..1500
Davington, Broomfield Rd	1007…..1237…..1507
Faversham Court St	**1009…..1239 …..1509**
Faversham Court St	**1144…..1414…..1544**
Faversham Station	1146…..1416…..1546
Bysing Wood Sainsburys	1151…..1421…..Drop-off
Newnham, George Inn	**1205…..1435…..**Drop-off
Doddington, Chequers	**1208…..1438…..**Drop-off

Full route and timetable details on the Faversham Town Council website https://favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk.

NEWNHAM VILLAGE HALL LOTTERY

The winning numbers in the October Draws are as follows

1st – 9
2nd – 44
3rd - 84

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

MOBILE LIBRARY



Sunnyside, Doddington.
Wednesday mornings
9.45am to 10.15am
(fortnightly excluding bank holidays).
Next dates: 11th Nov, 25th Nov, 9th Dec

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN READING?

WHICH BOOK? – THE ART OF A LIE by Laura Shepherd-Robinson published 2025.

WHAT IS IT ABOUT? – A thriller set in the mid-1800s which begins at the 'The Punchbowl & Pineapple' a confectionery shop in Picadilly. Recently widowed Hannah is struggling to keep the business going so is delighted to discover that her husband's had a secret bank account with large amount of money. Perhaps she can invest in the new Italian delicacy, ice cream! Now begins the mystery of where the money came from and her husband's double-life. There are more twists and turns than the barley sugars in Hannah's shop.

WAS IT ON THE MOBILE LIBRARY? – Yes

A beautifully written book, full of historical detail as well as being a gripping read.

Please send all copy
for this newsletter to:
dnwnewsletter@outlook.com
Thanks!

NEWNHAM ADVENT WINDOWS

Any decorative ideas welcome!

If you would like to display an advent window, please contact Sally Wickenden on 01795 890965
swickenden@me.com

www.PageBorders.net

Newnham Village Hall Christmas Fair

Saturday 21st November

1-4pm

Come and see in the season with friends and neighbours!



All proceeds go to the village hall + a donation to the church

Any donations for the raffle or cake stall greatly appreciated!
Please drop at 15 The Street or on the morning at the hall.



Doddington Village Hall

The Valley Players present

Peter Pan

Friday 4th December - 7.30pm

Saturday 5th - 2.00pm and 7.30pm

Sunday 6th - 2.00pm and 7.30pm

Tickets: Adults £10 Under 16 £3

Available from Doddington Service Station, Chequers Inn and Doughty's butchers, or ring 07944 284173

Nature Notes

At the time of writing, it doesn't feel very autumnal, but bird migration is underway. In the first week of October, I saw a couple of small groups of **Redwings** overhead. Many other birds are on the move, and several social media posts have noted the large number of **Chaffinches** crossing the channel into Kent. The late Jim Flegg, in his book on bird migration, *Time to Fly*, says that Britain's Chaffinch population doubles in winter, as large numbers of birds migrate here from Norway, Sweden, and even as far away as Russia. The route these birds follow takes them southwards through mainland Europe, before they make the short sea crossing into south-east England, from where they disperse across Britain. Interestingly, it is the female Chaffinches which make the longest journeys, males generally staying closer to home. In fact, the preponderance of male birds in Scandinavia in winter is such that Linnaeus named the Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*, meaning 'bachelor finch', the scientific name which it bears to this day.

With the damp, mild weather, fungi should start to appear. It has been a slow start to the fungus season, though I did recently attend a meeting of Kent Field Club (the natural history society of Kent) at Wichling Wood, where we came across a number of interesting species. I always find fungi hard to identify, but I do still enjoy the amazing range of shapes and colours. Fungus experts also use taste and smell, and I did find myself tasting the milky sap of the **Fiery Milkcap** *Lactarius pyrogalus* – once it had been identified by an expert, so I knew it was safe – and it certainly lived up to its name! It was also clear why **The Miller** *Clitopilus prunulus* was so named, it having a strong smell of flour!

In mid-October, the government released the latest data on the fortunes of common breeding birds in the UK. These show that bird populations are at the lowest they have ever been since records started being collected in 1970. Figures cover 132 species, and are based on averaging changes in the populations of the different species. So not all species have declined in breeding numbers – some, like the Red Kite, have increased – but the number of declining species far outweighs the successful ones. As a result, the combined breeding bird index shows an overall decline in numbers of 19% between 1970 and 2025.

Most of this decline happened between the late 1970s and early 1990s, with the index then remaining stable (though not improving) for some years. However, since 2015, there has been further decline, with a drop of 5% just in the last five years.

The big problems are with farmland birds, woodland birds and seabirds. Farmland birds show the steepest declines, with populations at less than 40% of their 1970 numbers. A few farmland species have increased in population, including Woodpigeon (no surprise there!), Jackdaw, Goldfinch and Stock Dove. But Skylarks, Yellowhammers, Starlings, Greenfinches, Lapwings, Grey Partridges and others all show major, long-term declines.

With woodland birds, there are more winners, with Great Spotted Woodpecker, Blackcap, Siskin and Nuthatch amongst those that have increased substantially in numbers. But major declines in species such as Nightingale, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, Marsh Tit and Spotted Flycatcher outweigh the successes – overall, the index for woodland breeding birds is down by more than 30% since 1970.

For seabirds, the breeding bird index only goes back to 1986, since when it has fallen by some 50%. A long-term decline slowed almost to a halt in the early 2010s, but the last five years show a sudden, steep decline which is likely to be due to avian flu or High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza (HPAI), a disease originating in large poultry farms in Asia before crossing into wild bird populations and spreading globally. The decline of the UK's seabirds is particularly worrying, as our country is of global importance for these birds: we have 8% of all the worlds Puffins, 70% of the world's Gannets, and a staggering 96% of the world's Manx Shearwaters.

Only wetland bird populations have remained stable on average, though this does mask some big changes, such as the 95% decline in Yellow Wagtail populations.

Richard Moyse

Helping Our Wildlife Through Autumn

We've mostly all loved the prolonged warmth, but alas, it has consequences for our fluffy, furry, feathered and spiky friends! Following a punishingly hot summer, wildlife around our village faces real challenges as we head into the season of mist and mellow fruitfulness. Our highly porous chalk landscape drains quickly, leaving wildlife short of water and food.

The Hardships Facing Our Wildlife

1. Rock-Hard Soils and Malnutrition
Our valley slopes and surrounding fields have baked into a concrete-like crust.
Earthworms retreat underground in search of moisture, making them harder for birds and hedgehogs to reach.
Lucky for the worms, but not the hungry birds and hedgehogs!
Affected wildlife: Wildlife rescues across Kent report malnourished hedgehogs and underweight hoglets struggling to reach the weight needed for hibernation.

2. A "False Autumn" and Food Shortages
Summer heat stresses trees such as beech, cherry and horse chestnut, triggering a "false autumn". Berries and nuts ripen and fall weeks early.
Affected wildlife: Woodland birds and small mammals, including dormice, face food shortages just when they need reserves for winter or migration.

3. Vanishing Springs and Ponds
Drought lowers groundwater levels, causing field ponds, ditches and headwaters to dry up or become stagnant.
Affected wildlife: Frogs, toads and newts lose vital damp refuges. Falling water levels in larger water bodies can also raise temperatures and reduce oxygen, threatening fish and aquatic insects.

4. Habitat Loss and Road Accidents
As orchards, fields and woodlands dry out, wildlife ventures into gardens and across roads searching for food and water.
Affected wildlife: Deer, foxes and hedgehogs face greater risks from traffic on the A2 and local lanes.

How We Can Help

• Provide water: Put out shallow bowls with pebbles or stones so insects and small mammals can drink safely.
• Offer suitable food: Meat-based wet cat or dog food (not fish) for hedgehogs; apple chunks for ground-feeding birds. High-energy seed and fat balls help tits, blackbirds, starlings and woodpeckers. Use lard, not non-setting fats, which can damage feather waterproofing.
• Plant for winter: Holly, rowan, crab apple and hawthorn provide berries and fruit.
• Leave things wild: Keep long grass, log piles and stone slabs for shelter. Leave conkers and acorns for squirrels and windfall fruit under trees. Check leaf and wood piles before lighting Bonfire Night fires.
• Create safe habitats: Put up bug hotels, bird boxes and bat boxes. Leave ivy unpruned to provide late-season flowers and shelter for insects.

As we gather our harvests and fluff up our blankets, let's remember our wild neighbours and provide food, water and shelter. Have fun sharing and caring!

Angela Dye

How to get involved! Whatsapp Group: 07504-954-544

Wild About Newnham Facebook Group

DIARY OF EVENTS - 2026

7th November 9.00am	Newnham Church Ground Force (see page 5)	Newnham Church
9th November 7.30pm	Doddington Parish Council	Doddington Village Hall
11th Nov. 9.45-10.15am	Mobile Library (see page 12)	Sunnyside, Doddington
12th November 7.30pm	Newnham Parish Council	Newnham Village Hall
13th November 7.00pm	Doddington Derby Race Night (see page 13)	Doddington Village Hall
15th November 10.30am	Warm Hearts Gathering (see page 3)	Doddington Village Hall
21st November 1-4pm	Christmas Fair (see page 13)	Newnham Village Hall
25th Nov. 9.45-10.15am	Mobile Library (see page 12)	Sunnyside, Doddington
4th December 7.30pm 5th December 2pm & 7.30pm 6th December 2pm & 7.30pm	The Valley Players – Peter Pan (see page 13 for details)	Doddington Village Hall
9th Dec. 9.45-10.15am	Mobile Library (see page 12)	Sunnyside, Doddington
18th December 7.30pm	Cantiana Christmas Concert	Newnham Church

and see page 7 for regular events and activities

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

Mobile Post Office

The Post Office van calls at The Chequers car park, Doddington

Every Monday between 11.20 and 11.50am
(except Bank Holidays)

NEWSLETTER - AVAILABLE IN EITHER PAPER COPY DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR OR VIA EMAIL

All copy must be received by 6pm on the 20th of the preceding month

Copy preferred in email or as an attachment to:
dnwnewsletter@outlook.com

Please send text in email or as MS Word document or similar.
Images as jpeg or png.