

The Rotherwick News

January/February 2024

Volume 36 Edition 1

SUNSET OVER THE SCHOOL



Taken by Maisey Pepper

Pen and Ink

So sometimes my head is bursting with things to share with you and then I think would you really be interested in reading that? So with that in mind let's talk about drawing.

Thinking ahead, how's the new year resolutions going?

I personally didn't make any but this year I'd like my drawings to get better. When sketching out and about, I would like to be a little quicker. At the moment as a rough guide I can order food and a drink in a pub and I pretty much have finished my sketch by the time the food arrives.

These sketches I will usually add colour to sometime later. I would like to try painting outside in a street somewhere. I'm quite confident with my current level of sketching and I'm happy to chat to people when they talk to me about what or why I'm sketching something, but painting I feel is a little more involved. Warmer weather I feel, would probably be the best time to try.

So below we have an example. On the 31st Dec 2023 we were in Kingsbury Episcopi, Somerset. The pub where we stopped for a drink and something to eat was The Wyndham Arms. It was cold so I quickly took a photo of the pub from outside and then whilst we were sat in the pub, basking in the warmth of the open fire, I managed to get this sketch done. A few days later I added a bit of colour.



The Wykeham Arms however, was sketched on the 6th Jan 2024 whilst my beer was being drunk and my dinner of Wyk pie was being cooked. Each sketch is approx 20-30 mins to draw.



They are done with pen rather than pencil as I feel it makes you concentrate and look at the details more. Sure there are wobbly lines and mistakes on these, but at the end of the day they are mine. They are my memories, and they live in one of the many sketchbooks I now own. I have just started book number 4, a year to the day that I started my first sketch book.

I find sketching very relaxing. Wearing glasses is a bit of a pain though. I keep them perched on my head or on the tip of my nose for the close ups.

Colour, I use water colour paints, although I did get bought some Gouache paints for Christmas which I haven't tried yet.

I do sketch everyday, sometimes at breakfast, sometimes at lunch. I might even sketch something when I have a tea break.

Below are an example of a breakfast sketch, followed by a very quick lunchtime one, then in the evening I will sometimes draw house portraits.



I love drawing and especially sketching, it's something that anyone can do and as hobbies go, it's cheap.

I save every sketch and drawing, these you can see if you visit me on instagram [@danartisan](#)

Go on, get your pens or pencils out, give it a go!



Ramblings of Rotherwick



Quiz of the Month

January Questions

1. In which decade was family allowance first introduced in the UK?
2. In which Spanish city was the Guggenheim Museum opened in October 1997?
3. What flavour is the liqueur, Tia Maria?
4. In the book by Edith Nesbit, name any of the first names of "The Railway Children"?
5. What does the medical condition Bradycardia mean?
6. Who played Rodney Trotter in the long running series "Only Fools and Horses"?
7. What was the name of the 80's musical duo that consisted of Andy Bell and Vince Clarke?
8. Which British explorer was the first to see Victoria Falls?
9. What was the best-selling Scotch whisky brand in the world in 2022?
10. Who became acting President of Russia after Boris Yeltsin's unexpected resignation on December 31st 1999?

'Quizinquisitor'

Answers to last month's quiz are on page 16



COMMUNITY LITTER PICK

SATURDAY 23rd MARCH 2024 FROM 12 NOON



Why not join in with the next litter pick

This year's '**Spring Clean**' will take place on Saturday 23rd March and we would like to invite all residents to join the Parish Council for a few hours litter picking.

We will be meeting at the **Church at 12.00 noon**, where refreshments and equipment will be provided.

This is a great opportunity to make a difference to our village as well as meet other residents. We hope to see you there.

Rotherwick Parish Council

www.rotherwick.org.uk
clerk@rotherwick.org.uk

The battle resumes! Warehouses at Junction 5? - an update from VOW (Villages Oppose Warehouses)

The threat to the rural character of NE Hampshire as a great place to live has not gone away. The speculative proposal for an enormous warehouse development on 80 acres of farmland adjacent to Junction 5 of the Motorway is still alive and kicking.

To combat this assault a pressure group called Villages Oppose Warehouses, or VOW, has been set up by North Warnborough citizens. See www.villagesopposewarehouses.org.

As most will know, the Pre-Application was received by Hart District Council in 2022. It was eventually rejected by Hart on several grounds – but principally because of its non-conformance with local plans and policies. However, the London-based developer, “Obsidian Strategic”, has popped up again and has announced its intention to submit a new Outline Application some time in February/March this year.

Hart will publish the Outline Application, when received, on its planning website and will invite comments. If the proposals are to be rejected again it is absolutely critical that a large number of comments from individuals opposing the Application are received by Hart.

But why should you?

The developer’s plans show 5 very large warehouses on land bordering the Motorway. The total warehouse floor area is some 90,000 sq metres – making it 20% larger than a very similar site planned for Junction 7 and one of the very largest in the UK. You could fit 46 league football pitches into 80 acres! Each warehouse is some 20m tall – that’s about a 7-storey office block.

The local flood risk, already ever-present on the M3 at Junction 5, will be increased significantly. In addition to increased incidents of flooding there are serious environmental and bio-diversity issues resulting from the proximity of SSSIs at Bartley Heath.

BUT the issue that should be of real concern to all neighbouring parishes is that of traffic on surrounding roads. The developer has declared that the site will operate round the clock, meaning 24 hours a day, every day, non-stop throughout the year. The developer’s own figures claim over 14,000 – yes: that’s right: over 14,000 - vehicle movements per 24 hours. A significant number of these will be HGVs. Will the Motorway and Junction 5 cope with these numbers? Consider this: an extra vehicle, mainly HGVs, entering or leaving Hart’s road infrastructure every 7 seconds, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week will not add to the quality of life for anyone in Hart.
Continued on next page.

Especially when all of those vehicles start looking for 'least cost' routes or 'rat runs' and backroads in the event of traffic delays. Junction 5, Hook, the A30 and the A287 are going to feel that impact as well as Odiham, Crondall, South Warnborough, Hartley Wintney, etc.

Recent research (Hampshire Chronicle, 7 Jan) by Claims.co.uk has shown that Hampshire is already the most congested county in the UK. Are we really willing to add to this?

So – what can Rotherwick do to influence the outcome?

VOW is discussing with the Parish Council – and other local authorities - how the Council, as a body, can influence Hart's eventual decision. But, just as important, will be action from you, as local residents. Not only can you register your concerns with Hart when Hart asks for your opinion, you can also alert any of your friends and neighbours who might not be reading this to what's about to happen to this part of rural Hampshire. When the time comes – in February or March - it will up to all of us to stand up and be counted.

David Harrington

Villages Oppose Warehouses is a Community Interest Company Limited by Guarantee.

Company Number 14403242.

Registered Address:

12 Derbyfields, North Warnborough,
Hook, Hampshire RG29 1HH

www.villagesopposewarehouses.org



In my life I have found two things of priceless worth - learning and loving. Nothing else, not fame, not power, not achievement for its own sake, can possibly have the same lasting value. For when your life is over, if you can say ' I have learned and I have loved', you will be able to say ' I have been happy'.

ARTHUR C. CLARKE

Get Gardening



I'm determined to get my vegetable garden a little more organised this year so that I have vegetables spread throughout the seasons. At the moment all I have are a few rotten turnips! Nevertheless, we seem to still have a lot of berries which may be why our garden has been full of birds this winter.

Just before Christmas we had a visit from about forty plus birds foraging and covering the lawn. They looked like small thrushes but had a creamy stripe above their eye. After taking a photo and a bit of googling I discovered they were redwings. According to the RSPB (www.rspb.org.uk) their population is decreasing in the UK



www.woodlandtrust.org.uk

and they are usually found in the open country not village back gardens! However, they can venture into gardens during a hard winter and along with berries, are partial to apples (www.woodlandtrust.org.uk), and we have lots of those! One interesting fact mentioned by The Woodland Trust is that "redwings were the first bird species which were proved to detect fruit using ultraviolet vision. This is because the waxy coatings of berries reflect UV light, making them more appealing to birds." They didn't stay long and we haven't seen them since.

However, regular visitors to our garden are magpies. There is one we named 'Hop Along'. After seeing him (I've no idea if he is in fact male, as they are difficult to tell apart) a couple of years ago hopping on one leg with his wonky tail, looking as though he'd been in a fight, we never thought we'd see him again. But he is regularly in our garden. Before 'Hop Along' I'd not thought much about magpies, but being part of the corvid order and related to crows they are intelligent and social birds that apparently can live up to 30 years. They used to be called 'Maggie Pie' and apparently it is an old wives tale that they steal shiny objects -



they are more likely to be scared of anything shiny (www.focusonwildlife.com). However, they are sometimes known to eat other birds eggs and even their fledglings which is why they are sometimes thought to be thieves (www.animalfacts.net). Along with the crows, magpies do like a good dig in our lawn when searching for food but I'd

twi.co.uk/news/farm-policy

rather have them than pigeons any day. Even though magpies go around in groups they mate for life, don't migrate and stay within 10kms of their breeding territory. They nest only when breeding and sleep on branches when apparently their feet lock onto the branch (hopefully stopping them swinging upside down!).

They are probably the most easily recognised birds and can be seen almost everywhere. Some countries associate them with the devil and witchcraft. Indeed, according to superstition here, a lone magpie brings bad luck. Most people know the saying:

One for sorrow, two for joy, three for a girl, four for a boy, five for silver, six for gold, seven for secrets never to be told.

However in Korea they believe magpies are a sign of good luck. (www.askwild.co.uk) and have even adopted it as their national bird.

As we have so many in our garden I also like to think they bring a lot of luck and that my 2024 vegetable patch will thrive!

Happy New Year

Catherine

Rotherwick Badminton Club is looking for new members.

Want to get fit after Christmas?

Have you played badminton before?

If the answer to both those questions is yes, why not give us a try?

We play on Thursday nights between 8 pm and 10 pm at Rotherwick Village Hall.

We offer a free trial session.

For more details, email rbc@rjne.uk, call 07528 373062 or visit our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/RotherwickBC>



Start the new year by joining Rotherwick Badminton Club!

YOUR CRICKET CLUB NEEDS YOU



A plea from Rotherwick Cricket Club

As we announced last month, we are already planning our 2024 season and eagerly await the chance to play Saturday and Mid-Week League Cricket, as well as running our Junior Section on Sundays.

We are also hoping to run our highly successful **All Stars** and **Dynamos** courses again this year for girls and boys ages 5 to 8 and 8 to 11 respectively. However, we can only do this if we recruit some new **Helpers**. That is where you come in. This is your opportunity to get involved, support your Village cricket club, meet new people, get some fresh air and most of all, have fun.

Over the past two years, over sixty boys and girls have taken part in our sessions which have introduced them to the game and have given them the opportunity to develop their hand-eye coordination, get some fresh air and exercise and have lots of fun. The courses have been a great success and are a wonderful way to let off steam at the end of the week.

As a Helper, you will be under the supervision of our Lead Activators, Chris Ball and Matthew Gasser. You do not need to have any experience or knowledge of cricket (there's nothing technical involved) and full training will be provided.

The sessions will be for just one hour from 5 to 6pm on eight Friday evenings through May and June (you even get half term off). You do not need to commit to all eight sessions and volunteering at even just one or two sessions would help us enormously.

You do not need to be fit, as it is the children who do all the running about. This means that anyone under the age of 99 is eligible.

Why not come along to give something back and help introduce youngsters to the sport. By playing cricket, children learn so much more than just how to bat or bowl.

For more information, or for an informal chat, please contact our Juniors Officer: Stuart Kennedy.

Tel: 07860 365383. E-mail: svk@3paper.co.uk.

North Hampshire Repair Cafe



Coming to:
Rotherwick Village Hall
23rd March: 10am till 1pm

We repair most household stuff, including:

Electrical products

Computers

Furniture, indoor and garden

Sewing, clothing and textiles

Teddies and toys

Knives and garden tools sharpening

Jewellery, necklaces, etc

Bicycles

For more information and booking see:

- our Website - www.NHRC.uk

- Facebook.com/northhampshirerepaircafe

Part of the RepairCafe.org global network.

Supported by HCC, BDBC, Hart Rotary & others

To All my valued customers,

The festive period was extremely busy and post-Christmas seems to be similar, hence taking this opportunity, in case I don't see you face to face, to extend my sincere thanks to the residents of Rotherwick, Hartley Wespall and Newnham for your kind cards, best wishes and thoughtful gifts throughout the festive season.

It has been great to see so many new and familiar faces over the past year, I do hope residents have had an opportunity to spend precious time with family and friends and have been able to relax over the holiday period.

It has been my pleasure to serve you for another year and I would like to wish all my customers health and happiness for the year ahead... keep you and your loved ones safe and I look forward to seeing you in 2024!

Mark, The Postman



Patient Participation Group February Update 2024

Reducing Cancer Barriers - part of NHS England's "Help Us, Help You" Campaign

Don't carry the worry of cancer with you. If something in your body doesn't feel right, contact your GP practice.

We know that many people worry about cancer, but they sometimes put off getting checked because they hope the symptoms will go away or think they will get bad news. But finding cancer early makes it more treatable and can save lives.

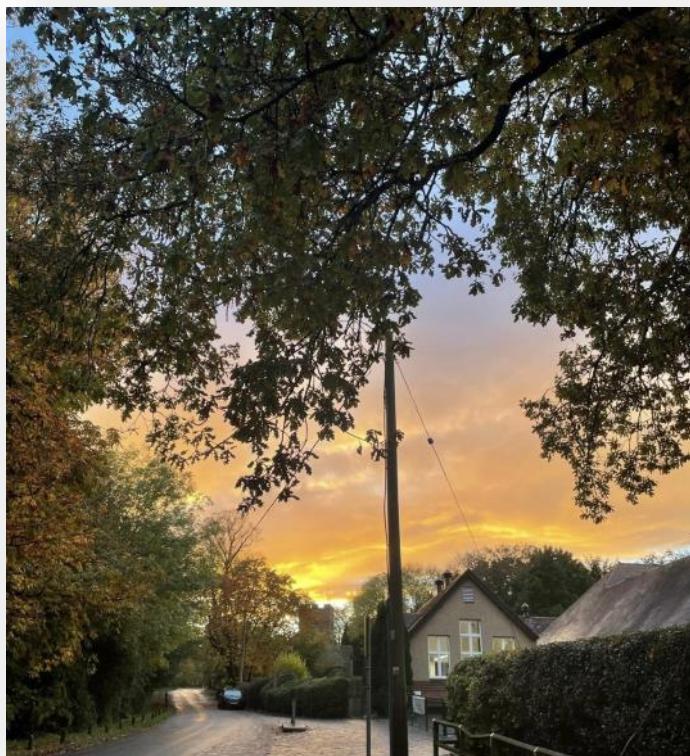
It's important that if you are worried about a symptom that could be cancer, you contact your GP practice. To rule out cancer, your GP may refer you for tests. Whatever the result, your NHS is here for you. Until you find out, you can't rule it out.

For more information on cancer signs and symptoms visit: [nhs.uk/cancersymptoms](https://www.nhs.uk/cancersymptoms)



Taken by Marion Robak around Rotherwick.





Thanks to
Maisey Pepper,
For sharing these
beautiful photos of
the sunsetting over
the school.



Maisey Pepper,
and Ann Bennett
both captured the
double rainbow
over different parts
of
Rotherwick before
Christmas.



December Quiz Answers

1. Which country first started the tradition of putting up a Christmas tree? **GERMANY**
2. Which popular Christmas beverage is also called 'milk punch'? **EGGNOG**
3. How many ghosts show up in *A Christmas Carol*? **FOUR** (the spirits of Christmas Past, Present and Future, and Jacob Marley)
4. How many gifts are there in the *12 days of Christmas* song? **364**
5. In what year was the Queen Elizabeth II's Christmas speech first televised? **1957**
6. Which film features the song '*Walking in the Air*'? **THE SNOWMAN**
7. What were Victorian mince pies made from? **MINCED BEEF**
8. In which US state would you find the town Santa Claus? **INDIANA**
9. What are the chances of a white Christmas in England?
a) 1 in 8 b) 1 in 10 c) 1 in 12? 1 in 10
10. How do you say Merry Christmas in Spanish? **FELIZ NAVIDAD**



Macmillan Nurses

I'm sure you all know of the work they do in support of Cancer Patients and their families.

They are always in need of more cash but this doesn't need to be the folding stuff! If you save your old inkjet cartridges they can be recycled and Macmillan receives the cash.

The Village Magpies have agreed to take them or just put them in an old envelope and pop them through my door "Feldheim" Wedmans Lane.

Inkjet cartridges ONLY originals or compatibles.

Many thanks,



COUNTY MATTERS – JANUARY 2024

Councillor Jonathan Glen

HCC Member for Odiham, Hook & The Western Parishes

Email: jonathan.glen@hants.gov.uk

Welcome to 2024!



Hampshire County Council's highways service is geared up for the cold weather! With overnight frosts and potential snow on the horizon, our dedicated teams are ready day and night. 🚧

Our gritter fleet is on standby with 15,500 tonnes of salt, and our blue and yellow community salt bins are stocked up too.

We are prepared for any winter challenges, from freezing conditions to heavy rainfall. ☁️ Remember, just one tablespoon of salt can treat up to one square meter of road or pavement, making a huge difference, especially for less mobile individuals.

With high groundwater levels after recent wet weather, we're taking extra measures, cleaning roadside gullies, and urging landowners to clear watercourses. Our winter vehicles are equipped with the latest tech, ensuring accurate and efficient salting with full satellite navigation guidance.

Priority one routes, covering major roads and emergency hubs, are treated first, taking about 3-4 hours. Priority two routes, including remaining B roads and village access roads, may be treated during prolonged severe weather.

For more info:



Salting routes and community salt bin locations:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/.../roadmaintenance/severeweather>



Clearing snow and ice advice: <https://www.gov.uk/clear-snow-road-path-cycleway>



Follow @hantshighways on X (formerly Twitter) for real-time updates on salting lorries throughout winter.

And remember, your input is crucial! Report surface water flooding on the highway: www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems. For flooding from a main river, contact the Environment Agency: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency or call 0800 80 70 60.

Salt bins



Wondering where to use the salt from our community bins? 🤔 Here's the scoop:



Where to Use Salt:

Community bins are stocked for public paths, pavements, and roads – keeping our shared spaces safe! ❄️⭐ No private driveways or garden paths, please.



Who Can Use the Salt:

It's a community effort! Anyone can sprinkle salt on roads and pavements, connecting main road salting to smaller access routes or school pathways. Let's join forces! 💪🚶🚗



How Much Salt to Use:

One tablespoon (20 grams) covers a square meter of road or pavement. Use it wisely – too much too soon won't last! 🙌



Clearing Snow and Ice:

Take charge of your pavements! Be your own snow warrior with some helpful advice. ❄️🛡️



How Bins Get Refilled:

We'll top up bins ASAP, especially during bad weather. In severe conditions, main roads get priority. Please be patient – we're doing our best! 🌨️🚛



Note:

Bins won't be refilled if folks are scooping up salt for personal use. Let's keep it community-focused! ❌



Everything you need to know about Hampshire's salt bins is here:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/.../roadma.../severeweather/salting>

OurHants Mobile App

Hampshire Hampshire County Council has a brand-new mobile app, 'OurHants,' is officially available for both Apple and Android devices! 🎉



We aim to bring a plethora of online services right to your fingertips through this user-friendly app. Our commitment to reliability and high standards is at the core of this digital venture, and we're taking it one step at a time.



Initially you will be able to access the complete range of County Council web pages on the app, making it easy for residents to access all services. Plus, booking appointments for Household Waste and Recycling Centres (HWRCs)!



When you book an appointment through the OurHants app, you can save key details like your vehicle registration and permits, ensuring quicker bookings in the future. Manage all your bookings seamlessly in one place and receive important updates right at your fingertips.



We're eager to hear your thoughts and will be closely monitoring how the app benefits both you and our HWRC service. Your feedback will guide us as we plan to expand the app's capabilities into other areas of online service.

 Ready to experience the convenience? Download OurHants now for FREE from the Apple App Store or Google Play! Share the news with your network, and don't forget to give it a go next time you visit an HWRC.

 OurHants - Get it on Google Play - <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details...>

 OurHants - Download on the Apple App Store - <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/ourhants/id6470827148>

This is a significant leap forward, and we're optimistic that it's just the beginning of even more positive changes and additions to our online offerings.

Hampshire Flood and Water Management Conference

 Over the past decade, HCC has been dedicated to safeguarding Hampshire from flooding, working tirelessly as the Lead Local Flood Authority. From tackling groundwater crises to implementing strategic projects, our commitment is unwavering.

We've revamped our Flood and Water Management Strategy, emphasizing a catchment-based approach and considering water as a precious resource.  Additionally, 18 Catchment Management Plans have been crafted, prioritizing areas for future flood risk reduction projects.

 Now, with action plans in motion, we're collaborating with communities and employing natural processes to lower flood risk. But we're not alone in this journey; partnerships with organizations like [Environment Agency](#), Water Companies, Coastal Partners, and Catchment Partnerships are crucial.

Looking ahead, we're planning for Hampshire's future, aiming to keep development away from vulnerable areas and implementing sustainable water management policies.  And with the impacts of Climate Change evident, we acknowledge the need for a united front against various sources of flooding.

 Joining forces under the Flood and Water Management Act, we're collaborating with Risk Management Authorities to deliver multi-agency schemes. The recent Strategic Roadmap by @EnvAgency sets the stage for Climate Resilient Places and a Nation ready to adapt.

 Tight financial situations highlight the importance of joined-up planning. We can't do it alone; strategic planning from various entities will lead to tangible on-the-ground results.

As ever, if you have questions or comments on the issues raised here, or indeed any other county council concerns, please email me. If you are looking for answers when you make contact, please include permission to forward your email to the appropriate department.

Hopefully that will speed things along!

Funding of up to £5,000 is available to deliver projects which help to reduce household waste in Hampshire, encourage community cohesion and support the local economy. Find out more and how to apply: www.hants.gov.uk/waste-prevention-community

Waste Prevention Community Grant Fund

Funding summary:



Types of organisation:



Materials targeted:



ACHIEVEMENTS

2017 - 2023

21,600,000
people
engaged online

576
tonnes of waste
prevented

11,500
items repaired

3137
low-income
residents assisted

£449,000
savings secured
for residents

38,000
kg CO₂
equivalent saved

224
events

20,000
volunteer
hours

£142,000
income generated
in local economy

3500
volunteer
opportunities created

79,000
items reused

The Rubbish
Monster
Thing

Sent to all
Hampshire
libraries, infant
and Primary
Schools

SMART
LIVING

*Figures are based on reported data. All figures over 1000 are rounded to the nearest 500. Updated September 2023.



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Your Privacy, Photos and the Rotherwick News

The magazine is distributed to all houses in the village and contains the personal data sent in by readers, residents, advertisers, charities, local organisations and members of the wider community. The magazine is also published and stored securely on the Rotherwick Parish Council website forming an historical archive of village life. If you do not want your photos or other personal data to be published on their website please contact the Rotherwick News editors at rotherwicknews@yahoo.co.uk

A note about photos

It is great to have photos in the Rotherwick News to add interest and bring an article to life. A picture paints a thousand words as they say. However, the editors are aware that photos are also personal data and as such will take every care to ensure that privacy is respected.

Before publishing any photo, the editors will always seek your permission, or in the case of children, the permission of the parents before publishing any photos sent in by a third party. This will be sought either verbally, by email or text. You may be asked to give written permission for the photo to be used. This maybe in the form of an affirmative reply to an email or text. It will be assumed that by sending in a photo of yourselves, including your children, you are giving permission for it to be published in print and online. NB: photos of children are not published in the online version.

For more information on the collection and publication by the magazine of personal data, please contact the editors at rotherwicknews@yahoo.co.uk for a copy of our Privacy Policy.

Looking Ahead



Upcoming dates

1st February - 12.30pm village lunch at the Coach & Horses. To book, please contact Tony.

1st February - Village Hall AGM at the hall 7pm

23rd March - village litter pick - see page 5

23rd March—Repair café at the village hall - see page 11

That would be good to go in the Rotherwick News!"

Thank you.... to the people who have contributed to this month's magazine. Most of the articles are signed by their author but not all. For those articles that appear to be "anonymous" the editors would like to give a mention to Dan Pearce for his contribution this month.

Please keep your articles and photos coming—they bring the magazine to life and it is so interesting to see and read about people we all know and love.

As always you can send photos and articles to rotherwicknews@yahoo.co.uk by 10th of the month. What could be easier?



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for Rotherwick Parish information and sign up for Parish Alerts