THELINK

The Magazine of The Knightley Parishes



January 2025

No. 401

THE KNIGHTLEY PARISHES



www.knightleybenefice.org.uk

An on-line version of this magazine in colour is available on the web site

Services for January 2025

	5 January	12 January	19 January	26 January	2 February
	I Christmas 2 (or Epiphany)	II Baptism of Christ (Epiphany 1)	III Epiphany 2	IV Epiphany 3	<i>I</i> Presentation of Christ (Candlemas)
Badby	11:00 Holy Communion CW [GS]	11:00 Morning Worship [Min Team]	10:00	11:00 Morning Worship [Lay SR]	11:00 Holy Communion CW [GS]
Newnham		\times	United Benefice Service of	09:15 Holy Communion CW [CP]	
Charwelton	09:15 Holy Communion BCP (Church) [GS]		Holy Communion BCP	17:00 Evensong BCP (Chapel) [Lay GH]	09:15 Holy Communion BCP (Church) [GS]
Fawsley		11:00 Holy Communion BCP [CP]	at Fawsley [LT]		
Preston Capes		09:15 Holy Communion CW [CP]	1 771	10:00 Morning Prayer BCP / CW [Lay GH]	

OTHER SERVICES

Tuesday 21 January 6.30 pm Badby ESOW

SUNDAY READINGS

Principal Service CW

- for other services see Lectionary

Date	Feast	OT Reading	NT Reading	Gospel
5 Jan	Christmas 2 (Epiphany)	Jer 31, 7-14 (Isaiah 60, 1-6)	Eph. 1, 3-14 (Eph. 3, 1-12)	John 1, 10-18 (Matt 2, 1-12)
12 Jan	Bapt of Christ	Isaiah 43, 1-7	Acts 8, 14-17	Luke 3, 15-17 & 21-22
19 Jan	Epiphany 2	Isaiah 62, 1-5	1 Cor 12, 1-11	John 2, 1-11
26 Jan	Epiphany 3	Neh, 8, 1-3 & 5-6 & 8-10	1 Cor 12, 12-31a	Luke 4, 14-21
2 Feb	Candlemas	Mal 3, 1-5	Heb 2, 14-end	Luke 2, 22-40

FROM THE REGISTERS

HOLY BAPTISM



on 24th November at Charwelton Charles Robert George Orr (by Revd. Greg Shaw)

Shine as a light in the world, to the Glory of God the Father

HOLY MATRIMONY



on 29th November at Badby Alice Elizabeth Johnston and Daniel William Robert Gibson (by Revd Canon Ann Slater)

Blessed are you, heavenly Father You give joy to bridegroom and bride

EDITORIAL

wch to our surprise the hedgehogs are still making regular appearances for food and drink; often two large ones, and also two smaller ones - presumably this years young. We would normally have expected them by now (I write this on 18th. December) to be well tucked up in the various shelters (heaps of leaves, piles of sticks, hedge bottoms etc.) available around the garden. But no, they are still feeding. I sometimes worry that they are still around as the weather gets colder, but then I think that if they are about at least they have food and drink to continue building themselves up for hibernation.

The hedgehog food manufacturers look like doing quite well out of us this winter!!

Carol services are now well under way, and I do enjoy a good carol service. The one at Charwelton was particularly enjoyable last Sunday with a very good turnout from the village, to enjoy not only the service, the Christmas story (in the words of the Authorised Version!), and the singing, but also the delicious sausage rolls, mince pies and mulled wine afterwards; not top mention the splendid decorations, the tree, the flowers. Thank you to all who provided those.

It was good to be joined once again by our friends from the local Women's Refuge (now known as the Northamptonshire Domestic Abuse Service). It never fails to amaze me how generous our villagers are when I look at the enormous pile of presents around the Christmas tree in church, all ready to be taken away at the end of the service. We hope that they will go a little way towards making the Christmases of the women and children (and men, let's not forget) who need to make use of the Refuge, a little brighter.

e hope that you all had an enjoyable Christmas, and The Link team join in wishing you a very Happy New Year.

And finally, I leave you with the thought that, according to an anonymous writer, the secret to a long and happy marriage lies in choosing a spouse with very low expectations.

David



PASTORAL LETTER

God rested – and so should we

Dear Friends

I love the episode in the gospels when, after a long day, Jesus finds a quiet place to escape on his own. The disciples discover him and like rather fussy business managers badger him saying:

"Lord, everyone is looking for you". He replies; "Let's go somewhere else"! (Mark 1.35-38)

Even our Lord Jesus Christ, needed breaks to recover from the busyness of ministry, to refresh himself, to sleep and to pray. It was a vital part of his rhythm of life.

God set a model for this when, after six full days creating the universe, the seventh day was deliberately set aside for rest. (Genesis 2.2)

Keeping a healthy pattern of work and rest (and play) is vital for all of us. This means being careful to protect Days Off and Holidays from the encroachment of work and helping each other to balance work and recreation. Clergy and laity can support good practice in looking

after ourselves appropriately. In addition, clergy are encouraged to take study leave ("sabbatical") every seven years for

personal and professional development.



I am really grateful that the Church

has granted me three months sabbatical leave from January to March next year. For half this time, I will serve as a Chaplain with the Missions to Seafarers and for the remainder will focus on catching up with my theological reading.

My colleague in the Bishops' Office, Suzanne Carter, will continue to look after the diary in preparation for my return in April. I look forward to Church and School visits and Mission Weekends later in the year.

With my prayers and best wishes,

+ ()

The Rt Revd John Holbrook Bishop of Brixworth

BENEFICE PAGE

EVENING SERVICE OF THE WORD

This short service is held once a month on the Tuesday evening following the third Sunday at St Mary's Badby at 6.30pm. There is always a brief talk about someone inspirational. All welcome! The next dates are 21 January and 18 February.

BADBY AND DISTRICT FILM SOCIETY

Friday 17th January 2025: The Importance of Being Earnest (2002)

Delightful film adaptation of Oscar Wilde's 1895 play. A comedy masterpiece, the all-star cast includes Rupert Everett, Colin Firth, Reese Witherspoon, Tom Wilkinson, Edward Fox, Anna Massey and Judi Dench. "Breezy entertainment, helped by an impressive cast... this film is a lark." (90 mins, Cert U)

Friday 31 January: Where the Crawdads Sing (2022)

Abandoned by her family, Kya Clark, otherwise known to the townspeople of Barkley Cove as the Marsh Girl, is mysterious and wild. "Where the Crawdads Sing" is a coming-of-age story of a young girl raised by the marshlands of the south in the 1950s. When the town hotshot is found dead, and inexplicably linked to Kya, the Marsh Girl is the prime suspect in his murder case. (125 mins, Cert 15)

SUDOKU

[With thanks to Robin Baker]

Puzzle No. 106

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Puzzle No. 107

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[Solutions on p 11]



PARISH NOTICES

BADBY

Correspondent - Geoff Pullin (gcsspullin@yahoo.com)

website: www.badbv-pc.gov.uk

	Reader	Sidesman	Coffee
5 Jan		J. Hall C. Wakeford	N. Shaw
12 Jan	F. Williams C. Wakeford		G. Morley
26 Jan		C. Wakeford P. Wakeford	J. Hall

CHRISTMAS

Thank you to all who supported our Christmas services at St. Mary's – our Communion Service on Christmas Day, the Carol Service on 22 December and our Christingle Service on 24 December. We are lucky to have so many people who give their time to arrange the flowers, clean the Church, ring the bells, play the organ, provide coffee and cakes, read lessons and act as sidesmen so that all the rest of us can turn up and enjoy our beautiful Church. Many thanks to all who gave presents which have

CHURCH CLEANING ROTA FOR JANUARY

since been delivered to the refuge for the homeless.

w/b 30 Dec Ann Cotton, Monique Shortt, Ann Syred w/b 6 Jan Gillie Morley, Ann Skinner w/b 13 Jan Jan Cooper, Moira Cooper w/b 20 Jan Jo Hind, Judy Jordan, Gill Nelson w/b 27 Jan Ann Cotton, Monique Shortt, Ann Syred

CHURCH DRAW

The December winners of the church draw were 1st Karen Alexander; 2nd Julianna Hall; 3rd Hilary Warburton.

CHURCH FLOWERS IN JANUARY

Thanks to the very talented flower arrangers who not only decorated the church for Christmas, but who again kept St Mary's looking beautiful all year round. If you would like to be part of the team (all abilities welcome), either to join the 2025 rota, or just to help

out at festival times, please get in touch with Jackie at jackiepeel22@gmail.com.

POPPY APPEAL

Collections in Badby for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal amounted to £298.34 – with thanks to all who contributed to the box at The Maltsters, or the collection at St Mary's Church and others who gave so generously.

COFFEE MORNING

Our next coffee morning will be on Tuesday 21 January, from 10.30am to noon, in St. Mary's Church. All are welcome, to come and drink coffee, eat cake and chat!

BELLS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

We are pleased to report a grant from the David Warren Foundation of £2,500 towards our project. There is about £6,500 to go.

T 4 U

There will be no T4U in January but the team wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year.

RECORDED MUSIC SOCIETY

The programme for Tuesday 14 January continues the journey through the alphabet, so please bring something with a composer or artist beginning with 'P' to the village hall at 2pm.

BADBY & FAWSLEY WI

We have a most interesting start to the New Year on Thursday 9 January with a talk from Julia Docherty about the Lessons (she) learnt from a 500-mile hike across Spain. If you would like to find out what a modern WI gets up to, come and visit us! Contact Jan Cooper on jancooper2012@me.com or Jackie Peel on 07870 627826.

THE VILLAGE HALL

We still have a few tickets remaining for Burns Night Dinner and Dancing on Saturday 25 January. Doors open 6.45pm for 7.15pm start – a meal of haggis, neeps and tatties (other options available) and an

evening of Scottish and country dancing. Licensed bar and raffle. Tickets £22.50 / head. Enquiries to peter.bvhmc@btinternet.com or 07792 165529.

We are looking for people to join us in small DIY and gardening work at the hall. If you can offer some occasional help, please contact Chris Lofts on chris.lofts@tiscali.co.uk or Peter Cooper (as above).



NEWNHAM

Correspondent - Ellen Henning (ellen.henning@hotmail.co.uk)

SNOWDROP SUNDAY

Once again Newnham will be celebrating the wonderful snowdrops that grow around the village. This year Snowdrop Sunday will be on the 9th. February, as well as the snowdrops there will be the usual tea and cakes.

NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER AT NEWNHAM CHURCH

10th. November was Remembrance Sunday, This saw a traditional Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial, with the names of the fallen read and the Last Post sounded. Thank You Catherine.

17th. November Holy Communion service, this was a Benefice service, where all the congregations' of Benefice join together.

24th. November Parish Holy Communion

4th. December District Guides Carol Service. This service was attended by about 100 people, Guides and their families. It was an enjoyable time, with a break for "Sheep making", these sheep are displayed in the church.

8th. December Parish Holy Communion

11th. December School Christingle Service

13th. December Brass Band Concert

15th. December Benefice Holy Communion

It is possible that with a change of printing times due to the Christmas holiday you may read this before, the end of December, so here are a couple of reminders about up coming services this month.

22nd December Christingle service at 4.00pm.

25th. December Holy Communion at 9.15. At this service we are lucky enough to have an organist,

thank you Giles.

The Parish Holy Communion service in January is at 11o'clock on 26th January.

During January the post of Priest for the Knightley Benefice will be re-advertised.

With Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year, from all at Newnham Church

CLEANING ROTA FOR JANUARY

5/1 Mr. & Mrs. Wood

12/1 Mrs. Cooke & Mrs. Rees

19/1 Ms. J Minor

26/1 Mr. & Mrs. Rees

NEWNHAM WI

Newnham WI would like to invite you all to our next meeting where we are very excited to welcome our speaker for the evening, local, award-winning horticulturist and BBC Northampton radio star, Philip Turvil MCIHort!

Phil's talk is entitled; "Growing BIG; Eight ways to grow happy plants", and he will be sharing gardening tips and tales from his 20 years experience, at Kew and beyond.

Enjoy light refreshments following Philip's talk, meet new people from Newnham and nearby and take home a happy plant from Philip's plant stall. Treat yourself or a loved one to winter colour and spring promise...

Doors open at 7.15pm for 7.30pm talk on 16th Jan 2025 at Newnham Village Hall. £5 entry per guest, both Men and Women are welcome at this exciting event.



CHARWELTON

Correspondent - David Pound (davidnound1939@talktalk net)

	Reader/Sidesman	Flowers
5 Jan	TBA	June Pound
26 Jan	Norman Blenkhorn	

Chapel cleaning				
January	Fiona Spencer			
February	Graham White			

THREE BUSY WEEKENDS...

The first got us off to a festive start with the Christmas Bingo: a big thank you to those who came along, those who provided the refreshments and those who donated the prizes.

The second involved a large team in wreath-making. This is one of those events which relies on (and helps build) a good community spirit. Bert played a part too, with his eponymous storm prompting the holly cutters to start a day early. This enabled the bunch-makers to start earlier which, in turn, took some pressure off wreath-assemblers. If you were a part of this team, thank you very much.

The third started on the Saturday afternoon with the Christingle service in the chapel. It was good to see enthusiastic children and other family members come across from the Christmas party to join the short service. There was a lovely moment when the Christingles were lit and the lights turned out.

Twenty four hours later we had the village Carol Service. The church looked a picture, with festive decorations illuminated by myriad candles. It was good to have so many people lustily singing the carols. Thank you to those who read, or provided festive refreshments, or donated presents for distribution by Northamptonshire Domestic Abuse Service (NDAS). We were pleased to welcome Glynis Bliss, Chair of NDAS, who was touched by the generosity. She called her attendance 'an adventure' coming to such a lovely church in a very rural location. The combined generosity of attendees at both these services enabled us to send the Children's Society a gift of nearly £300. (Penny Cory)

100 CLUB

100 club winners were November 44 Mrs. M. Wvatt December 20 C. Godber

WHIST DRIVE

There will be no village hall whist drive in January. They will recommence on the 3rd Monday in February.



FAWSLEY

Correspondent - Vacant

THANK YOU

A big thanks to everyone who has supported St Mary's Church during the past year. Also to those who supported the maintenance of the churchyard and contributed bulbs and other plants. We are looking forward to a good display in the Spring.

This has enabled us to make the church and churchyard welcoming places and to serve the community.

Also we thank Fiori Musicali for the Teleman and Bach inspired concert. And the Fawsley Singers with Charles Tarry for their festive Christmas Carol Concert.

We hope to see them both again in 2025.

× × Ж PRESTON CAPES

Correspondent - Claire Hoare caghoare@gmail.com

	Reader	Sidesman	Cleaning
12 Jan	John Wilshire	Anabel Lewis-Bowen	Claire Hoare &
26 Jan	Bridget Whittaker	V Brassey	Scilla Smith
			Flowers Claire
			Claire Hoare

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL.

CAROL SERVICE

Thank you to all those who turned out on a dreadful wet evening for the Carol Service. The Readers did a wonderful job, and we had a large attendance, everyone singing the carols lustily. The service ended with mulled wine and mince pies which were much appreciated.

In spite of other conflicting events, the date worked well. Friday 12th December 2025 - Save the date!

THANK YOU

Our grateful thanks to the following, who are so helpful and supportive during the year.

Firstly of course to David Pound the Editor of The Link, who organises printing and distribution, plus keeping us in order to deliver the content on time. Thank you David.

Bell ringers, notably Graham White who constantly turns up to ring in all weathers.

The Link Deliverers, Pauline Clarke, Christine Purcell, Sophia Maddison, Gerard Hoare and Mike Scragg, who do the job every month without complaint.

The Flower Arrangers for their hard work keeping the church beautifully decorated.

The Church Cleaners for their sterling work in the church.

The Key Holders, Anabel Lewis-Bowen, Maureen Franks, Pauline Clarke and Tim Redfern, who diligently open and close the church daily through the year.

Thank you, one and all. New volunteers always welcome to help with these tasks.

DO WE HAVE A CALLIGRAPHER?!!

Our Church attendance Register is full and being renewed after 33 years of service records.

It would be lovely if someone with beautiful handwriting skills could appropriately ink in the church titles on the first page of the new Register book. Please would anyone interested to offer (here or in the Benefice) and blessed with such expertise, contact Gerard Hoare on gerardihoare@gmail.com

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

This month's meeting takes place in the village hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 28th January. Our speaker will be Graham Brack, a pharmacist for over forty years, who will be giving a talk entitled *In Praise of Bolshy Patients*. Non-members are able to attend up to three meetings per year at a cost of £6.00 (which includes refreshments). Please contact the secretary, Anabel Lewis-Bowen (361298 or alewisbowen@btinternet.com).

VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNINGS

A reminder that regular coffee mornings take place throughout the year at the village hall on the fourth Friday of the month from 10.30am to noon. This month's event will be on the 24th. Limitless tea/coffee and biscuits for £1.00, plus cake for a small extra charge. Come and have a chat with friends and neighbours!

PARISH MAILING LIST

Our electronic mailing list is a quick and simple way for our village organisations to keep you informed about news and events. Almost 75% of the village now subscribes. If you haven't yet joined, and would like to do so, please contact the list administrator at PennyEves@aol.com for full information and joining details

For those on social media, we also have three village Facebook pages that you can subscribe to: Preston Capes & Little Preston, Preston Capes Village Hall and Preston Capes Parish History.



DIARY

This diary records the proposed dates of any benefice, parish or village events. We hope that this will help those planning such events to know what else is going on and therefore be able to avoid any unhelpful clashes of dates.

If you know, or become aware, of events which ought to be recorded please let David Pound, or your village Link correspondent, know.

Events known about so far are:

January

- 7 Newnham PCC
- 8 Charwelton PCC
- 9 Badby & Fawsley WI
- 13 Badby Parish Council
- 16 Newnham WI
- 17 January Film Soc. BV
- 21 Badby coffee morning
- 25 Badby Burns Night
- 28 Preston Capes WI
- 31 January Film Soc. BVH

February

9 Snowdrop Sunday Newnham15 February Film Soc. Opera BVH

28 February Film Soc. BVH

March

- 4 Newnham PCC
- 14 March Film Soc AGM BVH

April

1 Newnham APCM

Mav

6 Newnham PCC

July

1 Newnham PCC

September

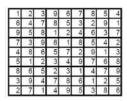
2 Newnham PCC

November

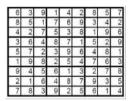
4 Newnham PCC

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

Solution No. 106



Solution No. 107



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Pots & Plans: what to do in your garden this January

Philip Turvil Garden designer in Badby BrightenMyGarden.com

Your indoor plants

January is a tricky month for houseplants due to less light and dry indoor air from heating. Here's how to keep them happier:

- Keep plants away from cold drafts and direct heat sources like radiators.
 Sudden temperature changes are stressful and may cause leaf drop.
- Water plants sparingly. Check the soil moisture before watering by sticking your finger about an inch into the soil. If it feels dry, water the plant; if it's still moist, wait a few more days.
- Move plants nearer windows to increase natural light. Then rotate plants every week or so to give all the leaves a little sunshine. And even better, wipe dust off leaves so they can photosynthesise efficiently.
- Indoor air becomes drier in winter. This
 is also stressful for plants. Increase
 humidity around your plants using a tray
 of water with pebbles nearby or group
 plants together.
- Wait until spring to fertilise. Overfeeding houseplants in winter can lead to a harmful salt build-up in the soil.
- Check for pests hiding under leaves such as red spider mite. Regularly inspect your plants and treat issues promptly.

Blackcurrant care

Winter in perfect for selecting the best 'fruiting wood' on blackcurrant bushes. Look for a mix of first, second, and third-year old-growths. Then remove anything older.

The first-year growth are whippy single stems growing from the base. Keep these as they'll produce fruit next year. The second and third-year old growths are stockier with lots of side-shoots and produce the most fruit, so keep these too.

This just leaves the fourth-year growths. Remove this growth at or near the base of your plant. This pruning will encourage more first-year growths, so feeding the cycle of fruiting wood, and ensuring blackcurrant supplies for your breakfast and jam making.

If your bushes are newly planted, just leave them to it for a while, except for removing damaged or crossing growth. If your bushes are congested, thin out growths of any age to prioritise good air flow and light. Remove up to a third of the total growth if needed.

Blackcurrant bushes are hungry. Feed your plants by spreading a 50mm layer of compost or wellrotted manure over the soil surface as a mulch (leaving a 15cm gap around the trunk).

Planning your garden

January is the perfect time to plan your garden for the year ahead.

Take some time to review what worked well last year and what didn't. Were there spaces without colour? Were your deprived of a seat just where you wanted to rest (or discovered a great view)? Perhaps weeds dominate your time rather than attending to your favourite plants?

A photo record or journal is a great way to organise your thoughts, while books and social media offer inspiring images about how your outdoor room could look, feel, and function.

If you'd like help with a garden layout, plant selection, or maintenance planning for some or all of your garden, please ring me on 01327 604042 or 07701 296621, or email philip@brightenmygarden.com.

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NEWNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN - Gary Hammersley

07887 634936 chair@newnhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Council Update

The December meeting was dominated by the flooding in the village on $24^{\rm h}$ November, with the remaining time allocated to discussion about the budget for the next financial year, Christmas Music on the Green and the dialogue with Highways about speed reduction measures.

Sunday 24th November saw record rainfall in Northamptonshire, causing unprecedentedflooding to homes and properties in Newnham. I'm sure most people will have seen the devastating photos and videos from those affected. The call for help on the evening of the 24th prompted an amazing response from the local community, with people from all parts of the village turning up to Badby Road and Bradbury Road with brushes, brooms, shovels and skirting boards. As water levels receded, attention quickly turned to the causes of the flooding and avoiding a repeat. The Parish Council visited those affected and then wrote to WNC Highways to inform them of exactly what had happened and to seek an early site meeting. A group of flood victims attended the Parish Council Meeting on the 2rd December, and clearly and powerfully described the sequence of events. Armed with this information,WNC Councillor Rupert Frost was able to secure a site visit from the Highways Department on 5th December. We also set up a WhatsApp group to share updates and keep everyone informed. At the time of writing this, we are still waiting for details of a second meeting on site to discuss actions to tackle the causes of the flooding. Residents have also been liaising with Anglian Water, and working hard, to clear debris which had blocked the Nene.

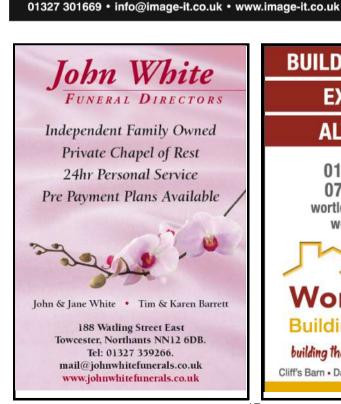
On a separate topic, we discussed the feedback from the Highways Department to our request for**speed reduction measures on the Weedon Road** as it approaches Mounts Lane/Poet's Lane crossroads. As outlined previously, vehicles are recorded at over90mph by the speed indicator device. Disappointingly, the Highways Department concluded that the open countryside nature of the road makes it unsafe to install physical speed reduction measures. We are still exploring whether there are any other options we can pursue.

We will shortly be advertising for the position of Parish Clerk. The current post holder is working on an interim contract and we will be looking to recruit on a permanent basis. The role is 30 hours per month, with completely flexible working hours. Whilst relevant experience is desirable, we are open minded about background, and professional training will be provided. We will advertise on Facebook and post details on the Council website www.newnhamparishcouncil.gov.uk and the village website www.newnhamparishcouncil.gov.uk and post does be feel free to do so by emailing the Clerk at clerk@newnhamparishcouncil.gov.uk.

As mentioned previously, I would like to highlight the village website, which is receiving very positive feedback from all who use it, so I would encourage everyone who hasn't yet visited it to check it out. Our new website has huge potential to connect people and organisations in the village, raise awareness of what's on, as well as provide topical information and updates. Have a look onwww.newnhamvillage.co.uk

The **next Parish Council Meeting is Monday 6th January**, starting at **7.00pm** in the **Village Hall**. For agendas and minutes go to www.newnhamparishcouncil.gov.uk











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