

Drivers deliver papers to keep us informed

WHO are our unsung heroes this month? *Pompey Chimes* deliverers Alan Phillips, Steve Northern, Angela Bamsey and many others.

Who has nominated them? Editor Neil Pugmire.

Why are they heroes? Every month, volunteers drive around our diocese, delivering packages of *Pompey Chimes* to our deanery depots.

Steve Northern, from Ventnor, travels to the mainland to pick up the Isle of Wight copies and leaves parish bundles at various venues around the island. Angela Bamsey, from Freshwater, then drives around West Wight, delivering parish bundles to homes and churches there.

Alan Phillips, from St Cuthbert's, Copnor, collects the bundles for mainland parishes and drives to Gosport, Fareham, Wickham, Havant, Leigh Park and Petersfield with them.

Then a whole range of volunteers from each parish come to each deanery depot to pick up their individual parish bundle. Individual copies are then handed out in churches and church schools.

unsung hero

We're highlighting those unsung heroes in our congregations, who volunteer to do the behind-the-scenes jobs in our churches, like cooking, cleaning and tidying. Do you know someone in your church who you could nominate to be featured on this page?

Editor Neil Pugmire said: "We are immensely grateful for the dedication of Steve, Alan, Angela and many others, who have ensured the paper has reached our parishes in time."

"We will also be depending on this network for the distribution of our new magazine – but it will be less frequent!"

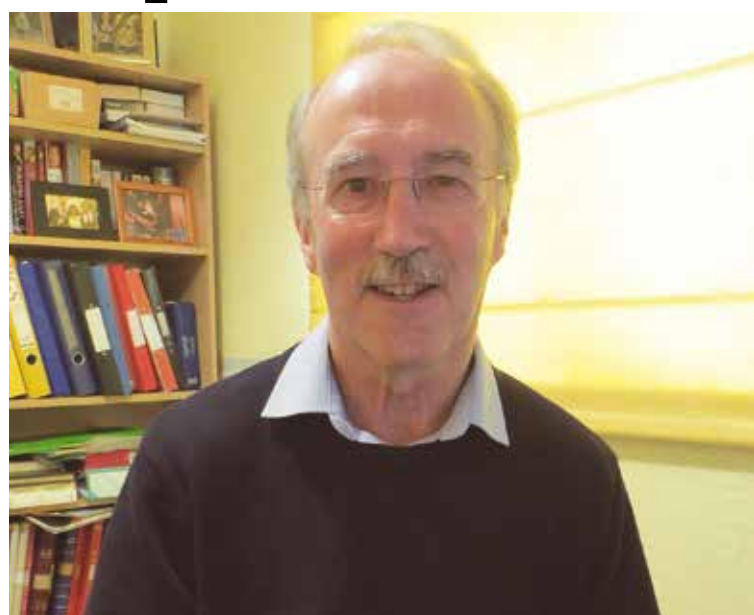
Steve's daughter Christina currently sorts all 8,000 copies of the paper into individual parish bundles. Thanks should also go to her and to all the previous collators and drivers who helped to distribute the paper.

Why do they do it? Alan Phillips, who is also treasurer at St Cuthbert's, said: "I started delivering *Pompey Chimes* in 2015 and have thoroughly enjoyed the monthly trips."

"One of my favourite ports of call is Bishopgrove, where the garden always seems to carry a sense of tranquility and often the bishop will help me to unload the editions! Driving through the countryside is very enjoyable especially seeing the seasons changing the nature of the scenery. Above all it's good to feel that I am playing a practical part in spreading the good news of life in our local churches."

● Is there someone in your church who works hard behind the scenes, but rarely gets any public thanks?

Fill in the form here and send it to Pompey Chimes, Peninsular House, Wharf Road, Portsmouth, PO2 8HB, or email neil.pugmire@portsmouth.anglican.org.



Alan Phillips

I'd like to nominate _____
 from the parish of _____
 as my **unsung hero**. This is why: _____

 My name: _____
 My phone number or email: _____

Thousands of vulnerable children desperately need to hear the real story of Christmas

At a time of year that can often be lonely and hard for many, things can seem even bleaker for children who are stuck in hospital, or whose family are facing financial difficulties. Hearing the true meaning of Christmas and finding that God loves them and has a plan for their lives could make all the difference.

That's why this Christmas we are asking for your help so we can commit to give copies of our new Christmas story book to:

- ★ Children who are spending Christmas in hospital
- ★ Children whose families are facing financial difficulties
- ★ Children who will be missing a parent who is serving time in custody

Scripture Union is aiming to give over 100,000 children a copy of our new Christmas story book, *The First Christmas*.

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