

Sept/ Oct 26

HASLEMERE

P A R I S H M A G A Z I N E

ST BARTHOLOMEW'S AND ST CHRISTOPHER'S



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Mondays in St Christopher's

Facilities for the disabled;

Both Churches and The Link at St Bartholomew's have ramped access and space for wheelchairs. Toilets suitable for use by the disabled are available in The Link and at St Christopher's.

Facilities for the hard of hearing;

Both churches and The Link have Sound amplification and hearing loops.

Facilities for the visually Impaired;

Both churches have good interior lighting and large print weekly notice sheets and service sheets.

Please recycle this magazine when you have read it. Better still, why not pass it onto a friend?



Bell-ringers

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Flowers

St Bartholomew's

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Safe Spaces an independent service supporting survivors of church-related abuse.

Telephone: 0300 303 1056

Email safespaces@victimsupport.org.uk

WebChat via the Safe Spaces website

For all emergencies call 999

The Single Point of Access (SPA)

Children and Adult Service social workers.

Direct information, advice and guidance about where and how to find appropriate support for children and families.

Domestic Abuse

Surrey - YourSanctuary 01483 776822

24hr National Domestic Abuse Helpline

0808 2000 247

DeafHope (BSL) text: 07970 350366

Childline 0800 1111

National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

NSPCC 0808 800 5000 or

help@nspcc.org.uk

NSPCC Sign Video link:

nspcc.org.uk/about-us/contact-us

Samaritans 116123 or jo@samaritans.org

Modern Day Slavery Helpline

0800 01210700

Mental Health Crisis Helpline

0300 5000 101

Open 5.00pm - 9.00am Monday to Friday
24 hours cover at weekends inc.

Bank Holidays

SMS texting facility for people who are deaf

or hard of hearing: 07717 989024

Stop it Now! 0808 1000 900

www.stopitnow.org.uk



Dear Friends,

Are you well? I don't mean *are you not feeling ill*, but rather are you REALLY well? Reach down into your entire life and soul to reflect, whilst imagining yourself at peace in a cloud of liquid chocolate and organic muesli.

Has the Rector lost his mind (actually I lost it a while ago)? But seriously, I'm not crazy. *Wellbeing* is one of those words which might make us think of a trendy health plan, to include some sort of oriental exercise programme followed by a strange, powered drink. You might like that sort of thing, but for me there are all the illustrations of Christ's pattern of life to help me keep a good balance of things. The Sabbath Day is ancient and eternally relevant, as we have called it: *the day of rest*.

Wellbeing is a big topic in clergy circles, not so much as a line of ministry a church might offer, but more as a support in the rigours of leadership. Anything can happen in my day and normally does. The phone rings and it could be something immediate and serious. An email might arrive with troublesome news or accusations. My WhatsApp could bleep at me at any instant with completely irrelevant or potentially very important one-liners. It's bit like knowing for sure that you are going to be hit by lightning, except you don't know when.

To be involved in the society of Haslemere is an almost relentless invitation to be active. Especially during the spring and summer weekends there is a constant run of fairs, festivals or events hosted by local groups. All this is good, and everyone seems thankful that the sun came out for their special day. It's nice to receive invitations from everyone, but at the same time difficult to fit it all in or to graciously decline. From May to September, Saturdays and Sundays become my busiest days of the week. I grew up in the broad and insular estrangements of south London suburbia, so give me a market town like Haslemere every time.

One of the greatest risks to our Christian lives and general wellbeing is that narrow time-slice of attention that we have been so easily led into by technology and demand. It feels like every five minutes is measured for its action and achievement. I've been thinking a lot about these hectic effects on my life recently, and to be fair so have a good number of other people been telling me to go easy on myself. I really need that accountability. Taking a rest day or some time out for leave or retreat

(which are entirely wellbeing things) often feels like it's surrounded by the expectation (the ones I normally place upon myself) that I'll be contactable at any point. That means not relaxing when I should.

I suppose Jesus was busy too. Think of the crowds who sought him out for healing and feeding or pushing for more signs from God. Then also there was the whole plan of God's will and the unveiling of his Kingdom. Christ has quite enough to be getting on with, yet the gospel writers all include numerous moments of Jesus's apparent inactivity and withdrawal. Do you think it's surprising that they should write those in? We don't normally expect reports of our own leaders resting. Would you even know or care when your local and nation leaders take a break? Yet scripture *models* rest in a way that sets it as something achieved to be in itself.

I'm grateful to those who look out for me, amidst all the pressure and expectations of my calling. Is it remarkable that they should? Of course not, and I care for the wellbeing of others myself. Underlying all of this is the life of God's work and God's rest, seen since creation and lived in the Son of Man. Quite apart from me, my hope is that you all can find a summer rest - that will be God's work in your life every bit as much as in me.

On a final note, you may see my other article this month about our autumn Parish Appeal. It's well worth a read, thinking about and your prayers. May God bless you all.

Rector Chris



A Springs and Haslemere Churches Together event

Why and how to share your faith

with Rico Tice

Co-founder of Christianity Explored

Tuesday 15th September
7.15pm
The Link, Derby Road, Haslemere, GU27 1BS



Scan for
free tickets
and more info:



A Pilgrimage to Bosham

(pronounced *Bozzum*)

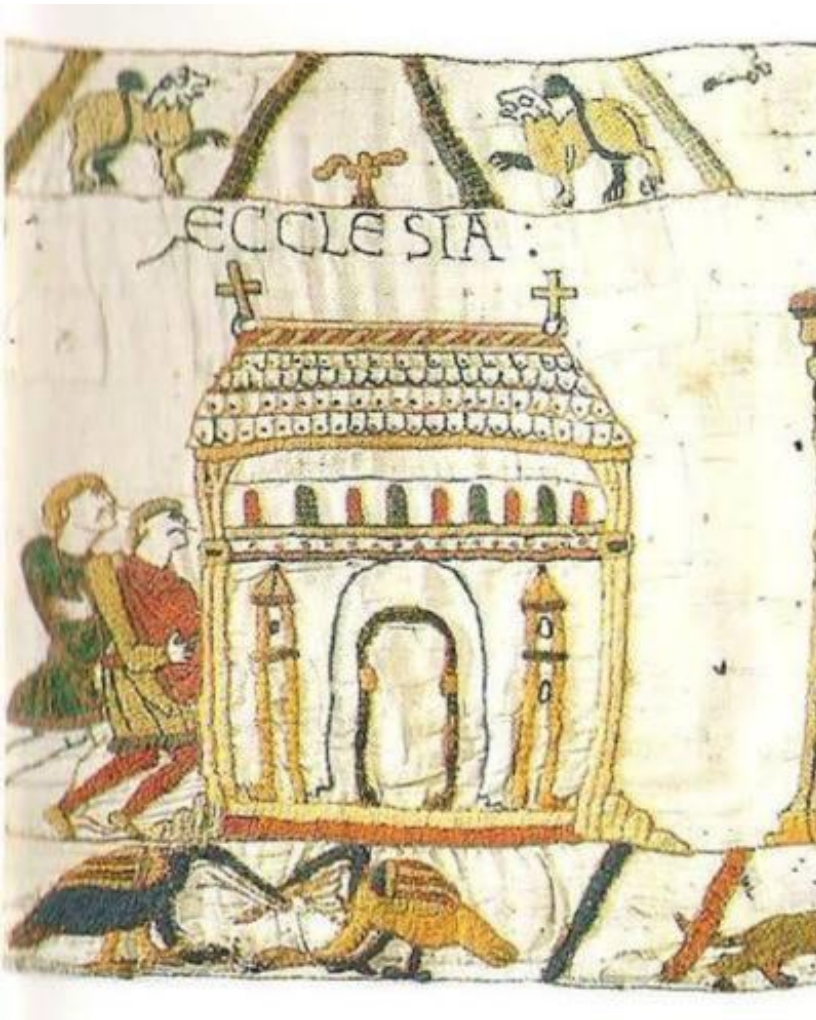
Under an hour from Haslemere lies one of the few Saxon church sites in Sussex. It was founded by Celtic monks from Scotland, but the year of its foundation is uncertain. It lies on Chichester harbour, a welcome transformation this June since there was a cool off sea breeze when we visited.



The harbour is tidal, and only unwise motorists choose to park there. This affirms a fable that King Cnut (of Denmark, Norway and Southern England ca.1016-1035) tried to defy God. He sat on his throne in front of the sea and attempted to hold the tide back. It was Cnut's way of showing his sycophantic advisors that he was fallible and that God was mightier than them all.



Holy Trinity Church has a memorial, set in front of the chancel arch, dedicated to the memory of the eight-year-old daughter of Cnut, said to have drowned at Bosham around 1020. Edward the Confessor became king in 1042, and in 1045 he married Edith from the powerful and wealthy Wessex family. As they had no children he was succeeded by Harold, Edith's brother in 1066, prior to the Norman conquest. Harold had sailed to Normandy in 1064 for an ill-fated visit to meet 'William the Conqueror'. The church and Bosham Manor are depicted in the Bayeux Tapestry.



Harold, with a moustache, is depicted bringing up the rear. The church (or ecclesia) is simpler than it is now.

It will be possible to see the whole tapestry on display in the British Museum (www.britishmuseum.org/exhibitions/bayeux-tapestry). It depicts the story of the departure from Bosham to the climax at the Battle of Hastings.

The exhibition runs from 10th September 2026 to 11th July 2027.

Take a few minutes to sit and wonder at the past 1000 years of this church.

*Think about the generations of infants baptised in it. Washing represents leaving the past, so God help me to leave the things that trouble me and give me peace.

* Imagine how many words have been spoken from the pulpit that God invites us to hear

* There is little stained glass used in the church: perhaps it was too poor? Jesus said "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (John 8:12).

As I leave, God go with me today. Go ahead of me and reveal yourself to me in your world and in my own life. Amen.

Peter Sellars



Sunday Morning Families

Karen Bardens

We are thrilled to be back inside the Link after months of meeting in marquees and school rooms! The energy has been incredible, and it has been wonderful to see our space filled with laughter and creativity once again.



Our first major session back was a roaring success with a completely full house. We welcomed 21 children and were delighted to have Maclaren Felliati helping us as part of his volunteering service for the Duke of Edinburgh Award. The children set up a wonderful 'production line' to create copious amounts of beautifully collaged bunting for the Link Open Day. Our goal was to make sure

the pennants showed off everything our vibrant community hub could be and already is used for.

In July we explored the teachings of Matthew 11, focusing on what makes us feel weighed down and how Jesus promises to take our worries and burdens. The children jumped into this interactive session with massive enthusiasm. To help make

these big spiritual concepts tangible, we used three physical object lessons: a helium balloon, a backpack with rocks in it and a water bottle. As we added physical weights representing sin, guilt, fear, and worries, to the balloon, it sank. As we removed them, it rose freely. Wearing heavy backpacks helped us to physically feel what it is like to carry heavy worries around all day, and holding heavy water bottles above our heads was a great way to demonstrate that the longer we try to carry our burdens alone, the heavier they feel.



St Bartholomew's School

In June I attended the Diocesan Leavers' Service with Year 6 at Guildford Cathedral. It was a lovely, moving afternoon. The children journeyed through various interactive stations, reflecting on their primary school memories and preparing

them for the onward journey ahead. The day concluded with a superb service led by Bishop Paul, leaving everyone inspired.

On Tuesday 22nd July, the children were presented with their official Leavers' Bibles from the church during the special St Bartholomew's Leavers' Service. Please keep our young people in your prayers as they take this big step into the future.

A Sanctuary Takes Shape: Spiritual Garden

Thanks to the hard work and skill of our builders, the extensive groundwork is now officially complete. Within the garden, there are two magnificent focal points already in place: a striking eight-foot cross that stands as a beacon of our faith, and a beautiful water feature designed to bring a sense of peace, movement, and reflection to the space.

The vision was to create a living sanctuary where children and staff can step away from the busyness of the school day to pray, reflect, connect with God's creation and use the space for whole class worship.



I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported this project so far through prayers, donations, and labour. At the end of June Rev Chris and I had a wonderful time at the school summer fair, helping the children take part in our special 'growing' activity. This combined with adult donations meant we raised an incredible £226. This garden will be a lasting blessing for generations of schoolchildren to come.

Celebrating Our Reception New Starters

I am delighted to share that the Haslemere Schools Charity has again generously funded New Starter Bibles for the incoming reception classes in September. This provides our youngest school children with their very own Bibles as they begin their exciting educational journeys. We will host an informal morning presentation event in the church before the October half term. Huge thanks go to the trustees and supporters of the Haslemere Schools Charity for their continued generosity and investment in the children of our community.

I thank God daily for encouraging me in my work with the children and I pray that everything we do brings him glory.

God Bless, Karen



In My Garden



Philip Duly

As the summer slowly gives way to the approach of autumn, it is worth taking stock of the past season's star plants as a guide for future planning.

The long, hot and dry weather this year certainly played havoc with our gardens, particularly our lawns. Yet some plants performed remarkably well in my garden despite the intense heat and drought conditions.

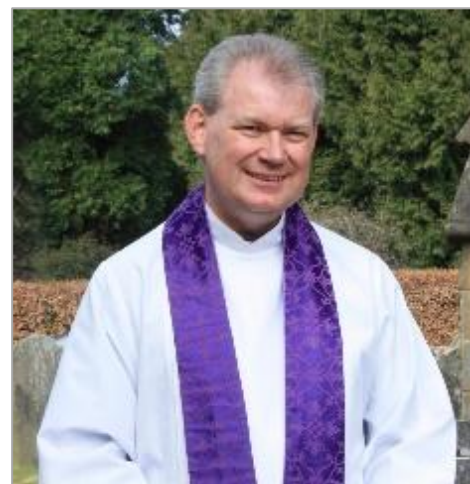
The asters, monardas and heleniums each deserve a special mention. Their long flowering season, which began in June, will continue into September with every chance of an extension into October. Moreover, the dahlias which struggled initially with the lack of rain are now at their finest with masses of blooms on sturdy stems that seem to have taken the drought completely in their stride. The delphiniums and phlox were also a success with longer than usual flowering and the absence of rain seemingly aiding their blooms to stay vibrant and undiluted.

It has certainly been a challenging summer from a gardener's point of view, but it is equally interesting to consider which plants seem to have suffered the most. In my garden, somewhat surprisingly, this has been the roses. Their blooms were far less plentiful and much shorter-lasting than usual.

When we reminisce about 2026, those of us old enough to remember will be reminded of the summer of fifty years ago. I enjoyed both summers to the full but with one major difference; as a 14 year-old boy in 1976, I did not spend my evenings watering and worrying about my garden's survival.



Parish Appeal 2026



The time has come around again for us to think about our financial support for the parish and its ministry, giving thanks for all we receive. **In late September I shall be launching our 2026 Parish Appeal, the first since 2022.**

Over these four years since our last appeal, we have had much to celebrate in the worship and ministry we offer. I'm pleased to say that we have been able to advance our generous ministry to all ages and stages of life. You will often hear me speak of our relationships across the community and the good reputation we hold as being so fruitful and charitable. God's blessings and call upon us remain in the centre of all we do. I'm reminded of St Paul's words to the Corinthians about God's generosity towards us: *'He is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in all good work.'*

The Parish Appeal webpage is now live if you want to take a look and can be found at www.haslemereparish.org/appeal, but alongside that will be personal letters to regular givers and an invitation for new givers to join. There is also a campaign leaflet, which you can read from the Parish Appeal Webpage. There is even a short video from me explaining all! Four ways to respond are then possible. You can be sure that everything offered will be held in the strictest confidence. Even I don't know who gives what! All I know is the great generosity of us all.

I would be pleased if you would like to join me in prayer for this important work, from which we all both give and receive. The Parish Appeal will continue for three weeks, until the great gathering Harvest Festival on Sunday 4th October.

Loving God, we thank you for your goodness to us and for the life of Haslemere Parish. Take our gifts, our time, our talents and our resources, and use them for your glory. Give us generous hearts, wise minds and willing hands, that together we may build up your Church and share the love of Christ with others. In his name we pray. Amen.





HASLEMERE PARISH

DISCOVERING THE
CREATOR OF THE
UNIVERSE

SPACE QUEST

Party



BLAST OFF: 4-6.15PM

LAUNCH DATE: FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER

MISSION CONTROL: ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

TARGET CREW: 4- 11 YEAR OLDS

FEATURING:

**GALACTIC GAMES,
ROCKET CRAFTS,
& SLIME MAKING**

ADMISSION: £5 PER PARTICIPATING CHILD

FREE METEOR SNACKS, DRINK & GOODY BAG

DRESS UP IN BRIGHT/ SPARKLY OUTFITS

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS A LIMITED NUMBER OF
TICKETS & RESTRICTED TO 2 ADULTS PER FAMILY
TO SECURE YOUR SEAT ON THE ROCKET, VISIT OUR
WEBSITE:**

WWW.HASLEMEREPARISH.ORG



Solstice Recital

Clive Osgood teaches music at the Reed's School in Cobham. There are a remarkable number of pupils who take A-Level Music and Clive arranged for ten of them to come and give a concert in St Bartholomew's on 19th June (quite near the solstice).



We were treated to a remarkable concert of extraordinary ability and variety. There were three vocal performers and the instruments included drums, two saxophones, clarinet, oboe, flute and violin. The girl who played the Flute Sonata chose a sonata written by Clive himself, which was an unexpected pleasure.

We are hoping that this recital now becomes an annual event.

Hamish Donaldson

The last Total Eclipse Remembered



Christine Elvidge sewed this remarkable kneeler to mark the total eclipse on 11 August 1999. The date is sewn on the top of the Kneeler.

It is one of the 250 or so kneelers in St Bartholomew's which represent so many Societies in the Town and events in history.

Hamish Donaldson



Church Youth Groups



With the continuation of the good weather **The Den** has been able to have all activities outside. At our first session we discussed Pentecost and how the disciples received the Holy Spirit. We made bubble wands to create giant bubbles, illustrating 'the breath of God' as God fills us up like a bubble and inspires and moves us into action. The following week saw The Den undertaking a community project, litter-picking on Lions Green.



The final three weeks of the term involved water quite a lot! However, in addition to having fun we have been able to incorporate bible stories which are about water. Firstly, there was a fun evening when the young people went kayaking on the River Wey under the guidance of Ben from Surrey Hills and Rivers who has worked with us before. After mastering some paddling, we played some games on the water and ended with a cooling dip, which was much needed in the heat wave!

Peter and Claire Gratton once again invited us back to their lovely garden and kindly let The Den have a pool party. However, before the free play began, the story of 'The Miraculous Catch of Fish' was acted out in the pool, complete with boat and net! We discussed that when God calls us to do something we must try and put our doubts aside and have faith in Him as it can lead to extraordinary things.



The term ended back in St Christopher's focusing on the story of 'Jonah and the Big Fish' with a discussion on rules, obedience and second chances. We also enjoyed some fun games and a water fight which was much needed in the hot weather!

Summit members have been very involved with the opening of the Link Community Hub and at their first session after half term they found out about some of the charities and groups who are using it. The Director of Crossways Counselling, Jane, came to chat with them about the work of the charity and what counselling can help

with. We discussed how God is a wonderful counsellor and is always there for us. Lastly, we created some artwork inspired by Crossways Counselling - something to lift people up, inspire them and give them hope.



Summit member Jessica wrote and read out a poem during the Link Dedication Service and some of the other members of the group helped serve food at the reception. The following week Bishop Paul joined us for an evening to help with our gardening project and create what we hope will be the start

of a biblical garden outside The Link building. Blue flowers were planted either side of the walkway between the church and The Link to represent the parting of the sea in the 'Red Sea Crossing' bible story. Stones and shells on either side to represent the seabed were added plus a bird feeder that looks like a staff, representing Moses's staff. There are also signs with bible passages relating to the story. Some of Summit also helped at the Link Open day with the craft and on the ASK stall.



In addition to all this, the Summit youth have continued with their Youth Alpha course, their recent meeting taking place at Peter and Claire's house after The Den session. So, this group too was able to enjoy a swim! The final week of term saw the group heading back to Frensham Sailing Club for a sailing taster session.

It has been a very enjoyable and busy year for both groups. As always thank you to our volunteers for all their support. This term we have benefitted from having four young leaders from Summit to help at The Den as they are undertaking their Duke of Edinburgh Award. This has been so successful that some of them are going to continue to assist next term.



Anyone interested in helping with either group please contact Verity.

Sue & Verity

For more details of The Den and Summit contact:
Verity Sutherland, Children & Families Worker (Older Children)
Email: Children@haslemereparish.org



Link Community Hub open day and beyond!

Debbie Peet



On Sunday 19th July we were blessed with fine weather and, for once this summer, it was not too hot. Kari did a magnificent job organising many stall holders and arranging a burrito van, a coffee van and an ASK Italian lemonade stall in the car park.

Inside the main hall there were children's activities and samples of cakes and canapes alongside community groups - Love Haslemere Hate Waste, the Youth Hub and the Signal Box complete with train set. The AV system was used to show pictures of the building before, during the build phase and afterwards.



Upstairs, the Museum, Crossways and the local community police officers held court, interrupted by children searching for the answers to clues placed around the building as a treasure hunt. Goody bags were enjoyed by those who completed the task.

There were activities for all ages and entertainment by the Junior Choir and the Winterbourne singers.

It was a great afternoon out enjoyed by many people. Thanks again Kari and all those who helped before, during and afterwards.

The Link is open for bookings, and we are delighted with so many positive comments about the facilities. The main hall has an echo which is being reduced using acoustic baffles. These are due to be fitted at the end of August / beginning of September.



Link Big Spender

Written by Angela Jones, performed by The Winterbourne Singers

The minute you walk in the Link
You can see it's had a real transformation - a great makeover;
New windows, parquet floors,
Full accessibility and codes for the doors.

And then you come to the main hall,
Where a hundred folk can eat and drink and chat, a natter a natter a natter a...
No big pillar, awkward pillar!
Let us thank the Lord for that!
Alleluia and hurrah! Sep'rate room for all the choir!

There's a lift now and stairs, new chairs;
Lots of space for more hooks, books;
There's a well-equipped kitchen, smart loos
And an excellent office, more loos...Ahh!

And if you go up to the top
You can see the new bespoke user-friendly amenities:
Counselling, prayer groups, CABs,
Comfy tasteful spaces now for all of these.

So let us get right to the point;
It's to thank you all for everything you see:-
Thanks Big Spenders, thanks Small Spenders
Thanks Big Lenders, thanks Small Lenders
Thanks all workers, architects and builders
From the whole community.
Special thanks to these big Three: Andrew, Cathy and Debbie





Churchyard Jottings

Philip Hunt

The last working party, held in Derby Road churchyard on Saturday 20 June, seems a while ago now. It was well-attended and good progress was made in improving access to graves. This is seen as important, as this is the churchyard that tends to hold the greatest historical interest for our visitors. The tree work carried out by Waverley some months ago has left the newly cleared area with more welcome light. However, this resulted in the flourishing of numerous thistles and unwanted weeds which were cleared effectively (until next time!). Brambles were tackled as these are a continuing problem and no doubt in some of our own gardens too. As ever, I am extremely grateful to everyone who turns up to assist in these working parties three or four times a year. It is not too onerous, and participants can largely choose the sort of tasks that they like to carry out.

One of the pleasures is the discovery of a formerly hidden grave or the uncovering of an inscription. On 20 June, we discovered one such grave which must have been under soil for decades. After a superficial clean up, it was found to be a polished stone in very good condition (see photo). Three other graves were freed from captivity amongst a bed of earth and leaf mould. Alistair Canning, who

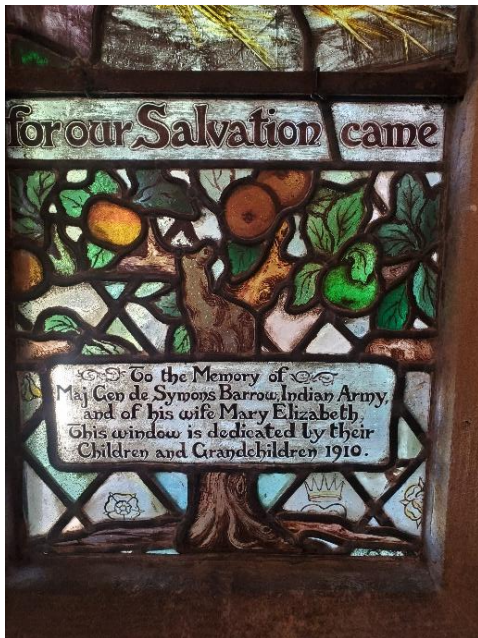


was in the working party, was clearly so intrigued with the ornate grave to the right of the entrance, that he carried out some research. It is a prominent grave with iron



work and the last resting place of Lyon De Symons Barrow (see photo). Born in 1823, he was from an army family and was himself a Major General in the Madras Army (during the time of the British Raj). Following his army career, he became Inspector-General of Police in the United Provinces. He died in 1905 and his grave will have been one of the earliest in Derby Road churchyard, having been opened in

1893. He was clearly very supportive of St Christopher's Church in the early 1900s



and a stained-glass window in his memory is on the north wall of the church, just before the Lady Chapel (see photo). To the right of the window (see photo) is a memorial plaque to his son, Arthur Frederick Barrow, who was a Colonel in the Indian Army and died in Bangalore in 1903.



In early August, there was a further incidence of anti-social behaviour and drug taking in Derby Road churchyard. On this occasion, the incident was far more serious in that a fire had been started and it was only through the prompt action of a friendly neighbour that it was extinguished with four watering cans. Had this fire taken hold, the consequences would have been devastating for the churchyard, and the fire could have spread to the school caretaker's bungalow. This is considered as an act of arson and Surrey Police have been informed. Regrettably, the decision was taken to padlock the gates to Derby Road until further notice. It is to be hoped that this measure will only be temporary and that the gates can be open again by the time you read this article.

I am sure this will be recorded elsewhere, but the church has twice had the privilege of the company of the Bishop of Dorking (Acting Bishop of Guildford), the Rt Revd Paul Davies. Following the formal opening of The Link Community Hub, the Bishop joined Verity and members of Summit youth group on the following Wednesday to prepare a wonderful spiritual garden on either side of the walkway from the church into The Link. In addition, Robert Fox and Peter Clarke made good progress in planting in front of The Link where the builders had had their compound. This should complement the planting by the walkway. It is hoped that this will be the start of enhancing the area near The Link with the aim of making it both colourful and welcoming to visitors and volunteers alike.





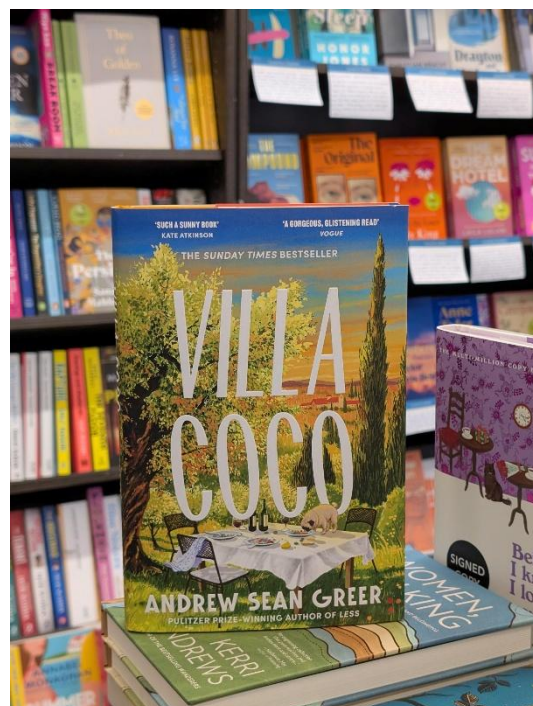
Book Review

Villa Coco by Andrew Sean Greer

By Emily

If, like me, you are unfortunately not spending the summer in a delightful Italian villa in the Tuscan countryside, may I suggest the next best thing - reading about it! *Villa Coco* is a charming and occasionally very funny story about a young archivist sent to catalogue the impressive art collection of the brilliantly eccentric Baronessa Lisabetta. At 92 years old the Baronessa is still very much full of life and vigour (although occasionally feigning deafness and bad eyesight when it benefits her!) and our protagonist, Giovedi (a nickname assigned by the Baronessa) is kept on his toes throughout the novel. *Villa Coco* is a wonderfully earnest and gentle book, and the revolving door of eccentric characters also staying at the villa means the story is much more episodic in nature than a page turning thriller, but during this exhausting summer of endless heatwaves, that suited me fine! Andrew Sean Greer's previous book, *Less*, won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 2018 and his skill as an author really shines through in the light-handedness of the writing. Greer also spent two years directing a writer's residency at the Santa Maddalena Foundation just outside Florence and it served as a huge inspiration when writing the book. With a hint of romance and trips to Venice and Ravenna, *Villa Coco* is a glorious celebration of Italy as well as being fun and a charming read.

Villa Coco is available in hardback to buy from The Haslemere Bookshop.



THE HASLEMERE BOOKSHOP

2 Causewayside, Highstreet, Haslemere, GU27 2JZ

01428 652952

haslemerebookshop.co.uk



The Return of the Prodigal Son by Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn (1606-1669) painted around 1667, Hermitage Museum, St Petersburg

Luke 15:11-32 The Parable of the Prodigal Son

²⁵ “Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷ And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹ but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ ³¹ And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost and is found.’”



I remember first hearing the parable of the prodigal son at Sunday school at St Peters church in Petersfield where I grew up. Even at a young age I was struck by the view of the older son who had remained at home and worked hard.

Rembrandt captures that ambivalence. The older son looks on from behind and his face says it all. The Father places two hands on his younger son kneeling before him in rags. Is one to admonish and one to forgive?

Rembrandt painted this work late in his life. His beloved wife Saskia had died and their only surviving son Titus would die the next year, in 1668. Rembrandt was also bankrupt and in great financial difficulty and yet he paints a wonderfully nuanced and emotional picture bringing new insight to a well-known parable.

As I got older, I learned more about forgiveness and unconditional love and the complexity of family dynamics. We can be so quick to judge. The parable is to remind us that Jesus came to save everyone including us.

Elizabeth Eyre



Hello Friends!

Margaret Hunt



It has been a busy term at First Steps and at the end we said goodbye to several children. Some are starting school, others are going to Nursery School on Mondays.

We still mourn the loss of Liz Cook who had been a regular on the registration desk for many years - a familiar and welcoming face who is sadly missed by all of us, as well as the parents/carers and children.

Each term we try to have an Eco Church day instead of the craft activities and this term we grew sunflowers. We had a pack of six different varieties and the children could choose which sunflower they wanted to grow, either two the same or two different varieties. I also grew one of each variety at home and planted them in the border at the front of the church. The plan was to do this with the children, but it rained that day so I did them on a different day! They have flourished and one has started flowering - hopefully they will be looking really good at the start of the autumn term!



We continued with the well-established tradition of the farm visit on the last session of term - a favourite with everyone. The weather was perfect and the children all enjoyed their session



with the different animals including a tortoise. There were other activities, both indoors and outside, and the whole morning was relaxed and informal. Afterwards



everyone enjoyed the bring and share lunch in the St Christopher's garden and the children who will be leaving were given a leavers book.



On 14th June, the Junior Choir had the pleasure of singing at the service to bless the opening of The Link in the presence of Bishop Paul. The choir sang beautifully, performing *The Lord is My Shepherd*. It was a wonderful day of celebration for everyone. The Link now provides the Junior Choir with additional rehearsal space, new toilet facilities, and a lovely place to recharge with a snack during rehearsals.



At the Communion Service on 5th July, Reverend Chris presented the choristers with *Voice for Life* ribbons and certificates in recognition of their hard work and achievements in music theory and musicianship.

Also in July, the choir enjoyed an exciting end-of-term trip to AirHop and Burger King, where fun was had by everyone! They also made a final appearance before the summer break at The Link Open Day, singing a selection of songs including *Joshua*, *Going Up Yonder*, and *Down to the River to Pray*.



We wish everyone a wonderful summer break, and we look forward to seeing you again in September!

Samantha George. Photo credit: Liz Chapman

The Bells at St Bartholomew's Church

Bells have been ringing in St. Bartholomew's Church since the 1400s for in 1494 John Gase left '6s 8d for the building and repair of one tower called a stepyll for the bells near to the church'. We know that in 1553 there were three bells but many of you may have heard that there are several more than that now.

St Bartholomew's Church is unusual as a parish church to have a ring of ten bells. It means that the church is a popular destination for many visiting bellringers not only from the county but much of the British Isles and I have even met a bellringer at Christchurch Cathedral, New Zealand, who immediately recognized the town where I had come from as having a church with ten bells.



How did it get to ten bells? Well, slowly over the centuries. In 1639 a John Steed left £30 for the addition of a further bell and in 1710 five bells were recast for the price of £80. In 1882 the bell tower, which is the oldest part of today's church, the base of which is possibly Norman, was renovated, the bells recast and a sixth bell was added with the inscription of 'Peace and Good Neighbourhood'. These were augmented to eight in 1908 at an estimated cost of £160 possibly in anticipation of the centenary of Tennyson's birth. The new bells were inscribed with the inscriptions of both the foundry (Mears and Stainbank) and 'Ring out the darkness of

the land' and 'Ring in the Christ that is to be.' Both are quotations from Tennyson's poem 'In Memoriam'.

In 1918 Major Hesse, an engineer who had served in the First World War and was an authority on bells and took part in the ringing at St Paul's Cathedral after the signing of the armistice, wrote a report stating that 'Not one of the bells is in tune with itself'. The Rector reported that: 'The bells are flagrantly and almost blasphemously out of tune.' The PCC however felt that this was not the time to pass such expenditure needed to carry out the work of recasting and tuning. In 1922 Major Hesse tried again and this time succeeded as the framework was now unsafe.

The eight bells were recast by J. Taylor and Company at a cost of £750. The bells were moved lower in the tower on two levels and the ring chamber brought down to ground level where you see it now.

Eight bells are not uncommon in many parish churches but in 1927 another two treble bells were donated by an anonymous donor bringing St Bartholomew's ring of bells up to the unusual ten. It does mean that the bells have to be hung in two layers in the tower as the tower is the usual size for a parish church and the ringing chamber is quite cosy as the bellringers must ring almost shoulder to shoulder.

There have been many complimentary comments recently about the sound of the bells and queries about what is going on as they have been rung at times outside Sundays. This is because there have been several Quarter Peals (QPs) which are 45 mins of uninterrupted ringing of permutations of 1,250 -1,260 changes. These have been rung to commemorate special occasions such as the official opening of The Link by the Bishop of Dorking and for the development of the home band including two for our youngest bellringers to complete their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh awards. We have had visiting ringers for QPs such as the complex one which some may have heard rung on Thursday 30th July by ringers from far and wide, several of whom ring at Westminster Abbey.

St Bartholomew's Bell Tower is a popular destination.



Sarah Mulliner

Tulips

David Smith

Late summer is not too early to start thinking about planting spring bulbs, but early autumn heralds the moment for some determined physical activity. September and October are peak times for planting, but for those who have left it a little late, tulips are the answer. They are best planted in November, but for those who are especially forgetful or prone to procrastination, December planting will still be fine and should produce a spectacular display in spring.

Tulips in bloom are a sure sign that spring has arrived. They herald excitement and joy in the garden, filling it with colour. Their varied hues provide a striking feature in any plot and a welcome contrast to the ubiquitous yellows of many other early-flowering plants and bulbs. Although tulips are available in orange, red, purple, yellow and white, you won't find any in blue, which means planting with bluebells and forget-me-not works well.



Many gardeners are put off planting tulips because of the advice that they should be lifted every year after flowering and stored in a dry place. This sounds like too much effort and, in my experience, if you choose the right variety, it is unnecessary. I can strongly recommend looking for Darwin Hybrids, as they are reliable and robust from year to year. I have tulips in my borders that were planted decades ago and are still flowering well.

The second objection to planting tulips is that, after flowering, the dying leaves must be left to fade naturally so that they can feed the new bulb. Unfortunately, they can be rather unsightly in the process. The answer is to plant tulips in beds that also contain perennials, whose spring growth will disguise and shield the fading tulip foliage from view.

One further advantage of tulips is that they can be planted in pots or containers positioned close to the windows of your house. This allows you to enjoy the full visual reward of your efforts in the previous season from the comfort and warmth of your home. After flowering, you can lift the bulbs before replacing them with annuals. You will often find that each bulb has divided and produced additional bulbs, which can be stored over the summer and planted out in your borders for an even greater display the following year.



Hidden Grave

At the churchyard working party on 20th June, led as always by Phil Hunt, we were working in the furthest part of the Derby Road churchyard. We all cleared a lot of weeds and brambles, and we came across this grave for Lieutenant Frank Bridger Gibbs RN who died on active service in 1941 aged 27.

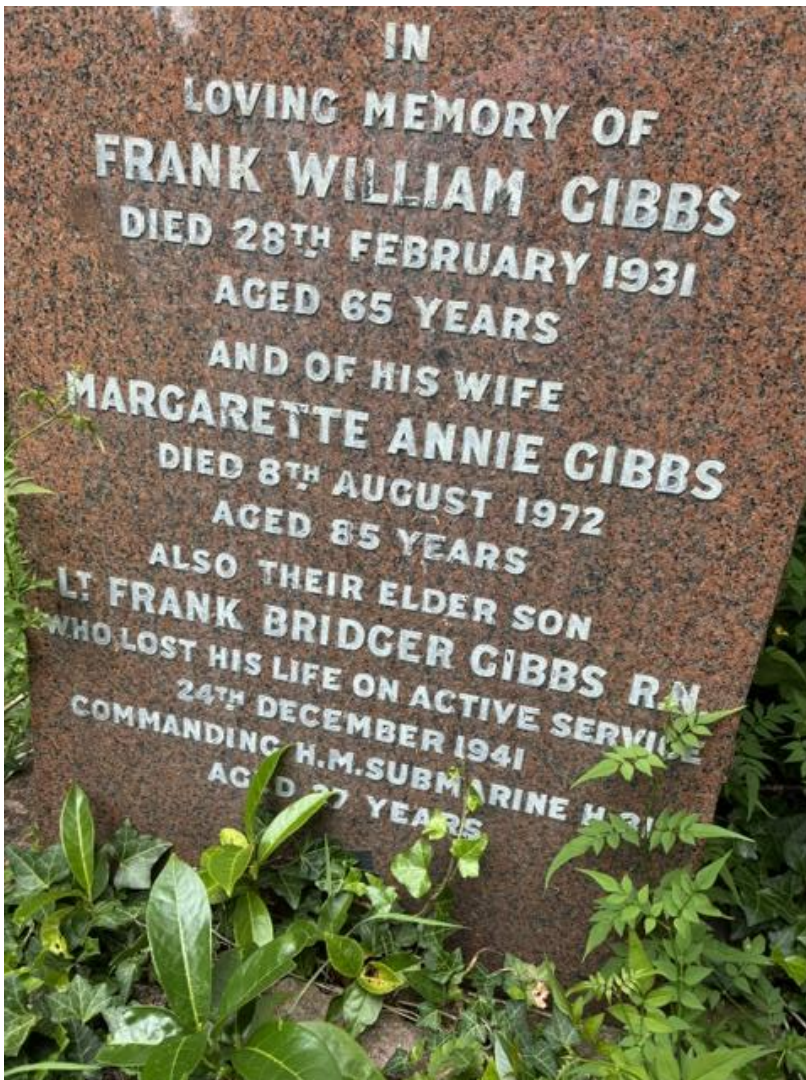
Frank was born in Plaistow in Sussex in 1914 to Frank William Gibbs and Margarette Annie Gibbs nee Bridger. At the time of the 1921 Census the family had moved to Haslemere and there were four children, Margarette Evelyne Thirza, Frank Bridger, Valentine Mary and Marjorie Diana. The household also included Mr Gibbs' mother, Thirza Louise, and a governess and a servant.

Frank served in the Royal Navy during the war, and he achieved the rank of Lieutenant. In December 1941 he was commanding HM Submarine H31 in the Bay of Biscay when the vessel was sunk. From the reports I looked at it was not clear whether this was a result of enemy action, friendly fire, an accident or mechanical

failure. Frank's death was reported in the Surrey Advertiser on 31st January 1942 as '...[he] was in command of Submarine H31, which the Admiralty have announced is overdue and must be considered lost.'

Lieutenant Gibbs is commemorated on the Royal Naval memorial on the seafront at Portsmouth.

Elizabeth Eyre



A dark blue poster for a Quiz Night event. The title 'QUIZ NIGHT' is in a large yellow speech bubble. Surrounding the text are white line-art illustrations of a fish and chips, two beer mugs, a brain in a lightbulb, a question mark in a lightbulb, two wine glasses, and a pudding. The event details are in rounded white boxes with yellow text.

QUIZ NIGHT

JOIN US FOR A QUIZ NIGHT
WITH A FISH & CHIP SUPPER

[Vegetarian & Chicken options available]

16
OCTOBER

Start at 19:00
St Christopher's Church

£15 per adult / £10 per child

Supper is included in the ticket price and
there will be a cash/ card bar serving soft
drinks, beer and wine

Pudding Auction

Please can each team bring a pudding big enough to
serve 8 which will be auctioned off on the night

Tables are groups of 8 but we can allocate you a table- just let us know!
For more information and to book visit www.haslemereparish.org/quiz

Harvest Festival 2026

Our Parish Harvest Festival Service is running this year on Sunday 4th October at 10:00am in St Bartholomew's. There will be a collection at both our 8:00am and 10:00am services that day.

For 2026 we are hosting a traditional 'bring your food along' approach, the proceeds of which we shall donate to Haslemere Food Bank, which will share it with individuals and families in need.

In past years the people of Haslemere have been a very generous support to many people. Our churches, together with our schools, have worked to share what we have with those who have less, as Jesus Christ has taught us.

Anything non-perishable you would consider normal needs are ok to bring as your gift, but as a rough guide to what sort of things to give, please bear in the mind the following ideas:

Haslemere Foodbank urgently needs:

- ✓ Baked beans, Tinned pasta, Packet puddings, Jam / marmalade, Custard, Rice pudding, Tinned vegetables, Tinned fish, Tinned meat meals, Soup, Couscous, Rice, Oats, Hot Chocolate, Coffee, Pasta sauce, Tinned tomatoes, Cereal, UHT milk, Tea bags, Toilet rolls, Bar soaps, Washing powder/liquids, Shower gel, Toothpaste, Sweet treats, Savoury snacks.

Haslemere Foodbank doesn't want

- ✗ Perishable items, alcoholic beverages, items beyond their sell-by dates.

And if you can please bring some cakes to share for after the service!

HASLEMERE
food bank



Sunday 5th July found me in the festival fields. With my usual haunt, Glastonbury, enjoying a fallow year, it was a real pleasure to discover the bi-annual Haslemere Fringe Festival on our doorstep. This 3-day event is a not-for-profit-enterprise, with any surplus going to support Haslemere Community events. It is also staffed by some of the nicest volunteers that will 'ere cross your path. With Reef, Ocean Colour Scene and Ward Thomas headlining successive days, the festival balances established names with emerging acts, presenting a broad range of music while also providing a platform for promising young local talent taking their early performance steps.

We had choirs, opera singers, country stars, indie rock bands, singer-songwriters and some exceptional young locals. Closing the festival on Sunday in style was Ward Thomas, the British country sister act from Petersfield. The close harmony duo will be on tour in September to celebrate 10 years of its No 1 album, *Cartwheels*; a song from which, 'Carry You Home', was one of many standouts on the night. Earlier in the day there was plenty more to savour. Country music was well represented with popular sets by Portsmouth's Kate Harding and her band, Surrey's Buckle N Boots and cowgirl popster Chanel Yates who brought her 'Big Girl Boots' with its viral line dance to Haslemere. Note to self: a viral line dance doesn't involve a referral to the health centre.



Indie rock was featured too with the youthful six-piece Big Red Sky impressing on the Lion's Den Stage. Mid-afternoon when the sun was its hottest, London indie four-piece Clamber pushed the temperature up a couple more degrees with a tuneful, energetic show. Few in the crowd probably knew the band's material but likeability and an immediacy to the songs brought an excited response. Clamber's band name mirrors the outfit's attempts to juggle music, work and life and hopefully succeed. The summer vibe of recent single 'Headrush' was a telling ode to keeping plates spinning.

The festival equally gives space for young performers at the very start of their journey through Debut, a local organisation offering them the chance to showcase their talent. The small stage located in the cool environs of 'under the trees', highlighted several of these acts. I was particularly impressed by the fine vocal tone of young jazz/soul singer Natalia Nixon, heard to emotive effect on a Beabadoobee cover and the amazing 17-year-old singer-guitarist William Laborde who set up prodigious acoustic guitar loops before switching to electric to add dazzling solos. His interpretation of 'Johnny B Goode' sits comfortably alongside Marty McFly's in *Back To The Future*.

Later, under said trees, was a more seasoned live performer in emerging indie-folk artist Heather Gorniak, aka Hearthly. Her alias suggests warmth and homeliness while echoing her birth name. Hearthly is a Haslemere native who now lives in London where she regularly performs. She employs an airy, individual vocal tone and can accompany herself on a raft of instruments: violin, viola, guitar, keys and ukulele. While she cites influences from 70s folk-rock to Laura Marling, the beauty of hearing her live was that she did not immediately remind me of anyone else. Her original songs reflect growing up neurodiverse with the challenges and questions that this raises both in love and self-acceptance. 'Come Clean' was inspired by a late diagnosis of ADHD aged 30 and explores the theme of acceptance without the need to mask her true self.



This snapshot of Sunday at the Fringe has focused on music but festival goers can also enjoy comedy, poetry, a range of stalls selling food, drinks, clothes, jewellery and crafts plus stands promoting good causes and local businesses, many of whom also provide

valued support headed by principal sponsor for 2026, Couchman Hanson Solicitors. The last word goes to the audience who supported the event. All ages were represented and there was a safe, fun, something-for-everyone atmosphere to the event. It had the truly local feel of a village fete combined with the appreciation of good music you associate with a music festival. Come in 2028 and bring your camping chairs.

Photos from Haslemere Fringe Festival by Arlo Parker Photos & SISU Marketing





Recipe Corner

Toffee French Toast with Berries

Linda Donaldson

The entire dish can be prepared the evening before so that it is ready to go in the oven in the morning. The recipe comes from my daughter in New Zealand and serves 6.

Ingredients:

5 eggs & 2 egg yolks
4 cups cream
¼ cup runny honey
1 tsp. vanilla essence
Pinch of salt
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
¼ tsp. ground nutmeg
12 slices of baguette
200g. butter
½ cup brown sugar
6 walnuts
Berries, to serve
Mascarpone to serve
Sprigs of mint to serve
Maple syrup to serve



Method:

Preheat the oven to 200°C. Place the eggs, egg yolks, cream, honey, vanilla, salt, cinnamon and nutmeg in a large bowl and whisk well.

Place the bread slices into the egg mixture and soak until all the mixture has been soaked up.

In a large frying pan, melt 100g. butter and fry the soaked bread in batches. Melt the remaining 100g. butter in a small saucepan and add the brown sugar until it looks like caramel. Take a large roasting dish with sides and pour the brown sugar into the bottom. Place the French toasts into the roasting dish and bake for 15-20 minutes or until it looks as if they are soaked in toffee. Remove from the oven.

Grate walnut over each toast, top with berries, sprigs of mint and mascarpone and maple syrup if desired.

MIDHURST PALLIATIVE **CARE**

Funding the Midhurst
Macmillan Service



Coffee Morning

In aid of the Midhurst Macmillan Service

Coffee, cake, a raffle and more!

St Christopher's Church,

St Christophers Green, just off Weyhill, GU27 1DD

Wednesday 23rd September

10am till 12 noon

Donations of cakes, jams, chutneys etc as well as raffle prizes and bottles for the tombola are needed. Drop off at St Christophers on Tuesday 22nd September, 2-4pm.

If anyone is available to help on the day or with set up, please contact Sarah Mulliner on sarahmulliner@gmail.com





Parish Cricket

Justin Manley-Cooper

On the 23rd August the parish cricket team once again took on all comers at the Haslemere Cricket Club's six a side competition.

Firstly, a huge thank you to everyone involved. The support of the parish is a wonder to behold, whether that be in your good wishes, tombola prizes or support on the day. Once again, the parish side had the most supporters and that is so much appreciated by not just our team, but by all cricket teams taking part and they asked me to pass on their thanks to everyone involved. Having said that there are now other spectators that have no affiliation with any side but come along because it's a good afternoon's entertainment, evidence that community involvement is growing.

A huge thank you must also go to the family Ingrams for organising the tombolas and raffle which raised an extraordinary £805.50 to be split between the cricket club and the church's charities.

The cricket itself was as ever very entertaining and a lot of fun, perhaps highlighted by one of the Haslemere Cricket club bowlers taking four wickets in four consecutive bowls in one over! Our thanks once again go to HCC for not only hosting the event but ensuring that everything was played in the right 'village cricket' spirit.



Due to injuries and holidays, the parish had a slightly reduced squad out this year, but no less courageous and plucky for that. I was asked a few times how things were going, to which I replied, "it's tight at the top," which didn't include us! However, we had our highlights including a wonderful off balance catch by Andrew Gregory, some excellent bowling by Chris's new son-in-law Will, good batting by Alistair Morgan and Robert Fox, and

two debutants, Steven Johnston and Daniel Pyburn (Ann Lear's grandson) who both did very well.

However, the scene stealing performance came from our secret weapon! Just to give a little background, each batting side has only four overs to amass as many runs as possible, meaning the biggest pressure can be on the bowler of the fourth over. Enter Richard Reincke. Richard describes his bowling as slow left arm, some have said, very rudely in my opinion, "sending the batsman a letter would be quicker!" However, this slow but highly accurate delivery leaves the batsman in the zone of doubt whether to attack or defend, leading in many cases to complete befuddlement! Richard bowled brilliantly in our one win over Met Therm Windows and equally well against Haslemere Rugby Club managing to seal a tie!



A great day of cricket, laughter, fun and community involvement, we're already looking forward to the 22nd August 2027.



A Lasting Gift to your Parish

"No matter how large or small, every gift in every Will makes a difference"

For further information please contact the parish office and you will be put in touch with the relevant person.

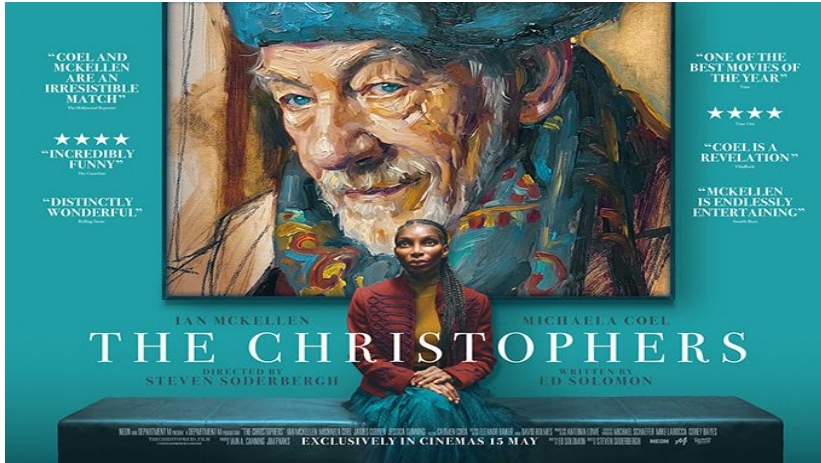
office@haslemereparish.org 01428 644578

CHIDDINGFOLD VILLAGE HALL **CINEMA**

Book Online at Chiddingfoldcinema.com or pay on the door

Films start 8, doors open 7.30pm. Tickets: £7 for adults, £4 for under 15's

The Christophers - Friday 11th September



The children of a once famous artist (Ian McKellen) hire a forger to complete some unfinished, long ago abandoned canvases so they'll have an inheritance when he dies.

Drama. Cert 15

www.chiddingfoldcinema.com

The cinema is located at the Chiddingfold Village Hall 200 seat venue where we have a new laser

high-definition projector, 4.5 metre-wide screen, professional AV equipment and a fabulous multi-speaker Dolby surround sound system and a hearing loop.

All profits from the Cinema go to the Chiddingfold Village Hall Charity No. 305001.



Linda Harris retires

After 35 years in the St Bartholomew's Choir, Linda Harris is retiring. The Choir had a farewell party for her after the Evensong service on 26th July.

Our picture shows Anne Rogers, Linda Harris, Ken Harker, Barbara Goulston, Roger Davis and Don Stacey.

Hamish Donaldson



St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School

Our time at St Bart's

Farren - Head Boy 2025-2026

In my time at St Bart's, I have been on school trips and learned many things since I started in Year R. I have enjoyed my time here and it will stay with me forever. So here are some highlights of my past seven years.

Let's start with Year 2 where we went to West Wittering for our beach combing topic and found lots of different sea life and I really enjoyed playing in the sea. At the end of the year, I went to Arundel Castle where we dressed up as knights and learned all about the medieval times.

Then so this letter isn't too long I will move to Year 6 when I was made Head Boy and with that came a lot of responsibility like writing this letter. I learned all about the curriculum and played Doctor Who in one of the scenes of the Year Six play.

Now looking forward to the future I would say that St Bart's has prepared me well for secondary school where new challenges will come and I will rise to the occasion because St Bart's has taught me their core values: believe, achieve, respect, trust and succeed.

Alexa - Head Girl 2025-2026

What can I say about St Bart's? Over the past few years here I have made so many lovely memories that I will always remember, starting from since I joined in Year 1.

One of my favourite years was definitely Year 4 because we did so many fun things such as making our digestion t-shirts, going to CYE and making cool potions.

Although all of this was great fun, Year 6 has been the best year ever because I got to experience so many fun things like becoming Head Girl, going on holiday to France with all my friends and creating the Bart's book of records.

In my time here I have learned so many things, completed so many challenges and made so many good friends. In conclusion, my time here at St Bart's has been amazing, and I will never forget it.



THE PEOPLE'S HEDGEHOG RESCUE

Hedgehogs have lived in Britain for at least half a million years, quietly snuffling through our gardens at night. Yet today they're facing pressures that are causing their numbers to plummet, especially in rural areas. As Fay Vass, CEO of the British Hedgehog Preservation Society, has shown, even a species that only lives two or three years can be pushed to the brink surprisingly fast.

Here in Haslemere, sightings reported on the Big Hedgehog Map show clear hotspots, particularly in High Lane, Hammer, Shottermill and Deep Dene. These pockets of activity are precious. As we move into autumn, hedgehogs begin preparing for winter, building up fat reserves, seeking out safe nesting places, and travelling between gardens in search of food. This is a time when small actions from local residents can make a real difference.

Simple ways to help hedgehogs (all year round)

PTES (People's Trust for Endangered Species) recommends a few easy steps that support hedgehogs throughout the year:

- **Provide a shallow dish of fresh water** daily. Hydration helps hedgehogs in every season, not just summer.
- Boost natural food sources. **Planting native flowers** helps insect life, which in turn feeds hedgehogs. For keen gardeners, there is excellent advice on planting available via the PTES website <https://ptes.org>.
- **Check long grass, compost heaps and bonfire piles** before clearing. Hedgehogs often hide or nest in these spots as they love a tunnel.
- **Avoid slug pellets.** They harm hedgehogs and reduce their natural food supply.
- **Create small gaps in fences** ('hedgehog highways'). A 13cm x 13cm opening allows hedgehogs to roam safely between gardens.
- If you see a hedgehog **out in the daytime or looking unwell**, offer water and contact a local rescue.

To explore or report local hedgehog sightings, visit the **Big Hedgehog Map**: <https://bighedgehogmap.org/> which helps guide us as to where to aim support. All these actions will help hedgehogs survive and potentially, thrive, in our area.



A Hedgehog Project for Haslemere?

In August, Haslemere Biodiversity held a community meeting to explore what local hedgehog projects could look like across the wider area. Residents shared ideas ranging from 'Hedgehog Streets' (clusters of neighbours working together) to building hedgehog houses, improving garden connectivity, and collecting better local data.

Although the meeting has already taken place, there is plenty of time for Haslemere residents to get involved. Several people expressed interest in starting Hedgehog Streets in their neighbourhoods, and the Haslemere Biodiversity team would be delighted to connect anyone who wants to help.

Their mission is to bring together people who care about local wildlife and support them to start wildlife initiatives of their own, which might include:

- creating one or more **Hedgehog Streets** in Haslemere
- working with local makers to produce **hedgehog houses** that meet PTES guidelines (surprisingly hard to buy commercially)
- sharing good advice on feeding, garden safety and how to make space for hedgehogs
- collecting better **local data** so we know where hedgehogs are and where they need help most

If you'd like to be part of a hedgehog project, or simply want to stay updated, the team would love to hear from you at info@haslemerebiodiversity.org.uk.

Together, we can make Haslemere an even friendlier place for hedgehogs, and for all the wildlife that shares our gardens and green spaces. As Chair Dr Philippa Guest writes, "Nature recovery isn't something that happens to a town, it's something a town chooses to do."

If Haslemere chooses to help hedgehogs, we can make a real difference.



Save the date- our next Wildlife Gardening event will be on Tuesday 29th September, 6.30- 8.30pm at The Haslemere Museum.

Written by DofE volunteer, Izzy

Edited by Haslemere Biodiversity Comms Lead, Liz Burton





What's on at Haslemere Museum

For all events book in advance via the
What's On Page of the museum website.

Family LEGO sessions. Tuesday 1 September, 10.30am-12.30pm

Search through the Museum's LEGO and let your imagination run wild. Children need to be accompanied. £3 per person.

Centenary talk: Local Woodland Craft and Industries. Thursday 3 September, 7pm

Local history author, Tim Winter, will explore the remarkable specialist craftsmen who once worked in Haslemere and the surrounding area, creating hoops and besoms, turning wood, burning charcoal, and harvesting oak bark and faggots from the local coppice woodlands. A vivid glimpse into the traditional skills that shaped our rural past. Tickets £15.

Early years activity for under 5s: Maisie Goes to the Museum. Friday 4 September, 10.30-11.30am

Listen to Maisie's story and see how Haslemere Museum differs from the museum Maisie visits. Children need to be accompanied. £3 per child plus £2 per accompanying adult.

Exhibition tour: 100 on the High Street. Friday 11 September, 10.30am or 2.30pm

As part of Heritage Open Days, Museum researcher Jo Buckrell will lead a tour of the Museum's *One Hundred Years on the High Street* exhibition. Free of charge but booking essential.

Early yrs activity for under 5s: Three Little Pigs. Friday 18 Sept, 1.30-2.30pm

Make puppets and/or houses to act out this popular children's story. Children need to be accompanied. £3 per child plus £2 per accompanying adult.

Creative wellbeing workshop: Modern Art. Tuesday 22 September, 7-9pm

A relaxing evening of art with Diana Burch. Leading on from the Museum's centenary this year, a look at 20th century modern artists such as Picasso, Matisse, Kandinsky and Klimt. You will create your own works based on their ideas. £16

Early years activity for under 5s: Lovely Leaves. Friday 2 October, 10.30-11.30am

Turn some lovely leaves into colourful autumnal pictures. Children need to be accompanied. £3 per child plus £2 per accompanying adult.

Early years activity for under 5s: Pattern, Print, Paint. Friday 16 October, 1.30-2.30pm

Experiment with printing using a variety of natural objects. Children need to be accompanied. £3 per child plus £2 per accompanying adult.

Family event: Horrific Halloween. Tuesday 27 October, 1.30-4pm

Get into the spooky spirit with a Halloween crafting event. Bring your creativity and a pumpkin or squash to carve, then join a Halloween procession through Haslemere, which gathers at the Museum at 4pm and finishes in the town's central car park with a treat. Children need to be accompanied. £5 per child plus £2 per accompanying adult.

Special opening for SEND/ASC: Early Birds. Wednesday 28 October, 9-10am

Special opening for families with children who have an Autism Spectrum Condition to come along and enjoy the Museum free from the hustle and bustle of the general public. Entry by donation but booking essential.

Family LEGO sessions. Wednesday 28 October, 10.30am-12.30pm

Search through the Museum's LEGO and let your imagination run wild. Children need to be accompanied. £3 per person.

Half Term Museum Explorers: Super Skeletons. Thursday 29 Oct, 10.30am-12pm

Ahead of Hallowe'en, investigate the Museum's bone handling collection, try and put together our skeleton and do skeleton-related crafts. Includes a look at the bones in the galleries. Parents can stay but don't have to. £8 per child plus £2 per accompanying adult.

**Drop in
Coffee Morning &
Hearing Aid Clinic**

**When? 10am-12 noon
2nd & 4th Thursdays**

**Where?
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Derby Road, Haslemere,
GU27 1BS**

**All are welcome!
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Petworth House and Park

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/sussex/petworth>



Expressions in Blue: Monumental Porcelain by Felicity Aylieff. Ends 27 September

See towering sculptures by renowned ceramicist Felicity Aylieff. The exhibition takes place across the whole property, including installations throughout the house. Discover the remarkable 'making' process in the exhibition room. Free with admission, no booking required.

Petworth Late: In Conversation. 25 September, 6.30pm - 8.30pm

Explore the House and Expressions in Blue exhibition after hours. A highlight of the evening will be artist Felicity Aylieff and author Kassia St. Clair in conversation. £25 per person. Booking advisable, online or by calling 0344 249 1895.

Painting Courses with West Dean College. 14 August - 28 September

Hosted across the beautiful estates of West Dean and Petworth, this series of courses will provide an introduction to a variety of mediums, from oil painting to watercolour and chalk pastels. Visit www.westdean.ac.uk for more information.

Heritage Open Days. 12 & 13 September

Visit for free on Heritage Open Day weekend. Join a free guided tour of the house, with other talks, tours and family activities throughout the day. Our friendly volunteers will also be running free walks through Petworth, where you can discover the fascinating connections between the town and Petworth House. Tickets and timings will be available from Church Lodge.

Halloween Trail: 'We're Going on a Ghost Hunt'. 10 October - 1 November

Follow our ghost-filled trail through the Pleasure Garden. Along the way, discover spooky stops packed with fun games, activities and challenges. Free with entry.

Ranger Ramble in Petworth Park: Ancient Trees. 21 October, 10.30am - 12.30pm

Learn all about the ancient trees of Petworth Park on this two-hour guided walk with our Senior Ranger. Part of a series of free walks for local residents and frequent visitors to Petworth Park who would like to get to know the Park and its wildlife better. The walk is free, but booking is essential, either via the website or by calling 0344 249 1895.

Deer Rut Guided Walk. 28 October - 4 November, 10.30am - 12.30pm

Discover more about the annual deer rut in the park on this two-hour guided walk. £15 per adult, £7.50 per child. Booking essential, either via the website or by calling 0344 249 1895.

Haslemere Library September Events 2026



Haslemere Library is the place to go.

The End of Read to the Beat Summer Reading Challenge!!!



A call out to all our Summer Reading Challenge participants to join in our festival!

Whether you have read all six books, completed all the goals or only managed a few, come and join us to make a Read to the Beat Festival

Mask on

Saturday 12th September

10.00-4.00pm

£1.50 per child



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This year's Read to the Beat Summer Reading Challenge

comes to an end on Saturday 12th September so make that **final push** to claim your prizes and **house points**. And remember if you have completed all **12 Goals** be sure to let us know by 26/09/2026 to enter our **FREE prize draw!**

Do you have any unwanted Yarn?

Is it looking for a home where it will be loved and used?

Then please donate to Haslemere Library today!



Haslemere Library October Events 2026



HASLEMERE LIBRARY
SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

HALLOWEEN LANTERN CRAFT

TUESDAY 27TH OCTOBER
DROP IN 10.00AM - 4.00PM
£2 PER CHILD

CROCHET FOR BEGINNERS

Learn how to crochet granny squares in preparation for our exciting 2027 craft project.



Saturday 10/10

2.00 - 4.00 pm

Cost £8.50 per person

Ages 14yrs+

Booking recommended @

haslemere.library@surreycc.gov.uk



BOOK FOLDING Halloween Series

Saturday 24/10
£3
Walk in 10.00 - 4.00pm
Ages 7yrs+

Age 6yrs+
Autumnal Fabric Wreath
Thursday 22/10
Friday 30/10
Walk in 10.00 - 4.00pm
£2.50

Tales and Treats
Funny Bones!
Saturday 31/10
11.15-12.15
£1.00 donation
Ages 3 - 7yrs

Special Autumn Storytime
Tuesday 20/10
£1.00 donation
Ages 4- 7yrs

Hedgehog Book folding Craft
Thursday 29/10
Walk in 10.00-4.00pm
£2.00
Age 4yrs+



Kings World Trust for Children (India)

*King's World Trust for Children, 1 Stonehill Cottage, Wilsons
Road, Headley Down, Hampshire GU35 8JE
Email: kwtc@haslemere.com*

The students at Kings School have had a busy time this year. In April thirty-two students visited Malaysia and had a sightseeing tour of Kuala Lumpur.



Also,
that
month

the school hosted a nine-day summer camp for 150 young people with the theme Architects of Nature. "In 9 days, our students didn't just learn activities. They learned to think like architects - to observe, imagine, and create."



Founder's Day was on the 1st of August and to celebrate the school held both cricket and basketball tournaments along with a special 80th birthday tribute, chronicling the life and achievements, of the

founder of the trust, Colin Wagstaff - known to the children as Uncle Colin. The photo shows Colin celebrating with his family.

To find out more about the work of the Kings World Trust and read their full newsletter, visit www.kingschildren.org



NEW SEASON CONCERTS START SEPTEMBER 2026**Quatuor Van Kuijk****Saturday 26th September 2026****Patrick Hemmerlé (piano)****Saturday 17th October****Laura Van Der Heijden (cello)
& Jâms Coleman (piano)****Saturday 14th November****Emanuil Ivanov (piano)****Saturday 16th January 2027****Chiaroscuro Quartet****Saturday 20th February****Astatine Trio****Saturday 20th March**

St Christopher's Church, Haslemere GU27 1DD

Tickets £25 each**Season ticket for all six concerts £110**All tickets available from: www.haslemereconcerts.org.uk



SURREY CHURCHES PRESERVATION TRUST

SURREY CHURCHES RIDE & STRIDE

SATURDAY 12th SEPTEMBER 2026

Most counties in England hold an annual 'Ride & Stride', on the second Saturday in September, to raise money for church restoration and repair. The idea is that cyclists and walkers are given a list of churches and chapels in the area of their choice. They map out their own route to pedal or walk to places of Christian worship having arranged to be sponsored by friends for a fixed sum or donation per church visited.

The money that is collected is divided in two. Half goes to the church or chapel of the cyclist's or walker's choice; the other half is retained by the Surrey Churches Preservation Trust for distribution to churches in need. The Trust looks more favourably on applications from supporters of the Ride & Stride event. In the twenty-five years that Ride & Stride has been running in Surrey, over £500,000 has been raised.

We have taken part in every Ride & Stride since its inception in 1997. In return the Trust has supported projects in both our churches - including the West End and Flagpole in St Christopher's, the St Cecelia Screen, Church Redecoration and Organ Refurb in St Bartholomew's so they deserve our support.

Ride & Stride is a fun way to spend time on a pleasant Saturday in September while getting to know some Surrey places of Christian worship and raising funds for this worthy cause. Why not make up a group and join in this year! Some suggested routes are available from the SCPT website. A list of participating churches will be available together with sponsorship forms.

If you prefer not to 'ride or stride', please support Robert Fox who will be Riding on our behalf.

Sponsorship forms at the back of our churches

www.SurreyChurchesPreservationTrust.org



The Hunter Centre

Supporting those living with dementia

Singing For The Mind

**2nd Tuesday each month 2- 3pm,
Marjorie Gray Hall, Grayswood Road,
Haslemere, GU27 2BW
Refreshments from 1.30pm**



Music has long been known for it's ability to support memories and bring joy to any event.

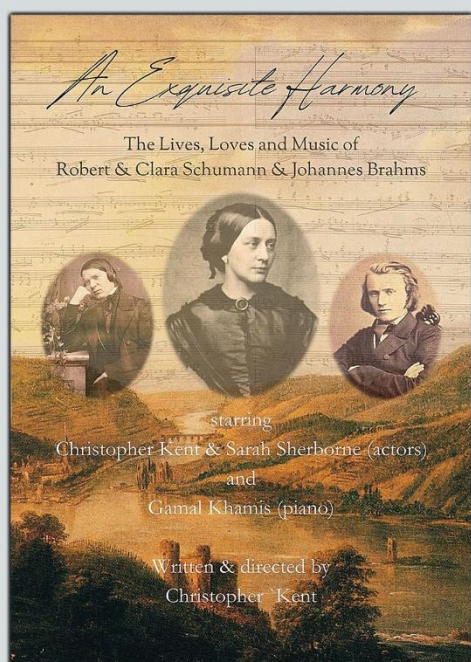
Singing For The Mind is for those caring for someone with dementia. Individuals with a diagnosis must be accompanied by a carer.



For more information , please
contact Denise, 01428 654710
deputy@thehuntercentre.co.uk

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*A narrative recital on the lives, loves and music of Robert
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Christopher Kent

Sarah Sherborne



Gamal Khamis - Piano

Tickets: £18 includes tea/coffee & cake

Sunday 13 September, 3pm
Hindhead Music Centre, GU26 6BA
haslemereconcerts.org.uk

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STROKE SUPPORT HUB

First Tuesday of every month | 10am – 12pm

If you or someone you care about has been affected by a stroke, join us at our monthly Stroke Support Hub, supported by the Stroke Association.

Enjoy complimentary hot drinks, homemade cakes and pastries while meeting others in your local community.

Book your complimentary place today:

01428 771671 | Mario.marzolini@hamberleycarehomes.co.uk

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The Link (St Bartholomew's Church) on:

10:00am – 11.30am, every 2nd and 4th Thursday

Our NHS volunteers are trained by the audiology department of the Royal Surrey County Hospital. Visiting the Hear Here clinic may save travelling long distances or the difficulties of access to the hospital.

The Hear Here scheme was launched in March 2013 as a partnership between Guildford Diocese and the NHS. There are now over 200 people trained in hearing aid maintenance. Hear Here was successful in winning the Faith Action & Health Award in 2018 for continuing to provide support for those with hearing loss across Surrey and North-East Hampshire.



Enquiries to:

office@haslemereparish.org



If you would like to advertise with us, please
contact Geoff Martin on 01428 641907 or email
martin_g6@sky.com

A photograph of two women sitting in a large, light-colored armchair in a room filled with bookshelves. The woman on the left is older, with short grey hair, wearing a colorful patterned top and pink trousers. The woman on the right is younger, with short blonde hair, wearing a light pink long-sleeved top and dark trousers. They are both smiling and looking at each other. The background is a wall of tall bookshelves filled with books.

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The top half of the image features a landscape background of rolling green hills and golden fields under a clear sky. In the top left corner, the 'LISLE MEDICAL' logo is displayed in a large, blue, serif font. To the right of the logo, the text 'Private GP' is written in a smaller, dark serif font, followed by 'Haslemere | Chichester | Mobile' in an even smaller, dark serif font.

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at Harry Edwards Healing Sanctuary
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Bluebells is a friendly, sharing group for anyone affected by cancer. We laugh a lot, cry a little, share experiences and support each other. Do come along one Thursday to see for yourself!

We meet on the first and third Thursdays of each month from 11am—1pm ending with a relaxation session.

We like to keep in touch and know how you are at other times too, so please feel free to contact Carolyn Low on 01483 203540 or email Carolyn.graeme@hotmail.co.uk

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manager@thehuntercentre.co.uk



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Safeguarding in our Parish

Our parish safeguarding officer is

Kari Hayden 07762 737309

Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor

Jackie Broadfoot 07918 559387 jackie.broadfoot@cofeguildford.org.uk



Safe Spaces, an independent service supporting survivors of church-related abuse.

Telephone: 0300 303 1056 (answerphone available outside of opening times)

Email safespaces@victimsupport.org.uk WebChat via the Safe Spaces website

For all emergencies call 999

The Single Point of Access (SPA)

Children and Adult Service social workers. Direct information, advice and guidance about where and how to find appropriate support for children and families

Surrey

0300 470 9100

(children) cspa@surreycc.gov.uk

(adult) acsmash@surreycc.gov.uk

Domestic Abuse

Surrey - YourSanctuary

01483 776822

24hr National Domestic Abuse Helpline

0808 2000 247

DeafHope (BSL)

text: 07970 350366

Childline

0800 1111

National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

NSPCC

0808 800 5000 or help@nspcc.org.uk

NSPCC Sign Video link

nspcc.org.uk/about-us/contact-us

Samaritans

116123 or jo@samaritans.org

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From the Registers



Baptisms

Summer Cece Mia Worlidge- 18th July at St Bartholomew's
Martyn, Sophie & Rhys Stendela- 19th July at St Bartholomew's
Katie, Jack, Rose & Oliver Buckley- 26th July at St Christopher's
Arlo John Hill- 2nd August at St Bartholomew's

Funerals

Patricia Wilkinson- 16th June at St Bartholomew's
Elizabeth Cook- 30th June at St Christopher's
Luke Van Oppen Irving- 15th July at St Bartholomew's
Victoria Bridge- 31st July at St Bartholomew's

Interments

James Callahan- 11th June at Weycombe Road
Michael Waller- 1st August at St Bartholomew's

Weddings

Freddie Stott & Kate Short- 18th July at St Bartholomew's
Matthew Kueh & Charlotte Singleton- 22nd Aug at St Christopher's
Joseph Mullender & Jaya Perry- 27th August at St Bartholomew's

COPY DATE

For the Nov / Dec issue of the magazine is

Friday October 9th 2026

We'd love to hear from you. Please send your contributions to the
Parish Office: office@haslemereparish.org

Please note that we cannot guarantee inclusion of late articles
unless by prior arrangement.

*Responsibility for opinions and accuracy in statements
expressed in articles and in advertisements in this
magazine rests solely with the individual contributors*

Sunday Services

6 Sept *14th Sunday of Trinity* **4 Oct** *18th Sunday of Trinity*
8.00 Holy Communion | St Christopher's 8.00 Holy Communion | St Christopher's
10.00 Holy Communion | St Bartholomew's **10.00 Harvest Festival | St Bartholomew's**
Sunday Morning Families *Sunday Morning Families*

13 Sept *15th Sunday of Trinity* **11 Oct** *19th Sunday of Trinity*
8.00 Holy Communion | St Bartholomew's 8.00 Holy Communion | St Bartholomew's
10.00 Holy Communion | St Christopher's **10.00 Holy Communion | St Christopher's**
18.00 Evensong | St Bartholomew's 18.00 Evensong | St Bartholomew's

22 Sept *16th Sunday of Trinity* **18 Oct** *20th Sunday of Trinity*
8.00 Holy Communion | St Christopher's 8.00 Holy Communion | St Christopher's
10.00 Holy Communion | St Bartholomew's **10.00 Holy Communion | St Bartholomew's**
11.30 Praying on Sunday | St Christopher's 11.30 Praying on Sunday | St Christopher's

27 Sept *17th Sunday of Trinity* **25 Oct** *Last Sunday of Trinity*
8.00 Holy Communion | St Bartholomew's 8.00 Holy Communion | St Bartholomew's
10.00 Holy Communion | St Christopher's **10.00 Holy Communion | St Christopher's**
18.00 Evensong | St Bartholomew's 18.00 Evensong | St Bartholomew's

10am services are live streamed via

The Parish YouTube channel

www.haslemereparish.org/online



www.haslemereparish.org/services