

BUCKLAND PARISH MAGAZINE



PEACE ON THE A25—but see page 12

August 2024

SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN, BUCKLAND

www.stmarythevirginbuckland.net

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BUCKLAND PARISH MAGAZINE

August 2024

Dear All

FUTURE EVENTS

Diaries and calendars fill up so quickly nowadays so I've decided I'm going to do something a little different this month – a bit of shameless self-advertising – and when I say self-advertising, what I really mean is church events advertising, so get your diaries and pens at the ready because here goes. Enjoy your holidays!



Pru

BUCKLAND

SEPTEMBER

- **Sunday 29th, 10am. Harvest Thanksgiving** followed by bring and share lunch. Giving thanks for the safe harvest and for all the generous help everyone gives in keeping our church open and active. Everyone very welcome!

OCTOBER

- **Friday 11th, 7.30pm-10pm. MUSIC QUIZ & SUPPER.** Buckland Reading Room.

NOVEMBER

- **Saturday 2nd, 10am-2pm – PARISH AWAY DAY** at The Orchard, St Mary's Chipstead. Everyone welcome
- **Sunday 3rd, 4pm – All Souls service** remembering our loved ones in a quiet, reflective service followed by refreshments.
- **Sunday 10th, 10.50 – Remembrance Sunday.** We start at the war memorial.

DECEMBER

- **Saturday 23rd, 12-4pm – Christmas Fayre** in the Reading Room. Join us for traditional stalls, refreshments and raffle and tombola.
- **Wednesday 18th, 7pm – St Mary's Carol Service.** Chance to sing those favourite carols, hear the old familiar Christmas story and eat a few more mince pies!
- **Tuesday 24th, 4pm - Children's Candlelight Service** – for families.
- **Tuesday 24th 9pm Midnight Mass** – this year we are trialling a new earlier time of 9 pm which is in line with Bethlehem's midnight

BETCHWORTH

AUGUST

- **Sunday 18th, 10am – All Creatures Great & Small Service.** A short service followed by refreshments and a walk for those who would like the exercise. Favourite teddies are also welcome .
- **Wednesday 28th, 2pm-4pm – Afternoon Teas.** Come and join us in the Hamilton Rooms.

SEPTEMBER

- **Saturday 14-Sunday – 15th, Heritage Open Days.** The Churches and Buckland Windmill are open.
- **Wednesday 25th, 2-4pm – Afternoon Teas** in the Hamilton Rooms.

OCTOBER

- **Sunday 6th, 10am – Harvest Thanksgiving service** and bring and share lunch. Giving thanks for the safe harvest and for the generous help everyone gives to keep our church open and active.
- **Wednesday 30th, 2-4pm – Afternoon Teas** in the Hamilton Rooms.

NOVEMBER

- **Saturday 2nd, 10am –2pm PARISH AWAYDAY MORNING & LUNCH,** The Orchard, St Mary's Chipstead
- **Sunday 10th, 10 am – Remembrance Sunday.** (no evensong this month).
- **Wednesday 27th, 2-4pm – Afternoon Teas** in the Hamilton Rooms.

DECEMBER

- **Sunday 22nd, 5pm - Carol Service.**
- **Tuesday 24th, 5pm – the incredible outdoors Nativity Play.**
- **Wednesday 25th, 10am - Christmas Day service.**



CHURCH SERVICES—AUGUST

Date	St Mary's Buckland	St Michael's Betchworth
4 August 2024 <i>Trinity 10</i>		10am Parish Communion <i>John 6:24-35</i>
11 August 2024 <i>Trinity 11</i>	10am Parish Communion (No IONA) <i>John 6:41-51</i>	No Evensong
18 August 2024 <i>Trinity 12</i>		10am Pet Blessing Service <i>Matthew 6:24-33</i>
25 August 2024 <i>Trinity 13</i>	10am Parish Communion <i>John 6: 56-69</i>	
1 September 2024 <i>Trinity 14</i>		10am Parish Communion <i>Mark 7:1-8 & 14-15</i>

Also: THURSDAY MORNING COMMUNION SERVICE AT 10AM IN Betchworth
- though for simplicity this is no longer shown on the schedule above

AUGUST EVENTS

- 1 Aug, 6.30-8.30 pm.** Members Garden Visit, Brockham. BGHS, p.23
10 Aug, 10am—12 noon. 'Buckland Magic' Clematis Plant Sale, p.11.
18 Aug, 10am –4 pm. Buckland Pond Clearance day, Parish Council, p.10
18 Aug, 10am. All Creatures Service & Walk, St Michael's Betchworth, p.4
28 Aug 2 pm to 4 pm. Afternoon Teas, Hamilton Room Betchworth. p.9

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

- 1 Sept, 10am –4 pm. (Second)** Buckland Pond Clearance day, Parish Council, p.10
2 Sept, 7.15pm. Talk: The River Mole, it's History & State. DLHG, p.28
21 Sept. Annual Autumn Horticultural Show. Brockhams Village Hall. BGHS, p.23

OCTOBER EVENTS

- 5 Oct, Drop-by 1pm-4pm.** Applefest, Betchworth Village Hall, p.24
11 Oct, 7.30pm-10pm. Music Quiz, Buckland Reading Room. FOSM (TBA)
25-27 Oct, 10am-5pm, Dorking Group of Artists Exhibition, Denbies, p.29

ANTHONY GRAHAM (TONY) GREEN: 1929-2024, Age 95—Obituary



Tony was an affectionate, loving, hard working person who always put the needs of other people ahead of himself. Despite a modest formal education, (leaving School at 14) he was naturally intelligent and incredibly well read, his intellect and curiosity were boundless. Whether effortlessly naming any of the worlds capital city for Barbara's crosswords or engaging in thoughtful discussions, Anthony (Tony) approached every interaction with empathy and understanding.

Tony was the youngest of two children born in 1929 in Kent to Horace and Hilda. Tony's older brother Peter joined the RAF in 1939 serving as a rear gunner in a Liberator, fuelling his lifelong passion with anything to do with aviation. Upon leaving School Tony joined Hawker Sidley as a draftsman working in the airframe design department. Unfortunately, poor health in the form of TB cut his career short and he was dispatched to Ventnor on the Isle of Wight to the then world famous Royal National Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest. Through treatment and plenty of rest and the bonus of meeting his future wife Barbara, Tony was discharged and after a short time in retail discovered his second passion of photography. Tony joined Ilford photographic moving to Agfa Gevaert where he enjoyed a career in managing the photographic processing division pioneering the first mass use of colour photography in the UK.

Upon retiring Tony and Barbara moved to The Gate House, Reigate Road, Buckland in 1997, not only finding a home but a loving community that welcomed them with open arms, they both embraced the community supporting it however they could. Tony's passion of building and flying model aircraft with his friends from the Bangers and Mash flying club on Epsom Downs continued until in his own words he 'couldn't walk far enough to retrieve the planes.'

Tony and Barbara were inseparable, a great team who gave their children and grandchildren and incredibly happy and supported childhood. Tony leaves wife Barbara, children Marcus, Nicholas and Alison and grandchildren Jake, Harry, Max and Kazia. Greatly missed and forever in our hearts.

Marcus Green

THE GIFT OF SILENCE

An opinion piece by Father Richard Rohr (Franciscan & Author)

Monastics should diligently cultivate silence at all times.

—St. Benedict, Rule, chapter 42

Silence is not just that which happens around words and underneath images and events. It has a life of its own. It's a phenomenon with an almost physical identity. It is a being in itself to which we can relate. Philosophically, we would say being is that foundational quality which precedes all other attributes. When we relate to the naked being of a thing, we learn to know it at its core. Silence is somehow at the very foundation of all reality. It is that out of which all being comes and to which all things return.

Silence precedes, undergirds, and grounds everything. We cannot just think of it as an accident, or as something unnecessary. Unless we learn how to live there, go there, abide in this different phenomenon, the rest of things—words, events, relationships, identities—become rather superficial, without depth or context. They lose meaning, so we end up searching for more events and situations which must increasingly contain ever-higher stimulation, more excitement, and more color to add vital signs to our inherently bored and boring existence. Really, the simplest and most stripped-down things ironically have the power to give us the greatest happiness—if we respect them as such. Silence is the essence of simple and stripped down. ☐ We need to experience silence as a living presence which is primordial and primal in itself, and then see all other things—now experienced deeply—inside of that container. Silence is not just an absence, but also a presence. Silence surrounds every “I know” event with a humble and patient “I don’t know.” It protects the autonomy and dignity of events, persons, animals, and all things.

We must find a way to return to this place, to live in this place, to abide in this place of inner silence. Outer silence means very little if there is not a deeper inner silence. Everything else appears much clearer when it appears or emerges out of a previous silence. When I use the word appear, I mean that silence takes on reality, substance, significance, or meaning. Without silence around a thing, which is a mystery, it can be difficult to find a meaning that lasts. It's just another event in a sequence of ever-quicker events, which we call our lives.

Without silence, we do not really experience our experiences. We have many experiences, but they do not have the power to change us, to awaken us, to give us that joy or “peace that the world cannot give,” as Jesus says (John 14:27).

VOLUNTEER ROLES—an update

Thanks to Jane Stewart for stepping up to take on the role of Bookings Secretary for the **BUCKLAND READING ROOM., starting in September after a handover period.**

Sincere thanks go to **Stella Cantor** who is retiring from this role, due to moving out of the village within the next month or two. Both Stella & Martin Cantor have taken on many voluntary roles in the village over the past 15 years or so, including the Betchworth & Buckland Society Committee, the Bottle Tombola at May Fayres, and the Buckland Parochial Charity. They will be greatly missed and we wish them well in their new home.

The following roles remain vacant. Please do consider stepping up!

BUCKLAND ST MARY's CHURCH—Treasurer*

An essential role for the Church to exist, anyone with spreadsheet or book-keeping experience would find it easy to move into.

Please contact Simon Thomas, Treasurer.bucklandstmarys@outlook.com

FRIENDS OF ST MARY's (FOSM) - Village Events Organiser

Someone to lead a team to organise larger events, (e.g May Fayre, Flower Festival, Open Village Gardens, to support church funds)

Please contact Chairman, Roger Daniell, rogerdaniell@icloud.com or Simon Thomas, sgthomas@btinternet.com

BUCKLAND ST MARY's CHURCH—PCC (Parochial Church Council) Secretary. Main role is to take minutes at a quarterly meeting. Can be someone not currently on the PCC, but willing to be co-opted, following the retirement of Rosey Davy.

Please contact Rosey Davy, roseydavy@gmail.com

Updates will be provided each month until we are back on track to maintain our village activities. Please do come forward if you possibly can. The incumbents in these roles have each served the village for many, many years, and they deserve a retirement from duty! It is not too onerous and can be a rewarding way to give a little back to the community. **Thank you!**

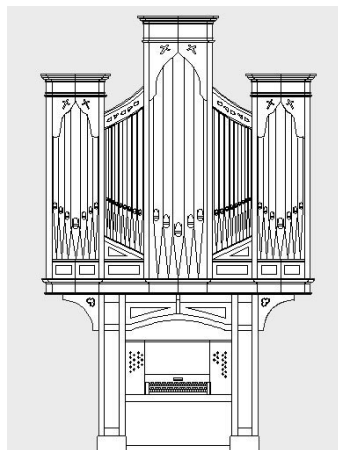
Every person can make a difference,
and every person should try

John F. Kennedy

OUR NEW MUSICAL DIRECTOR—RICHARD CALVER

Martin Hall joined Betchworth & Buckland Church as Musical Director in November 2022. He has now announced his resignation and will leave us at the end of August. The joint choir owes gratitude to Martin for stretching our somewhat limited talents, and helping us out with guest appearances with additional choir members.

We wish him well with his other continuing commitments, and we will expect to welcome him back at future events. Leaving Drinks for Martin were hosted by Eulined Slot following our practice on 19 July.



Martin was supported in his role by **Richard Calver** who often play for us at St Mary's Buckland, and who gave the wonderful concert to show off the newly refurbished Buckland Organ, in November 2023. We are delighted to announced that Richard has stepped in to be our Musical Director, and we welcome him to be lead playing the organ and supporting the choir at both Betchworth & Buckland Services.

AFTERNOON TEAS at THE HAMILTON ROOM 2024



**Drop-in from 2-4pm on
The last Wednesday each Month
in the Hamilton Room, Church Street, Betchworth
Come for a cup of tea or coffee, cake and biscuits,
and a chat with friends**

2024 Dates: 31st July, 28th August, 25th September,
30th October and on 27th November our 13th Anniversary
Party.

For transport / information: contact Margaret Miller on 01737 842098
We look forward to seeing you there.

Margaret Miller

Buckland Matters



DIG ON
FOR
VICTORY

Buckland

Calling All Volunteers Your Village Pond Needs You

Once again we with the invaluable commitment from Reigate Area Conservation Volunteers we are looking for Villagers to help carry out the essential yearly maintenance of the village pond with them on.

There will be two dates over the summer:
Sunday 18th August and
Sunday 1st September 2023,

All to commence at 10am. and run through to 4pm. Please give as much time as you can (and help to clear up at the end of the session would be appreciated)

We are hoping to beat last years great turnout of both young and old !

Tools are provided, but If you are able to help please make sure you bring with you some sturdy gloves.... **All welcome**

(Anyone under 16 needs to be accompanied by a responsible adult) *Pelen Fraser*

There is no news column from Buckland Parish Council this month

GET SOME 'BUCKLAND MAGIC' IN YOUR GARDEN !!
SALE OF CLEMATIS 'BUCKLAND MAGIC' PLANTS
SATURDAY 10 AUGUST, 10am-12 noon, OUTSIDE CHURCH GATE

It's always great to purchase some almost unique plants for your garden; and what could be better than a plant officially named 'Buckland Magic'? These plants have been bred by our local resident Clematis expert, Everett Leeds - hence the name 'Buckland Magic' and he has now propagated a number available for sale. You will not find it in any garden centre!

The lovely plants are non-climbing shrub clematis, The flowers are small, dark mauve/blue fluted bells with re-curving sepals. Best grown in semi-shade but will take full sun. A mature plant will reach a height of about 1 metre and a width of about 80 cm. Prune it hard, about 20cm (8ins) in November/December' All proceeds to Friends of St Mary (FOSM) to help re-lay the church path near the vestry entrance. Suggested donation of £10 per plant please.

Ed. & Everett Leeds

SENSIBLE PARKING PLEASE AT THE READING ROOM

July has been nightmare month for travelling by car in and around Buckland, as reported on the following page. However, one separate and long-standing issue and has caused very valid recent concerns from local residents. We know that the Reading Room does not have a car park, but it is important to park sensibly and not cause obstructions to residents. Please consider the following:

- Yewdells Close contains four homes, each with cars, and the close must not be used for parking by Reading Room Visitors
- The green solid gate (near the bus stop) is the only access to the drive of 1 Dungates Lane, and should not be blocked
- A wide safe access (about 2 car lengths) is required to access each the above.
- Vans in particular should not park outside the Reading Room, as this also prevents the cars on the opposite side of Old Road from exiting their drive.
- Cars should not park on Old Road much beyond Yewdells Close where the road narrows and creates a pinch point.. Although there is no yellow line, remember it is a bus route!
- The practical 'overflow' must be to park on Rectory Lane, close to the War Memorial but not on the 'sets'. Cross the A25 at the crossing island.
- Parking at the 'mouth' of Dungates Lane is OK, but not beyond the Bridleway signs. Remember Dungates Lane has two residents with large horseboxes!

Thank you, Ed.

PEACE ON THE A25 & SUMMER TRAFFIC CHAOS! (Cover Picture)

Unexpected gas repairs took place in July—and the A25 was closed in both directions for the work to be completed, for 8 days from 2 July to 10 July. The lack of through traffic in Buckland was enjoyed by many. Peace on the A25.

However, the parking area by the village shop became a turning circle for confused motorists, wondering which alternative route to use. Buses were still in service on Old Road. But terminating at Buckland, enjoying a rest at the top of Old Rd for 30 minute periods.

On the first day, the back roads were a well trodden diversion, but some HGV drivers were rather caught out by the narrow lanes. An example was the large crane causing traffic chaos and fighting the trees on Wonham Lane at 8 am on the morning of 3 July. Signs explaining the roads were ‘Not Suitable for HGVs’ were erected rather late by the Council and they were not always observed.



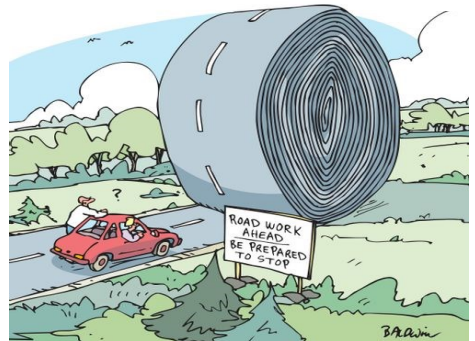
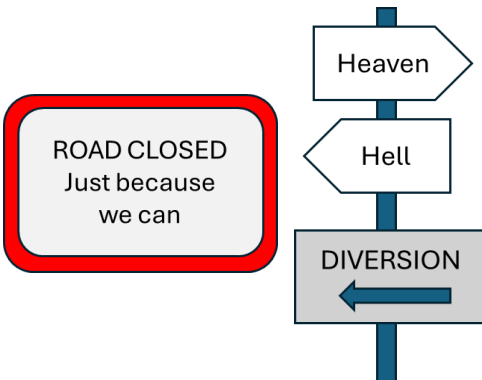
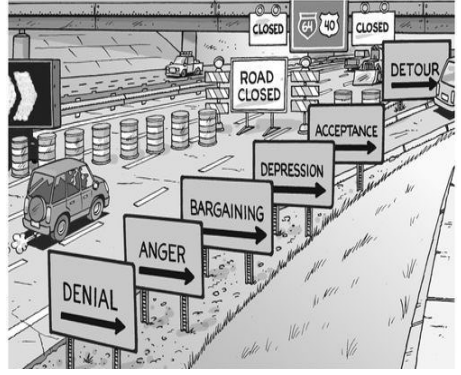
Then on 9 July, a tanker spilled Diesel over a 10 mile stretch of the A24 . This not only caused serious accidents due to skidding, but also required further road closures of the A24 for resurfacing the A24 carriageway, where diesel had reacted with the tarmac surface. Parts of the A24 were closed over a period of 2 weeks.

Further roadworks causing the closure of Pixham Lane Dorking and Lonesome Lane Reigate, one lane on Bancroft Road Reigate, and a tree came down closing Wonham Lane for a day.

And not forgetting the third scheduled closure of the M25 from Wisley to Chertsey on 13-14 July, though these diversions were not so bad for us as the Reigate to Wisley closure in May.

In 30 years of living in Buckland, I do not recall the local traffic ever being in such chaos. The only upside: for just a few days there was ‘peace on the A25’. A few cartoons follow to lighten our mood...

SIGNS OF THE TIMES ...



GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD

Solution p.30

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50	51						52	53					54		
55						56						57			
58						59						60			
61						62						63			

ACROSS

1. Against
5. Mend
10. Trudge
14. Any time now
15. Love intensely
16. Entice
17. Heavenly
19. Behold, in old Rome
20. 'S'
21. Fables

22. Monetary units of Serbia
23. Take back
25. Chip dip
27. Before, in poetry
28. Rhetorical
31. Ring-shaped cake
34. Move furtively
35. Anger
36. Duty
37. Ecstasy
38. Ardent

39. Transgression
40. Kings of the jungle
41. Overweight
42. Thrash about
44. Amazement
45. American symbol
46. Liable to crack
50. Sorceress
52. Prickle
54. Armed conflict
55. Diva's solo

56. Preceding
58. What we walk on
59. Public transit vehicles
60. Cancel
61. Being
62. Ready for anything
63. Repose

DOWN	11. Moneymaking	surrender	43. Abandon
1. Daisylike bloom	12. Whale	31. Pear type	44. Apprehend
2. Scandinavian	13. D D D	32. Freshwater	46. Drill
3. Breakfast bread	18. Begin	mussel	47. Strong string
4. Hotel	22. Raindrop sound	33. Convents	48. Territories
5. Castle	24. Crimsons	34. A plethora of	49. Grain disease
6. No longer a child	26. Gorillas	clothes	50. Bistro
7. Pitch	28. Pee	37. Tab	51. Angers
8. Insensitivity	29. Colored part of	38. Assist illegally	53. Tube
9. Not him	the eye	40. Racing sled	56. Goat hair fabric
10. Satisfy	30. Formally	41. Be indebted to	57. Not your

SOME THOUGHTS ON RETIREMENT...

- It's paradoxical that the idea of living a long life appeals to everyone, but the idea of getting old doesn't appeal to anyone – Andy Rooney
- In retirement, I look for days off from my days off—Mason Cooley
- Sometimes it's hard to tell if retirement is a reward for a lifetime of hard work, or a punishment - Terri Guillemets
- I have long been of the opinion that if work were such a splendid thing the rich would have kept more of it for themselves – Bruce Grocott
- Often when you are at the end of something, you're at the beginning of something else – Fred Rogers
- I need to retire from retirement—Sandra Day O'Connor
- My wife and I have started aggressively planning for our retirement. We're playing the Euromillions and Lotto twice per week.
- To be old and wise, you must first be young and stupid.
- I was thinking about how people seem to read the Bible a whole lot more as they get older. Then it dawned on me – they were cramming for their finals.
- Ageing seems to be the only available way to live a long life – Kitty O'Neill Collins
- Work hard and save your money and when you are old you will be able to buy things only the young can enjoy.
- A friend said he saw several elderly men repairing shoes in the back of a van. I reckon it's a load of old cobblers.

SUDOKU

Grade: Medium.
Solution on p.30

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						4		2
2				6			1	
1	3		5			2		
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WORDSEARCH—John Bunyan, author of Pilgrim’s Progress

John
Bunyan
Pilgrims
Progress
Great

Fair
Delectable
Mountains
Hill
Difficulty

Heart
Valiant
Truth
Giant
Despair

Madame
Bubble
Slough
Despond
Vanity

E	A	C	T	H	R	H	A	L	L	I	H	R
D	I	F	F	I	C	U	L	T	Y	M	H	C
E	S	N	E	C	I	L	T	S	O	G	I	T
L	N	P	P	N	P	A	M	U	U	T	N	L
E	N	R	H	T	R	I	N	O	Y	A	I	F
C	A	O	N	N	E	T	L	O	I	O	A	Y
T	J	G	A	A	S	C	G	S	I	T	R	
A	F	R	Y	I	C	E	A	R	R	I	M	I
B	D	E	N	L	H	L	E	E	N	I	R	A
L	E	S	U	A	I	E	M	A	D	A	M	P
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T	R	U	T	H	G	U	B	U	B	B	L	E
T	R	A	E	H	E	D	E	S	P	O	N	D

Solution on p.30

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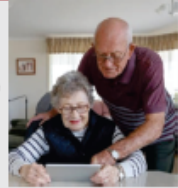


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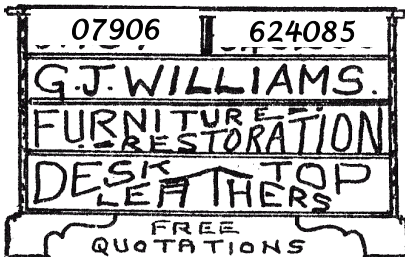


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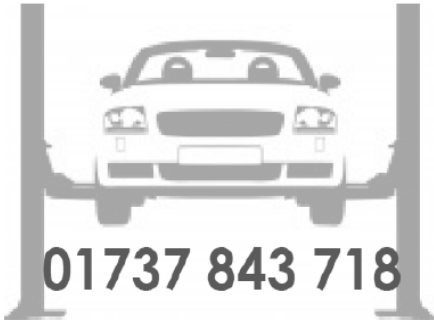
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ST. JAMES THE LEAST OF ALL

On the Perils of swinging incense

The Rectory
St James the Least



Well, at least you tried. Filling in for another colleague who was away on holiday was kind of you; that it was somewhere with a high church tradition was adventurous of you. But just because something is worth doing, must you do it to such excess?

I can remember the first time I saw you having to use incense; you held the thurible as though you had just been presented with a dead rat. This time, however, I am told that you heated so much charcoal that the congregation thought you were going to hold a barbecue rather than burn incense.

The church warden was impressed with how quickly everyone knelt down, as you went by. If it was in more of an effort to stay clear of your thurible than to pray; well never mind, at least they were on their knees. And I am entirely on your side; you were not to know that their new fire protection system included automatic sprinklers, activated when too much smoke is detected. I am sure most of them would have dried out by Evensong.

You told me that you had not been sure what to do with the thurible when you reached the front. But swinging it so enthusiastically that the chain broke and catapulted several pounds weight of red-hot brass through one of their stained glass windows was really not the best solution. Never mind. I am sure the insurance company will be sympathetic. But surely you knew that smells also implies bells? So why the panic when the server rang the bells in your ear beside the altar? To have promptly dropped the chalice and shouted, 'fire!' was surely something of an over-reaction? Especially as it meant that the verger re-started the sprinkler system. I am told that several in the congregation left church looking as if they had taken part in a mass baptism, involving full immersion whilst fully clothed.

I am told that some of the congregation feared that in some frightful 'fresh expression' of episcopal rule, you had suddenly been handed control of the diocese. With the Church of England in its present woeful state, I suppose anything is possible.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

Features

GARDENING NOTES

Environmental Claims about plants

The Horticultural Trades Association, the nursery and garden centre trade body, has produced an evidence base to support environmental claims about plants. Many claims are made about the benefits of growing plants and trees, so it is good to know that the claims are backed up by research. As we enjoy the rich diversity of our gardens this summer, It is good to feel positive about their effects on the environment.

Claim 1- Plants in garden spaces are vital for providing pollen and nectar for pollinators: Studies have shown that more bee and hoverfly visits are recorded in allotments and domestic gardens than other land uses.

Claim 2 – Plants help regulate temperature in cities, i.e. providing urban cooling and trees providing shade: In the city of London, the estimated annual cooling effect of gardens is -0.24°C . If cities increased tree coverage by up to 30%, this could lower temperatures by an average of 0.4°C and up to 5.9°C in some areas.

Claim 3 – Plants can help clean and purify the air : Urban vegetation removed over 26,000 tonnes of ground level ozone in 2021. Despite woodlands accounting for 12% of UK land area, they remove over 80% of all 2.5 micron and smaller particulate matter from the atmosphere.

Claim 4 – Trees are carbon sinks that store carbon in their trees and leaves: Trees across the UK sequester around 16m tonnes of CO_2 equivalent per year. There are also studies which show how plants and trees help with water management by slowing runoff, they can be used as physical barriers to pollution, and naturally improve animal biodiversity.

I find it reassuring to know we, and our gardens, are all helping the environment as we enjoy our green spaces, whether they are well-tended or overgrown and “re-wilded”.

David Hogg, Buckland Nurseries

Buckland's PAST LIVES

Learning from memorials

49

Brigadier Robert Anthony (Tony) Gordon-Smith

THE INSCRIPTION

In loving memory of Brigadier
R A Gordon-Smith REME 1920 - 2007.
Beloved Husband and Father. *'I have
fought the good fight I have finished my
course I have kept the faith'*

Also beloved Wife and Mother
Felicity Gordon-Smith 1923-2023

Plot 100
Buckland MI Report



Tony's grandfather, Walter Smith, was a Solicitor in Dudley, Worcestershire¹. He was able to provide a private education for his three children.

Walter's youngest son, Frederic Gordon Smith (1886-1967) born in Dudley, was indeed well-educated and very much a 'career man'. He qualified as a Solicitor in his father's practice, and by 1912, at the age of 26, it was Frederic's name on the door of the family practice at 183 High St, Dudley in 1912². Soon after this, Frederic joined the British Colonial Service, where he spent his entire career moving around the world, initially moving with his wife and family, then travelling by himself. Whilst he did maintain a family home in Worcestershire (first in Dudley, later moving to Kidderminster and Droitwich) – as a husband and father, he was rarely at home. His posts included Northern Rhodesia as Attorney General (c. 1927³), Trinidad, South Africa and then Palestine (Jerusalem) as Chief Justice (1940's) and Malaya (Singapore, c. 1948) as Chief Justice.

The Chief Justice was **the** most senior Government advisor on legal matters affecting the Government Colonies.

Frederic's passenger movements are widely recorded on the passenger lists of ocean liners.⁴ Frederic introduced his 'hyphenated surname' Gordon-Smith, using his middle name Gordon as the surname prefix; probably to distinguish him from the multitude of those with the surname 'Smith'.

Frederic married Mabel Martin in 1911 at Bromsgrove, Worcestershire and they had 3 children. In the early days of his career, the family were alongside him in their posts.

Tony, christened Robert Anthony, was one of their children, born early in Frederic's career in Northern Rhodesia in 1920. It is Tony who is buried at the church of St Mary the Virgin Buckland. At the tender age of 6, Tony was sent back to England to enter boarding school and live with grandparents in the school holidays⁵. In later years, his mother moved back to the UK to a family home in Worcestershire (Dudley, then Kidderminster and Droitwich) – but Tony's father not often home for his wife and children.

Tony followed school with an Electrical Engineering degree at Imperial College and enlisted as a Gunner in the Army in 1939. He served in India and Burma in WW2, quickly being promoted to Captain in the Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers (REME). He was mentioned in despatches⁵.

Tony married Felicity M Dinsdale soon after WW2 in 1946, in her home town of Aberystwyth. Her father was Felix Amyas Dinsdale (1893–1945) who had died the year before Tony & Felicity married, leaving an estate of £12,000, a substantial sum in 1946.

After WW2, Tony continued with his Army service career. He became a lecturer and tutor on the technical staff courses at both the Royal Military College Shrivenham, and the Army Staff College Camberley. Following that he held appointments procuring weapons system for the Army; artillery fire control systems, a tactical nuclear surface-to-surface missile system, aviation systems and munitions. For a while he was Director of Studies at Shrivenham and he ended his military career as 'Director of Guided Weapons' in the Ministry of Defence. Promoted to a Captain during WW2, he was further promoted to the Rank of Brigadier at the age of 48 in June 1968⁶. (Army Number 221626). His Army record stated that he has always worked hard with meticulous attention to detail.

Tony was a notable sportsman, playing rugby for London University, Saracens and the Corps. He also played hockey, cricket, squash and golf for his Corps. On retiring from the Army around the age of 50, he joined the Planning Inspectorate (then within the Department of Environment), dealing with over 800 planning appeals in his time there. We can see how his calm, measured approach suited this job, of

applying fair judgement to the applicant's position with regard to planning legislation.

He retired 'again' about the age of 63 in 1983. He had over 20 years of retirement with his wife Felicity in Reigate and Buckland, with interests including philosophy, meditation, bird-watching, golf, driving for the blind, Meals on Wheels and serving in the Hospital Coffee Shop. He also learned to cook! When interviewed in 1995, he said that he supported 22 charities—he was both modest and a philanthropist.

Tony and Felicity had moved to 24 St Alban's Road, Reigate (about 1960) and they chose to attend St Mary's Buckland, where for around 35 years they were at the heart of our church. In that time Tony had been churchwarden and reader of lessons and intercession prayers. He also redesigned the Reading Room when it was extended in 1960's and supervised the building contractors.

Tony and Felicity had two children, Jonathan and Rosemary Jessica J (known as Jessica, born c. 1950). Jessica married Martin J Phipps at Buckland St Mary's Church in 1986.⁷

Tony was a very modest man. In his obituary, Revd. Pattie Vigers recalled that Tony once began his contribution at a Lent Course by saying '*I'm only a simple soldier, but...*' Pattie, who knew him well, said it was probably the only untruth he ever told, though he believed it to be true. In discussing the

purpose and destiny of our lives as Christians, he said quietly, '*to be absorbed by God*', something that Pattie recounted with some admiration⁵.

Tony died on 1 February 2007 at the age of 87. His gravestone mentions his rank as Brigadier, his belonging to the Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers (REME) and the verse '*I have fought the good fight I have finished my course I have kept the faith*' which is particularly appropriate (from 2 Timothy 4: 7-8).

His wife Felicity survived him by 16 years. She died on 7 March 2023, aged 99 years and 6 months, just short of her hundredth birthday. Her funeral was held at St Mary's Buckland and she was buried with Tony in our graveyard (plot 100, in the Memorial Inscription Survey).

References

1. 1891 Census – Walter Gordon-Smith
2. Kelly's 1912 Worcestershire Directory (ref. to Frederic Gordon Smith, not hyphenated)
3. Northern Rhodesia, Report for 1927. Annual Colonial Reports no 1410, 1928
4. Passenger Lists of Ocean Liners. Ancestry UK
5. Obituary for Brigadier Tony Gordon-Smith, Buckland Parish Magazine, April 2007
6. Supplement to the London Gazette, 1968. Army Promotions to Brigadier (Staff number 37344)
7. Buckland Parish Registers, 1986

Societies & Charities



SINGING FOR PLEASURE

The holiday season has arrived, so our songs relate to travelling. Chattanooga Choo Choo, Starlight Express, Tuxedo Junction, Sailing, Fly me to the Moon, Fly Home Little Heart, The Long and Winding Road... maybe you can recall some of those once popular songs.

We will be presenting our program to residents at Broome Park Nursing Home mid-July and invite you to come and join us for a new set of popular songs coming up soon. Free trial session. No experience needed. We meet in Buckland's Reading Room, Old Road on the first and third Monday from 10-12.

Meike Laurenson 0774 755 1196

MUSIC IN DORKING—FOR AUGUST



3rd at 12.00, piano recital at St Martin's church, free

August is a very quiet month for concerts, as everybody is on holiday and takes a break. There is just one item to mention – a lunchtime piano recital at St Martin's church, given by Roman Rudnytsky, an American concert pianist with a Ukrainian background. His virtuosic programme includes music by

Rossini, Ravel, Debussy and Liszt. Entry is free but donations to the William Cole Music Trust will be most welcome.

The Dorking Halls are now closed for a period as essential works are undertaken on the ceiling of the grand hall. As I write this, the closure period has been extended due to finding lead paint in the ceiling. As a result, many concert plans are uncertain as organisers reschedule or look for alternative venues.

Ian Codd

BROCKHAM GREEN HOTRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Brockham * Betchworth * Buckland

Members of our horticultural society will now be looking forward to our two members-only garden visits. The first is a garden in the making.

Thursday 1 August, 6:30 - 8:30 pm.—Members only Garden visit

Since moving into Brockham in December the owners have been creating their new garden out of, what was, in effect, simply a field. In their words "We are definitely not experts but would love to share what we have achieved so far". Having paid them a visit, I would beg to differ and you will be amazed at what has been done to date. Further information will be sent out to all members nearer the time.

Annual Autumn Horticultural Show, Sat. 21 September, Brockham Village Hall

If you would like to enter any of our wide range of categories, then you **must** be a member and would need to join before 14th September to allow us time to process your membership. There are categories in cookery, crafts, photography as well as produce and flowers grown by members. We also have a some exciting categories that children can enter.



After the judging, the show is open to everyone, so please put the date in your diary and come along in the afternoon to see what happens at this event.

If you are interested in joining us at these events or any of our other members only events, please contact us on the email below for information to join. We always welcome new members and the cost is just £5 per year.

Ruth Johnson, bghsociety@hotmail.com



APPLEFEST - 5 October 2024, Drop-by from 1 pm to 4 pm Betchworth Village Hall, Station Road

We have extended our usual Apple Pressing, Juice Sales and Kids' Activities, with the following SIX NEW ATTRACTIONS, creating a new 'APPLEFEST'!

- **Strictly Apples, the Re-B Bake off** competition open to adults and children. What's your apple-themed speciality - cake, tart, crumble or strudel? Is your (or your grandmother's) secret apple bake recipe simply the best? Time to share and find out who will walk away with the winner's rosette?
- **Chutneys, Jams & Jellies** – Come and browse; there'll be a huge selection of delicious local produce on sale in the hall.
- **Children's Art Competition** – Apple-themed - of course! This year, as part of Re-Betchworth's AppleFest, we're running a children's art competition to celebrate all things apple. Full details will follow, but in brief - artwork should encompass (surprise!) the apple theme, eg: an orchard, apple trees, apple blossom, apples, apple juice, cider.
- **Garden tool sharpening** – Adam, from Surrey Sharpeners, will be on hand to bring your secateurs, shears, spades, edging tools, hoes, loppers, axes, scissors and knives (garden or kitchen variety) back to life.
- **Cider making** – Tempted to make cider this year? We'll have an expert on hand to advise on all things cider-making; there'll be kit available to buy too. Go on, give it a go!
- **Surrey County Council's Greener Futures team** will be bringing their 'engagement' trailer to the Festival, with information on a host of their sustainable living schemes.

Keep up to date with Re-Betchworth's events, information, celebrations and more on our **website**:

www.re-Betchworth.org, Sue Chamberlain

BROCKHAM BOWLS CLUB



A bit like May, June hasn't necessarily been our finest hour but again it hasn't been a total disaster and apart from one blisteringly hot day the temperature has actually been ideal for playing bowls in.

Our results in the very strong North Downs League have been mixed. In our first ever visit to Bletchingly we lost heavily which is not surprising as we have never played there. However, everyone said it was the best tea they had ever had so there was a plus side. We also had very narrow losses to Purley Bury, the Champions, and the very strong Old Coulsden Club but we did come away

with a few points from each game so it was not all doom and gloom. On the plus side we had a good win against Godstone and an excellent one against CMO where we won maximum points. Those results leave us just above mid table so we are relatively happy with that.

In the Friendship League we shared the points with Bookham but had the narrowest of losses to Banstead Neville, who are top of the table with us lying in second. Long way to go in that League. In our Friendlies we had a draw with Epsom Park, a very close loss to Esher and the match with Ewhurst is best forgotten. And finally, well done to our Ladies who went to Reigate Priory and gave them a sound beating.

Our internal competitions are in full swing and by the beginning of August we will know the semi finalists in all twelve events and so far, there have been a lot of surprising results so there could well be some new names on the trophy board.

Finally, from all the members could we sincerely thank all the people who put so much hard work to get the green into, and keep it in, such great condition. I'm sure there's folks in the village, be it cricket, football or rugby who know what I'm saying. Cheers Guys. Think that's an excuse for me to have a glass. Do I really need one.

As always, our skipper, Frank Tipping, would happily take any calls regarding our Club or the game so please feel free to ring him on 01737 843234. Otherwise, if you have 20 minutes or so, please ask me any questions you have about Brockham Bowls club and I will answer you in my normal fashion.

Rick Lawrence

What a wonderful day we all had for the BBCS Summer Jazz Concert, singing to a full church and an appreciative audience. This was our first concert with our new Musical Director, George Inscoe. We would all like to thank him for his inimitable, encouraging style with the choral challenges he set us! And we must not forget the amazing Jazz Trio... (thanks again to George). From the concert feedback we have received, we can say it was a resounding success, as were the post-performance cakes and fizz – and the sunshine! Thank you all for coming; your support is what makes these occasions so brilliant.

Some great feedback was received on the Betchworth Forum WhatsApp group:

- *"Wow, what an amazing afternoon. Thank you to all the talented people. And sitting in the sun with bubbly and cake afterward was just magic. Dream of an afternoon!"*
- *"That was another such amazing concert at the church. Thank you to all, singers and organisers."*

Dates for your diary

After our summer break, we're back on Wednesday 4 September to start rehearsals for our 2024 Autumn Concert. We'll be performing Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle* at St Matthew's Church, Redhill on 16 November. For more information about this, go to our website: www.BBCS@info.org. Following swiftly on from that we have our annual Christmas Concert to prepare for, which is on Wednesday 11 December in St Michael's, Betchworth's beautiful, medieval Church. Then, after the Christmas break, we'll be starting to prepare for the Leith Hill Music Festival (LHMF) which takes place on 11 April 2025!

Come and sing with us!

Following our 2023 Centenary, BBCS is looking forward to continuing longevity with BBCS's talented conductor, George Inscoe, and our wonderful accompanist, Anna Tetsuya. As you can see from our programme of upcoming events - there's a lot happening! So why not come and join us? Whether confident or cautious, experienced, or rusty, we welcome new singers. Could this be you? No forms to fill in, no auditions – just bring your love of singing. We meet on Wednesdays, 7.45 to 9.45pm at Betchworth Village Hall. Pop in and see for yourself – we're a friendly bunch! Find out more at: www.bbcinfo.org or call Jean Cooke on 01737 245161.

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*A date for your
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Autumn.....*

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Petite Messe Solennelle

with professional soloists

Conductor: George Incoe

Pianist: Anna Tetsuya

7:30 pm 16th November
St Matthew's Church
Redhill RH1 1DL



*for more details
visit our website*

bbcsinfo.org

DORKING MUSEUM IN AUGUST

Sweeping Through History: 100 years of Johnston Sweepers: Johnston Sweepers has been an important part of the industrial history of Dorking since 1924. It developed a range of road surface machines, including its first mechanical road surface cleaner in 1937, and became a world-leading designer and manufacturer of truck mounted road sweepers, machines produced in Dorking operating in 120 countries worldwide. Part of Bucher Industries since 2005. Exhibition and accompanying book.

Family Activities: Free activities at Dorking Library aimed at 4-11-year-olds. On Saturday 17th August, 10am-noon, *National Playday*: Try shove halfpenny and other games from the past.

Walking in Dorking (guided walks): Betchworth Castle tour, leaving from the gate opposite Hillier Garden Centre on the A25 Reigate Road: Sunday 18th August, 2pm.

In town (from Museum except where stated), Family Treasure Hunt: Thursday 1st August, 2pm. Dorking Historic Pub Walk: Saturday 17th August, 6pm. Hidden Historic Dorking Walk: Sunday 18th August, 2pm. Blue Plaques and Statues Walk: Tuesday 27th August, 6.15pm from opposite Dorking Halls.

Dorking Museum, 62 West Street. Open Thursdays 1pm-4pm, Fridays and Saturdays 10am-4pm, free entry. www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk. 01306 876591.

DORKING LOCAL HISTORY GROUP - Talk



2 September, 7.15pm, Dorking Crossways Church The River Mole: its history and its current state by Nigel Bond

Our big local river has a great history and has captured the imagination of several authors and poets. It's also run out of water several times, e.g. in 2022. Come along and hear what Nigel's researches have discovered about the Mole.

David Burton - <https://dlhg.org.uk>.

**DORKING GROUP OF ARTISTS
SUMMER EXHIBITION
DENBIES WINE ESTATE**

**Fri 25 Oct—Sun 27 Oct, 10am- 5 pm
(4pm on Sunday)**



DORKING GROUP OF ARTISTS

The Dorking Group of Artists, one of the largest art groups in Surrey, is delighted to welcome you to our next exhibition which will be at Denbies Wine Estate in October in the Denbies Gallery and Suite. Exhibiting members, many professionals among them, will be displaying over 200 pieces of exciting new and original art, all for sale at affordable prices. The paintings should appeal to every taste, featuring different subjects and styles and covering a wide variety of media. There will be large selection of unframed paintings for sale too. Come and buy your early Christmas presents - original art makes a unique and thoughtful gift. Entrance to the exhibition is free and Denbies has a good café and restaurant, runs tours of the vineyard and has an excellent shop. So come and make a day of it! There is plenty of free parking.

The Dorking Group of Artists meets on Tuesday mornings at Beare Green Village Hall from September through to Easter, with outdoor sketching and painting organised throughout the summer. Membership is open to artists of all abilities, from beginner to professional. Annual membership costs just £30 for non-exhibiting members and £35 for exhibiting members. The activities programme is varied and includes workshops and demonstrations.

Jacky Cowdrey, Exhibitions Secretary, www.dga.org.uk

‘The need of quiet, the need of air...
the sight of sky and of things growing
seem human needs common to all’

Octavia Hill (1828-1912)
one of the 3 founders of The National Trust

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

Crossword (p.14)
Solution

A	N	T	I		P	A	T	C	H		P	L	O	D
S	O	O	N		A	D	O	R	E		L	U	R	E
T	R	A	N	S	L	U	N	A	R		E	C	C	E
E	S	S		T	A	L	E	S		P	A	R	A	S
R	E	T	R	A	C	T		S	A	L	S	A		
				E	R	E		U	N	P	O	E	T	I
B	U	N	D	T		C	R	E	E	P		I	R	E
O	N	U	S		B	L	I	S	S		A	V	I	D
S	I	N		L	I	O	N	S		O	B	E	S	E
C	O	N	V	U	L	S	E		A	W	E			
		E	A	G	L	E		B	R	I	T	T	L	E
C	I	R	C	E		T	H	O	R	N		W	A	R
A	R	I	A		A	F	O	R	E	G	O	I	N	G
F	E	E	T		B	U	S	E	S		U	N	D	O
E	S	S	E		A	L	E	R	T		R	E	S	T

Wordsearch (p.16) Solution

E	A	C	T	H	R	H	A	L	L	I	H	R
D	I	F	F	I	C	U	L	T	Y	M	H	C
E	S	N	E	C	I	L	T	S	O	G	I	T
L	N	P	P	N	P	A	M	U	U	T	N	L
E	N	R	H	T	R	I	N	O	Y	A	I	F
C	A	O	N	N	E	T	L	O	I	O	A	Y
T	J	G	A	A	A	S	C	G	S	I	T	R
A	F	R	Y	I	C	E	A	R	R	I	M	I
B	D	E	N	L	H	L	E	E	N	I	R	A
L	E	S	U	A	I	E	M	A	D	A	M	P
E	A	S	B	V	N	C	V	T	S	S	T	S
T	R	U	T	H	G	U	B	U	B	B	L	E
T	R	A	E	H	E	D	E	S	P	O	N	D

Sudoku (p.16) Solution

6	5	7	3	4	9	8	2	1
8	2	4	1	5	6	7	3	9
3	9	1	8	7	2	6	5	4
5	8	9	4	2	1	3	7	6
4	6	2	9	3	7	1	8	5
7	1	3	6	8	5	4	9	2
2	4	5	7	6	3	9	1	8
1	3	6	5	9	8	2	4	7
9	7	8	2	1	4	5	6	3

BUCKLAND PARISH MAGAZINE

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Articles Please submit articles for next months edition by the above date, via email to fernsdc@gmail.com. If possible please submit WORD format for text files, JPG for images and PDF for posters. New articles and contributors are welcomed. If in any doubt about whether an article could be published, please contact the Editor.

Editorial Views expressed in this magazine are those of the contributors and are not necessarily shared by the editor or other church staff.

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AVAILABLE FROM: 30 Aug 2024



Distributors can collect on the above date. Household delivery will be up to a few days later.

HISTORICAL NOTES

A book on the History of Buckland is available: **Buckland 1000-2000 with 2020 Vision** by Duncan C Ferns. 300pp, over 250 illustrations and a 600-name index. Purchase from Squires Nursery Buckland, local Waterstones, Amazon online or request to fernsdc@gmail.com.

Buckland (then Bochelant) was mentioned in the Domesday Book as a village of 35 households, a church and a watermill. These days it is a picturesque village covering 1362 acres, with a total population of around 580 in 240 households. Buckland is in the Diocese of Southwark (Bishop: The Rt. Revd. Christopher Chessun) and the Area of Croydon (Area Bishop: The Rt. Revd. Rosemarie Mallett).

BUCKLAND READING ROOM ACTIVITIES

Regular activities in the Reading Room:

- Monday am Singing for Pleasure (1st & 3rd Mondays)
- Monday pm Art Group
- Monday 4.30pm Brownies & Rainbows
- Tuesday am Toddlers
- Tuesday 2.15pm Bridge Club
- Thursday 2.15pm Bridge Club
- Thursday evening Yoga
- Saturday pm Sugarcraft Guild (2nd Saturday)

For booking enquiries please contact Stella Cantor, preferably by email:

Bookings4bucklandreadingroom@gmail.com or 01737.843335

Arts Society, Betchworth	Carole Evans	01372 452563
Art Group (Painting/drawing)	David Burrells	David.burrells1@ntlworld.com
Bell Ringers (<i>practice Friday evenings</i>)	David Sayce	242776
Betchworth & Buckland Children's Nursery	Laura Snelling	843610
Betchworth & Buckland Toddler Group	Debbie Jones	07701 347351
Betchworth & Buckland Society (<i>Secretary</i>)	Nathalie Nichols	07801 967623
Betchworth Operatic & Dramatic Society	Diane Mayall	842758
British Legion	Maurice Daley	843058
Brockham Green Horticultural Society	Ruth & Paul Johnson	842691
Brockham Surgery/Chemist	n/a	843259/842175
Buckland & Betchworth Choral Soc. (<i>Sec.</i>)	Jean Cooke	245161
Buckland Parochial Charity (<i>Clerk</i>)	Debbie Jones	07701 347351
Buckland Parish Council (<i>Clerk</i>)	Sheena Boyce	448023
Buckland Village Shop	Amy Snaith	845999
Children's Society	Margaret Miller	842098
Family Activities Betchworth & Buckland	Katrina Rea	07803 163868
Rainbows & Brownies (<i>Girl Guides</i>)	Jane Stewart	07733 116992
North Downs Primary School	Jane Douglass	843211
Reading Room- Chairman	Tim Howe	844595
- Treasurer	John Maud	843530
- Secretary	Liz Vahey	221444
Reigate Pilgrims Cricket Club	Julian Steed	842220
St. Catherine's Hospice	Sheila Dyer	842046
Women's Institute	Margaret Miller	842098

Websites: Church: www.stmarythevirginbuckland.net;

Village: www.bucklandsurrey.net

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