

BUCKLAND READING ROOM ACTIVITIES

Regular activities in the Reading Room:

- Monday am Singing for Pleasure (1st & 3rd Mondays)
- 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 Jane Stewart, preferably by email:
Bookings4bucklandreadingroom@gmail.com or 07733 116992

Arts Society, Betchworth	Carole Evans	01372 452563
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/ <i>Chemist</i>	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
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.org.uk

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BUCKLAND PARISH MAGAZINE



April 2025

SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN, BUCKLAND

www.stmarythevirginbuckland.net

Rector	The Revd. Pru Duley. The Rectory, Old Reigate Rd, Betchworth RH3 7DE. revpruduley@gmail.com; 01737 901409; 07837 029469 <i>The Rector is available on Mondays, Thursdays, Saturdays & Sundays</i>
Churchwardens	David Sayce, 48 Park Lane East, Reigate RH2 8HR (242776) (+ Bell Captain). Email: drsayce@ntlworld.com
	Elizabeth Vahey, 126 Sandcross Lane, Reigate RH2 8HG (221444)(+ electoral register). Email: lizvahey@btinternet.com
Hon. Treasurer	Email: treasurer.bucklandstmarys@outlook.com (Simon Thomas - pro-tem)
PCC—Hon. Secretary	Rosey Davy. Email: roseydavy@gmail.com
Musical Director (Organist & Choir Leader)	Richard Calver, Buckland Crossing Cottage, Rectory Lane, Buckland RH3 7BH. richardcalver@hotmail.com (07808 065920)
Safeguarding Officer	Caroline Gale. galecaroline@googlemail.com
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Community Rotas for Church Locking & Gardening	Leigh Banks, Malt Cottage, Rectory Lane, Buckland RH3 7BD 07957 157089
Friends of St. Mary's	Secretary: Ianthe Cox, Buckland. Email: ianthecox72@gmail.com
Churchyard Fund	Secretary: Duncan Ferns, Yewdells, Dungates Lane, Buckland RH3 7BD (07786 966841). Email: fernsdc@gmail.com

BUCKLAND PARISH MAGAZINE

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Articles Please submit articles for next months edition by the above date, via email to fernscd@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.

Contact details This magazine is published by St. Mary's Church. Contact names, phone numbers and emails are provided as a service to readers, and these appear in the printed and web versions of the magazine with the permission of the individuals. Please advise the editor of any updates or corrections to the contact details.

AVAILABLE FROM: 25 April 2025



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 fernscd@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).

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

Crossword (p.12) Solution

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

Wordsearch (p.14) Solution

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

Sudoku (p.14) Solution

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

BUCKLAND PARISH MAGAZINE

April 2025

Happy nearly Easter folks!

By the time you will be reading this, the church will be heading into Passiontide and Holy Week. The most emotionally draining of weeks in the church calendar. As we come before the cross on Good Friday, we stand with the disciples and his mother Mary engulfed in the grief and despair. We are lucky, we know and understand the resurrection is only three days away. Jesus' disciples, however, didn't have the luxury of that insight to the future; and at the crucifixion their world fell apart.



For them Jesus their leader, teacher, rabbi and friend was dead and with his death, all hope for the future was gone. Against that despair, comes Mary Magdalene's delight when she realized that the gardener she was talking to was actually the risen Lord Jesus. Just imagine too, the joy of the disciples when Jesus appeared to them over the next 40 days. They suddenly had a new outlook on life; from deep despair they now had hope. The promises Jesus had given them during his earthly ministry were now unfolding and their excitement was plain to see, although until Pentecost the fruits of that excitement would be tempered with their human limitations.

Easter is a special time to reflect on the love of God for His people but what is even more wonderful is that his love is personalized, his love is for you and that is something to really get excited about. After Jesus was crucified his disciples felt lost, without a purpose in life and so many people and churches now-a-days feel like that as well. The horrors of international news stories, wars, national debts, inexcusable abuses within the Church of England itself, struggles with maintaining and expanding our own churches, let alone whatever we may be going through in our own lives, make life feel oppressive and as bereft of hope as those disciples must have felt. We are reminded however that with the coming of Easter Day, all this is turned on its head.

Jesus brings hope into lives full of despair, he renews damaged relationships and he heals broken hearts and he usually does it through the love and obedience of people like you and me. It reminds us too that we are an Easter people. And that God does not abandon us, even in those days like the Saturday before Easter when everything feels so final and bleak. So whatever is going on in your lives, keep your hearts up. You are loved, in ways we can scarcely imagine, by God.

There is an old Mission Praise children's chorus; it's one of those earworm choruses that get into your head but the lyrics sum this up beautifully for us

Be bold, be strong
For the Lord your God is with you
Be bold, be strong
For the Lord your God is with you
I am not afraid
I am not dismayed
Because I'm walking in faith and victory
Come on and walk in faith and victory
For the Lord your God is with you.

Written By: Morris Chapman

Hang onto that as much as you can. Talk to God, even if it is to say, 'I don't know what to say'. When we work with God, this amazing, loving, powerful Easter God, things can and do happen.

Happy Easter x Reverend Pru



P.S. in last month's magazine I told you we were planning to return to using the common cup – drinking from the chalice at communion on Easter Day. After further discussion the wardens and I have decided that it would be better to postpone this additional change to a later date. We will keep you updated.



DORKING MUSEUM IN APRIL

Family Activities at Dorking Library: Saturday 12th April, 10am to noon: use craft materials to make an Easter card. For 4–11-year-olds, materials provided free, children must be accompanied.

Walking in Dorking: New season. On the edge of town, **Betchworth Castle tour includes exclusive access to the Castle enclosure. Sunday 6th April, 2pm.**

In town, Blue Plaques and Statues walk: Sunday 6th April, 2pm. Dorking as you have never seen it before – Hidden Historic Dorking: Sunday 13th April, 11am. Dorking Historic Pub Walk – hostelrys, pubs and inns past and present: Saturday 26th April, 6pm. Walks an hour and a half, booked in advance at dorkingmuseum.org.uk/guided-walks-around-dorking/. Walks arranged for private groups: see website.

South Street Caves tours: The 17th century South Street Caves lie beneath Dorking's busy streets. Open Day, **26th April, 10am, 11am, 1pm and 2pm, tours 45 minutes.** Details and open day bookings at dorkingmuseum.org.uk/south-street-caves/. Private group bookings available, e-mail caves@dorkingmuseum.org.uk to arrange a date.

Building between the vines – the story of the Denbies LEGO house: The Museum's current exhibition tells the story of how and why a full-size house was built of LEGO on the Denbies Wine Estate in 2009. It took almost 2,000 volunteers to build over a five-week period. Specially designed LEGO models of buildings and objects with a Dorking connection are on display, and a LEGO Dorking Cockerel trail around the Museum, with prizes.

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

David Burton

The lawns were bright with the green silk of fresh grass, yellow borders of daffodils, and dotted with the blue and purple and pink of crocuses.

Gerald Raftery (American poet, 1905–1986)



DORKING GROUP OF ARTISTS

Spring Exhibition 2025

Betchworth Village Hall, Station Rd, Betchworth
Friday May 2nd – Sunday May 4th 10:00 – 17:00
Monday May 5th 10:00 – 16:00

The Dorking Group of Artists, probably the largest art group in Surrey, are delighted to be returning to Betchworth Village Hall for their popular Spring exhibition. Many of our members are professional artists, and our exhibitions have a strong reputation for artistic merit and quality of presentation. The original art in our exhibition is all for sale at affordable prices. The paintings demonstrate a wide range of different subjects, styles and media. Original art makes a unique and thoughtful gift.

Entrance to the exhibition is free and Betchworth Village Hall is opposite Knights Plant Centre where you can buy all manner of plants and also have lunches, tea and cake.

For more information about our activities, exhibitions and how to join the DGA see www.dga.org.uk, look at our Facebook page @dga4art, or get in touch at contact@dga.org.uk.

Angela Hall, (Chair, DGA) contact@dga.org.uk

CHURCH SERVICES—APRIL

Date	St Mary's Buckland	St Michael's Betchworth
6 April <i>Passiontide</i>		10 am Parish Communion <i>John 12: 1-8</i>
13 April <i>Palm Sunday</i>	10 am Parish Communion <i>Luke's Passion Story</i>	5 pm Evensong
17 April <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	7 pm Maundy Thursday Service <i>John 13:1-17, 31b-35</i>	
18 April <i>Good Friday</i>	2 pm Service of the last Hour <i>John 18:1 - end of 19</i>	5 pm Good Friday Service
20 April <i>Easter Day</i>		10 am Easter Day Family Service <i>John 20: 18</i>
27 April <i>Easter 2</i>	10 am Parish Communion <i>John 20: 19-end</i>	
4 May <i>Easter 3</i>		10 am Parish Communion <i>John 2: 1-19</i>

Every Thursday morning at 10am we hold a 30 minute, 'said' mid-week Communion Service at St Michael's Church, Betchworth. It is open to anyone in either parish or visiting from elsewhere.

Southwark Cathedral livestreams their services throughout the week from <https://cathedral.southwark.anglican.org/worship-and-music/worship/live-service-stream/>. You can also find it by searching **Southwark Cathedral live service**

COVER PICTURE

Buckland Park Lake on a crisp day in February 2025

THE PLANT SALE STALL, OLD ROAD

Donations of Plants would be welcomed

Spring is in the air and I will be setting up the Plant Sale for the Reading Room repair fund any time soon, so please can I send out a plea for any extra seedlings or if you're dividing your perennials, vegetables, flower or shrubs, I will be very pleased to have them for the Sale.



Also any old tools rusting away in the shed always sell well. Glazed and earthenware pots go well too. Anything to do with gardens, old furniture etc. We can collect locally or they can be left by my front door at Rana, Old Road Buckland or ring 01737843297.

Last year together we collected £700 - lets try for £1000 this year!
Many, many thanks.

Tilly Mitchell



LENT LUNCHES 2025 - Continuing Thursdays until 17 April

Lent lunches on **Thursdays** continue on the 27th March, 3rd April, 10th April and finish on **Maundy Thursday** the 17th April.

Summer Lunch on the 27th June—one for the diary

Hope to see you and maybe some new faces at the Reading Room on 27th June for the Summer Lunch at 12 noon. More information to follow in the May magazine.

Please let Liz Vahey on 01737 221444 or me Carol Leeds on 01737 247399 know if you wish to attend the Lent Lunches and/or the Summer lunch, so the right numbers can be catered for. Thank you.

Carol Leeds

SINGING FOR PLEASURE

Our next program of songs refers to places to go to for a holiday starting with Stephen Sondheim's Together wherever we go.... followed by Arriverci Roma, Under the Bridges of Paris, Little Spanish Town, I love Paris, Little Spanish Town, Tulips from Amsterdam, Wonderful Copenhagen, Jamaica Farewell, Waltzing Mathilda, plus a few more, finishing off with Homeward Bound.

We had an excellent review from Nower Lodge Care Home, Dorking after presenting our last program of songs there at the beginning of March. Feedback was great from both residents and staff. Our pianist was especially pleased to find their piano well tuned.

Come and join us Dorking U3A members. We meet on the first and third Monday of the month from 10am to 12noon in Buckland's Reading Room. New members are always welcome. Singing is good for you.

Meike at mlaurensen@talktalk.net



THOUGHT FOR TODAY ...

When I despair, I remember that all through history the way of truth and love have always won. There have been tyrants and murderers, and for a time, they can seem invincible, but in the end, they always fall. Think of it, always.

You must not lose faith in humanity. Humanity is like an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty, the ocean does not become dirty.

Mahatma Gandhi

buckland & betchworth

CHORAL SOCIETY

We're busy rehearsing for our performance on Friday 11th April, in the Leith Hill Music Festival, as part of the Festival choir, under the baton of our new Festival Conductor, Neil Ferris.



Friday 11 April 2025, 7:30pm

This brilliant choral concert features **Will Todd's Passion Music and Jazz Missa Brevis**, accompanied by Will Todd himself and his band.

Choirs: Buckland & Betchworth, Beare Green & Newdigate, Bookham, Holmbury St Mary, Horsley, Mickleham

Saturday 12th April 2025, 7:30pm

Featuring Elgar's epic Dream of Gerontius, accompanied by the orchestra, Southern Pro Musica.

Choirs: Capel, Dorking, Epsom, Leatherhead, Oxshott

BOOK NOW:

Tickets from £20 - £25.00

Box Office: 01306 881717

www.dorkinghalls.co.uk

BUCKLAND BELLRINGERS

Ringling traditionally ceases during Holy week, to emphasise the 'quiet' time of the church calendar, before the joyful ringing on Easter day. As our usual Friday evening bellringing practice is cancelled on Good Friday, we especially enjoy ringing for the Easter Sunday service.



Two 'Easter Bells' poems - the first by Edna Dean Proctor (1829-1923):

*And lo! the hyacinth buds were blown; A robin was blithely singing;
The cherry-blossoms by the wall were white, And the Easter bells were ringing!
I think of the garden after the rain; And hope to my heart comes singing,
At morn the cherry-blossoms will be white, And the Easter bells be ringing!*

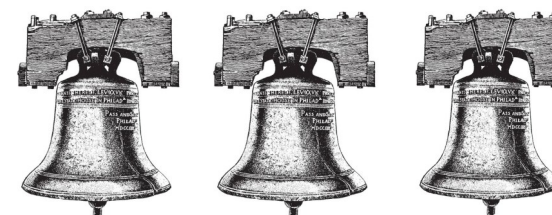
The second by Carrie Law Morgan Figgs (1878-1968):

*Hark! What sound is this I hear? Such music it foretells.
The sound is soft, but sweet and clear, It must be Easter bells.
Sweet bells, your music fills my soul, And wraps me in a spell,
Your wondrous peals like oceans roll, Oh! magical Easter bells.*

In France it is the bells that deliver Easter eggs, not the Easter bunny; Les Cloches de Pâques – the Easter bells. The church bells are not rung between Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday in France. To explain this, French children are told that the bells fly to Rome to be blessed, and on their return drop chocolate eggs for children to find in gardens.

Enjoy your Easter egg hunts and have a very Happy Easter from the Buckland Bellringers.

Julie Beale



JOAN GREGORY's FUNERAL - 4 APRIL, 10am

Joan Gregory died peacefully on 3rd March 2025 aged 93, at Pinehurst Rest Home, Boxhill, where she had lived since 2015 following the death of her husband Alec. Joan and Alec had 54 happy years living in Old Road, Buckland. Both were very involved in village life throughout and regularly worshipped at St. Mary's. Joan's funeral will be at St. Mary's Buckland, on Friday 4th April at 10am. All are welcome.

Robert Gregory

AFTERNOON TEAs at THE HAMILTON ROOM, BETCHWORTH

Welcoming residents of Betchworth & Buckland



St Michael's Drop-in Teas meet each month, January to November, at the Hamilton Room, Church Street, Betchworth between 2pm and 4pm on last Wednesday each Month. Come for a cup of tea or coffee, cake and biscuits and a chat with friends

2025 Dates

30th April, 28th May, 25th June, 30th July, 27th August,
24th September, 29th October and 26th November

For transport or information, contact:

Margaret Miller, 01737 842098

APRIL EVENTS

- 31 Mar, 7.30pm.** Annual Parish Meeting, BPC, p.10
- 6 Apr, 2pm.** Betchworth Castle, Guided Walk. Dorking Museum, p.29
- 7 Apr, 7.15pm.** Talk: George Abbot, Archbishop of Canterbury. DLHG, p.23
- 11 Apr, 7.30pm** Choral Concert, B&B Choral Society & Joint choirs, Dorking, p.26
- 14 Apr 2.30pm.** Talk: Rubens: Artist & Spy. Arts Society, p.23
- 14 Apr, 7.30pm.** Gardening should be fun. BGHS, p.22
- 15 Apr, 7.30pm.** Talk: Development of Surrey's Railways. DLHG by ZOOM, p.23
- 30 Apr, 2pm-4pm.** Afternoon Teas, drop in. Hamilton Room, p.8

MAY EVENTS

- 2-5 May,** Art Exhibition, Dorking Group of Artists, Betchworth Mem. Hall, p.28
- 3 May, 10am-12 noon.** Annual Plant Sale, Brockham Green. BGHS, p.22
- 11 May, 2pm-5pm.** First Open Day, Brockham Bowls Club, p.25
- 22 May, 6.30pm.** Social Evening & AGM at Red Lion, B&B Society. P.24

BROCKHAM BOWLS CLUB

We welcome a new season of updates from Rick, with his self-deprecating humour!

Hi all. I'm sure you'll all be pleased to know the mad-man with the pen is back with his usual witterings. Spring is here and I hope you have wintered well and by the time you read this we will back to playing our favourite sport of bowls. I think we will all agree we had our fair share of wet stuff but the green is looking in fantastic condition. Despite several floodings, Paul Darling, our Green Keeper, and his team have worked tirelessly and I'm sure all their hard efforts will produce another great playing surface this year.



And what a busy year it promises to be. We have over 50 league and friendly matches. In addition, we have a dozen internal competitions as well as a variety of Surrey events that many members are entering this year. It's going to be a hectic season.

As like last year we will be running a couple of **Open days** which proved a huge success where we recruited many new members all of whom have re-joined this year. The first is on **Sunday 11th May from 2.00 to 5.00** and the second is on **Saturday 24th May from 11.00 until 5.00**. A flat pair of trainers is all you need. The rest we will provide. Meet and greet you, show you round the Clubhouse and our facilities and then take you onto the green and introduce you to the game of bowls. We hope to see many faces from the 3 B's on at least one of those dates.

Frank Tipping is once again our Club Captain and is often seen pottering around the village and he would gladly have a chat or would happily take any calls regarding our Club or the game so please feel free to ring him on 01737 843678. Otherwise please ask me any questions you have about Brockham Bowls Club as I'm flying around and I will answer you in my normal mundane fashion. Look forward to seeing many of you at our Open days.

Best regards from all at our Club. Rick Lawrence

For the protection and conservation of the quality of life in Betchworth & Buckland

The Betchworth & Buckland Society

2025 Events

Thursday 22nd May: Social Evening & AGM

Enjoy a social gathering with friends, neighbors & other villagers
Welcome drink & nibbles with a short 15-minute AGM
& update on The Society



6.30pm onwards

The Red Lion, Betchworth

Members & non-members welcome
RSVP

Save The Date for our other events (details & timings tbc)

Saturday 30th August: Annual BBQ & Jazz. Late afternoon Goulburn Green

Thursday 27th November: Annual Dinner

Sunday 20th December: Christmas Drinks

For ticket & membership enquiries please contact

betchworthandbucklandsociety@gmail.com

www.betchworthandbucklandsociety.org.uk

No mention of God. They keep Him up their sleeves for as long as they can, vicars do. They know it puts people off.

Alan Bennett, Playwright & Author

EVENTS AT ST MICHAEL'S BETCHWORTH

Bridge & Lunch

Monday 2 June, 11.30am

A Bridge Lunch is being held in the Betchworth Memorial Hall
Tables of 4. Play starts at 11.30. £30 per ticket to include a glass of wine and a delicious 2 course lunch. In aid of The Pillars of St. Michael's for more information please contact sallycronk@btinternet.com



The Imperial Male Voice Choir

Saturday 7 June 4pm, St Michael's Church Betchworth

The choir of the Alumni of Imperial College London are returning to St. Michael's for an Afternoon of Choral Delights. The programme will include: part songs, sea shanties, operatic excerpts and songs from the shows. Ticket price £15 to include refreshments. Proceeds in aid of The Pillars of St. Michael's. All enquiries to pillarsbetchworth@gmail.com

Pam Armitage

VACANCIES FOR VOLUNTEERS

Please enquire to email addresses below for further details

Treasurer -BUCKLAND ST MARY's

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

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

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

Secretary—BUCKLAND ST MARY's PCC

Please contact Rosey Davy, roseydavy@gmail.com

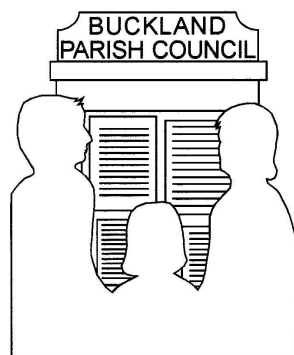
Buckland Matters

BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

2025 Annual Parish Meeting

A last call to attend this year's annual village meeting which is being held in the Reading Room at **7.30pm on Monday 31st March**. This meeting provides an opportunity for your Parish Council to report on its activities during the year and for residents to ask questions, provide feedback and help influence future priorities. Topical items will include

- 'Devolution' – the government's plan to reorganise the way our local government operates by replacing Surrey County Council and the eleven district and borough councils operating across Surrey with single tier unitary councils; and
- An update on proposed development at Gatwick and Heathrow airports.



The evening will include a short refreshment break, providing an opportunity to say hello to anyone you have not met before and to enjoy a "catch up" with residents you already know. We are looking forward to seeing as many Buckland residents as possible at the meeting and hope you will join us.

Nigel Husband Chair, Buckland Parish Council

Village email group

If you have recently moved to Buckland (welcome!) or have not yet opted-in, please consider joining the village email group. The simplest way to join is to visit the village website at www.bucklandsurrey.org.uk, click "Contact us", select Buckland Parish Council from the drop-down list, and include your surname, house name or number and postcode in the message box. You can, if you prefer, sign up by emailing the same information to parishcouncil@bucklandsurrey.org.uk.

News, Events, Report-It

The news, events, report-it section of the village website is your guide to the latest announcements, upcoming events and tips and pointers to make it easier to submit reports to ask for issues and concerns to be addressed. Please do

THE ARTS SOCIETY BETCHWORTH

MONDAY 14 APRIL at 2.30 pm
RUBENS -Tinker, Tailor, Artist, Spy



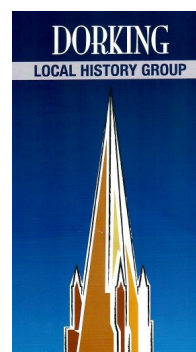
Our lecturer is Matthew Wilson. Few gallery-goers are aware that Rubens was not only the most influential artist of his period, but also a high-ranking diplomat and informal spy on behalf of the Governors of the Spanish Netherlands.



Rubens travelled throughout Europe and was esteemed by kings and queens of the age. His career as an artist was an excellent cover for international travel and private meetings. It will be a fascinating talk, do join us!

Carole Evans, www.theartssocietybetchworth.org.uk

DORKING LOCAL HISTORY GROUP



7 April, 7.15pm for 7.30, Dorking Crossways Church
George Abbot: the Archbishop of Canterbury from Surrey
Mary Alexander gives this talk, 'Guildford's most famous person in our nations history'. £2 at the door for non-members.

15 April, 7.30pm Zoom-only talk
The Development of Surrey's Railways
Richard Marks, an Industrial Historian, talks about local rail routes from Victorian times to the present day.
<https://www.meet-up.com/Surrey-History-Meetup>

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

Societies & Charities

BROCKHAM GREEN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Brockham * Betchworth * Buckland

Talk: Gardening Should be Fun by Jean Griffin
Brockham Village Hall on Monday 14th April 2025. 7:30pm – 9pm.

Jean Griffin is a lecturer and broadcaster who has been involved in horticulture and gardening for all her professional career. Refreshments will be served, and everyone is welcome, so please bring friends. The entrance fee is members £3 and non-members £5.

In Memoriam, Ann Power

We fondly remember one of our members, Ann Power, who for many years was a valued, very active member of BGHS committee. Ann passed away on 30th November, and her funeral was on 28th January. She trained as a secretary. She moved to Canada as a young mother – where she had a large, much loved garden. He remembered her lovely sense of humour. Back in Brockham, Ann joined BGHS committee in about 1998. I very much remember her cheerful willingness to just get on with helping solve many of our problems. She was involved with organising our meetings and talks, writing newsletters and sorting out publicity. She stood in for a while as our Show Secretary, and later Secretary. She was also our vice-chairman. When she resigned in 2010, she was very much missed, and she was made a Vice-President. A donation to Dementia UK has been made in her memory.

Valerie Maud

Other Dates for your Diaries

Saturday **3rd May**, 10am to 12.00 noon. **Annual Plant Sale.** Brockham Green
Saturday **20th September.** Autumn Show. Brockham Village Hall
Saturday **6 December.** **Christmas Wreath Workshop.** Brockham Village Hall

We always welcome new members and the cost is just £10 per year, bghsociety@hotmail.com

Ruth Johnson, bghsociety@hotmail.com

take the time to become familiar with what is published on this section of your village website which is regularly updated to keep it topical and relevant. If you encounter any difficulty submitting a report and uncover a new tip or pointer please share your learning by sending an email to webmater@bucklandsurrey.org.uk to enable any new tips and pointers to be added to the website.

Sheena Boyce, Clerk, parishcouncil@bucklandsurrey.org.uk

GARDENING NOTES April - It's Easter and everything is growing

From now on, it's full steam ahead in the garden. Here's a few ideas to set you on your way:

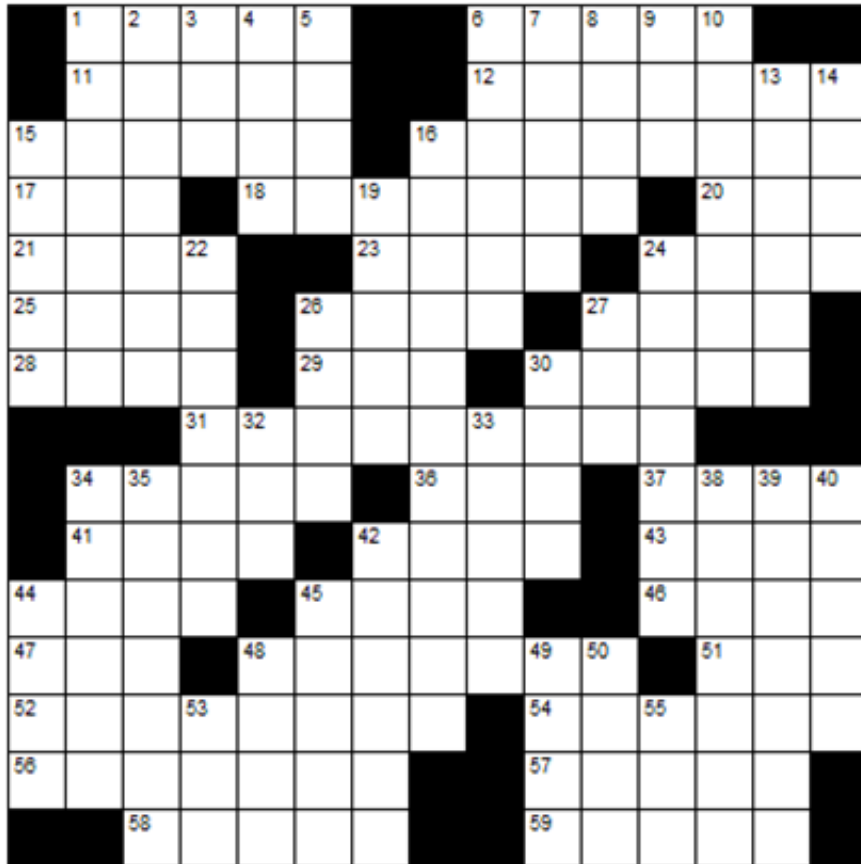
- Many vegetable plants can be planted now: some will need overnight protection outside, others need to stay in the greenhouse for now.
- Flowering summer bedding plants can go outside when the risk of frost is low. Rather than wait until well into May, most decide to take a risk from late April to give them a head start.
- No need to wait for planting shrubs and trees; they should go into the ground now. Everything grows swiftly in late spring, so you will see healthy new growth in a matter of weeks.
- Herbaceous perennial (cottage garden plants) will take off very quickly. Ranging from the smallest ground-cover alpine to others which can reach 1.5m, there is wonderful choice which will give you a mass of colour this year – and in future years.
- If you have put off pruning during the winter waiting for warmer weather, now is your chance. Evergreen shrubs and perennials will benefit from a tidy-up, as usual removing dead or diseased wood. Trim back beautiful yellow forsythia after flowering, and camellia also if they are unruly after producing their magnificent flowers.
- The wet and mild winter means that moss has proliferated on lawns. If this worries you, apply a moss killer with your lawn feed and weedkiller to keep it under control.

Don't be overwhelmed in the spring. Just do enough for gardening to be enjoyable!

David Hogg, Buckland Nurseries

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD

Solution p.30



ACROSS

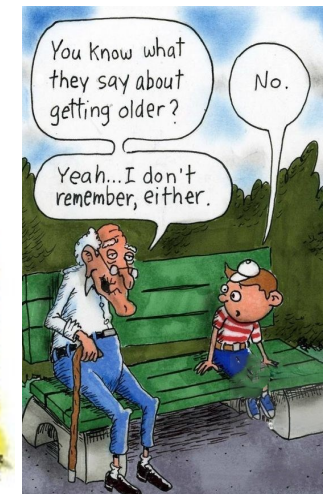
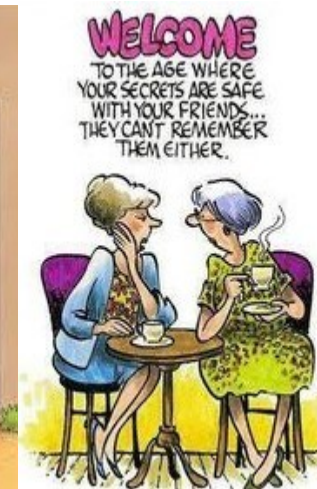
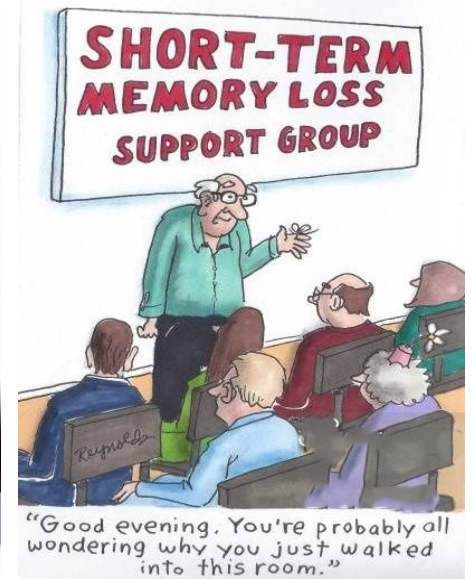
1. Heavy stake
6. Sword
11. Attempts
12. Peas and beans
15. Locomotives
16. Formal agreement
17. Petroleum
18. Commits
20. Frozen water
21. Cripple

23. One single time
24. At low speed
25. European volcano
26. Wealthy
27. Passed with flying colors
28. Observed
29. Air hero
30. Playground chute
31. Exaggeration
34. Underway

36. Can
37. Short sleeps
41. Arched facial feature
42. Ask for
43. Coagulate
44. Incursion
45. Melody
46. Apart from this
47. Consumed
48. Unpredictable
51. Employ

52. Senior army officers
54. Conveyed ownership
56. Postscripts
57. Imps
58. Slumber
59. Sleighs

memories



In 1846, the chancel roof fell in making the whole church a ruin. Fortuitously, in 1846 a new owner, Lord Louvain, the 6th Duke of Northumberland had moved into Chilworth Manor, and he made the decision to have the church rebuilt. In 1848, he employed Henry Woodyer^{2,3,4} a 32-year old architect, to redesign and rebuild the church, using as much as he could of the surviving foundations, walls and building materials. So Woodyer set to work, including such artefacts as a stone from the old church doorway, inscribed with pilgrims crosses, as also found in other churches on the Pilgrims Way.

The plan of the church is a 'cross', and inside there are four-pointed arches on each side of the centre, a feature that echoed the original church of c.1170. Some of the walls and building stone were from the early church, which was built of Bargate Stone³ quarried from the Greensand Ridge near Godalming. This stone suffers from erosion by the weather, so Woodyer used a very resilient cladding of dark ironstone-rubble pebbles. The build cost to implement Woodyer's design for St Martha's in 1850 was £700.

In 1860, Henry Woodyer was employed to re-vamp our Church, St Mary the Virgin Buckland. Our church also had walls of 'Reigate Stone' from local Greensand Ridge quarries. So Woodyer reused his design feature of ironstone-rubble cladding at Buckland church to prevent any further erosion of the stone.³

St Martha's is similar in size to Buckland, seating about 80 people, but it is more simply furnished than Buckland. It had no stained-glass windows in Woodyer's restoration. In contrast, at Buckland Woodyer incorporated 6 new stained-glass windows, the ornate spiral staircase to the tower, the pulpit, and a gilded plaster screen behind the altar.

The church of St. Martha's is now well cared for, has weekly services and is frequently open to visitors in daylight hours. At weekends they often have a servery with hot drinks and cakes for walkers. Do pay them a visit, and perch on one of the many benches around the church to enjoy the views.

References

1. *The Story of St Martha-on-the-Hill*, 32 pp., 2023. Linnerake, Guildford (current guide)
2. www.chilworthgunpowdermills.co.uk
3. Elliot, J & Pritchard J, 2002. Henry Woodyer, Gentleman Architect, p.216 Chilworth
4. Blatch, M, 1997. *The Churches of Surrey*
5. Heath, O.M, 1955. *The Church of St Martha on the Hill* (early guide)

DOWN

1. Streaked
2. Nutty confection
3. 3 in Roman numerals
4. Extend credit
5. Being
6. Stain
7. Embankment
8. Long, long time
9. Grayish brown
10. Sent an electronic
13. Encipher
14. Ragout
15. Weighty books
16. They are like accordions
19. Express
22. Virility
24. Study of the physical world
26. Absorbed
27. Ever last one

letter

30. Male offspring
32. Ouch!
33. Basin for washing after toilet
34. Slacked
35. Pals
38. Suggested
39. Own
40. Horse
42. Sack material
44. Indian music
45. Exchange
48. Coastal raptor

49. Mid-month days
50. Prison room
53. Snake-like fish
55. Night before

HOW TO PLANT TOMATOES



Bert was 85 years old, wanting to plant his bed of tomatoes in the garden as he did every year. But with his bad heart and bad legs, he just could not do it. His only son, Darren, who used to help him, was in prison.

The old man sent him a text 'Dear Darren, I'm feeling pretty sad. I won't be able to plant my tomato bed this year. I'm just not well enough. I miss you, I know you would have done it for me, like in the old days. Luv Dad.'

He received a text reply: 'Dear Dad, don't dig up that garden, that is where the bodies are buried! Love Darren'. Bert was worried.

The following morning at 6am, the Met Police woke him up with a warrant. Bert was even more worried. They dug up the entire area without finding any bodies. They apologized to old Bert and left. Bert was very puzzled. Later that day, he got another text from Darren: 'You can go ahead and plant your tomatoes now. That's the best I could do under the circumstances. Love Darren.'

SUDOKU

Grade: Medium.
Solution on p.30

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WORDSEARCH—Easter

passover
bread
wine
body
blood
betrayal

jerusalem
pilate
judas
gethsemane
trial
crucifixion

soldiers

cross
nails
vinegar
temple
curtain

tomb
angel
stone
risen
gardener
Mary

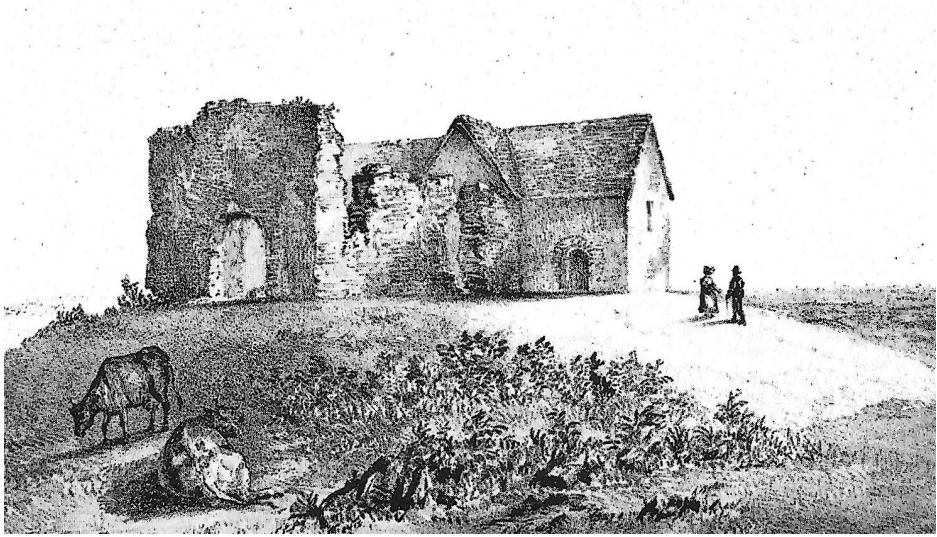
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W	C	L	T	J	E	R	U	S	A	L	E	M
S	B	P	I	B	T	U	R	S	T	O	N	E
A	E	M	R	I	R	C	T	S	B	O	E	N
E	N	E	O	A	A	I	A	T	L	D	D	Y
Y	A	T	T	T	Y	F	I	E	S	I	R	L
D	M	S	I	A	A	I	N	R	R	A	A	J
S	E	N	I	W	L	X	E	C	M	L	G	N
I	S	E	C	L	A	I	R	T	E	E	E	T
E	H	G	S	E	D	O	P	G	X	S	N	G
B	T	E	A	L	S	N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

Solution on p.30

hill and became martyrs.¹ This ancient first-century practice led to the hill being called Martyr’s Hill, a name which persisted through to the 1700’s. Thankfully, times have changed.

A church was established on this site as early as the year 1200, when ‘Ecclesia Sanctae Martha’ is referred to in documents, when clearly Christian worshippers had established a church, with the Lord of Chilworth Manor being the patron¹. From this early date it was dedicated to St Martha. Many documents from the 1200’s to the 1700’s refer to ‘St Martha’s on Martyr’s Hill.’ [There is no evidence to suggest that it was called St Martha’s because it sounded like Martyrs, as had previously been thought].

In 1745, there was an accidental large explosion at the nearby gunpowder works in Chilworth.^{2,3} The explosion wrecked the church Tower and part of the Nave. The ‘temporary solution’ was to brick up the Chancel at the eastern end of the church and continue to hold services there. The church was then served by the Parish of Wonerh, and it is reported that the vicar used to ride over on his horse, which he tied up in the derelict Nave (without a roof) whilst he conducted the regular services in the Chancel.¹ The church registers, dating from 1779 have a few births, marriages and deaths each year during this period when the church was almost a total ruin. This temporary solution lasted 100 years, until...



The Ruins of St Martha’s Church about 1810. Lithograph by George Russell⁵

Small Surrey Churches - Part One

St Martha-on-the-Hill, Chilworth



- **Wonderful hilltop position on the Greensand Ridge. Great views**
- **Shares the same Victorian Architect as St Mary's Buckland, Henry Woodyer**

This church is about a half-mile from the nearest road, with just a dirt-track access. Vehicle access is only allowed for maintenance, wedding and funerals! Whilst you are not able to drive past, those people who regularly walk or cycle in the local countryside will be sure to have visited St Martha-on-the-Hill. You can walk up the half-mile track from the closest car park, or visit on a longer walk starting from Newlands Corner on the A25.

This are earth circles on the hill, now hidden by woodland undergrowth, thought by archaeologists to have been used for Pagan rituals. When Christian missionaries of St Augustine appeared about 60 A.D., they met resistance from the pagan worshippers and the Chirstian's who tried to stop them were burnt on the

Features

MUSIC IN DORKING - APRIL



1st at 7.15, opera screening at Dorking Halls, £19.50, 01306 881717
4th at 1.00, opera screening at Dorking Halls, £19.50, 01306 881717
5th at 7.30, guitar recital at Dorking Halls, £23, 01306 740619
5th at 7.30, Brockham Choral Society at St Martin's church, £10
11th & 12th at 7.30, Leith Hill Music Festival at Dorking Halls, £20-25, 01306 881717

April begins with a guitar recital, the final concert in the Dorking Concertgoers season. Local musician Fiona Harrison, who has already played several times for the Concertgoers, will play a varied programme, with music ranging from Scarlatti to contemporary Japanese, with a good selection of pieces by Spanish composers.

Brockham Choral Society will sing Haydn's great oratorio *The Creation*. The choir, conducted by Cole Bendall will be joined by vocal soloists and accompanied by the British Sinfonietta.

The Leith Hill Music Festival holds its two days of competitions and concerts in April. This will be the first festival under the direction of the exciting new festival conductor Neil Ferris. People are invited to attend the morning competitions when the choirs perform separately and compete for a range of trophies. In the evening concerts the choirs join together – Friday's concert features lively jazz-infused music by Will Todd, including his large-scale piece *Passion Music*, while Elgar's masterpiece *The dream of Gerontius* is on the programme for Saturday.

The Dorking Halls is showing Puccini's final opera *Turandot* in two screenings - live and encore - from the Royal Opera House. This tale of love for an icy princess includes the famous aria *Nessun dorma*.

Ian Codd

FORGIVENESS & RECONCILIATION

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

The Spirit within us creates an unrelenting desire toward forgiveness and reconciliation. The energy of being forgiven—in our unworthiness of it—first breaks us out of our merit-badge mentality. The ongoing experience of being forgiven is necessary to renew our flagging spirit and keep us in the infinite ocean of grace. Toward the end of life, *a universal forgiveness of everything for being what it is* becomes the only way we can see and understand reality and finally live at peace.

Zechariah said that God would “give God’s people knowledge of salvation through forgiveness of sin” (Luke 1:77). Forgiveness given and forgiveness received are always the pure work of uncreated grace. Such unearned and undeserved forgiveness is necessary to break down the quid pro quo world that I call meritocracy. Only when we experience undeserved love does this inward and outward flow begin to happen. Before that, we are dry, dead cisterns. Before that, we are into ‘religion’ perhaps, but we don’t really have any dynamic notion of God or even our self.

Grace re-creates all things; nothing new happens without forgiveness. We just keep repeating the same old patterns, illusions, and half-truths. Sometimes grace does not come immediately, but like Job we ‘sit in the ashes scraping our sores’ (Job 2:8). Sometimes neither the desire nor the decision to forgive is present. Then we must grieve and wait. We must sit in our poverty, perhaps admitting our inability to forgive the offender. That is when we learn how to pray and how to ‘long and thirst for righteousness’ (Matthew 5:6).

True Spirit-led forgiveness always frees and heals at least one of the parties involved, and hopefully both. If it only preserves my moral high ground—as a magnanimous “Christian” person—I doubt if it is true forgiveness at all. In forgiveness, we live up to our true and deepest dignity. We then operate by a power and a logic not our own.

At the New Jerusalem Community in Cincinnati, I had “70 x 7” painted over the main doorway [see Matthew 18:21–22]. New mail carriers thought it was the address! It was our address, in a way. It’s the distinctive hallmark of a people liberated by Christ. Community is not where forgiveness is unnecessary or unneeded. It is where forgiveness is very free to happen. And if it doesn’t happen on a daily basis, at least imperfectly, there will be no community. Without forgiveness the logic of victimhood and perpetrator rules instead of the illogic of love.

ST. JAMES THE LEAST OF ALL

On why you should never encourage your congregation

My dear Nephew Darren

There are times when I indulge you too much; why I ever let you run your course ‘Taking Responsibility for your Church’ among our congregation, I am now unable to understand. I had hopes that it might encourage a few more people to volunteer for the flower rota, or to give occasional help mowing the churchyard. I even had a vague fantasy that someone might turn detective, and discover who had been eating the chocolate biscuits between Sundays, condemning the rest of us to munch on Rich Tea after Services. Unfortunately, your course turned out to be inspirational, and it has fired up our members to take on all sorts of new initiatives. Enthusiasm in a congregation can be a very dangerous thing, especially if people start making decisions on their own.



Those who formed a welcoming group are admittedly well-meaning – although it was more than a little traumatic for those coming through the door the next Sunday to be greeted with frenzied handshakes, big toothy smiles, and even hymnbooks. That is unheard of in this church – we always ignore people and leave them to find hymnbooks – if they can.

Naturally, all those offering to take the prayers, produce new Orders of Service and even to give the occasional sermon have been booked on the appropriate training courses. By the time they have been completed, I can only hope they will have gone off the idea. But it was the group which decided to “beautify” the church who have proved the most tiresome. Hanging the Christmas tree lights round the altar made it look as if I was standing behind a fairground stall, waiting to invite people to throw hoops round teddy bears – although I would have rather enjoyed making winners sit for the rest of the Service holding a polythene bag containing a goldfish. Our pulpit has also been given a makeover, with the various panels painted in contrasting colours; I am sure the sixteenth century Flemish woodcarvers would be delighted with the result, although the next time any medieval historians come to view it, I shall take the day off – probably travelling abroad.

My dear Darren, your course took the stopper out of the bottle; would you please run another to put it back?

Your Loving Uncle, Eustace