## BUCKLAND PARISH MAGAZINE



October 2025

## SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN, BUCKLAND

## www.stmarythevirginbuckland.net

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## BUCKLAND PARISH MAGAZINE

## October 2025

Dear Friends,

The village is beginning to look and feel really like autumn now, isn't it? The air is getting chillier - particularly in evenings, leaves are on the turn, robins are singing their autumn song, and conkers lie everywhere.

Autumn is a season of abundance. Not only have the crops been harvested, but wherever you look, the hedgerows and trees are bulging with produce, fruits, berries and



nuts of all kinds. It is such a beautiful season, full of earthy colours, rich smells, and tastes. It's a season that reminds us to give thanks to God for the beauty and abundance that we are so fortunate to receive. In October we are doing just that, celebrating and giving thanks.

Firstly, we have both churches' Harvest Thanksgiving Services where we will be saying thank you for the food we have available to us and for all those that tend, gather, and process food ready for us to eat. But it is more than that as we extend our harvest celebrations to include the generosity of time, experience, and knowledge that we receive from all our volunteers. Church, we would be lost without you!

**Buckland's Harvest festival is on Sunday 28 September at 10 am,** and St Michael's Betchworth is the following week, Sunday 5 October. As per our traditions, we will appreciate members of the congregation bringing gifts of surplus fresh vegetables you may have grown, and/or gifts of non-perishable food items. These will be collected and passed on to local charities who can distribute them wisely to those in need. If you cannot attend a Harvest service but wish to donate, food gifts may be left in either of the Church Porches.

On Sunday 19 October we have a Pet Service at St Michael's Betchworth where we celebrate the relationships we have with our beloved pets and other animals. It's a short, relaxed service where all animals, birds, reptiles, or insects are welcome no matter how noisy or silly you might worry their behaviour to be. Bringing a photo of a pet passed or present is equally welcome as we give thanks for the unconditional love and loyalty we receive from them and pray for greater awareness, and courage to speak up for and protect vulnerable creatures and care for our fragile world.

So come, join us in this celebratory season as we give thanks for the gifts of food, love and care we receive throughout the year from God, from creation and from each other.

## DAVID EATON'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY SINCE ORDINATION 26 October Service, St Mary's Buckland

'I have in recent days stepped back from taking services largely because health and age were catching up with me. However, I seem to be on a more even keel at the moment and this year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of my Ordination in Guildford Cathedral to become a priest. To mark the occasion and with the support of Bishop Rosemarie and Rev Pru I will be celebrating and preaching at the 10 o'clock service at St Mary the Virgin Buckland on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October. Pru will kindly assist me. I hope you can join me. Everyone is welcome and I will be delighted to see you there on the day.'

Canon David Eaton

#### OCTOBER EVENTS

- 1 Oct, 11am-2pm. Talk: Rural Lay Ministry, Diocese of Southwark, at Oxted, p.7
- 4 Oct, 1pm-4pm. Applefest. Re-Betchworth, Betchworth Village Hall, p.36
- **4 Oct, 2.30pm.** Organ recital by Christopher Herrick, Betchworth Church, p.12
- 6 Oct, 7.15pm. Short Talks by DLHG members, DLHG, p.31
- **10 Oct, 12 noon.** Winter Lunch (first of season). Buckland Reading Room, p.8
- 10 Oct 7pm. Music Quiz Night, Buckland Reading Room, FOSM, p.11
- **10-12 Oct, 10am-4pm.** Art Show & Sale, Denbies, Dorking Group of Artists, p.34
- 16 Oct, 7.30pm. Talk: Ponds for Nature. Re-Betchworth Group, p.34
- 20 Oct, 2.30pm. Talk: Siena & it's Art. Betchworth Village Hall, Arts Society, p.32
- 21 Oct, 7.30pm. ZOOM Talk: Anne of Cleves in Bletchingley, DLHG, p.31
- **29 Oct, 2pm-5pm.** Bridge Afternoon, for St Michael's Betchworth. P.10
- **5-8 Nov, 7.30pm.** Play: Lucky Stiff, Betchworth Village Hall, BODS, p13

#### **CHURCH SERVICES—OCTOBER**

Date	St Mary's Buckland	St Michael's Betchworth				
28 September Trinity 15	10 am Harvest Festival John 6: 25-35					
<b>5 October</b> Trinity 16		10 am Harvest Festival John 6: 25-35				
12 October Trinity 17	10 am IONA service Luke 17: 11-17	<b>5pm</b> Evensong Luke 13: 22-30				
19 October Trinity 18		10 am Pet Blessing Service No Communion Genesis 1				
<b>26 October</b> Last after Trinity	10 am Parish Communion with Canon David Eaton Luke 18: 9-14 (see p.4)					
2 November All Souls Day	4pm All Souls Day Service Romans 8: 31-35, 37-39	10 am Parish Communion Luke 6:20-31				

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 <a href="https://cathedral.southwark.anglican.org/worship-and-music/worship/live-service-stream/">https://cathedral.southwark.anglican.org/worship-and-music/worship/live-service-stream/</a> You can also find it by searching **Southwark Cathedral live service stream.** 

## **EDITORIAL**

## Some Apologies for the September Magazine

Last Month's issued suffered from being a bit rushed, before we took a holiday. Thank you for pointing out at least five typos and some formatting errors; I hope to have a better outcome this month!

I also wrote an article on the 'Origin & Development of the Buckland's Iona-style Services', with helpful inputs from Hannah Wilson. Whilst it was difficult for us to mention everyone that was involved since 1997, I would like to add some important omissions:

**Tom Brinscombe:** Tom has been a long-standing member of both Betchworth and Buckland congregations and continues to serve on the PCC of both churches. For a few years he accompanied Hannah Wilson on flute and clarinet, enabling 'our music group' - usually a duet - to continue.

**Barbara Green:** Barbara was 'brought out of her retirement' by Carol Coslett to be the pianist in church, whenever a piano was required—for the children's choir, and of course contributing to Iona services on the piano and as a singer. Outside of church, Barbara was also our pianist for events such as the 'Buckland Bash' - an impromptu 'musical review' held for several years in the Reading Room (around 1998-2011). Barbara often invited the singers to her home to play for practices, always very friendly and hospitable. Sadly, Barbara lost her husband Tony, aged 95, last year. She is still living at home in Buckland with some support, and we pass on our blessings and thank you's.

**And many others...** Several people have passed through our Singing Group for Iona Services, too numerous to mention, over the 27 year period—thank you to everyone who has contributed, and to those who continue to do so.

I mentioned in the article last month that 'the Iona-style is a more reflective, spiritually-oriented service with less liturgy' - and this has always attracted not only our regular congregation, but also a different group of people who have said they are uncertain about their belief in God, but they are uplifted when they attend. They have been very welcome, and if you hold this view, you are also welcome. The door is always open...

P.S. It's now always easy to donate. Just scan the QR code on the back page Thank you!







## An Introduction to Rural Lay Ministry

Wednesday 1st October 11am-2pm St Mary's Community Hall Oxted, RH8 9NB

A session open to all, especially those considering a call to serve their parish in a rural context.

Led by Revd Alan Bayes (Diocesan Rural Life Adviser). With a guest speaker from the Farm Community Network, and resources from the Arthur Rank Centre.

Coffee, tea, and biscuits will be available from 10:30am and a soup lunch will be provided.

For more information and to book your place, email learning@southwark.anglican.org



#### St Michael's Church Betchworth

Pet Blessing Service 10am Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October followed by refreshments for all!



All Souls Service 4pm Sunday November 2<sup>nd</sup> St Mary's Church Buckland



An annual service to remember loved ones who have died

## 2025 WINTER LUNCHES

## Friday 10 October, 12 noon—Buckland Reading Room

Just a reminder that our October Winter Lunch will be on Friday 10 October. 'Doors open' at 12 noon and we will serve lunch at about 12.15.

It will be lovely to catch up with all our friends and Liz and I hope that you will put this date in your diaries. If you could let us know if you are going to be able to be with us on that day please call Liz on 01737 221444 or Carol on 01737 247399. Looking forward to seeing you all again on the 10th October.

Carol Leeds

## 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.

## 2025 Dates

29<sup>th</sup> October and 26<sup>th</sup>November

For transport or information, contact:

Margaret Miller, 01737 842098

## BUCKLAND & BETCHWORTH BELLRINGERS REPORT Ringing for the 80th Anniversary of VJ day



On 15th August at 6.3opm Buckland bells were rung to mark the 8oth anniversary of VJ day (Victory over Japan Day), commemorating the end of World War II in 1945. Towers were encouraged to ring to honour those who served in the Far East. At Buckland a team rang to offer a moment of reflection and gratitude for peace restored, and to echo the celebrations of 8o years ago. We rang Bob Doubles and call changes, sustained with

treats for all. Afterwards the team of nine ringers gathered outside the church porch for a group photo. The ringing was recorded on Bellboard,: <a href="https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/view.php?id=1877796">https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/view.php?id=1877796</a>

Julie Beale

## COVER IMAGE Bougeureau Print

This (rather odd!) 'Madonna and Child' framed photographic print has hung in the locked vestry of our church in Buckland, almost certainly for well over 50 years. The frame and wooden backing appear to be of Victorian age. The original artwork was by a French artist, William Adolph Bouguereau (born in 1825), and this image was painted in 1889, as identified by Google Al pattern matching! Bouguereau painted to achieve a 'photographic-style'. He painted 4 or 5 similar Madonna & Child paintings, some of which are in national gallery collections. As you can see below, the reproduction in Buckland is only a part of the larger original. I was unable to find if the original of painting is still in existence or on display—does anyone know?



Above, the Buckland Print

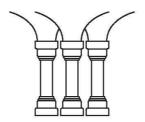
Right: a print of the full painting by

Bougeureau



https://www.mutualart.com/Artwork/Madonna---Child/92589EEAAED7EE85CB8004F98CE20264

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# MUSIC

QUIZ NIGHT FRIDAY 10 OCTOBER, 7PM FOR 7.30



## BUCKLAND READING ROOM

Fun Quiz for all things musical, spanning pop, classical, TV theme tunes, show songs and more!

Free glass of wine or soft drink, more to purchase...

Dinner of Lasagne & Salad followed by Cheesecake. Alternatives available to meet dietary requirements.

Teams of 6 to 8. Apply either as a team or individual/couples. Prizes to aim for, and a Raffle!

Tickets £20 FOSM members, £25 nonmembers.

Please book in advance, not later than 4 October, to Cat<u>Dawes@aol.com</u> or 07710 498591

FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S BUCKLAND (FOSM)

## St Michael's Church, Betchworth



Recital by International Concert Organist

## Christopher Herrick

On the Kenneth Tickell Organ (2014) In St Michael's Church, Betchworth.

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2025, at 2.30pm

Programme to include works by Guilmant, Bach, Mendelssohn, Johnson, Farrington, and Takle

Tickets £15 (under 16yrs: £9) including light refreshments.

Visit <a href="https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-michaels-church-betchworth">https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-michaels-church-betchworth</a>, or scan the QR code below, or pay at the door.



In aid of St Michael's Church funds.



## **Buckland Matters**

#### **BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE**



## **Overhanging Vegetation**

Do you have hedges or trees growing on your property adjacent to Buckland's highways, hard surfaced footpaths, public footpaths, or public bridleways? If so, please cut back your plants, shrubs, and trees to make sure Buckland's rights of way remain free of obstruction and easy for everyone to use whether drivers, riders, or pedestrians, including anyone with a pushchair or wheelchair and anyone unlucky enough to be visually impaired.

SCC's arboriculture team advises private landowners: "Check where your boundary is and prune branches that overhang the highways back to that point; sufficient to maintain a minimum headroom of 5.7 metres over most carriageways in Buckland (7 metres for the A25) and 2.3 metres for pedestrian routes". If overhanging vegetation is making it difficult for you to walk around Buckland, you can report the obstruction to SCC Highways.

## **Footways**

If you encounter any difficulty using any section of Buckland's roadside footways, please submit a request to:

- MVDC for a street cleaning visit, if the problem relates to material that
  needs to be swept from the surface of the footway, ensuring you emphasise the work will need to include the footway as well as the main carriageway; and
- SCC Highways to highlight any problems relating to the condition of the surface (e.g. trip hazards, deteriorating or uneven surface) or overhanging vegetation. If the state of the footpath is making it difficult for anyone using a mobility aid (whether a mobility scooter, wheelchair or walking aids) or pushchair please include this in your report.

Visit the SCC (www.surreycc.gov.uk) or MVDC (www.molevalley.gov.uk) websites to submit online reports or call the customer service telephone numbers (SCC 0300 200 1003, MVDC 01306 885001).

## Surface water ponding and blocked roadside gullies

When water ponds on either the main carriageway, hard surfaced footway alongside the carriageway or on the verge between them anyone using the footways is at the mercy of drivers travelling along the main carriageway. As none of us want to be dodging deluges of water, if you see water ponding, or a blocked gully please submit a report to Surrey Highways.

## **Public Rights of Way**

The SCC Countryside Access team is responsible for ensuring all the county's rights of way remain accessible to the large numbers who use them each year, which, in Buckland, include two long distance paths; the North Downs Way, an internationally recognised national trail (E2) and the Greensand Way.

As the team increasingly relies on people using the rights of way to submit reports to highlight any problems they encounter, please take the time to visit the Reportit section of the SCC website to make an online report or call 0300 200 103.

## **Amenity improvements**

When the Parish Council next meets it will consider, as part of budget planning for April 2026 – March 2027, potential amenity improvements. If you have identified an amenity improvement you think would benefit our community and are prepared to help deliver it, please contact me.

Sheena Boyce, Clerk

parishcouncil@bucklandsurrey.org.uk

Spirituality is not to be learned by flight from the world, or by running away from things, or by turning solitary and going apart from the world. Rather, we must learn an inner solitude wherever or with whomsoever we may be.

Meister Eckhart, German Catholic Priest, d.1328 (about half-past-one)

## **Features**

## GARDENING NOTES October: Autumn leaves and composting

Leaves are now falling thick and fast, especially from horse chestnut trees. These sadly drop earlier due to a fungal infection which causes unsightly leaf blotching. This has been prevalent in the south for many years, and there is little that can be done in the way of control. Sweeping up the leaves can help to prevent the fungal spread, but the good news is that it doesn't appear to cause recognizable weakness in the tree. If it is possible to keep these leaves separate from others for composting, this will also help. Likewise, it is best to dispose of roses leaves to contain any black spot spores.

Other leaves are ideal for composting: you will probably have plenty of space in your compost bins as grass has generally grown less during our dry summer. After a couple of years- or sooner if you are able to shred leaves before composting – you will have a wonderful rich leaf mould mulch to spread or dig into beds and borders. To speed up the process, and also take up far less space, use a shredder to break down the leaves and any small twigs.

Still on the subject of leaves, keep them off lawns. They will simply form an impenetrable mat which will prevent light and air, both essential for healthy growth. Paths and patios should also be regularly swept to avoid potential slippery surfaces. Most sturdy tall shrubs should be happy with a small covering of leaves, but other plants such as low-growing alpines are vulnerable to brown and rotting foliage. Try to keep a few piles of fallen leaves as they will provide an ideal winter shelter for many species of insects such as moths and butterflies. This will also enhance the habitat for other wildlife and contribute to the sustainability of your garden.

David Hogg, Buckland Nurseries

#### **RE-BETCHWORTH**

# 4Bs More Wildflowers Campaign Cultivate a patch of native wildflowers to help insect pollinators

The 4Bs is on the way to becoming a wildflower haven. Over the last few years residents and landowners have considerably expanded the area of wildflowers sown. This year Re-Betchworth's 4Bs Biodiversity Initiative is providing small packets of native wildflower seed, free of charge, to any resident of Betchworth, Buckland, Brockham and Boxhill who would like to cultivate a small patch of wildflowers from 2 to 20 square metres. Buckland residents are embracing this initiative and so far 21 households have taken wildflower seed and pledged to sow nearly 200 square metres. To cultivate wildflower seeds all that is required is a patch of bare soil in your garden, ideally with little or no grass and weeds and preferably in a sunny spot. In fact the poorer the soil the better as far as wildflowers are concerned. Scatter the seed on the surface and press them into the soil but don't bury them, and water.

Nature will do the rest. This is the perfect time to sow the seeds as it is still warm but also wet, so seeds may germinate and grow before the winter and those that need winter frost to stimulate germination will get that too. By planting wild-flowers we aim to increase biodiversity and give our native insects and pollinators a helping hand. In the UK we have lost more than 97% of our meadows, so every little patch of wildflowers we sow will benefit our environment.

To find out more and claim your seeds, please visit the 4Bs website wildflower page <a href="https://www.biodiversitypark.uk/wildflowers.html">https://www.biodiversitypark.uk/wildflowers.html</a> or contact me directly at rachel.studholme@gmail.com

Rachel Studholme

## OCTOBER NATURE NOTE Ponds for Nature

There are about three million garden ponds and half a million countryside ponds in the UK. A wildlife pond is often described as the single most valuable feature you can add to a garden to help nature. It supports more species than almost any other garden habitat, for example, amphibians like frogs, toads, and newts, dragonflies, beetles, and water snails, waterfowl and other birds, as well as the plant life within and adjacent to the pond.

## **4Bs Pond for Nature**



Water is an essential resource for all life. Birds, bats, hedgehogs, and insects all need water to drink or feed around, and ponds provide this in a safe and reliable way. A network of garden ponds help connect fragmented habitats and wildlife populations. They collect and hold rainwater and provide a reservoir for dry spells.

October is an excellent time to create a wildlife pond. There is less disturbance to wildlife. Most amphibians and other pond life have finished breeding and are less active, so you won't disrupt them by digging. Autumn is the wettest time of the year and natural rainfall will top it up gradually, so you don't need to rely on tap water and it's a good time to plant as it gives native aquatic and marginal plants a chance to root before winter and be ready for growth in spring. By building in October, your pond has several months to settle and establish, so it's in great condition when frogs, toads, and newts return to breed in early spring.

A pond is a gift to nature and to yourself. It's one of the simplest, most powerful ways to support wildlife. You don't need much space. Even a washing-up bowl sunk into the soil can become a miniature oasis, while a larger pond becomes a living, everchanging wonder. The moment you add water, nature will come. We are organising:



- a survey of garden ponds across the 4Bs to create a map
- free talk on ponds in Betchworth Village Hall on October 16<sup>th</sup> (see p.34)
- 15 pond starter kits with a pond liner and a small selection of pond plants. Visit our Pond for Nature webpage <a href="https://www.biodiversitypark.uk/4bs-pond-for-nature.html">https://www.biodiversitypark.uk/4bs-pond-for-nature.html</a> (QR Code above)

Norman Jackson

#### MUSIC IN DORKING—OCTOBER



1<sup>st</sup> at 6.45, opera screening at Dorking Halls 5<sup>th</sup> at 2.00, opera screening at Dorking Halls 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> - music at St Martin's church 11<sup>th</sup> at 9.30-4.30, LHMF Come & Sing at St Martin's church, £25 18<sup>th</sup> at 5.30, Dorking Chamber Orchestra at St Martin's church, £15 22 at 7.15, Opera screening at Dorking Halls 25<sup>th</sup> at 7.30, Chamber Music Box at Dorking Halls, £25, Dorking Halls: 01306 740619

The new concert season gets well under way this month, with a variety of events. The Dorking Chamber Orchestra has a programme beginning and ending with Mozart – his overture to Cosi Fan Tutte and the Haffner symphony – along with a symphony by the Frenchman Gossec and an overture by the Spaniard Arriaga.

The Dorking Concertgoers presents a concert of chamber music given by the ensemble Chamber Music Box, featuring performers on strings, flute and harp. As well as music by Haydn and Mozart, they will play a string trio by the Polish-Russian composer Weinberg, another trio by Arnold Bax, and some elegant French music by Ibert and Roussel.

The Leith Hill Music Festival is holding a Come & Sing day, led by the inspiring festival conductor Neil Ferris. Focusing on Bach's great St John Passion, the day will be spent working on the choruses and chorales, and it will conclude with an informal performance of the music. Book in advance through the website and arrive for registration from 9.30 on the day.

St Martin's church has three recitals this month – the Phil Hopkins Jazz Quartet (4<sup>th</sup>), The Lyons Mouth (5<sup>th</sup>) and pianist Ian Vetch (18<sup>th</sup>).

Finally there are three opera screenings at the Dorking Halls – from the Royal Opera House you can see a live screening of Puccini's Tosca, followed by an encore screening, and a live screening of Bellini's La sonnambula.

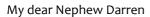
Ian Codd

## Music is to the soul what words are to the mind

Anon

# ST. JAMES THE LEAST OF ALL On what those adverts from parishes wanting clergy REALLY mean...

The Rectory, St James the Least of All





So, you are being encouraged to look at adverts for parishes for that happy day when you will have charge of your own church. You wonder if you should look to moving to another part of the country; I suspect it may be better if you look to moving to another planet, as your reputation may not yet have travelled that far. Reading the specifications that parishes provide, giving a picture of life in their community, need to be read in the same way as estate agents' specifications for houses for sale. Both demonstrate a triumph of optimism over reality. Let me help you decode some of the statements you will find:

- 'We look to grow our Sunday School' We do not have a Sunday School.
- 'We have an enthusiastic choir'"– We have a choir totally out of control.
- 'Our youth group is always eager to learn- Our youth group experiments with some strange substances.
- 'The new incumbent should be sympathetic to our musical tradition'- The new incumbent must be able to play the organ as well as lead the Services.
- 'While cherishing our traditions, we see the need for change'- We always see the need for change, but alter anything at your peril.
- 'Plans for church renovations are in hand'

   The building is in imminent danger of collapse.
- 'We have a large range of church groups' You will have to run a large range of church groups singlehandedly.
- 'The vicarage is being refurbished'"– The vicarage is a death trap. Its rising damp and dangerous electrics will not be fixed for many months yet.
- 'There is opportunity for developing ecumenical relations' No one in living memory has ever spoken to clergy of other denominations in our town.
- 'The new incumbent should have a sense of humour' He or she will need it when reading this specification.

My dear nephew, caveat emptor. Let the buyer beware!

Your Loving Uncle, Eustace







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# IONA

## Part Two St Columba and the Original 6th Century Iona Abbey



Icon of St Columba (c.1600)

### Columba's Irish Heritage

Columba (7 December 521 – 9 June 597 AD) was an Irish abbot and missionary evangelist credited with spreading Christianity in both Ireland and Scotland. In his early life in Ireland he was known as Columcille.

Columba became a pupil at the monastic school at Clonard Abbey, situated on the River Boyne in modern County Meath. Here he studied Latin and Christian theology, tutored by some of the most significant names in the history of Celtic Christianity. The average number of scholars under instruction at Clonard was said to be 300. Columba was one of twelve students of 'Finnian' of Clonard. Columba became a monk and then a priest, and he became known as one of the 'Twelve Apostles of Ireland'.

Columba led the foundation of several further Monasteries in Ireland: Inishowen, County Derry; Durrow, County Offaly; Kells, County Meath; and Swords, County Dublin. While at Derry, he planned a pilgrimage to Rome and Jerusalem. He travelled as far as Tours in Central France, before returning: still quite an achievement in the 6th century!

In 561 AD, Columba quarrelled with his former teacher, St. Finnian, over a copy of the Bible that Columba had stolen from Finnian to translate it. Although it seems unlikely, the dispute apparently escalated to the degree that Finnian gained the support of the King of Ireland to fight in battle to recover the rights to the stolen book and translation. Columba considered the book to be 'the Word of God that should be available to everyone.' He gathered his clan to fight against the army of High King Diarmait. The term 'copyright' comes from this very battle!<sup>2</sup>

Columba fought in what is now known as the 'Battle of the Book' at Cool Rumman, County Sligo. Columba won the battle and kept his stolen copy of the book and his translation. A staggering 3,000 lives were lost in this battle.<sup>2</sup> The violence appalled church leaders, and they held Columba responsible. The Synod of Bishops and Abbots banished him from Ireland, and he was told to 'convert as many souls to Christianity as he had killed.' For these reasons, he travelled to Scotland to live in exile!<sup>2</sup>

#### Columba in Iona

Around 563 AD, aged 42, Columba and twelve of his companions crossed the 20 miles of the Irish sea in a leather coracle-style boat, landing at Dunaverty in Kintyre before moving further north to Iona, which was then part of the Ulster kingdom of Dál Riata. Columba provided the only centre of literacy in the region and his reputation as a holy man led to his role as a diplomat among the Pictish tribes, so he was awarded the 'Island of Iona' by King of Dál Riata. He founded a new abbey on Iona as a base for spreading Celtic Christianity among the pagan Scottish 'Pictish' kingdom, and stayed on Iona for 36 years, until he died in 597 AD.

There are several stories of 'miracles' which he performed during his work to convert the Picts, <sup>3,4</sup> the most famous being his encounter with an unidentified animal that some have equated with the Loch Ness Monster in 565 AD. It is said that he banished a ferocious 'water beast' to the depths of the River Ness after it had killed a Pict and then tried to attack Columba's disciple, Lugne.<sup>3</sup>

The 'venerable' Bede described how Columba had converted Bridei, the Pictish Scottish King to Christianity, also considered a miracle in it's time! Columba founded several churches in the Hebrides, and transitioned his monastery at Iona into a school for missionaries. He wrote several hymns and was credited with having transcribed 300 books. One of the few, if not the only, times he left Scotland was towards the end of his life, when he returned to Ireland to found the monastery at Durrow.<sup>3</sup>

Columba's death in Iona is recorded on Sunday, 9 June 597 AD, and he was buried by his monks in the abbey he created. In his lifetime, he became highly regarded by both the Irish Gaels of Dál Riata and the Scottish Picts. Columba's relics were finally removed from Iona in 849 AD and divided between Scotland and Ireland.

The main source of information about Columba's life is the 'Life of Columba' (Latin: Vita Columbae), a biography of 'Saint Columba', written about 100 years following his death, by Adomnán, one of Columba's successors at Iona. The book is in three parts: Saint Columba's prophetic revelations; his miracles of power and

his visions of Jesus. The biography was very forgiving about the battles he fought in his earlier life in Ireland. The published English translation of Adomnán's script is still available.<sup>4</sup>

### The early Iona Abbey

Like other Celtic Christian monasteries, Columba's monastery would have been made up of a number of wattle, timber and thatch buildings. These would have included a central church or oratory, the common refectory or kitchen, the library or scriptorium, monk cells or dormitories, and a guest house for visitors including pilgrims. It is believed that around 800 AD the original wooden chapel was replaced by a stone chapel. Columba's monastery was surrounded by a ditch and earth bank, part of which can still be seen to the north-west of the current abbey buildings. Adomnán describes a building on a small mound, Torr an Aba, in the monastery grounds where St Columba worked and wrote. The wooden foundation posts of such a building were found in an archaeological excavation in 1956.

The Iona Abbey suffered several attacks by Viking raiders in 795, 802, 806, and 825 AD. In the 806 Viking attack, 68 monks were massacred in what is now known as Martyrs' Bay on Iona, and this led to many of the Columban monks relocating to the new Columban Abbey of Kells in Ireland.<sup>5</sup>

The building at Kells in Ireland took from 807 to 814, when Cellach, Abbot of Iona, retired to Kells. Iona remained the main Columban house for several decades, despite the danger of Viking raids. In 825, St Blathmac and those monks who remained with him at Iona were martyred in the Viking raid and the Abbey was burned. Only in 878, were the main relics of St Columba's shrine moved to Ireland, with Kells becoming the new main Columban house. However, Iona Abbey was probably not deserted as its continued importance is shown by the death there in 980 of Amlaíb Cuarán, a retired King of Dublin.<sup>5</sup>

You might wonder what happened next? More details in Part 3, next month.

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## GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD Solution p.37

	1	2	3	4	5			6	7	8	9	10		
	11							12					13	14
15							16							
17				18		19						20		
21			22			23					24			
25					26					27				
28					29				30					
			31	32				33						
	34	35					36				37	38	39	40
	41					42					43			
44					45						46			
47				48					49	50		51		
52			53						54		55			
56									57					
		58							59					

**ACROSS** 1. Chip dip 6. It surrounds a painting 11. Attempted 12. Cheese used in lasagna

15. Photographer's device 16. Alone

17. Arrange (abbrev.) 31. Marked by 18. Suntanned

20. G

21. Flower stalk 23. Open to all

24. Writing styluses 25. Apart from this

26. Axed 27. Fowl

28. Adjusts 29. Sweet potato 30. Evasive

drowsiness

34. Muscle 36. Offer

37. Cobras 41. Racing sled

42. Enter the water

headfirst 43. Computer symbol 58. Avarice

44. Individual 45. Storm

46. Fail to win 47. Anagram of

"One"

48. Motorized

51. Employ 52. Versions 54. Straw hat

56. Nerve junction 57. Looks at lustfully

59. Requires

DOWN  1. A sudden involuntary movement  2. Part of a chair  3. Falsehood  4. Belgrade native  5. Jewish month  6. Not thawed  7. Angered  8. Caustic	10. Knickknack holder 13. Voguish 14. Affirmatives 15. Instances 16. Snowcats 19. Large body of water 22. A communication 24. Braid on one side 26. Song of praise	30. Formally surrender 32. Be in debt 33. Major organ 34. Gory 35. Jogging 38. Reconnoitered 39. Own 40. Contemptuous look 42. Came to light 44. Dregs	migratory bird 48. Tube 49. Black, in poetry 50. Magistrate of old Venice 53. Driveway surface 55. Bee
9. French for "Word"	27. Prohibit	45. Long-necked	

### TERMS OF REDUNDANCY – PART TWO (I knew there'd be more)

From Robert & Mary Carr:
Photographers are Developed
Newsletter Editors are Deleted

and...

Horse grooms are destabilised
Fishermen are made deficient
Makers of Pork Pies are despised
Tree Surgeons might be felled, axed or uprooted
Fruit Juice makers are squashed
Gardeners are pruned
Butchers get the chop
Hairdressers are beheaded

Bob Sleigh teams are discombobulated (trying too hard?)

Firemen are extinguished
Librarians are archived
Recycling-Plant Workers are recycled
Cycle manufacturers are also recycled
Cheese makers are denigrated
Road menders are diverted
MPs are resigned (to save face)
Castle Owners are demoted

### **SUDOKU**

Grade: Medium. Solution on p.37

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

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### WORDSEARCH— St Andrew (Feast Day 30<sup>th</sup> November)

Andrew Patron Saint Scotland Fife

Peter Apostolic Band Message world

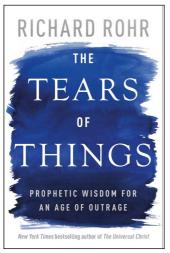
First Disciple John Baptist Lamb

God followed Jesus Come See

Solution on p.37

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

#### RICHARD ROHR—BOOK REVIEW



For several months we have printed extracts from the works of Richard Rohr. Here is a review of his latest book, 'The Tears of Things', written by Rt Revd Dr John Inge, former Bishop of Worcester and published in The Church Times (August 2025).

RICHARD ROHR is a celebrated writer on Christian spirituality — rightly so, in my view. His brilliant work Falling Upwards really captured me more than a decade ago. This enlightening book is in the same vein, published since he reached the age of 80. It is a wonderfully mature piece of writing, which I thoroughly recommend. Rohr has a great gift for expressing imaginative insights and profound truths accessibly. In so doing, he opens up new horizons for his readers in their spiritual journey. In this book, he invites us to engage with the Hebrew prophets.

His basic thesis is that the prophets generally begin with righteous indignation at the injustice of the world and then, as they speak of this, they confront confusion, denial, doubt, love, and, especially, epiphany. 'Maturing prophets let these experiences change them, allowing themselves to evolve into compassionate truth-tellers.' The prophets do not project all evil 'out there', dividing the world into good and bad people and insisting that the latter be punished. What we see in the Hebrew prophets is an evolution in their understanding of God, and it is into this movement that he invites us: moving 'from anger at evil' through what he terms 'holy disorder' to 'tears and sadness', before these eventually morph into 'pure compassion' the latter being the most mature response to evil.

Seamus Heaney tells us that 'There are tears at the heart of things'. Only tears, Rohr says, can move us beyond paralysing anger at evil, death, and injustice without losing the deep legitimacy of that anger.

His final crucial associated conviction is that we shall not escape from the violence with which the world continues to be gripped as long as threats and promises remain the 'overarching frame of Christianity or of any religious or secular creed.' The notion of an infinite God being driven by 'a naïve reward-punishment worldview', must be undone by the deeper gospel of unconditional love and respect.' Amen to that, I say.

### Small Surrey Churches - Part Eight

### St Peter & St Paul, Chaldon



Chaldon Church is of Saxon Foundation and is recorded in the Charter of Frithwald, dated 727 AD. It came under the overlordship of the King of Mercia who founded Chertsey Abbey in 666 AD. Chertsey Abbey was the first religious settlement in Surrey and was run by Benedictine monks. Little is known of the early church buildings, possibly a wooden structure, but there are no remains of them. <sup>1</sup>

The present church was started in the late 10th or early 11th century, before the Normans came. It consisted originally of a rectangular nave, 27 feet long and just over 17 feet wide with high walls probably having a semicircular recess (an apse) at the east end, characteristic of Saxon church building. The west wall is of traditional flint construction and is original, and the wall containing the chancel arch may also be original. The side aisles have simple arches in the high walls.



The tower and spire were added in 1843, unusually emerging from the lower part of the roof.  $^3$ 

For such a small secluded church, it has one feature of national importance, namely a wall painting. It is not a fresco, but painted on the plaster, on the full width of the west wall. It was rediscovered in a restoration completed in 1870. Dating from c. 1200 and measuring 5.2 metres wide and 3.3 metres high, it depicts a rare subject, being a mixture of the 'Ladder of Salvation' and the 'Last judgement'. Silhouetted on a background of dark red ochre, the small figures are shown trying to climb the ladder in order to reach the heavenly regions above. The lower right area contains the 'Tree of life' and the fall of man to the devil, depicting greed, envy, lust, anger, gluttony and sloth. One devil is picking people off the 'ladder to heaven' to discard them, whilst two devils (lower left) are throwing murderers into a cauldron. Those who ascend to the top half of the mural were welcomed by angels, with depictions of The Three Mary's, Enoch, Elijah and the figure of Christ.

This mural and it's interpretation was the subject of a 40-page book, published in 1885 by John Green Walller, recognising the importance of the mural soon after it's re-discovery.<sup>2</sup> Visitors can find a more detailed guide to the mural in the church.

There are other features of interest in this small church:

- The pulpit is made of 'Lizard oak' and dates from 1657.<sup>3</sup>
- Chaldon used to have a church bell, cast about the year 1250 and reputed to be the oldest cast church bell in England. Sadly, this original bell was stolen in 1970. There is now a plaster-cast replica of the bell on display.

The Vicar of Chaldon Church is Reverend Helen Burnett, who is known and fondly remembered to many people in Buckland and Betchworth. Helen was a member of the congregation at St Michael's Betchworth, who then trained as a minister in the early 2000's. She was supported by Revd. Carol Coslett and Revd. Pattie Vigers, and she gave a number of sermons at both Buckland and Betchworth. At St Peter & Paul Chaldon a number of poems and prayers are displayed around the church, which reflect the Reverend Helen's personal touch and add to the spiritual atmosphere of this beautiful country church.

The church is listed Grade I by Heritage England, reflecting it's national importance. St Peter & St Pauls Chaldon is within the Diocese of Southwark, and is a joint benefice with St Luke's in Whyteleafe.

#### Access

The church is open daily from 10am to 3pm during the winter and 10am to 4pm during the summer. Parking is just outside. The location is Church Lane Chaldon, CR3 5AL. Regular services are held at 10.30 am most Sundays and also at other times; see the website for details.<sup>1</sup>

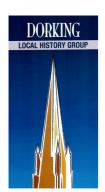
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#### **DISCLOSURE**

Prayer is like watching for the Kingfisher
All you can do is be where he is likely to appear,
And wait.
Often, nothing much happens;
There is space, silence and expectancy.
No visible sign, only the knowledge that he's been there.
And may come again.
Seeing or not seeing cease to matter.
You have to be prepared.
But sometimes, when you've almost stopped expecting it;
A flash of brightness give encouragement.

### Poem displayed in Chaldon Church -2025



#### **DORKING LOCAL HISTORY GROUP**

Monday 6 October, 7.15pm for 7.30 Talk: Short Talks by Members Community Baptist Church, Junction Road, Dorking

A mix of short talks about members interests. Non-members are also welcome!

Tues 21 October, 7.30pm ZOOM talk : Anne of Cleves: Flanders Mare of Bletchingley

Bob Evans explains how Ann of Cleves relates to Bletchingley Palace, and despite 'bad press' as the forth wife of Henry VIII, she was a strong independent and extremely rich woman. See website below to register and receive Zoom details.

https://dlhg.org.uk. David Burton

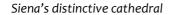
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#### THE ARTS SOCIETY BETCHWORTH

Monday 20 October at 2.30 pm

Talk: Beloved of the Virgin: The City of Siena and it's Art







Our lecturer, Dr. Sally Dormer, will talk about the City of Siena, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, was arguably the most important centre of artistic patronage and craftsmanship during the late thirteenth and early fourteenth centuries, where the foundations were laid for the 15th century Renaissance. With the intention of creating the most beautiful of city republics, the Sienese government spent lavishly, fostering the talent of native artists such as Duccio di Buoninsegna, Simone Martini and Ambrogio and Pietro Lorenzetti, as well as enticing other Tuscan craftsmen such as Giovanni Pisano to work in Siena.

 $Carole\ Evans,\ \underline{info@asbetchworth.co.uk},\ www.thearts society betchworth.org.uk$ 



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Our Mozart season is in full swing. Rehearsals have started for our November Mozart Concert and it's going to be an absolute joy. The Headliner is, of course, the magnificent Mozart's Requiem. Our programme also includes some other much-loved Mozart favourites; the strings will play Mozart's Eine Kleine Nacht Musik and the choir will sing Ave Verum.

**Buckland and Betchworth Choral Society** is preparing for this special performance and we're inviting singers to join us for this exciting project. The Requiem is a beautiful and powerful work and we're building a strong choir to do it justice. Whether you're an experienced choral singer or returning after a break, you'll be very welcome.

This term's rehearsals started on Wednesday 3 September – but it's not too late to join us. We rehearse weekly, in Betchworth Village Hall, 7.45pm-9.45pm. No auditions – just bring your enthusiasm and love of singing. We're a supportive and sociable group, led by our brilliant Musical Director, George Inscoe (www.georgeinscoe.co.uk) and accompanied by the marvellous Anna Tetsuya.

Interested? Just drop a line to our Membership Secretary, **Katie Bell** at: <u>membership@bbcsinfo.org</u>. Or pop in on Wednesday - we'd love to sing Mozart with you.

Sue Chamberlain www.bbcsinfo.org

# He who can laugh at himself will find hours of ceaseless amusement

Epictetus (died 135 AD, Greek Stoic Philosopher)

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- Over 200 paintings and crafts available to purchase
- Free entry and parking
- Combine the exhibition with other attractions of Denbies, see www.denbies.co.uk

Angela Hall, Chair, Dorking Group of Artists, <a href="mailto:contact@dga.org.uk">contact@dga.org.uk</a>

www.dga.org.uk

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

### The Betchworth & Buckland Society



### **Annual Dinner**

Thursday 27th November 7.00pm Hartsfield Manor, Betchworth

7pm welcome drinks followed by seasonal menu. Price tbc

### **Christmas Drinks & Nibbles**

Sunday 21st December 12-2pm
The Reading Room, Buckland

Members £10 & Non-Members £12

Annual New Year Quiz Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January
Winetasting Friday 20th March

Numbers are limited so please register

your interest as soon as possible. Ticket enquiries & further details

please contact betchworthandbucklandsociety@gmail.com

www.betchworthandbucklandsociety.org.uk

We are always looking for new people to join our small, friendly and informal organizing Committee to help with social events and organize our growing membership. Short meetings every 6-8 weeks Please enquire if you want to join us

## RE-BETCHWORTH—APPLEFEST 4 October, 1pm-4pm,Betchworth Village Hall



Whether in Buckland or Betchworth, local apple trees look set to produce a bumper crop this year. So make space in your freezer for several litres of delicious juice—whether pressed from your own apples or from excess fruit donated by others. Then come and enjoy the fourth year of this communal initiative - there's lots going on...

We'll be running all our usual **Apple Pressing, Juice Sales** and **Kids' Activities**, with delicious freshly pressed juice, **cakes, tea and coffees** on offer all afternoon. Plus, you'll find a host of other attractions alongside the 'Press Gang' operation as the Betchworth Village Hall and outside space are transformed into a veritable carnival of apples and nature-related activities for the whole family to enjoy.

**NEW:** Honey and Bees – To link with the Kids Activities and build on the success of last year's honey sales, there'll be an educational display on the importance of Bees and other pollinators to our food supplies. Plus delicious ultra-local honey from ultra-local beekeepers.

**NEW: Stalls from local suppliers** 

**Expanded:** The Re-Betchworth Bake Off – Now with a call for 'Apple Tart' entries as well as Apple Cake <a href="mailto:co.uk">coombecott@hotmail.co.uk</a> for entry details.

### **Returning:**

- Garden tool and knife sharpening
- Chutneys, Jams & Jellies browse, taste & buy
- Expanded Children's Activities & face painting
- Apple Pressing. Please get in touch if you can donate an excess crop
- Cakes, Teas and Refreshments. If you'd like to join the team and help make the day another roaring success, we'd love to hear from you.

Get in touch at: rebetchworth@gmail.com Sue Chamberlain

### **PUZZLE SOLUTIONS**

## Crossword (p.24) Solution



### Wordsearch (p.26) Solution

### Sudoku (p.26) Solution



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

## BUCKLAND PARISH MAGAZINE

October 2025 Issue No. 1192

### COPY DATE: Wed 15 October 2025



**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.

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

<u>Contact details</u> 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: 24 Oct 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 on request to <a href="fernsdc@gmail.com">fernsdc@gmail.com</a> (£20 with free local delivery, or + P&P)

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)

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: <a href="mailto:Bookings4bucklandreadingroom@gmail.com">Bookings4bucklandreadingroom@gmail.com</a> or 07733 116992

Arts Society, Betchworth	Carole Evans	01372 452563
Bell Ringers (practice Friday evenings)	David Sayce	242776
Betchworth & Buckland Children's Nursery	Laura Snelling	843610
Betchworth & Buckland Toddler Group	Debbie Jones	07701 347351
Betchworth & Buckland Society (Secretary)	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. (Sec.)	Caroline Bartlett	07967 969425
Buckland Parochial Charity (Clerk)	Debbie Jones	07701 347351
Buckland Parish Council (Clerk)	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.org.uk

Village: www.bucklandsurrey.org.uk

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