

Buckland Parish Magazine
August 2026



✠ JESUS IS LORD ✠

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COVER IMAGE

This month's cover is a photo of an 'applique silk embroidery' of the Mother Mary and Baby Jesus, hanging in St Mary's Buckland on the north wall of the nave near the front pew. On the back is woven 'St Marys Buckland MU' – 'Mother's Union'. The original is in subdued colours (you can always view the 'colour' version of this magazine on our website!).

It is thought to date from the 1950's and is understood to be the skilful work of Lady Leonie Daniel (1912-1997), wife of Sir Peter Daniel, donated it to the church. They lived at Glebe House, Rectory Lane from 1945 to 2002.

The Rector's Letter – August 2026

Thanks to Linda Slater of St Michael's Betchworth, for contributing this month's letter

Dear Friends

We live in interesting times not least in the joint benefice of the churches in Betchworth and Buckland. As I write we are unsure as to our future as our Rector has been on sick leave for several months. This has meant that the lay teams of St Michael's and St Mary's have had to step up and ensure that the day to running of both continues. We hope that by the time this letter is published we will have learned what the plans are.

For centuries people have been working and dedicating themselves to the running and maintenance of our parish churches and although church attendance is declining, we know that in both villages the presence of the church is valued but why is that?

I have been reading *God is an Englishman, Christianity and the Creation of England* by Bijan Omrani. He writes, '*Christianity remains a part of English national identity because of the role it has played in creating the institutions, culture, ethics and values of which all people in the country, to varying extents, are beneficiaries. Belief in Christianity may not be universal, but in all things English, it remains a universal presence.*' We only have to think of royal funerals, weddings and coronations to appreciate that without the involvement of the church it would be a completely different event. It is something that we can be proud of and one that links us to centuries old practices.

In the House of Commons prayers at the start of each day has been a practice since at least 1558 and although there have been recent calls to end this many people supported the idea of having a time of quiet reflection and calm ahead of the work of politics. On a local level the parish church provides something similar, and we are lucky that both our churches are open daily for similar use. It doesn't matter if you have a faith or none, the quiet space that they provide and knowing that for centuries people have been doing similarly is a strong link to our past and roots.

And maybe that's what makes change difficult. As humans we generally want things to stay the same, we love the rituals that we have whether as a church or a family, but it is the uncertainty of the future that can be unsettling.

What we can say is that priests come and go but as a small team of practising Christians we will do our very best to love and maintain our precious parish churches but change also involves different people getting involved to take us into the future. We welcome conversations with anyone in our villages as to how we can do things differently or better because we know as communities, whether we have a faith or not we want our churches to continue and thrive.

I understand that the phrase ‘God is an Englishman’ is an old British one used to poke fun at extreme English pride. It suggests the English think they are better than everyone else, or that God loves England best. As a proud Scot I can understand that, but my goodness do I love the culture, history and liturgy of the Church of England and the feeling that a quintessential English village has to contain a church and its bells. I hope there are still enough people in our villages who feel similarly.

Linda Slater, Churchwarden of St Michael’s Betchworth

Editor’s Note – Churchwardens

*I am delighted to report that at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) of **St Michael’s Betchworth on 5 July 2026, two churchwardens were elected: Linda Slater and Hilary Ely.** For almost a year, our sister church in Betchworth has operated without churchwardens but with a ‘team of volunteers’. Linda and Hilary have been instrumental in keeping the church services and activities going through this difficult period. The church can now be in no better hands.*

St Mary’s Buckland still has our church wardens in office, Liz Vahey and David Sayce.
Ed.



‘Once you become aware that the main business that you are here for is to know God, most of life's problems fall into place of their own accord.’

J.I. Packer(1926-2020), in ‘Knowing God’

Church Services -August

Date	St Mary's Buckland	St Michael's Betchworth
2 August Trinity 9		10am Parish Communion
9 August Trinity 10	10am IONA Service	(no Evensong in August)
16 August Trinity 11		10am Parish Communion
23 August Trinity 12	10am Parish Communion	
30 August Trinity 13	10am Parish Communion	

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 stream.

PLEASE NOTE..... Due to current circumstances of our Rector, the Revd. Pru Dulley, being on long-term sick leave, there could be changes to church services. Please check on our websites and in the Parish Magazines to see if there have been any changes.

As usual, our choir take a break from all services during August.

STEPHEN & GILL BAILEY

Many of you will remember with affection Stephen and Gill Bailey. Steven was our Rector in Buckland & Betchworth from 1995-2007, and his wife, Gill, made a major contribution to village and church life. Stephen initially moved to take a Minister posting in Bermuda, then Guernsey, before retiring with Gill to Bedar, near Almeria in southern Spain. If you have been following the news, Bedar is the Spanish village at the centre of the wildfires that struck on 13 July 2026.

Stephen wasn't in Bedar when the fire struck and he was unable to find where Gill was. Gill was found and taken to a specialist burns hospital in Seville. Josh (Stephen's son) has been with Gill at the hospital since Friday. Stephen returned back to the village on Saturday to find his Labrador Bertie alive and found their home still standing.

Gill is on life support with 50% burns. She will obviously be in hospital for many months. The next few days are critical. Stephen is now with her.

Obviously this is a tragedy for the whole family. Please keep them in your prayers and hearts.

Hannah Wilson

Village Events

AUGUST

9 Aug, 2pm. Guided Walk: Betchworth Castle. Book with Dorking Museum, p.32

SEPTEMBER

11-20 Sept, various times & events. Heritage Open Days (HODS), p.15

12 Sept, 10am start to 12 noon. Village Tidy. Meet at Pond. BPC, p.9

13 Sept, open 10am to 5pm. 'Memories of Leigh' (HODS). Leigh Village Hall, p.19

19 Sept, open 2.30 to 4pm. Brockham Village Hall, BGHS, p.31

25 Sept, 7.30pm (TBC). Supper & Magician. Pillars of St Michaels, p.8

OCTOBER

9 Oct, 7pm. Buckland's Music Quiz Night. FOSM, p.7

9-11 Oct, 10am-4pm. Art Exhibition & Sale, Denbies. Dorking Group of Artists, p.32

12 Oct, 1.45pm. Bridge with Afternoon Tea, Pillars of St Michael's, p.8

For the third year.... back by popular demand!!

BUCKLAND's MUSIC QUIZ NIGHT

FRIDAY 9 OCTOBER, 7pm for 7.30

Buckland Reading Room



Fund raising event for
FRIENDS OF ST MARY's BUCKLAND

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 non-members.

PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE no later than 3 October, with CatDawes@aol.com or 07710 498591

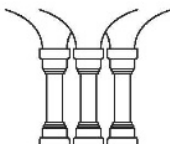
PILLARS OF ST MICHAELS' BETCHWORTH
Fund-Raising Events

SUPPER & MAGICIAN
Friday Evening, 25th September
Betchworth War Memorial Hall

Bertie Pearce, our very own amazingly entertaining magician will be returning yet again to entertain us with his trademark magic and wit!! AND we have the promise of a few locals strutting their stuff too. Please put the date in your diaries. *Full details in our September magazine.*

**BRIDGE WITH
AFTERNOON TEA:**
Monday 12
October 2026,
1.45pm
Christ Church Hall,
Brockham

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR



**A CHARITY BRIDGE
AFTERNOON TEA**
CHICAGO SCORING

IN AID OF
**THE PILLARS OF ST. MICHAEL'S
BETCHWORTH**

AT
CHRIST CHURCH HALL, BROCKHAM
RH3 7JH

ON 12TH OCTOBER 2026

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OWN TABLE CLOTH

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SALLYCRONK@BTINTERNET.COM

THERE WILL BE LIMITED PLACES SO
PRE BOOKING WITH FULL PAYMENT IS ESSENTIAL

BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE



Village Spring Clean!

We are Planning a Village tidy up/Litter Pick , on **Saturday 12th September 2026** assembling at The War Memorial at 10am.



Litter Pickers and Bags are provided, but if you are able to help please make sure you bring with you some sturdy gloves....

All welcome

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

Join Us for the Village Spring Clean

Saturday 12 September 2026, starting 10am at The War Memorial

Our village is a wonderful place to live, and we'd like your help to keep it looking its best. On Saturday 12 September 2026, the Parish Council is organising a Village Spring Clean and Litter Pick, and we would love as many residents as possible to come along and lend a hand.

We'll be meeting at The War Memorial at 10.00am, where litter pickers and rubbish bags will be provided. All you need to bring is a pair of sturdy gloves, comfortable footwear and plenty of community spirit. Whether you can spare half an hour or stay for the whole morning, every bit of help makes a real difference. As well as making our streets, footpaths and green spaces cleaner and more attractive, it's a great opportunity to meet neighbours, spend some time outdoors and take pride in caring for our village.

Everyone is welcome to take part. Families are encouraged to join in, although children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Together we can make a visible difference and help ensure our village remains a clean, welcoming place for everyone to enjoy.

Litter pickers and bags will be provided – just remember to bring sturdy gloves. We hope to see you there!

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 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 [webmaster@ bucklandsurrey.org.uk](mailto:webmaster@bucklandsurrey.org.uk) to enable any new tips and pointers to be added to the website.

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 sending an email to parishcouncil@bucklandsurrey.org.uk to provide the same information.

Sheena Boyce, Clerk

parishcouncil@bucklandsurrey.org.uk

01737 448023

REVIEW – South London Concert Band St Michael’s Betchworth, 4 July 2026

This event arose from the kindness and generosity of The South London Concert Band under the musical directorship of Sophie Carville. Roy Newstead, the Band’s trumpeter and regular bugler at St Michael’s Betchworth on Remembrance Sunday, offered the concert to help raise much needed funds for St Michael’s daily running costs.

We were treated to a dazzling and joyous concert of band music with the 25-piece full brass and wind concert band, that somehow was fitted into the choir stalls. Playing all together they would have been enough to raise the roof, and they nearly did. It was sheer delight. The lively programme gave us a wide variety of popular band marches and themes from well-known films and musicals. The afternoon was complemented by a delicious and copious cream tea provided by the ladies of St. Michael’s Church. We are extremely grateful to the Band for their generosity and for lifting our spirits so wonderfully, if not the roof.

Richard Perkins

See www.southlondonconcertband.org.uk



NORTH DOWNS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Vacancy for School Governor

Could You Help Shape the Future of Our Village School, North Downs Primary?

Our beautiful primary school has long been at the heart of our community, providing a nurturing, inspiring environment for local children to learn, grow, and thrive. Behind the scenes, a dedicated governing board plays an important role in supporting the school's leadership and ensuring it continues to flourish.

We are currently looking to welcome a new member to join this governing board—and we would love to hear from anyone in our community who might be interested. Being a school governor is a rewarding voluntary role. Governors work closely with the headteacher and staff, offering guidance and oversight to help maintain high standards of education, ensure good financial management, and support the long-term vision of the school. It's an opportunity to make a real difference to local children and to contribute to the continued success of a much-loved village institution.

At present, we are particularly keen to hear from individuals with **finance or legal expertise**, as these skills are especially valuable in helping the governing board fulfil its responsibilities. That said, enthusiasm for education and a willingness to contribute thoughtfully and constructively are just as important.

You do not need to be a parent of a child at the school to become a governor—anyone with an interest in supporting our community and its young people is warmly encouraged to get in touch. Meetings usually take place twice each term, and full support and guidance will be provided to anyone new to the role.

If you feel you might be able to offer your time and skills, or if you would simply like to find out more, please contact Amy Currier, Clerk to the Local Governing Board by emailing clerk@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk. We would be delighted to have a conversation with you.

Together, we can continue to ensure our village school remains a place where children are inspired to 'be the best they can be, every day'.

NATURE NOTES - AUGUST

bigbutterflycount.org
[download our free app](#)


Peacock

Green Veined White

Red Admiral

Brimstone

Silver Y

Ringlet

Marbled White

Meadow Brown

Six-spot Burnet

Jersey Tiger

Please note: Images not to scale. Males and females of some species vary and are not all illustrated on this chart. Please refer to the Big Butterfly Count app or website for more information on how to identify butterflies and moths correctly.

August is the month when the meadow that has served us with vibrant wildflowers since May, looks ragged and exhausted. Now is the time to cut and leave the seeds to fall before removing every last windrow of cuttings, taking the fertility with them, leaving the soil leaner and poorer and better suited to the wildflowers that will grow next year.

August belongs to the butterflies. This is season for the Big Butterfly Count. The idea is simple: find a patch of flowers in the sun, spend fifteen minutes, and count every butterfly species you see. Nothing more technical than that. There is a smartphone app which makes it easy to identify and count the butterflies and upload the results to a national database. The data builds, year on year, into one of the most important citizen science records in British natural history. If you haven't taken part before, this is the year to start — and the 4Bs parishes offer some fine counting ground: the chalk grassland above Betchworth, the thistle patches along the Greensand Way, the buddleia and any number of flower species in village gardens.

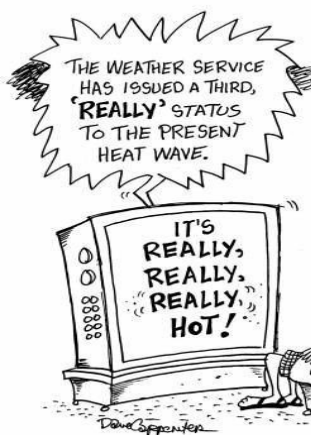
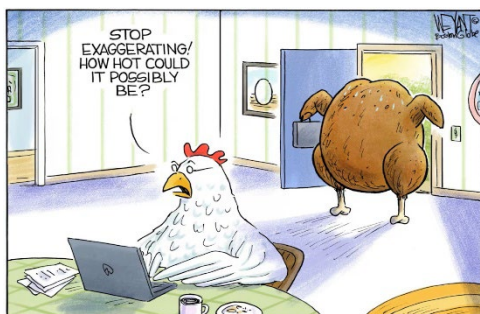
What might you see? On warm afternoons along the scrubby North Downs, look for the Chalkhill Blue — the male a pale, luminous silver-blue quite unlike any other butterfly on the wing, the female a more subtle brown, often overlooked. Gatekeepers are still busy in the bramble edges, the male's orange-and-brown

wings carrying a distinctive double white-pupiled eye-spot. Small Tortoiseshells and Commas are visitors to garden nectar sources, fuelling up for hibernation. And if you're very fortunate, a Silver-washed Fritillary may still be crossing a sunny woodland ride — a large, fast, glittering orange sail, gone almost before you've registered it.

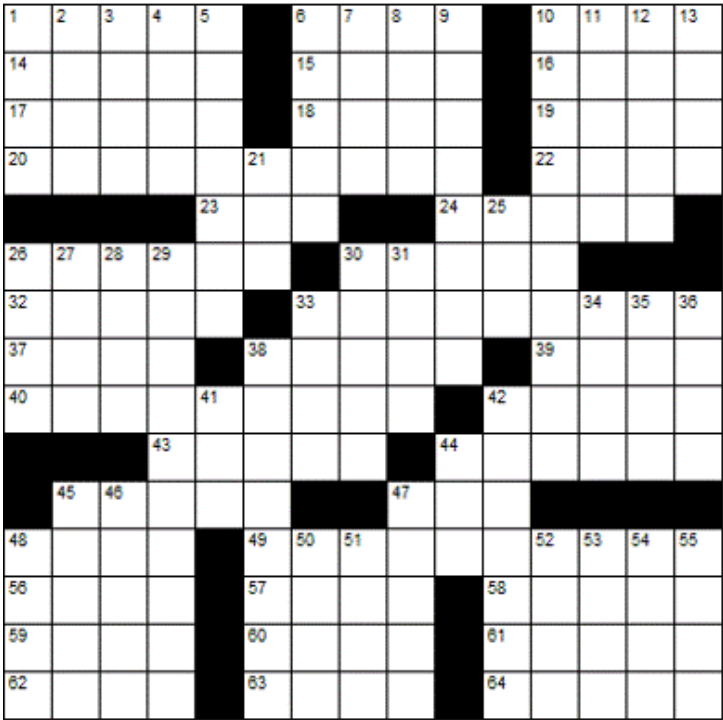
Elsewhere this month: watch out for dragonflies like common darters resting on warm stone and bare earth, or the large beautiful southern hawker laying eggs on a pond. Listen in the evenings for the churring of any late nightjars on the heath. In the hedgerows, young birds of the year are now largely indistinguishable from adults and August birdsong has a different, quieter quality to May's chorus. Something is ending, and something is resting before the next act.

The Big Butterfly Count 2026 takes place from 17 July to 9 August 2026.

Norman Jackson



GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD (answers p.33)



ACROSS		
1. Chip dip	24. Units of land	45. Mimicking
6. Exhausts	26. Stick	47. Automobile
10. A cleansing agent	30. Abatement	48. Extended family
14. Fairy tale character	32. Keyboard instrument	49. Arts
15. Lazily	33. Washbasins	56. Finger jewelry
16. Arm bone	37. Rewrite	57. Snare
17. Ear-related	38. Type of flower	58. Deadly snake
18. Appear to be	39. Hang around	59. Anagram of "Bale"
19. Quarries	40. One person card game	60. Slave
20. Spicy cookie	42. Eagle's home	61. Mendacious
22. Nights before	43. Was able to	62. Cunning
23. Fellow	44. Rutabaga kin	63. Beams
		64. Twisty turns

DOWN		
1. Male deer	21. Regret	41. 2000 pounds
2. African sheep	25. Baby bear	42. Heart part
3. Forsaken	26. Gorillas	44. Browning of skin
4. Dross	27. Lover of Aeneas	45. Excuse
5. Quickly	28. Salute	46. Committee
6. Pantywaist	29. Charmingly	47. Flowing garments
7. Gulf port	30. Scottish landowner	48. Sticking point
8. Request	31. Being	50. Celestial bear
9. Compassion	33. Yawl	51. Countless
10. World power	34. Raise the alarm	52. Playthings
11. Martini garnish	35. Fifty-three in Roman numerals	53. Nile bird
12. Initial wagers	36. Stair	54. Coastal raptor
13. Overtake	38. Female offspring	55. Droops

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS (HODS) – 11 to 20 SEPTEMBER



England's largest festival of history and culture, Heritage Open Days, will run from September 11 to September 20, 2026. The festival is entirely free to attend, offering the public exclusive access to hidden places, historic buildings, and special events.

Mole Valley DC has planned this year's events in our area, and it should be noted that they organise more open buildings and events than any Council area in Surrey. The dates which each property is open are detailed online, and by the time you read this, the printed brochure will be available, from Pippbrook, Dorking Library and some of the places that are open. For some properties visitor numbers are limited and you must book online, so get booking straight away, at:

<https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk>

The Mole Valley DC organisers are conscious that this will be their last year of organisation, and next year we will part of the amalgamated East Surrey Council. We hope that the new Council continues this Event in future years, and your support this year will help justify the continuing enjoyment it brings to the public.

Duncan Ferns

Sorry folks, but **Buckland Windmill will NOT be opening for HODS this year** as the owners (me!) have other commitments. But local readers can just email fernsdc@gmail.com in advance to arrange a private visit at another time!

SUDOK

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3			2	9				4

WORDSEARCH— St John the Baptist – 29 August, Saints Day

John	Bugs
Baptist	Camel
Rough	Heat
Obscurity	Sun
Desert	Challenge
Cut	Muddy
History	Jordan
Great	Arrested
Unique	Dungeon
prepare	Head

E	E	Q	E	U	Q	I	N	U	D	E
G	G	C	R	C	Y	D	D	U	M	E
N	G	B	A	P	T	I	S	T	S	A
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A	J	A	P	E	C	U	S	U	T	U
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ST. JAMES THE LEAST OF ALL

On how to baffle the church committee

The Rectory
St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

I was delighted to hear that you have been made chairman of the Missionary Sub-committee; it should help you to hone your skills in appearing to encourage committee members to contribute while ensuring that they only say the things you want to hear. It is a skill that needs not a little practice; democracy only works if all the important decisions have been made beforehand.



However, do remember that sub-committees are only formed in order either to kill an idea stone dead, or to give the chairman of the main committee some time to decide what he wants, since he isn't sure how to handle the issue at that moment. I formed a sub-committee in 1999 to discuss Miss Fothergill's suggestion of creating a 'water feature' on the Rector's Glebe land, as a way of celebrating the Millennium. More than 25 years later, we are still actively discussing the idea.

I noted at the time that no one wanted the thing on their own land. It's significant that whenever people suggest some imposing edifice, they always think it will be most appropriate either in the Rector's garden, or in some public place, well out of sight of their own homes.

While the Water Feature Group has been working away tirelessly, and endless masons and architects have been approached, a suitable design has yet to be presented. It looks as if a suggestion will eventually be considered by my hundredth successor as we enter the third Millennium. That is the customary rate of progress for St James the Least, which I find entirely satisfactory.

The procedure for decision-making is always the same: after enormous effort, the sub-committee will produce a carefully worded report, which will be circulated round all members of the church council. At the next meeting, they will be thanked profusely for all their hard work, and the matter will be discussed at great length. It will then be proposed that the final decision will be taken at the next meeting, after everyone has had time to consider the matter more thoroughly.

Come the next meeting, the item will somehow fail to appear on the agenda, and when it is raised in Any Other Business, it will be pointed out that it is now far too late in the evening to tackle such an important issue. From then on, you can be assured, it will sink without trace.

Always remember the golden rule: a church committee meeting consists of a body of people waiting to go home.

Your loving Uncle, Eustace

A SUMMERS DAY
by Mary Oliver



Who made the world?
Who made the swan, and the black bear?
Who made the grasshopper?



This grasshopper, I mean—
the one who has flung herself out of the grass,
the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,
who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down—
who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.
Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.
Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.

I don't know exactly what a prayer is.
I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down
into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,
how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields,
which is what I have been doing all day.

Tell me, what else should I have done?
Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?
Tell me, what is it you plan to do
with your one wild and precious life?

Gallery



One of Buckland's most notable Graves
The Warre family who founded Warre's Port in 1658, and is still in
production today in Oporto, Portugal

James Warre (1756-1833) is interred in Buckland (gravestone above).
He was born into the family business in Oporto, and had houses there
and in Hanover Square in London. He retired to live in Buckland
Court, which he rented from about 1820 to 1833

(see portraits on p.xi & xii)
Buckland Past Lives, Chapter 44

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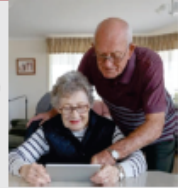


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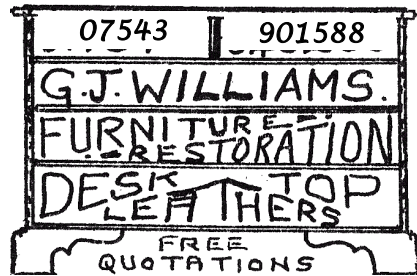
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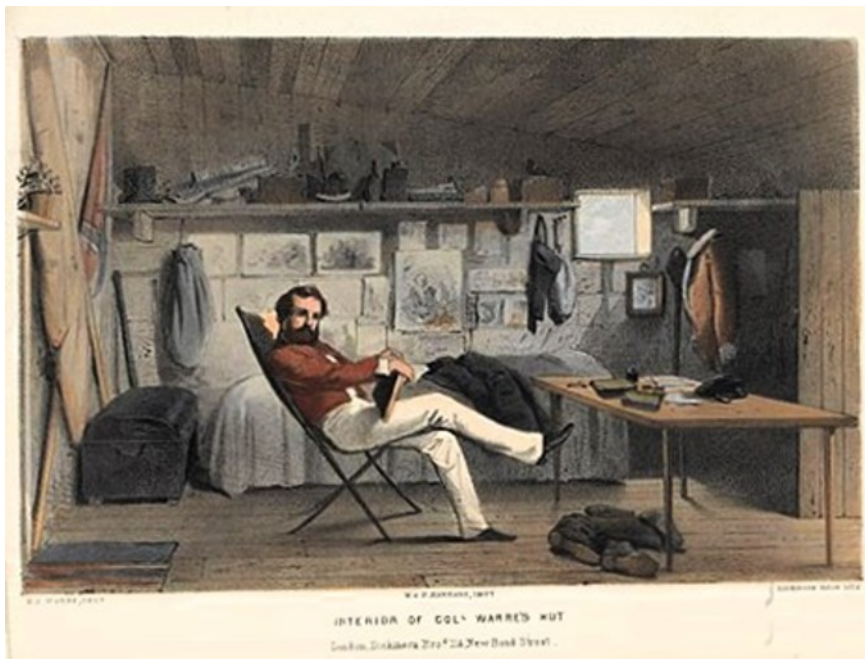
Gallery



Sir William Warre (1784-1853) portrait, as it hangs today
in 'The Factory' of Warre's Port in Oporto, Portugal

Commemorated in Buckland Graveyard (plot 57)
See 'Buckland Past Lives' chapter 44

Gallery



Self portrait of Captain Henry Warre (1819-1898) in his field hut.
Interred in Buckland Graveyard with his grand-parents, James & Eleanor Warre, who brought him up as a child in Buckland Court, whilst his father was absent on Military assignments.

Commemorated in Buckland Graveyard (plot 57)
See 'Buckland Past Lives' chapter 44

LEIGH VILLAGE HALL – SCREEN FROM THE 1930’s



Keith Harding, whose business ‘Goodnesss Gracious’ offers many original vintage photographs of East Surrey, has been in touch with an interesting find:

“I have been to Leigh Village Hall (from Suffolk where I now live) to photograph the rarely seen and very rare stage advertising screen. This is going to be unrolled for the photographic exhibition and promotion of our book launch, **'ReLeighable Memories'**, as part of **Heritage Open Days on September 13th**. The book is a record of life in Leigh through the memories of 12 villagers who grew up there in the 1950s, myself included. I am attempting to date the screen from the advertisers, two of which were Buckland businesses”:



For those not aware, the Butcher's, Moore & Redman, is now 'Occasions' hairdressers (but you can still go in for a chop!). Buckland Stores and Post Office is now Buckland Deli.

From Buckland Women's Institute membership records, we found that:

- Mrs Dempster and Miss Dempster', members from 1922 to mid-1935, lived at The Cairns, Buckland (a house name no longer present)
- 'Mrs Redman' from 1928-34, lived in Tranquil Dale, Buckland (no number given)
- 'Mrs Moore', from 1933-1940, lived at 55 Grovehill Rd, Redhill.

The only overlap of all 3 ladies being members is 1933-1934. [Charles Moore operated as a Butcher until 1953, but under just his name, presumably since when Redman left or died].

We also found the advert of both stores from January 1933 from Buckland Parish Mag (reproduced in 'Buckland 1000-2000', p.130), which also shows they were 'advertising together' with the corresponding names in January 1933.

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Advert from Buckland Parish Magazine, January 1933

Hence we considered that the screen is most likely to date from 1933-34.

You can view the original 'hand-painted' screen and buy Keith's book at the Heritage Open Day, on **SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER (10am to 5pm) at LEIGH VILLAGE HALL.**

Small Surrey Churches - Part Eighteen

St Nicholas' Charlwood



Part of the church of St Nicholas was built around 1080, just 14 years following the Battle of Hastings. Charlwood must have been an important village, perhaps based on the iron working in Glovers Wood. In 1170, it was an outlier of the Diocese of Canterbury, and had a 'rogue' Rector, who was ex-communicated (prevented from preaching) by Archbishop Thomas Beckett, but just four days later, Beckett was murdered in Canterbury Cathedral. I guess that would have caused quite a stir in Charlwood at the time?

The north and west wall, and the tower are what remains of the original building from c.1080. Extensions were made about 1280, 1330 and 1480. The amazing thing about this church is that it escaped the Victorian tendency to be remodelled. Only the stained-glass windows were added later in the 1860-1870 period.

Little has changed to the structure since 1480, so almost all the church structure is between 550 and 950 years old. This ancient age is reflected in the atmosphere of the church.

The church is famous for its wall murals dating from about the year 1300, of equal merit to those at St Peter & St Paul's in Chaldon (see part 8 of this series). These paintings were covered with whitewash about 1550 during the Reformation, when the Protestants did not approve of such paintings. The wall paintings were rediscovered in 1858.

The murals depict three scenes:

- 1) **The Three Living and the Three Dead** is a French moral story written c.1290. It relates how three noble youths hunting in a forest are met by three hideous spectres, images of death, from whom they receive a lecture on the vanity of human grandeur. The skeletons say: *'As you are, we were; as we are, you will be.'*
- 2) **St Margaret**, guardian of women in childbirth. She is chased by a huntsman, whose master, the local Lord, wants her hand in marriage. Margaret has accepted the Christian vow of chastity. The devil, in the form of dragon swallows her, but she managed to free herself and stand over the body of the dragon. But the last scene depicts her martyrdom when the local Lord had her put to death for not accepting his hand in marriage. So, Margaret was recognised as a Martyrdom Saint.
- 3) **St Nicholas, the patron saint of Charlwood**, is illustrated to the right of the pulpit. It shows that Nicholas [very!] 'miraculously' resuscitated three scholars who had been cut up by a butcher and salted 'to be sold for pork'. *[Amazing how some saints are recognised, based on a 'wild mythological story']*.

The Carved Screens (photos p.24)

In 1480 Richard Saunders died aged 30. His mother and widow extended the south aisle by building a chantry chapel with a wooden screen separating the chapel from the rest of the church. The upper part, featuring the initials R.S., was probably around Richard's tomb. This screen is claimed to be the only sizeable piece of medieval wood carving remaining in Surrey.

The reredos screen behind the altar is equally impressive as the Chancel screen above, and on first inspection it also to be ancient, but was added in 1935. St Nicholas' Charlwood is one of the few buildings listed 'Grade I' by Heritage England.



*Charlwood's murals, dating from the 1300's—as they appear today
[The church also has an impressive colour reproduction painting, showing
how the murals would have looked when newly painted]*

Access

St Nicholas church Charlwood is in the middle of Charlwood village, set back from the main road on The Street.

If you want to arrive at St Nicholas in style, book a ride with 'Charlwood Cobs and Carriages' who offer 'taxis' to your Sunday lunch at the adjacent pub, 'The Half Moon'!

<https://www.facebook.com/p/Charlwood-Cobs-and-Carriages>

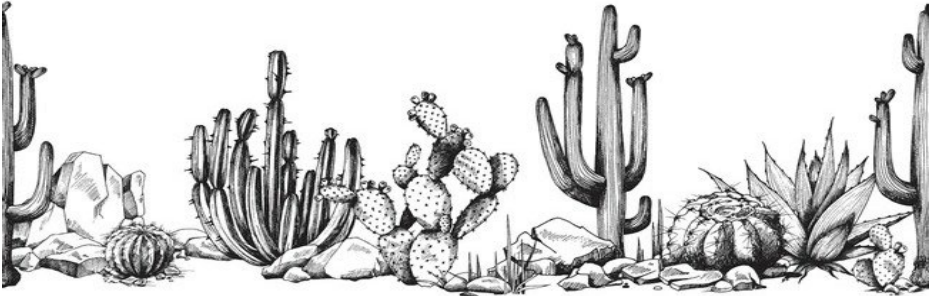




Top: The Chancel Chapel screen, dating from 1380
 Bottom: the Altar Screen (reredos), dating from 1935

GARDENING NOTES FOR AUGUST

Summer hot weather



As I write this, we are still very much in drought and heatwave conditions, with prolonged spells of hot and dry weather. Just as in cold winters when deep frosts have a lasting effect on our gardens with plants often succumbing weeks or months later, this summer will likely cause losses of established plants and trees.

If there is a lesson to be learnt, it is to try to plant out any larger shrubs and trees in the autumn rather than the spring to allow roots to become established in the wetter and cooler days of the winter rainy season. The good news is that established lawns always recover remarkably quickly after a few rain showers; no need to mow while it's dry but keep an eye out and remove any persistent weeds in the lawn which frustratingly are often drought resistant! Also, perennials have held up remarkably well but have in many cases flowered earlier than normal.

If you have a weed problem in beds, borders, patios and/or paths, make the most of any dry spells to remove them by hand or spray with an appropriate weedkiller. For many gardens, an investment in a pump sprayer with a lance will pay off well in terms of cost and time. Ready-to-use killers are relatively expensive and hand-trigger sprayers are inefficient for large areas. Where regular watering is difficult, consider a simple irrigation system with drips and mini-sprayers for pots. They can be attached to a timer to make life even easier! Soaker hose (leaky pipe) can be used in planted areas, especially for less established hedges and borders.

Be aware that patios can become very hot and heat-reflective onto plants. Many plants will enjoy sunshine, but the excessive heat this year has been damaging to some bedding plants, such as lobelia and begonia. They would normally flourish. Geraniums, verbena, gazania and petunias have been the beneficiaries and, with regular feeding, will keep on flowering well into September.

David Hogg, Buckland Nurseries

HAVE YOU BEEN TROUBLED BY THE HOT WEATHER?

*Time to lighten up... with this transcript from Radio 4's 'You and Yours' dial-in Programme, hosted by Winifred Robinson**

WINIFRED ROBINSON: Good morning, though recent surveys suggest that over 69 percent of you wouldn't call it good. Sadly, we're still only in June but already the miseries are mounting. With July, August and September still to go, there's literally no end to the summer crises we'll be having to face. **Call 'You and Yours'** to tell us how you plan to cope, if you'll be able to cope at all. We'd love to hear from you. The lines are now open.

Janet Gloombucket is in Staines. I hear you've been having trouble with the sun, Janet. Tell us about it.

JANET: I don't often go outside, that's not the kind of person I am, but I did last week and within a few minutes I got the sun in my eyes.

WINIFRED ROBINSON: I'm so sorry to hear that, Janet. Did you think of wearing a hat for protection, Janet?

JANET: No, there's been no government advice on the matter at all, and our local council has been reducing sun warnings as part of a cost-cutting exercise. And that's why I got the sun in my eyes. The effects lasted anything up to a minute or more. It doesn't bear thinking about.

WINIFRED ROBINSON: And obviously there's the effect on your long-term mental health to consider, too. That's deeply concerning, Janet. Thank you for sharing it with us. You've been very brave. We contacted the Department of Health and Social Care, and they told us they had no plans to bring in laws to enforce the wearing of sun-hats, though it's estimated that this would save thousands of people every year from getting sun in their eyes.

Let me bring in **Keith from Boreham.** Tell us about your summer so far, Keith.

KEITH: I rented a bungalow off Airbnb. It looked fine on paper. But when we got there, I was distressed to find it had no staircase and only a ground floor.

WINIFRED ROBINSON: There was no mention in the details that this bungalow had just one floor and no staircase?

KEITH: That's right. I said to the owner, so where's the staircase? She said, it's a bungalow. So I said that's neither here nor there, we were looking forward to a staircase.

WINIFRED ROBINSON: You must have been bitterly disappointed, Keith.

KEITH: Bang went our holiday of a lifetime. To my mind, proper regulations should be put in place to ensure every bungalow must have at least one extra floor plus staircase and if not, the owner should face prosecution.

WINIFRED ROBINSON: Let's turn to **Bronwen from Stopham**. I hear you've been having trouble with suncream, Bronwen?

BRONWEN: It's been terrible. Literally terrible.

WINIFRED ROBINSON: I'm sorry to hear that, Bronwen.

BRONWEN: I purchased a well-known high street brand of suncream and put it all over my strawberries with some sugar, but when I came to eat it, it tasted absolutely disgusting. Ruined my strawberries, it did.

WINIFRED ROBINSON: Suncream's not really meant to be ingested.

BRONWEN: Now she tells me.

WINIFRED ROBINSON: Did you read the manufacturer's instructions?

BRONWEN: Of course I did. And there was nothing about not putting the suncream on your strawberries. Nothing whatsoever!

WINIFRED ROBINSON: We've been in touch with National Trading Standards. A spokesman told us they had no safeguards in place to ensure this doesn't happen again. So it looks as though before this summer is out there'll be hundreds of thousands of summer holidays ruined by suncream poured on strawberries. **Geoff is in Much Hadham**. How's your summer been so far, Geoff? I hear you've suffered terribly with an ice cream. What kind of ice cream was it, Geoff?

GEOFF: A cone (sobs). It was advertised as a cone.

WINIFRED ROBINSON: And are you feeling strong enough to tell our listeners what went wrong, Geoff?

GEOFF: I asked for a scoop of vanilla ice cream from the gentleman in question - his name was Mr Whippy, though he wouldn't reveal his first name despite repeated requests. Anyway, Whippy placed them in this wafer-style cone. Well, I took the cone in my hand, and turned it over, because I always like to nibble on the cone first.

And - what'd'you know? - the ice cream dropped out of the cone on to the pavement.

WINIFRED ROBINSON: I'm very sorry to hear that. On reflection, Geoff, do you think the ice cream might have fallen out because you held the cone upside down?

GEOFF: But it came with no instructions or warnings! How can you even think of selling an ice cream in a cone without a prominent warning? Unless something is done about it, then one day this accident will happen to a kiddie. It doesn't bear thinking about.

WINIFRED ROBINSON: Has anyone else suffered bitter disappointment from an ice cream? We'd love to hear from you. The lines are now open. Now we're going to **Margaret in Wittering**. How are you, Margaret?

MARGARET: Could be worse.

WINIFRED ROBINSON: That's good to hear.

MARGARET: In this hot weather, we're always being advised to drink more water.

WINIFRED ROBINSON: Yes, hydration is vital. Just look what the World Cup has done!

MARGARET: So why do manufacturers of bottled water make the rims of their bottles so wide? To keep myself fully hydrated and thus avoid a death -

WINIFRED ROBINSON: - an untimely death. There's nothing worse than an untimely death.

MARGARET: You're so right - and to avoid an untimely death, I always aim to drink two bottles of water at the same time. But when I last tried to drink two bottles at once, it was such a squeeze that they got caught in my mouth. My husband tried to pull them out, but eventually he was forced to call an ambulance. And frankly our NHS is hard-pressed enough as it is.

WINIFRED ROBINSON: Now let's hear from **Denise from Buffington**, who says her new smart meter has become a magnet for killer bees. Denise?

* *'As told to Craig Brown' in a recent Private Eye magazine. So, true or false, you decide. It was too good not to share.*

PURITY OF HEART

An opinion piece by Father Richard Rohr, Franciscan & Author

The Desert Monastics built their spirituality on two major ideas: the practice of the presence of God and a commitment to purity of heart. Total concentration on the one thing necessary—a heart centered on the will and love of God—determined every action of their lives. Purity of heart, this commitment to the consciousness of God, was the laser beam of the monastic life. It constituted the operational center, the energy, and the rudder of their lives.

Being committed to something keeps life expanding for us, even when we think that there's nowhere else for it to go. Purpose gives us a sense of importance, of wanting to do even more, even better the next time, no matter how many things we've done already. Finally, a sense of purpose, of resolve, makes getting up every morning worthwhile, win or lose. It is the undaunted determination to do what must be done, however long it takes, whether we get it finished or not. For the Desert Monastic, the purpose was to continue an unending search for God.

No doubt about it: Total concentration on the one thing necessary—a heart centered on the will and love of God—determines every action of your life. It will carry you through life as much as life carries you—only with more fulfillment. It is a beacon from the desert calling you yet to continue your own pursuit of the presence of God, to concentrate always on the purity of heart that seeks one thing only and always.

Your heart is the real compass of your life. The Desert Monastics knew that over fifteen hundred years ago and you know it yet: Purity of heart is the gift that guides you, leads you, shepherds you from one end of life to the other, always content knowing that you have done what you were born to do. What else could possibly be worth a life?

Living as a mystic means orienting the whole of yourself toward the sacred. It's a matter of purposely looking through the lens of love.

It is not possible, or even desirable, for most seekers of God to live in remote solitude or join a monastic order. I cherish going on retreat and revel in praying the monastic hours, but my true vocation is not to be a monk. My call is simply to be the most loving version of myself.

Societies & Charities

Several societies take a break in August – The Betchworth & Buckland Society, Arts Society Betchworth, Dorking Local History Group, ‘Music in Dorking’ & the Buckland & Betchworth Choral Society – so this section is understandably shorter this month.

BROCKHAM BOWLS CLUB



The season is passing us by quickly. By the time you read this in August we will be well over halfway through the season. We played 9 matches against other Clubs in June, winning 4 and losing 4, with 1 match drawn. We also had some cancellations and postponements due to the extremely hot weather. On 21 June we held a special bowls fun afternoon for members to celebrate our 75 years Anniversary. This was organised by Club member Ian Clinging, and was bowls with some very different rules, a fun afternoon,

if a little hot with the temperature over 30 degrees.

This was followed by a BBQ for 45 members, thanks to our catering team for a great meal. We hosted a pairs match for a team from Horley and a team from Chipstead, who were competing in a National Competition. The game had to be played on a neutral ground, and we were honoured to be asked to provide the facilities, this being a compliment to our Groundsman Paul Darling and his team for their constant hard work in providing an excellent playing surface. In between all the above, our Club members continue to take part in the many internal knock out competitions that are available to enter. A busy time.

We always welcome more members, so, if you want to see what we do, we hold Club Nights most Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5pm onwards, and you are most welcome to pop along, see what is going on, and speak to one of our members. For more information you can call Peter Goldup, our Club Captain, on 07391 254689, or visit our website at brockhambowlsclub.co.uk.

Trevor Anderson

BROCKHAM GREEN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Betchworth * Brockham * Buckland

Last month, we were very lucky to be invited to visit the beautiful garden belonging to Roger, one of our members. Around 30 of our members spent a lovely sunny evening, enjoying refreshments, whilst catching up with friends and admiring the colourful planting schemes and pond, all designed and cared for by Roger. Although not a big garden, it has been carefully planned with various seating areas, giving us all inspiration and ideas to take away with us. A big thank you to Roger for a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Roger's chosen charity was The Patchwork Garden Project and we raised £200 for this amazing, well deserving local group.



Annual Horticultural Show - Saturday 19th September, Brockham Village Hall.

Our Junior classes are free and open to any child who lives in Betchworth, Brockham and Buckland and also children or grandchildren related to residents of these areas. We love to see the children's entries and all of these fun classes could be worked on over the school Summer holidays. Please see below for this year's categories.

If your child would like to enter or you need further information, please contact me for an entry form and full schedule, on the email address below. We will not however turn away any children's entries if they just turn up on the morning. Entries must arrive at Brockham Village Hall between 10am and 12pm.

Adults may only enter the show if they are members. Please contact me if you would like to see a copy of the schedule, with a view to joining. We always welcome new members and the cost is just £10 per year, bghsociety@hotmail.com

Ruth Johnson

Make a note for your diary: Open to the public: Friday 9th October, Saturday 10th October 10:00 – 17:00, Sunday 11th October 10:00 – 16:00. More details next month.

Jacky Cowdrey

DORKING MUSEUM IN AUGUST

‘Dorking: Cycling capital of England’: From Dorking’s cycling clubs of the 1880s, all the way to the 2012 Olympics, our summer exhibition traces Dorking’s contribution to the development of cycling nationally. Features include a ‘penny-farthing’ bicycle, an original ‘boneshaker’, and a wealth of information, photos and memorabilia.

Walking in Dorking: This month’s guided walks feature Dorking’s Historic Pubs (1st), Blue Plaques and Statues (2nd), Betchworth Castle (9th), Hidden Dorking (16th), and The Deepdene Trail (23rd). See dorkingmuseum.org.uk/guided-walks-around-dorking/ for walk details. Private group bookings are available.

South Street Caves tours: Discover the caves with our **open day on 1st August**, with tours at 10am, 11am, 1pm, and 2pm, each 45 minutes. For details and bookings, see dorkingmuseum.org.uk/south-street-caves/. E-mail caves@dorkingmuseum.org.uk for private group bookings.

Family Activities at Dorking Library: Summer Reading Challenge: Make a percussion instrument out of junk and use it to help you read to the beat of a poem. 22 nd August, 10am-noon. Free, materials provided. Children must be accompanied.

Get involved: The Museum depends on its volunteers to maintain this valuable community resource. With a range of flexible roles available, see dorkingmuseum.org.uk/about/volunteer-opportunities

*Dorking Museum: Thursdays 1pm-4pm, Fridays and Saturdays 10am-4pm, free entry.
www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk. Visit dorkingmuseum.org.uk/digital-guide/. 01306 876591*

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS (p.14-16)

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

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

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

Buckland Parish Magazine

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Articles Please submit articles for next months edition by the above date, via email to fernsdc@gmail.com. If possible please submit WORD format for text files, JPG for images and PDF for posters. New articles and contributors are welcomed.

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 with the permission of the individuals. Please advise the editor of any updates or corrections to the contact details.

Web Access The web version of the magazine, including trade adverts & colour photos, is available online at stmarythevirginbuckland.com/parish-magazine. The online rolling-archive retains the most recent 2 years of magazines, readable as PDFs without charge.

BOOKS ON THE HISTORY OF BUCKLAND

1. Buckland's Past Lives (2025), 308pp - £17#
2. A Buckland Memorial (2025, War biographies), 600pp, full text online*
3. St Mary's Graveyard Survey (2020), 94pp –full text online**
4. Buckland 1000-2000 with 20-20 vision (2019), 294pp – now £15#
5. History of Buckland Village School (2006), 148 pp -full text online***

to purchase, email request to fernsdc@gmail.com

* www.bucklandsurrey.org.uk/local-amenities/war-memorial/

** www.stmarythevirginbuckland.org.uk/ Link on 'Resources' page

*** www.bucklandsurrey.org.uk/village-history/the-story-of-buckland-village-school

BUCKLAND READING ROOM ACTIVITIES

Monday am	Singing for Pleasure (1st & 3rd Mondays)
Tuesday am	Toddlers
Tuesday 2.15pm	Bridge Club
Tuesday 6.30pm	Yoga (Maria)
Tuesday 8.00pm	Yoga Beginners (Maria)
Thursday 2.15pm	Bridge Club
Thursday evening	Yoga (Judy)
Saturday 08.30am	Qi Gong (Judy)

***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	01737 242776
Betchworth & Buckland Children's Nursery	Laura Snelling	01737 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	01737 842758
British Legion	Maurice Daley	01737 843058
Brockham Green Horticultural Society	Ruth & Paul Johnson	01737 842691
Brockham Surgery/Chemist	n/a	01737 843259
Buckland & Betchworth Choral Soc. (Sec.)	Caroline Bartlett	07967 969425
Buckland Parochial Charity (<i>Clerk</i>)	Debbie Jones	07701 347351
Buckland Parish Council (<i>Clerk</i>)	Sheena Boyce	01737 448023
Buckland Deli (<i>Village Shop</i>)	Amy Snaith	01737 845999
Children's Society	Margaret Miller	01737 842098
Family Activities Betchworth & Buckland	Katrina Rea	07803 163868
North Downs Primary School	Jane Douglass	01737 843211
Reading Room - Bookings	Jane Stewart	07733 116992
- Chairman	Tim Howe	07961 123126
- Treasurer	John Maud	01737 221444
- Secretary	Liz Vahey	01737 221444
Reigate Pilgrims Cricket Club	Julian Steed	01737 842046
St. Catherine's Hospice	Sheila Dyer	01737 842098
Women's Institute	Margaret Miller	01737 842098

Websites: Church: www.stmarythevirginbuckland.org.uk

Village: www.bucklandsurrey.org.uk

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