

# THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF BADSHOT LEA AND HALE



*Serving the communities of Badshot Lea, Folly Hill, Hale, Heath End, Sandy Hill and Weybourne*



**The churches of St George's, St John's and St Mark's**

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269

**September 2023**

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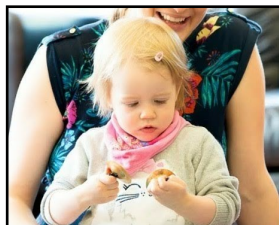
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## Magazine subscriptions and deadline

The deadline for the October issue of the magazine is **Sunday, September 10**. Contact Stella Wiseman, 07842 761919, [editor@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:editor@badshotleaandhale.org).

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# September in the parish

**September 2, 9.15am.** Quiet Morning for Creationtide. **St John's.** See page 13.

**Sunday, September 3rd.**

Evensong from the Book of Common Prayer. **St George's**

**Tuesday, September 5th and 19th, 10-11.30am.**

Connections over-50s meeting. Coffee, cake and various activities.

**St George's.**

**Thursday, September 7th and 22nd, 10.30am-12pm.**

Artz at St Mark's. Art, coffee and chat. No artistic skills needed. Free to join in.

**St Mark's.**

**Fridays 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th, 10-11.30am.**

Little Bees Toddler Group. **St George's.**

**Sunday, September 10th and 24th, 6pm.**

Taizé Service – a service of meditation, chants, silence and prayer, based on the Taizé community in France. **St John's.**

**Thursday, September 14th and 28th, 10.30am-12pm.**

Coffee drop-in. Come in for a cup of coffee or tea, a slice of cake, and a chat.

**St John's.**

**Friday, September 8th and 22nd, 7pm**

Friday Night Games Night. An all-age games night with board games, jigsaws, table tennis, table football, art and craft,

a meal and a friendly atmosphere. Neuro-divergent people are especially catered for. **St Mark's.**

**Saturday, September 23rd, 2.30-4pm.**

Interfaith Women's Group. **St Mark's.**

**Saturday, September 16th, 10am-2pm.**

Autumn Craft Market Craft stalls, a café to meet your friends at, live music and a chance to see the Kitty Milroy murals and support your local community. Free entry.

**St Mark's.** See page 48.

**Wednesday, September 20th, 7pm.**

Exploring Prayer in Nature. The first of a series on exploring prayer. Meet at St Mark's and we will be going into Farnham Park. See page 22. Contact

[revd.stella@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:revd.stella@badshotleaandhale.org)

**Sunday, September 24th, 9.30am St**

**John's, 10am, St George's.** Harvest Festival. See page 12.

**Sunday, September 24th, 10am**

Apple Day with apple-y music, apple snacks, apple pressing, followed by Harvest Festival at 11am. **St Mark's.**

**Wednesday, September 27th, 7.30pm**

Continuing the series on exploring prayer.

**St Mark's.** See page 22. Contact

[revd.stella@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:revd.stella@badshotleaandhale.org)

**Friday, September 29th, 6pm-9.30pm**

The Harvest Supper. Supper, entertainment and a raffle. **St George's.** See page 15.

## Our church services are:

Every Sunday: 9.30am St John's; 10am St George's; and 11am St Mark's.

1st Sunday 6pm St George's, BCP Evening Prayer.

2nd and 4th Sunday: 6pm St John's, Taizé.

Wednesday: 12pm St Mark's, Midweek Eucharist.

Online: [www.badshotleaandhale.org](http://www.badshotleaandhale.org)

# Unity in diversity

*Dave Camp writes:*

During my training I was sent on a short-term placement to St Anselm, Hayes, Middlesex. It was the first time I had witnessed a full Anglo Catholic Mass and I was struck by the way Pope Francis and Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, were held together in prayer. It reminded me of an interview where Father Raniero Cantalamessa, a charismatic Franciscan preacher to the papal household, was asked about what a future united Christian church would look like. He said: "Unity rather than uniformity, I think it would be more unity in diversity". Ever since I have been fascinated by the term 'unity in diversity'.

My wife, Nabila, and I have been taking groups to the Holy Land every year since 2017 and we try to reach out to as wide a cross-denomination demographic as possible. The intention is to bring together and form a group of complete strangers, so that we can all begin to identify with being the body of Christ.

There is often an initial tension. Different traditions appear divisive but over time this changes. When you visit Israel you encounter it in the context of the wider Palestinian state, sharing common borders but sadly divided by faith, with all the mistrust and tensions that brings. This depiction of diversity feels divisive, and broken, the polar opposite of what takes shape in our little group, both existing in the same space and time. For our group having to adapt to a somewhat troubled region of

the world provides the motivation, at least in part, to come together.

Over the two weeks, a strange and beautiful transformation always takes place, where once the only topic was our different faith tradition perspectives. Over

time they become less pronounced, as we encounter such issues as border checks by armed soldiers on the Israeli side and police on the Palestinian side. Navigating the Jerusalem old city means we occasionally become strung out because of the hustle and bustle of the souks and bazaars; the cry goes up to 'wait' as the rest of the party catch up. Those who did not think themselves leaders step up to shepherd the more vulnerable members of the group. Fellowship happens every evening as we share our experiences and feelings and we pray for one another as we discern each other's needs.

I see a strong similarity between this experience and that of the church as the congregation, in the way that both pray for each other's needs, and in the revelation of unexpected leaders. I see God's unifying Holy Spirit at work in the midst of our Christian and, inevitably, our human diversity. It urges us to move beyond a simple 'Hello, how are you?' then shuffling off almost before the words 'I'm ok' leave



*Dave Camp*

their lips, let alone hearing the tone they are uttered in, which tells us so much of their joy or despair. It is that same Spirit that drove our Lord into the wilderness; it is forceful almost against the will one might say, compelling and irresistible.

To clarify 'against the will', I am reminded of a talk on 'The Theology of Disability' by Professor John Swinton who recounts God telling Moses that he has called him for a specific purpose. Moses tells God he is ill-equipped due to him being "slow of speech and slow of tongue".

God does not take no for an answer but takes pity on him. Swinton notes God "does not change Moses's condition" but provides him with an interpreter, or perhaps an orator, in the shape of his brother Aaron. There was a co-dependency; Aaron was dependent on Moses for his interpretation of God's message, and Moses was dependent on Aaron for his delivery of that message. This enriches both. Moses's deficiency enriches the life of Aaron so that he is able to exercise his God-given gift for speaking, so much so that eventually he becomes God's chosen line for the priesthood, while at the same time it has freed up Moses to be the great leader God knew him to be.

Swinton emphasises the word 'slow', saying: "Humans walk at an average speed of three mph. That's slow, that means Jesus walked around three mph". God is slow, taking time to encounter people who are changed by the encounter.

Diversity is best encountered when slowly savoured, which is particularly poignant when thinking around disability as a different way of being. My mum towards the end of her life experienced dementia, which re-

quires a great deal of patience on behalf of the carer. You try to tease apart some small strand of shared memory that you can both hold on to and share, and when you find it, it feels somehow wonderfully uplifting and yet deeply sad. You know that this precious moment of clarity will soon be no more than a shadow to the sufferer, and you can't share alone. In 1 Corinthians 12: 12-27, St Paul reveals just how sensitive and compassionate God's love is, in his description of the diversity within the body of Christ, with particular emphasis on the weaker parts being integral to the overall good of the whole. In this way diversity, which at times seems so divisive, begins to look very much like unity in a way that feels natural.

Perhaps Rowen Williams's reflections on the nature of God come closest to expressing the reason why diversity feels so organic or naturally occurring. He writes: "God can't have a selfish agenda, because he stands apart or other, outside of his creation, he can't want anything for himself except to be the way he is. So, if the world exists because of his action, the only motivation for this is sheer unselfish love. He wants to give what he is to what isn't him; he wants difference to appear; he wants an Other, that is us, to receive his joy and delight."

It's interesting to note that the phrase 'common place' is used to describe the things or situations we encounter on a regular basis, and yet if we look at that same phrase from a different angle, we see that in creation diversity is common place. The sheer size and scope of it is what makes it common, because we encounter it every minute of every day.

***Dave Camp, Assistant Curate***

# Two ordinations

*We now have not one, but two curates in the parish! David Camp was ordained deacon on July 2nd at Guildford Cathedral, the day after Stella Wiseman was ordained priest, also at the Cathedral. Both are assistant curates and are serving in the parish on a part-time basis.*

Stella was ordained priest a year after her ordination as deacon and will continue her ministry here. As priest she is now able to expand that ministry and can baptise and marry people, as well as conduct funerals, and can also preside at the Eucharist.

## **Stella Wiseman**

Stella reflects: "It is a real privilege, and a slightly scary one, to be an ordained priest here to serve the people in this parish, and I am grateful for all the support and love that has been poured out. The past few years have involved a lot of learning and this is not about to stop. In fact I am always going to need to carry on learning - the more I try to learn the more I realise I know very little!

"One of the services I am learning to preside at is the Eucharist and this feels a particular honour, as this is central to our worship here in the parish. To be there recalling the immense generosity of God in Jesus, and the welcome which

God extends to all of us in drawing us in to share in the bread and wine, which in some way is God's presence, feels extraordinary and humbling. There is also a lot more to do physically than I ever realised during the Eucharistic Prayer and the actual consecration of the bread, so I probably have a look of extreme concentration as I do this!

"I am also trying to discern exactly what my ministry will look like. I feel very drawn towards the link between faith, creativity and inclusion, but working out what that means is a process and I am trying to listen to God to see what God wants of me and where God is asking me to step."

## **David Camp**

David says: "After six years of discernment and theological training, becoming ordained has come as something of a relief, having not come from an academic background. The path towards ordination was challenging and as you might expect filled with unexpected highs and lows, and not just on the academic front, but rather as a formation of my own theology as I sought to understand God's activity in the past and the present and, perhaps most importantly, how God through us will shape the future. Christ's body, the Church, is going forward into an unprecedented time of change. Final





*Alan Crawley, Stella Wiseman, David Camp, Bishop Andrew and Lesley Crawley outside Guildford Cathedral after David's ordination.*

destination assured, but how do we best make use of the time given to us? Perhaps we should ask ourselves this from time to time. I find myself doing this more and more post ordination.

"I don't think I was quite prepared for the sheer magnitude of the ordination event; in many respects it mirrored the Coronation. A cathedral setting, a beautiful choir, Bishop Andrew proclaiming to the gathered masses our calling to do our duty responding to God's call. The clergy dressed in the robes of office, all in their finery; for a simple lad it was all rather overwhelming. On reflection, perhaps it needed to be grand in order for me at least to appreciate the weightiness of self-expectation.

"That may sound like a strange thing to say given our Lord's revelation in Matthew 11:28-30 'For my yoke is easy and my burden is light'. And yet the process of unburdening I feel is not reserved

for the congregation, but for the clergy as well. I don't think the burden becomes light just because you're ordained. For me at least, it's about learning to live with that burden of my expectation in communion with the body the church, so that it begins to feel comfortable, familiar or a lightness of spirit. Even Christ uses the term 'My burden is light'; he doesn't say you won't be burdened, but that it will be light. Or perhaps bearable. If you have read *Pilgrim's Progress*, the main character, Christian, embarks on a similar journey of faith weighed down with a burden of worry for his loved ones who have refused to join him on his journey. It's only by the help of those good people he encounters that his burden becomes lighter. So, in essence I am most looking forward to journeying with you all, as we begin to discover what it means to have a lightness of spirit."



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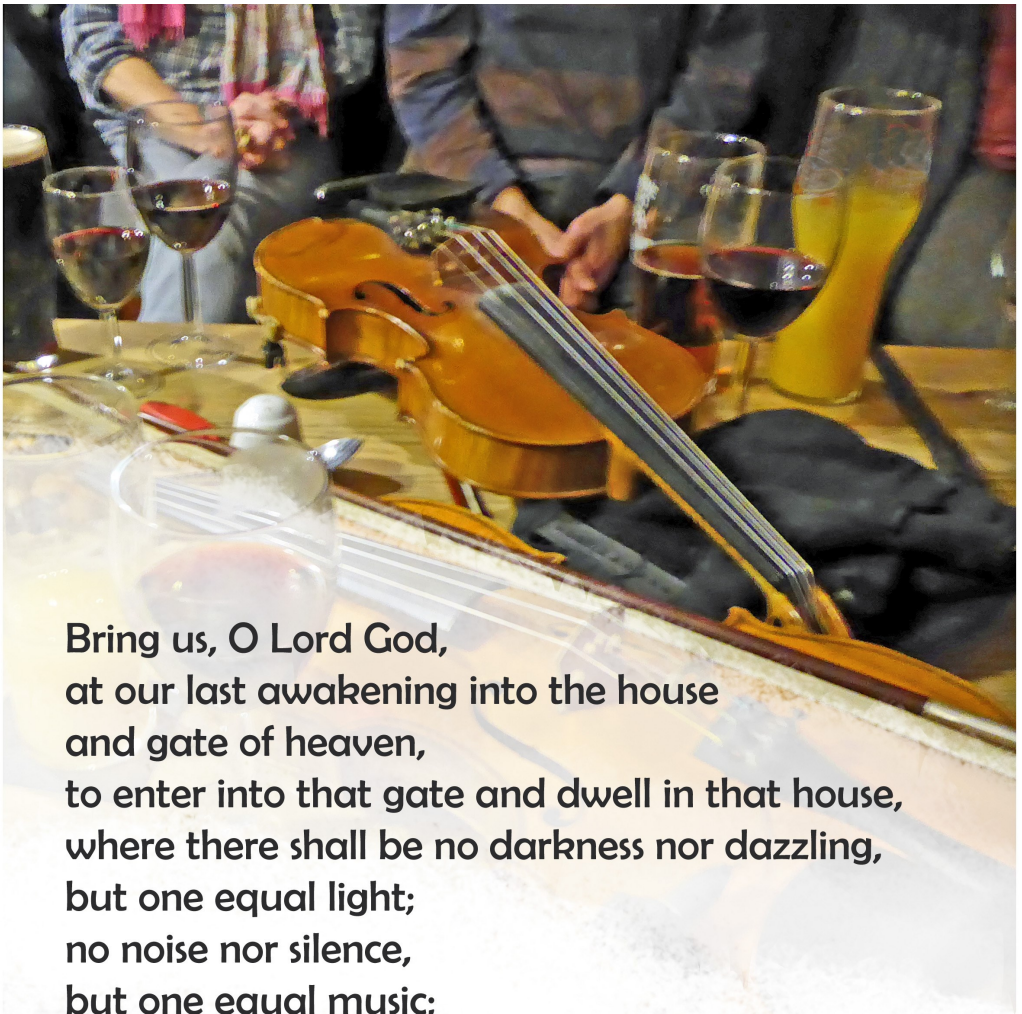
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Bring us, O Lord God,  
at our last awakening into the house  
and gate of heaven,  
to enter into that gate and dwell in that house,  
where there shall be no darkness nor dazzling,  
but one equal light;  
no noise nor silence,  
but one equal music;  
no fears nor hopes, but one equal possession;  
no ends nor beginnings, but one equal eternity:  
in the habitations of thy majesty and glory,  
world without end.  
Amen

(A prayer from John Donne 1571-1631)





# **Harvest Festival Sunday, September 24th**

**St John's, 9.30am  
St George's, 10am  
St Mark's, 10am for  
Apple Day celebrations +  
11am service**

**Online at  
[badshotleaandhale.org](http://badshotleaandhale.org)  
Bring tinned and packet  
food for the Foodbank**

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# For the beauty of the earth: a quiet day for Creationtide

**Saturday, September 2nd, 9.15am, the  
Sumner Room, St John's Church**

*Craig Nobbs, a Licensed Lay Minister in the parish, is holding a quiet day on Saturday, September 2nd, in the Sumner Room at St John's, from 9.15am for a 9.30am start, finishing at 12.30pm but with an option to stay on until 1.30pm for a guided meditation.*

'For the beauty of the earth' - or so the hymn says. Yet the world burns. Communities are washed away. Wars scar the earth. The rich nations deplete the atmosphere; the poor and oppressed suffer catastrophe. Humankind's stewardship of our beautiful God-given planet falls woefully short.

It's time for Christians to act: to speak out about the climate emergency, and to see that climate action is a fundamental missional vocation. But how can we begin to start?

The programme for the day:

- Morning Prayer
- **Reverence:** what does God have to say about His planet and beyond?

- **Justice:** what does God require of us now?
- **Action:** Practical climate action for our mission and discipleship.
- Midday Prayer
- **Option:** If the weather is fine, you are welcome to join Craig in the churchyard for a guided hour of reflection and silence in God's presence, to acknowledge the sheer scale of creation, and to pray that we might see how reverence for the earth is part of our call to worship.

Enquiries to LLM Craig:

[llm.craig@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:llm.craig@badshotleaandhale.org)



# Home Groups

*Would you like to join a home group? Everyone is welcome. Home groups enable us to get to know each other better, ask questions about faith matters and discuss ideas with others. Here are a few options for you:*

## **Richard's group in Weybourne**

We meet on a Thursday afternoon at 2.30pm. We are using *100 Stand-Alone Bible Studies* by Penelope Wilcock. Each of the studies is quite short. We have so far read and discussed Mark's picture of Jesus as The Son of God and leadership as being a servant, and will continue looking at Mark for the next few sessions. We have also had lively discussions about how we think about miracles and gender-neutral language; I think these subjects will come up again. Worship is a short but important part of our sessions. And of course, we have been getting to know each other better through these activities and through having a chat at the start with the normal ice-breakers. To find out more email



Richard Myers  
([rjhmyers@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rjhmyers@yahoo.co.uk))

## **Alan's group online**

The home group, known as Bible Book Club, meets on a Wednesday evening at 7.30pm over Teams video conferencing. Each week we read and discuss a book of the Bible, and we still have a few left to cover (we cover the longer ones over a number of weeks). We have said that when we finish the Bible we will move on to watch series two of *The Chosen*, which was our Lent group material this year. That will see us towards Advent. If you want to join us, the link is in the notices each week we are meeting, or if you want to know more, have a chat with or email Alan or Stella.  
([revd.alan@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:revd.alan@badshotleaandhale.org)  
[revd.stella@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:revd.stella@badshotleaandhale.org))

### Kris's group in Aldershot

The Tuesday evening house group has been meeting for many years. The group meets for fellowship as much as anything, but we do always spend time in a form of Bible study. We usually follow a set course supported by a CD or study guide and we follow the parish-wide initiatives (eg Lent groups). We often find something surprising, we pray, we laugh, we go off track, we try to

solve all the world's problems in a single night. For me, the home group offers a very safe place where we can talk openly and honestly about our faith and anything else that is on our minds. My hope is that we can always draw something from our meeting that we can put into daily practice to become better followers of Christ. To find out more email Kris Lawrence ([warden.stgeorges@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:warden.stgeorges@badshotleaandhale.org)).

## Harvest



# Harvest Supper

Fri 29<sup>th</sup> Sept  
6.00pm - 9.30pm  
St. George's Church

£10 adults, £5 children (under 16)  
Supper, entertainment & raffle,  
Soft drinks provided BYO alcohol  
Tickets available in church  
or from 07842 761919



# Building the right support for autistic people

How can we best support neurodivergent people, especially those with autism?

This was the challenge which author, speaker and campaigner Alexis Quinn took on in a talk at St Mark's in July.

It is a challenge she takes on every day as an autistic person and the mother of two neurodivergent children and her talk was the product of lived experience and the latest research in the field of autism and support for autistic people.

At the moment support for autistic people is patchy if not entirely lacking in some areas.

Alexis looked at research into both children and adults with autism and the findings are alarming.

## Children

Autism is the most common type of special educational need in schools, with the latest figures indicating that there are 182,493 autistic pupils in schools in England, the majority of them (73 per cent) in mainstream schools.

Teachers are therefore highly likely to have come across at least one autistic child but, according to the National Autistic Society (NAS), only 14 per cent of secondary school



*Alexis Quinn*

teachers have had more than half a day of autism training, and without appropriate teacher training, autistic children are twice as likely to be excluded from school. In fact, 74 per cent of parents said that their child's school place did not meet that child's needs and 54 per cent of children found that their teachers' failure to understand them was the worst thing about school. And yet the Equality Act 2010 means that schools have a legal duty to make reasonable adjustments to things like the school environment and policies.

## Adults

It doesn't get better for adults. The disability employment gap (the differ-



ence between how many disabled people are in work compared with how many non-disabled people are in work) is wide, with around half of disabled people in work, compared with more than 80 per cent of non-disabled people. But the autism employment gap is even wider, with just 22 per cent of autistic people reported to be in paid work. There isn't much opportunity for independence either with three-quarters of autistic people living with their parents, compared with 16 per cent of disabled people generally (ONS, 2021).

### **What is autism?**

The NAS defines autism as “a lifelong developmental disability which affects how people communicate and interact with the world”. All people are different but, generally, autistic people have difficulties interpreting verbal and non-verbal language like gestures or tone of voice, and they often have difficulty recognising or understanding other people's feelings and intentions, and expressing their own emotions. This can make it very hard to navigate the social world. Alexis stressed that “when we take care of communication life is made a lot easier”. For more details see box on page 19.

### **Autism and society**

Alexis emphasised that autism is not an illness and does not need to be treated. It is simply a difference, part of normal human variation. However, this is not how society generally sees autism, and many people try to hide their autism by ‘masking’, suppressing behaviours which they may find soothing and mimicking others in order to fit in.

This seems to be especially the case for girls, but whatever gender, it is not healthy. Many autistic people feel stigmatised and isolated, ‘othered’ by society, and then they end up in what Alexis calls a ‘cycle of disconnection’. The results are frightening: 90 per cent of autistic people meet the clinical diagnostic criteria for anxiety and depression, and bullying and victimization leads to 61 per cent meeting the diagnostic criteria for PTSD. They are nine times more likely to die by suicide than neurotypical people and the average life expectancy for a ‘high-functioning’ autistic person is only 54. For a ‘low-functioning’ person that already low figure plummets to under 40.

### **Crisis**

Why is this? Alexis herself masked and coped until a crisis point and this is common with autistic people. When a crisis comes it can be impossible to mask or to meet the demands of the environment. Alexis had been a successful teacher and an international swimmer but once she needed help she ended up in a mental health and treatment unit. She describes her experiences in her book *Unbroken*, a terrifying description of a mental health system itself in crisis with little understanding of autism. What she thought was going to be a 72-hour rest turned into three-and-a-half years in hospital, where she experienced sensory overload, restraint and seclusion until she took matters into her own hands and escaped to Africa. The book is an extraordinary and powerful read.

*Continued on page 18*

# Building the right support for autistic people

*Continued from page 17*

### How to make a difference

Alexis now campaigns for better treatment for those with autism and challenges the way neurodivergent people are treated. She encourages people to think carefully about language which she describes as “one of the most subtle but common forms of ableism... The language choices we make when talking about neurodiverse people can either maintain or challenge ableism.” Examples are: rather than saying someone is ‘suffering from autism’, we could talk about the ‘impact’ or ‘effect’ of autism, and rather than asking an autistic person “Why can’t you just...?”, we could ask “What can I do to support you?”.

These differences may seem slight but the cumulative effect of subtle hurts in language and the way people are treated can lead to increased marginalisation, bullying, poor mental health and trauma.

She is keen to encourage strategies to improve awareness of autism among non-autistic people which will not only improve the experience of autistic people but will also help lay the groundwork for a more accepting society.

### Immediate steps

There are immediate steps that can be taken, especially in educational settings, including exit passes to leave classrooms if overwhelmed, quiet

spaces to allow recuperation, uniform adjustments to reduce sensory discomfort, and adjustments to classroom lighting and seating plans. These can go some way to reducing anxiety. Alexis explained that “when anxious the thinking brain — our executive functioning skills — can go offline and our emotional brain kicks in. We cannot pay attention, provide answers to a question, even speak, sit still or remain calm.”

She also outlined the importance of helping autistic children to report bullying and how schools can make this easier by, for instance, allowing pupils to say what is happening by email or drawing, as communicating may be difficult.

### Empathy works both ways

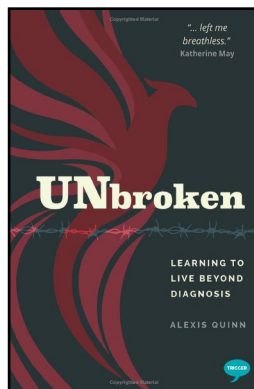
Finally, Alexis pointed out that the burden of communication is usually put on autistic people. Both autistic and non-autistic people have difficulty understanding each other because of their differing outlooks and experiences with the world but “empathy is a bidirectional phenomenon”, ie, it works both ways. Why is it that autistic people, the minority neurotype, are expected to do most of the adjusting? What can non-autistic people do to acknowledge and meet an autistic person’s desire for connection? Surely we can all develop new ways of relating?

## What next?

There was time for questions after the talk with many people speaking from the lived experience of either being autistic or having autistic family and friends and there was a huge desire to carry on discussing ways of supporting each other. We are compiling a list of people who would like to be involved in some way and if you would like your name and contact details added, or would like to find out about other support or talks in the future, email [revd.stella@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:revd.stella@badshotleaandhale.org)

For more about Alexis visit [www.autism.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/stories/stories-from-the-spectrum-alexis-quinn](http://www.autism.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/stories/stories-from-the-spectrum-alexis-quinn)

*Unbroken, learning to live beyond diagnosis* by Alexis Quinn is published by Trigger Publishing.



## A brief guide to autism

If you have autism you do not have an illness, it simply means that your brain works in a different way from many other people's. It is not a medical condition with treatments or a 'cure' and, like everyone, autistic people have things they are good at and things they struggle with. Some autistic people need little support, others need a lot.

Autistic people may act in a different way to other people. They may:

- find it hard to communicate and interact with other people;
- find it hard to understand how other people think or feel;
- find things like bright lights or loud noises overwhelming, stressful or uncomfortable;
- get anxious or upset about unfamiliar situations and social events;
- take longer to understand information;
- do or think the same things over and over.

Nobody knows what causes autism, or if it has a cause. It can affect people in the same family, so it may sometimes be passed on to a child by their parents. However we know for certain autism is not caused by bad parenting, nor vaccines, is not linked to diet and is not a catchable infection.

(Source: NHS and National Autistic Society)

# Accompanied Prayer

There will be a Week of Accompanied Prayer at Guildford Cathedral from **October 8-13**, hosted by the Spiritual Directors Network.

This week is for anyone in whatever place they may be on the spiritual journey. If you sense a longing to deepen your life in God, a desire to make sense of your faith journey, or wish to find different ways to pray then this week may be for you.

Not many of us have the time nor the resources to stay at a retreat house, but this week brings the retreat to you in your everyday life. It starts with a gathering at the cathedral on Sunday, October 8 at 4pm for an introduction, then everyone will meet a prayer companion. Everyone will then commit to pray for half-an-hour a day for the week and to meet daily, at a mutually agreed time and in absolute confidence, with their companion to talk about their experience in the prayer and suggested scriptures.

On Friday, October 13, there is an informal service and refreshments at 7.30pm at a venue to be announced, with the opportunity to hear and share if you wish what the week has been like. If several people in our part of the

diocese want to apply, then we can arrange for prayer companions to meet here rather than having to travel to Guildford.

Margaret Bowers, a member of St George's Church, writes: "I'm very excited to introduce this to you since it was one such accompanied week that opened for me prayer and closeness with God in ways I hadn't previously experienced nor been taught before. It also led to my training as a Spiritual Director or Companion as someone who journeys alongside others as they too discover a lived experience of God more and more in their everyday lives.

"Certainly, after such a week I felt affirmed in the unconditional love of God, encouraged, supported, surprised, and energised in my spiritual journey and learned a truth that still holds today, which is that when we intentionally set time aside to be with God then God delights in drawing close to us in unexpected and wonderful ways."

There is an application form on the next page which should be sent to [woapguildford@hotmail.com](mailto:woapguildford@hotmail.com) but if you wish to ask Margaret Bowers anything, please contact her at [margbowers@aol.com](mailto:margbowers@aol.com).



**Week of Accompanied Prayer 8<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

**Based in Guildford Cathedral**

**Guildford Diocese  
Spiritual Directors  
Network**

In order to enable us to place you appropriately with a prayer guide please complete the following;

Name

Address

Post Code

Phone

Email

Current church if applicable.

How long have you been a member of this church?

Do you have any experience of Spiritual accompaniment/ direction?

Please underline the times of the day you are available. (If unable to reach the Cathedral it may be possible to take part by zoom)

Morning 10-1pm

Afternoon 1-5pm

Evening 6-8pm

**Please read the following**

I agree to this information being stored on a computer only for the purposes of organising this event. ....

Name or Digital signature

Date

Please complete this and return to.....L Scrivener [woapguildford@hotmail.com](mailto:woapguildford@hotmail.com)

## Prayer

# Exploring prayer

An Exploring Prayer series is starting this month, examining different ways of praying. It will run on Wednesday evenings at **St Mark's**, starting on **September 20th**. On the first evening we will meet early at 7pm and then go into Farnham Park to spend time with God in nature.

The series will continue until the end of October and the next two will be:

**27<sup>th</sup> September** – ‘Sound and Silence’ - exploring and experiencing ways of coming into God's presence through music. No prior knowledge required, just a desire to sit and listen. Led by Lesley Shatwell

4<sup>th</sup> October – ‘**Centering Prayer, a simple method of silent prayer**’. This way of prayer is simply sitting in silence in the presence of God with an open mind and heart, desiring just to be with God as God is rather than for what we want. The prayer goes beyond thoughts, emotions or sensations. Like being with a very close friend or lover where words are not needed, Centering Prayer deepens relationship with God, self and others. Led by Margaret Bowers.

Details of the remaining ones will be published in the October magazine.

## Generosity

# Gratitude, generosity and God

We are considering gratitude and generosity in September, looking at what there is to thank God for and how we might respond with our own generosity.

There will be services on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, focusing on God's loving generosity to us and looking at our own response. Do we hold tightly onto earthly things and spend a lot of time worrying about them, or does our perspective allow us to hold them a little more lightly, so allowing us to be more generous and to allow generosity and gratitude to become part of our natures, part of our faith? There will be lots to think about and discuss, so please come to listen and respond.

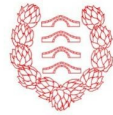


Further information from Lesley Crawley, [revd.lesley@badshotleaandhale.org](mailto:revd.lesley@badshotleaandhale.org)



## **THE BADSHOT LEADER**

**September 2023**



### **THE VILLAGE HALL**



As described by Maurice Hewins in his article about local hop growing and its decline in the early 1970's, the Hop Kiln along St Georges Road was then redundant and sold to a local developer. He applied for planning permission to build houses on the site and intended to convert The Kiln to flats. The planning permission was refused, the conversion of the building did not take place and the site was put back on the market.

A campaign was launched to purchase the building for the community and through various sources including local fund raising the community took ownership of the site in 1978.

The building was still intact as a kiln and needed substantial alteration. Staircases were provided to replace the ladders which gave access between floors, the 5 furnace areas were knocked into 1 to act as the main hall and kitchen and toilet areas were required. There was also some extensive underpinning of one of the walls. Much of this was achieved by some hard work and dedication by a number of local volunteers including builders, plumbers and electricians.

Following its acquisition the building was registered as a charity and is held in trust for the community of Badshot Lea. It is now managed by the Trustees and the Village Hall Committee.

The converted kiln was officially opened as The Village Hall by the local Member of Parliament, Virginia Bottomley, on 4 May 1985 and now serves as a meeting place for a number of clubs and societies including Dog Training, Theatre and Dance, Slot Car Racing, Yoga, Photography, The Leapfrogs Pre School Group and serves as a hub for CSSEF for children with

## The Badshot Leader

impaired hearing.

Also on the site are the Community Garden with their hop growing area and the race track for model cars.

The contact details for all the above activities can be found on the Badshot Lea Association website.

The kiln is open on Sunday 17 September as part of Farnham Heritage Open Days. Please come along and see the various activity areas in the building as well as the restored hop drying room and venture outside to the Community Garden.

*Cliff Watts*

## Aldershot Model Car Club

Aldershot Model Car Club has been in existence for around 40 years and today hosts regular races throughout the year. Races take place on Sundays roughly every two weeks with 1/10 scale electric cars called "Touring Cars". Years ago petrol cars were used at the track, however due to the noise of the engines, and the increase in electric power, these cars are not as popular as electric.

The cars themselves come in kit form, usually built by the drivers. Entry level cars can be on track for around £200 with everything included, the higher performance categories are a lot more expensive and offer a huge range of setup options.

Drivers will change suspension setup, tyre compound, tyre additive, gear ratio, speed control settings, body aerodynamics and a number other settings on the day according to the track conditions, making it a challenging and technical hobby.

We run summer and winter championship seasons with different categories, drivers are competitive on track but friendly and always willing to help each other. As a club we are very welcoming to new members and spectators are always welcome.



Further details of the club can be found at our website: [aldershotclub.com](http://aldershotclub.com)

We also have a Facebook group that people can join with race info and technical help:

Aldershot Model Car Club @ facebook.com

## The Badshot Leader

The Aldershot track is one of only 17 purpose built outdoor on road tracks in the UK and is maintained by the club members of which there are around 55.

As well as club races, we host a round of King of Clubs, a series between five clubs in the South of England, and also a national series race.

Some pictures of the track and the cars:



*Simon Morhall*

## An update from the Community Garden

It's been a great summer at the Community Garden with lots going on. We have been open three mornings a week, the shop has been doing well and we have had evening visits from Beavers, Cubs and a Wellbeing group.

We had our annual visit from the RHS judge. Having worked hard for weeks to prepare the garden and arrange for everyone to meet the judge I then went and got the date wrong and ended up with only two hours' notice of his arrival, complete panic but it all went well, well I hope it did.

For me the highpoint has been to watch the delight on young faces when



## The Badshot Leader

they taste their first home grown strawberry or try their first pea, straight from the pod and with eight young families at the garden now growing fruit and vegetables for the first time, it's been magical to be part of it.

So far this summer we have picked our strawberries, summer raspberries and broad beans, dug up our garlic and are drying our onions. At the end of each session we share out any picked fruit or vegetables, any surplus is given to the Hale Community foodbank.

There's a busy autumn ahead. The Kiln will be open for Heritage day on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September from 10 to 4pm. The garden will be harvesting its hops and talking to visitors about hop growing in Badshot Lea.

We are working with the Developers in St George's Rd to access the old orchard. We hope to be able to offer fresh picked apples from the garden during September, with our apple pressing day on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> and of course we are growing our pumpkins for our pumpkin carving day on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October.

*John Martin*

*Badshot Lea Bloomers*



*Mummy, look how much I've grown!*

*Cubs having a good dip*





# Hiring out our churches - why we do it

*Lesley Crawley explains*

I recently heard a talk by the Reverend Sam Wells, Vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields, and he talked in a very practical way about funding church ministry. There have been various models over the centuries:

The **Benefactor** – often the Lord of the Manor would upkeep the church and pay for all that was needed. Very handy if you can find yourself a benefactor, but on the other hand perhaps one person could have too much sway – I guess everything, including the vicar's sermons might have to please the benefactor.

**Stewardship** – the way that free churches have always organised themselves. If there are 10 people in a church and they give 10 percent of their gross income then they can afford a minister. That is fine for a house church where people meet in houses, but to get a building then a few more people need to give 10 per cent of their gross income! Anglican churches encourage Stewardship too, but rarely can people afford to give quite as much as that, or perhaps there is a different culture



*St Mark's set up for a celebration*

around giving amongst Anglicans – the Church of England recommends five per cent of our gross income. Again, it is very handy to fund the church this way, but perhaps there is an issue that it only involves the church congregation. After all, as Anglicans, everyone in the village is part of the church. Everyone has access to the church building for services – baptisms, weddings and funerals, and for prayer; everyone is part of the 'cure of souls' that the vicar promises to look after. Perhaps, therefore, everyone in the village can have a hand in funding the local church. Stewardship alone might be rather inward-looking.

**Social enterprise** – this involves the community. It can be aspirational, for

*Continued on page 28*

## Hall Hire

*Continued from page 27*

instance employing only the homeless, but at the heart of every social enterprise is the need to make money. Churches do various things – run pre-schools, offer themselves as concert venues, sell merchandise, and run cafés. In our case, we hire our churches out as venues for parties, meetings and clubs. Social Enterprise makes the church a seven days a week building, increases by a factor of 10 how many people come through the doors, and brings us into conversation with a huge range of people.

Who are we in conversation and partnership with? Well, lots of people, we can't list them all but here are some examples:

We have particularly strong links with the **Ahmadiyya Muslim Association** and now have an interfaith women's group with them. Stella has been asked to speak at their Itfars (the fast-breaking evening meal which Muslims have in Ramadan) and they are keen to help where they can with community initiatives, eg the Warm Hub. They have joined in our flower festivals, craft markets and the poetry festival. We get a lot of bookings from them at both St Mark's and St George's.

The **Syro-Malabar Church** hire St George's every week to teach Kerala dancing and took part in our Christian Aid concert.



*Kerala dancers at St George's*

**Magikats** teach students at St George's every Tuesday and kindly donated £100 for Father Christmas presents at the craft market.

**Florescence** is a small floristry business at St Mark's and has sponsored the flower festival.

**Alder Valley Brass Band** have hired St John's and St Mark's and have played at some of our events.

**The Badshot Lea Ladies Group** brings people from the village into St George's who might not otherwise feel part of the church.

**Baby Ballet** have been regular hirers at St George's for several years and have danced at our parish fete.

**Honryu Martial Arts** is starting at St Mark's in September and the leader is keen to help support the church's work with young people (he's a counsellor and uses martial arts to support people with behavioural problems).

Luke from **Guildford Tai Chi**, who books St Mark's on a Wednesday, took part in

the embodied worship series, giving us a free session.

Stella has worked with **Right at Home** on some memory workshops at their Sunflower Café (for people with dementia) and they have booked St Mark's and St George's for various activities. We have a great relationship with them and look forward to more partnership working.

Several groups have donated raffle prizes.

The relationship with the **Badshot Lea Working Men's Club** is now excellent and we help each other out with parking. They often pay to use our car park. There is a group of older people (mostly in their 80s+) who meet at the club who are very grateful for the car park. Several of them came to the Jubilee tea party last year. Stella will be baptising the son of one of the women who works at the WMC soon.

In addition to all this, I strongly believe that God gives us everything we need. For years we scratched our heads, wondering how to pay our way, and thanks to God's mercy, our buildings, members of our congregation within them and Stella running our Social Enterprise, we now can pay our way. We need to do ministry and fund ministry. Hiring our buildings is a mixture of both.

More than anything, our community

must experience the church as a blessing. Our hospitality is a reflection of the hospitality of the God we serve. Not long ago, Stella received this email:

*I wanted to extend my sincerest gratitude for providing your hall as the venue for my baby's first birthday party. The event was a great success, and we couldn't have asked for a better place to celebrate this special day.*

*Your hall's facilities and ambience were perfect for the occasion, and our guests thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Your assistance and support throughout the process made the planning much easier, and I truly appreciate your kind cooperation.*

*Once again, thank you for making my baby's first birthday party memorable. We are grateful for your generosity and hospitality.*

The community are blessing us through this ministry; not just with their money, but with their gifts such as music and dancing, allowing us to share in their ministries and their communities, giving to us out of their expertise. Hopefully, we can offer more than our space; we offer our hospitality, and our faith. For everyone in our villages, we have space that can honour you for us, every relationship is a taste of Christ.

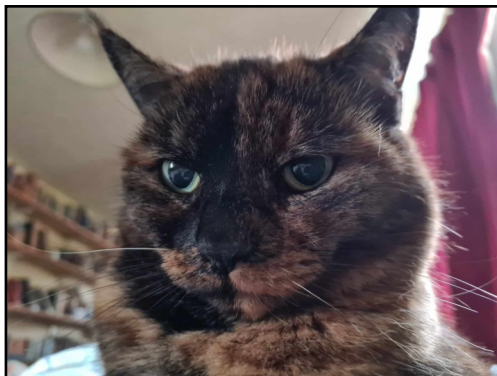
*Rev'd Lesley Crawley*

# Felis-itations for pet blessings

I want to congratulate you. Yet again you are going to be holding a Pet Service in each of your churches. My assistant has produced a poster which she has placed on page 35 and I urge you to celebrate and bless your pets. Well, your cats.

Inevitably there will be dogs at the services and I have been forced to accept this, which is why I won't be there but will be sending a photograph with my assistant instead. Apparently sometimes dogs sing along to the hymns which must be entertaining but a little too much for my delicate constitution.

The day chosen for the services is October 1st which is the Sunday before the Feast of St Francis. I like feasts and by all accounts I would have liked St Francis as he was kind to animals (probably even dogs which is where he and I might differ). He lived in the years before parish magazines - was there ever such a time? - in the 12th and 13th centuries and was a monk whose followers became known as Franciscans. As well as loving us animals he was generous to poor people and used to care for people with leprosy which most other people wouldn't. It must have been tough being on the margins of society in those days. It's



*The Church Cat gives an approving look (honestly)*

tough enough now though there's a cure for leprosy these days. But there are plenty of things that people are isolated for, and I don't mean just diseases.

Anyway, because of good old St F and because we pets help humans in so many ways - don't believe me? check out the [Mental Health Foundation](#) and also the article on the next page (seriously, more dogs?!) - and are part of God's wonderful, diverse creation, pets are ideal for celebrating and for blessing. Finally, if you want church without pets, there will be a non-pet service at St George's at 9am that day.

Keep up the good work!

**Purrs, The Church Cat**



**And now some dogs!**

# **Train your dog for a happy life for everyone**

Dogs are fantastic companions and coaches if you are looking to improve your health and happiness. That is certainly what academic research suggests. But this is much more likely if the dogs in question are well-trained. Living with a dog that has written its own rules, ignores yours and embarrasses you at every opportunity is no fun for you, and, in reality, is no fun for the dog either.

Farnham Dog Training Society holds regular courses to help you to turn your wayward pup into a companion you can be proud of. They are Kennel Club Registered, with qualified instructors helping owners

with puppies and dogs from 16 weeks upwards (no upper age limit). They follow the Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Scheme programme which helps owners mark their dog's progress with certificates and rosettes signifying achievements at the Puppy Foundation, Bronze, Silver and Gold Award assessment levels.

The Monday evening courses are held indoors at the Kiln, Badshot Lea, throughout the school year, starting next on September 4th. If you would like to know more, email [farnhamdogtraining@gmail.com](mailto:farnhamdogtraining@gmail.com) or visit [youtube.com/@farnhamdogtraining](https://youtube.com/@farnhamdogtraining).



**SURREY CHURCHES PRESERVATION TRUST**

**SURREY CHURCHES  
RIDE & STRIDE  
SATURDAY 9th  
SEPTEMBER  
2023**



**Ride or Stride  
& raise money for  
our own churches  
and the Trust**

Your contribution will be  
divided equally between the two

Sponsorship forms at the back of the church

[www.SurreyChurchesPreservationTrust.org](http://www.SurreyChurchesPreservationTrust.org)



## **The Ride & Stride**

### **September 9th, 2023**



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

per church visited.

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

The Trust, whose trustees are from most Christian denominations, runs the annual event in Surrey, supported by a dozen or so Area Organisers. These organisers give support to Church Organisers, providing the paperwork and any guidance they need for preserving our precious heritage.

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

Supporters who prefer not to 'ride or stride', please consider sponsoring volunteers involved in this important event. In addition, joining the Trust costs very little and contributes to its vital work.

Useful websites: [www.SurreyChurchesPreservationTrust.org](http://www.SurreyChurchesPreservationTrust.org)  
[www.Rideandstrideuk.org](http://www.Rideandstrideuk.org)      [www.nationalchurchestrust.org](http://www.nationalchurchestrust.org)





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Metal Clearance  
Industrial Clearance  
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SKIP!

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# 07788 440013



laylacannon05@icloud.com

## Fundraising concert

# Concert in aid of Phyllis Tuckwell

*Jenny Bull writes*

I am a member of The Lydian Singers, a ladies choir from Farnborough, and we have been raising money during the year for Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice, and were able to hand a cheque for £700 over to a hospice representative at our recent concert. The representative explained that it costs £22,000 per day to run the hospice and they are now planning to rebuild the hospice in the near future. Therefore all donations are very welcome.

The choir are now going to join forces with The Alton Concert Band and The Woking Wind Orchestra to perform a concert on Saturday, October 14th at St Andrew's Garrison Church, Aldershot, in memory of their former conductor Ian Morrish, who also conducted the band and orchestra. The ticket price will be £15 and all profits from the concert will be given to the hospice.

If anyone is interested in tickets for the concert please phone me on 01252 326437. Also if any ladies enjoy singing and are interested in joining the choir, all details are on their website at [www.lydiansingersfarnborough.co.uk](http://www.lydiansingersfarnborough.co.uk)

**Jenny Bull**

## Pet Service



**Pet Blessing Service**

Sunday, October 1

9.30am St John's

10am St George's

11am St Mark's

**Bring your pets for a blessing**

admin@badshotleaandhale.org 07842 761919

# Wellbeing event at Hale Family Centre

Emma , a mindfulness practitioner and mum of two, will be hosting a wellbeing session focused on supporting busy parents and carers.

Emma believes in teaching practical , simple, and effective techniques to reduce stress and support parents and carers to manage the mental load of parenthood. Supported by Family Voice Surrey and Waverley Family Centres, Emma will provide a relaxed and friendly workshop , with a useful grounding technique and a guided relaxation to provide parents with some well deserved time out. Participants will also receive a free goody bag to take home.

Friday 8th September

Refreshments and chat from 9.30am; session finishes at 11.00am

Hale Family Centre, Upper Hale Road, Farnham  
GU9 0LR

To book contact Kathy Guy:

07720 143515; [kathy.guy@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:kathy.guy@barnardos.org.uk)



# Who's in the halls?

*We have so many wonderful groups hiring our church halls and churches themselves that we thought it would be a good idea to tell you about some of them. Over the next few months we will be printing articles about the different hirers. Maybe you'd even like to join in!*

## Musical Beats - St Mark's

Musical Beats meets at St Mark's every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning both in term time and the holidays. It's run by Helen Lovell and is for pre-school children. Here is what it is all about:

Musical Beats are leading-edge independently run music and movement classes based on the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework. They creatively keep little minds and bodies fully active and engaged through the power of music and singing, exploring new concepts, instruments and social life and most importantly having fun while learning, boosting successful transitions to nursery and school

Join a class any morning of the week and find out how Musical Beats paves the way for babies, toddlers and preschoolers to enjoy developing, growing and expressing their full potential and uniqueness.

For details or to reserve your child's place in the musical crew as class size is limited, contact [helenvlorell@aol.com](mailto:helenvlorell@aol.com) / 07887 590325.

***"We absolutely LOVE our music class with Helen and look forward to it every Friday. Even if my 10-month-old is having one of his 'moody' days he still laughs and smiles the whole way through. We both get so much out of it. I get to meet lots of mummies and he gets to interact with all the other babies as well as learning a whole range of songs and handling lots of different instruments. I can't recommend it enough."*** Alexandra

### The classes

Monday: 11.30am baby/0-2yrs. St Mark's.  
Tuesday: 10am mixed ages babies, toddlers, preschoolers. The Spire Church, Farnham.  
Wednesday: 10.30am mixed ages babies, toddlers, preschoolers. St Mark's.  
Thursday: 10am mixed ages babies, toddlers, preschoolers. Wrecchesham Community Centre.  
Friday: 10.30am mixed ages babies, toddlers, preschoolers. St Mark's.

***"A fantastic group. Really different, fun and introduces great music and instruments to the babies. My baby and I love going every week."*** Thea







## Free Exercise Classes

Sandy Hill Green Space

Every Thursday May 18th - to - Dec 7th

18:30 for 60min LIIT Work out

**BOOK NOW**

Your Sandy Hill Park : <https://ourparks.org.uk/classes>

Wear comfortable  
clothes and bring  
something to lie on.  
Don't forget your water.



FUNDED BY



## Subsidised trips with ASSIST

Farnham ASSIST, the charity which supports older people in the area, is offering subsidised outings to older people living alone and to carers to attend their outings. The offer is for residents of Upper Hale, and has come from the SPARKS fund through Voluntary Action South West.

There are two trips available:

- September 19<sup>th</sup>: Milestones Museum and coach to Basingstoke – £10 instead of the normal price of £34.
- October 25<sup>th</sup>: shopping trip to a garden centre in Bordon – £4 instead of the normal price of £15.

Farnham ASSIST will also be holding a free tea and nature talk at St Mark's on Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>.

To fit the criteria, people need to define themselves as an older person (no fixed age) and either to live alone or to be a sole carer in Upper Hale, according to the borough ward boundary, namely Folly Hill, Upper Hale Road and Sandy Hill. There will be a transport pick-up point at the Hale War Memorial.

To find out more, call Farnham ASSIST on 01252 717710 or email [rodney.bates@farnham-assist.org.uk](mailto:rodney.bates@farnham-assist.org.uk).



---

### Hale WI

## Farnham's secret history revealed

Hale WI will be meeting at the Hale Village Institute at 1.45pm on Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, when the speaker will be Ron Waight who will be talking about 'The Secret History of Farnham'. It should be an interesting afternoon and visitors are very welcome for a charge of £4. After the talk tea and cake will be served. To find out more, call 01252 722817 or 01252 715802.

# Cartoon Family portraits from the Squirrel Collective



Have your portrait drawn by Jacqui, from the Squirrel Collective, as seen on baptism booklets in the Parish of Badshot Lea and Hale.

Family groups, friendship groups, couples, children and parents... even your pets. I draw from photographs and will work with you to get a drawing you are happy with. I draw by hand and add colour with alcohol-based markers, so your picture will stay vibrant for a long time to come.

You can buy an additional, digital copy of your portrait, so that you can put it onto mugs, T-shirts, bags, etc.

**Prices from £15.**

*To order, or for more details, please see @TheSquirrelCollective on Facebook.*





## inHALE...

An exhibition of painting, drawing, film, collage, ceramics

Alison Ridgeon, Belinda Goodman,  
Dave Walker, Helena Putnam Walker,  
Jack Hughes, Jo Farnell,  
Pauline Lalor, Sam Lehane  
with music from Wildflowers

Please join us anytime from 2pm - 7pm  
Saturday 9th September '23

Hale Institute (Village Hall)  
Hale Green  
1 Wings Road, Farnham, GU9 0HN  
plenty of parking, soft drinks & nibbles  
(or bring your own bottle/picnic)

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**For details call 07842761919**

**or email  
editor@**

**badshotleaandhale.org**

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# From the Church Registers

## Baptisms

We welcome into our church family those who have been baptised recently:

*16th July at St Mark's Church:*

Cole Stephen George Francis

*23rd July at St George's Church:*

Madison Roxanna Keen

*23rd July at St John's Church:*

Charlotte Louise White



## Weddings

We congratulate those who have recently married:

*19th August at St John's Church:*

Emily Goddard & Stephen Strain



## Funerals

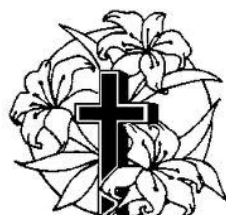
We commend to God those whose funerals have recently taken place:

*25th July at St John's Church + Aldershot Crematorium:*

Kenneth Victor Miles

*12th August at St Mark's Church:*

Frances Joan Whewell



## Who's Who

### Ministry Team

#### Rector

Lesley Crawley  
25 Upper Hale Road,  
Farnham, GU9 0NX  
01252 820537  
[revd.lesley@  
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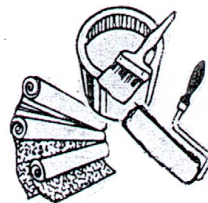
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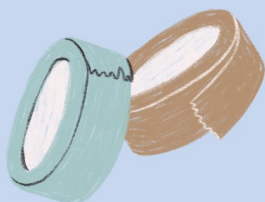


**Saturday, 16th September, 10am-2pm**

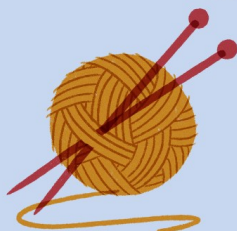
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