

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

Issue no.
280

**October
2024**

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October

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The deadline for the November issue of the magazine is **Sunday, October 13.**

Magazine subscription and deadline

Subscriptions to the magazine are a minimum of £10 for the year, suggested price £15. Contact 07842 761919 editor@badshotleaandhale.org.

Advertisers

Below is a list of our current advertisers by category and the page numbers you can find them on. Please use their services and don't forget to say that you saw their advert in this magazine.

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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.



What's on in October

Tuesday October 1 10:00—Free Craft Café

The next free Craft Cafe run by Farnham Maltings will be at St George's on Tuesday, October 1, 10am-12pm.

Come along and learn a new craft or bring your own. It's every fortnight and absolutely free.

Thursday October 3 10:30 - Coffee and Art at St Mark's

Join us for art and coffee (and cake) at St Mark's on the first and third Thursday of every month, 10.30am-12pm.

No artistic skills needed!

Thursday October 3 14:00 - Home Groups

A home group is meeting weekly on a Thursday afternoon, reading 100 Stand-Alone Bible Studies by Penelope Wilcock. The next one will be on 3 October 2:00pm - 3:30pm. Please contact Richard Myers for details: rjh-myers@yahoo.co.uk.

Thursday October 3 19:30 - Poetry Evening

Come to the first of our poetry evenings. Open mic and a chance to chat about poetry at St Mark's on 3 October 7:30pm - 9:30pm.

Saturday October 5 18:00 - Harvest Supper

The Harvest Supper is on Saturday, 5th October, 6:00pm-9:30pm, at St George's. Tickets are available at each of the churches; Adults £10, children (under 16) £5. Always a great evening for the whole parish, with a lovely supper, entertainment and a raffle. If you can offer to be part of the entertainment, please let Kris know: war-den.stgeorges@badshotleaandhale.org.

Sunday October 6 - Pet Service

There will be a Pet Service at St John's (9.30am), and St Mark's (11am) on Sunday, October 6th. Bring your pets, or pictures of pets, to church for a blessing as we give thanks for our pets and what they mean to us. You can also bring cuddly toys!

Sunday October 6 10:00 - Sung Service of the Word

There will be a fully sung service of the word led by Lesley Shatwell at St George's on 6 October 10:00am - 11:00am. Please come and join us for this very special act of worship as we lift our voices in praise to the Lord.

Sunday October 6 - BCP Evensong - Postponed

BCP Evensong at St George's is postponed for now due to ill health.

Tuesday October 8 10:00 - Connections

Connections is a group for the over-50s meeting at St George's every fortnight, 10:00am - 11:30am. Coffee, cake and various activities.

Thursday October 10 10:00 - St John's Thursday Café

The St John's Thursday café is a drop-in coffee morning taking place on the second and fourth Thursday of the month in the Sumner Room. There is tea, coffee, cakes and biscuits and a chance to meet and chat with other people.

The next café will be at St John's on 10 October 10:00am - 12:00pm.

Friday October 13 19:00 - Friday Night Games Night

Join us for Friday Night Games at St Mark's on 13 October 7:00pm - 9:00pm. There is a meal, table tennis, games and lots of chat!

Tuesday October 15 10:00—Free Craft Café

The next free Craft Cafe run by Farnham Maltings will be at St George's on Tuesday, October 15th, 10am-12pm. Come along and learn a new craft or bring your own. It's every fortnight and absolutely free.

Wednesday October 16 19:30 - Songs of Pride with Eucharist

There will be a Rainbow Service with a eucharist to celebrate and affirm LGBTQIA+ people at St Mary's, Quarry Street, Guildford on 16 October 7:30pm - 9:00pm. The guest preacher and celebrant will be Martin Knight, a URC Pioneer Minister with the LGBTQIA+ community in Brighton and Hove.

Thursday October 17 10:30 - Coffee and Art at St Mark's

Join us for art and coffee (and cake) at St Mark's on the first and third Thursday of every month, 10.30am-12pm. No artistic skills needed! Today we are making lanterns

Thursday October 24 10:00 - St John's Thursday Cafe

The St John's Thursday café is a drop-in coffee morning taking place on the second and fourth Thursday of the month in the Sumner Room. There is tea, coffee, cakes and biscuits and a chance to meet and chat with other people. The next café will be at St John's on 24 October 10:00am - 12:00pm.

Friday October 27 19:00 - Friday Night Games Night

Join us for Friday Night Games at St Mark's on 27 October 7:00pm - 9:00pm. There is a meal, table tennis, games and lots of chat!

Time to contemplate contemplative prayer

How do we get through tough times? Most of us have them, some of us more than others, some people go through unbelievably difficult periods of their lives. Few of us have lives which consist of skipping through sunlit meadows without a care in the world.

Everyone will have their own reaction to troubles and, in the face of the death of someone dear to us, there are no right or wrong ways to grieve. Don't let anyone tell you otherwise. Don't let anyone tell you not to grieve or to 'move on'.

And I completely reject the idea that God sends difficult times to test us or teach us something. God does not throw the bad stuff at us.

Yet many wiser people than I am suggest that we can learn and grow through times of trauma. Some would even say that these times are necessary if we are to grow into the knowledge of the true God. Again, not that God sits around and plans our traumas, but when we go through them, God is there in the middle of it.



Stella Wiseman

How so? And do we have to go through it? Often I pray to be spared the pain of trauma, even though I know life is full of it. But recently I have been reading the writings of people who suggest that the only way we can find solace and joy is to accept and embrace what comes to us, and to do so by some form of contemplation.

What exactly is that? It is, according to the Centre for Action and Contemplation (CAC) "the practice of being fully present—in heart, mind, and body—to what is". And at the centre of what is, is God.

There are lots of different ways of engaging in contemplation with different cultures doing so in different ways, but the one I know most about is contemplative prayer, “a daily practice of deep listening to better connect with ourselves and divine love” (CAC). It is similar to mindfulness practice in that you take a word or short phrase —Maranatha is a good one, or Jesus, or Divine Love – and repeating it slowly in your mind as you breathe in and out, returning to the word or phrase as your mind wanders (and it will) while you sit in silence. You do not sit and think about what has been or what will be, but just are there in the present moment,

in the presence of God.

Those whom I have come across, either in person or in videos or books, who practise this regularly, seem to have a calm in the face of whatever life throws at them. They are touching something deep within and at the centre of reality. Christian contemplatives call this God.

In Advent I will be leading a short course on Contemplative Prayer; time and venue to be decided. Let me know if you like to know more.

RevD.stella@badshotleaandhale.org
or 07842761919.

Stella Wiseman, curate



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Prayer page

May today there be peace within.
May I trust God that I am exactly where I am meant to be.
May I not forget the infinite possibilities
that are born of faith.

May I use those gifts that I have received,
and pass on the love that has been given to me.
May I be content knowing I am a child of God.

Let this presence settle into my bones,
and allow my soul the freedom to sing, dance,
praise, and love, knowing it is there
for each and every one of us.

Amen



A prayer attributed to St Thérèse of Lisieux, Carmelite nun, who is remembered on 1 October

Praying for peace in a divided world

On a wet Sunday afternoon in September about 35 women and half a dozen children joined together in Gostrey Meadow to pray for peace in our divided world. We were Anglicans, Catholics, Quakers, Muslims, women of no particular faith group, and many who didn't say whether they had a faith or not.

We were there to pray for peace and to demonstrate that we have far more in common than anything that divides us. I hope this will be the first of many such meetings.

The gathering was organised by the parish and the Farnham branch of Lajna, which how the Ahmadiyya Muslim Women's Association is known, but was attended by a wider group. Several women stepped forward to say why they were there and the same themes came up again and again – to be peacemakers, to show to the world that we can be united even when we come from different cultures, to stand up against racism and bigotry, to let women's voices be heard.

After a time of speaking about why we were there, we spent time in silent prayer, with the occasional person praying aloud or making a comment as they felt led to do (this is a practice which Quakers follow). It felt peaceful and powerful. Then we gathered in the bandstand for homemade samosas and cake made by members of Lajna. The rain had held off until this point but now began to pour so we were grateful for the shelter, the food,



Gathering for snacks after prayer

and the chance to talk and get to know each other better.

Names and numbers were exchanged and there are plans to meet again. Any woman who would like to be involved in the future is asked to contact Stella Wiseman revd.stella@badshotleaandhale.org or 07842761919. Apologies that this is for women only but we are respecting the wishes of Lajna.

Harvest Supper



HARVEST — SUPPER —

SATURDAY

OCTOBER
5TH
6PM-9.30PM

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT EACH OF THE
CHURCHES

ADULTS £10, CHILDREN (UNDER 16) £5

ENTERTAINMENT AND A RAFFLE

IF YOU CAN OFFER TO BE PART OF THE
ENTERTAINMENT, PLEASE LET KRIS KNOW:
WARDEN.STGEORGES@BADSHOTLEAANDHALE.ORG

Snug as a bug in a hotel

Bugs in Upper Hale can live in luxury thanks to refurbishment of the bug hotel in St Mark's churchyard by the group Hive Helpers.

Liam and Erica from Hive Helpers transformed the old bug hotel which had become overgrown with ivy and seemed to have just two residents - a spider and a snail.

Now the ivy has been removed and there is a variety of materials in the individual 'rooms' for different invertebrates to use. Most of the materials were found in the churchyard and include sticks, leaves, grass and apples from the church's orchard. Erica supplied undyed wool which small birds and mice may take for their nests.

We are very grateful to Erica and Liam for their hard work and I am sure the bugs will be too! Hive Helpers have been a great source of information about how to make our churchyards better for the environment.



Liam, a volunteer with Hive Helpers, and the newly refurbished bug hotels (photo Hive Helpers)



PeerTalk is a national charity that
host peer support groups for people
living with depression, anxiety and
similar psychological distress
www.peertalk.org.uk

PeerTalk Farnham

PeerTalk Farnham normally meets in the community room at Farnham Fire Station every Thursday at 7.30 - 9.00pm but the meetings have recently been suspended due to the fire station's refurbishment. We are going to restart the meetings soon and we are wanting a few more helpers prior to the re-launch.

Please will you help?

PeerTalk helpers don't give advice, counsel or try to 'fix' people as their role is to help those who attend the meeting to support and encourage each other - that is what peer support is.

The commitment is to be available to support the meeting on at least three evenings in a three month period.
All the helpers do their sessions in pairs as part of a wider team.

Training is given in understanding the issues around depression and anxiety and how to facilitate the support group well.

If you are interested in helping at PeerTalk Farnham then give me a call on 07719 562 617 or email: stephen@peertalk.org.uk

Please share this appeal to anyone you might think can help
Thank you!

Sleep out for young people facing homelessness

Youth homeless charity Step by Step is inviting members of the public to give up the comfort of their beds and sleep out for the night, in support of local young people facing homelessness.

Sleep Out 2024 takes place on Friday, October 11th at Farnborough Business Park. There will be live music, a barbecue and inspiring stories, but when the lights go out, participants will be sleeping out with no shelter.

The event is not intended to replicate the true horror of sleeping rough, but hopes to raise much-needed funds to support those who are facing homelessness for real.

Aldershot-based Step by Step offers young people aged 16-25 a safe place to live and the chance to learn life skills and address mental health challenges. The charity supports more than 1,500 young people each year.

The Sleep Out has been running for more than 10 years, each time attracting a mix of individuals and community groups united by the cause. The event raises vital funds to support essential services across Hampshire, Surrey and the South of England.

Tickets are £10 for adults and £5 for children. The event is suitable for those aged six and over.

For many, the Sleep Out proves to be a real eye-opener.

“The Sleep Out gives a tiny insight into the reality of young people who must sleep outside when they are homeless. The Explorers have learnt more about these vital issues,” said Mike, an Explorer Scout leader.

Chris, who works for Lloyds Bank added: “It was so humbling to be able to support the charity by spending a night sleeping rough. I met some lovely people and to know that my fundraising is being used to support local young people is awesome!”

Will you sleep out for young people facing homelessness? Book your place now at www.stepbystep.org.uk/sleepout. Registration closes on October 4th.



What ARE you are wearing? Or a guide to vestments

I read an article recently entitled ‘Anglican Vestments Can Be Confusing’. You don’t say! What are these weird robes, capes, scarves and other twiddly bits? When I was in training for ministry, a friend announced: “I haven’t got a cassock alb yet”. I didn’t like to confess that I didn’t know what one was, let alone possess one.

Despite being part of the Anglican Church all my life, sometimes in places which were quite ‘high’ and where ceremony was more important than in your average evangelical church (I also spent time in these), I had never taken much notice of what ministers and others wore. I knew bishops wore tall hats called mitres and I knew about dog collars, and black cassocks, but cassock albs?

It turned out, of course, that the cassock alb is what Alan and Lesley wore at communion services underneath the colourful capes aka chasubles (we will come to those later). It’s white or off-white and is basically a pale cassock. It’s quite a new invention and combines two other vestments – the cassock and, you guessed it, the alb. Wikipedia suggests it ‘developed as a convenient undergarment worn by clergy’ which makes it sound like a vest or maybe some long-johns, but it goes under the chasuble.

The alb itself is a white (from Latin *albus*, meaning ‘white’) full-length, long-sleeved garment which is gathered at the waist by a cincture. A what? That is a narrow cord or a wider sash. It represents chastity which is less appropriate in a denomination where marriage is allowed. In any case, the cassock alb doesn’t need one of these.

The alb is often worn over the cassock, and, like the cassock alb, is mostly worn for presiding at the Eucharist and at other celebrations, such as Christmas, Easter, a baptism, a wed-



Anglican priest in a purple chasuble

ding. Black cassocks with a white surplice (like a smock) are worn, in this parish at least, at more solemn occasions such as the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services, and at funerals. However, some clergy wear their cassocks at celebrations too, some (usually Roman Catholic) wear them all the time in public except when, as one website stressed, impractical (e.g. when swimming, jogging or working out at the gym).

Wearing it is a symbol of dedicating you life to the service of Christ and the Church and black symbolises poverty, mourning and death, with the symbolism of dying to self and rising to serve God, and of life beyond death.

I don't wear my cassock all the time but I do understand why priests do. Wearing a cassock covers up the person inside and indicates that the priest is there to offer God, albeit through the human form. As one Catholic priest explained: "When parishioners are dying in their beds, seeking counsel or simply chatting with me over a hedgerow, they don't seek my personal (non-existent) saving grace. They desire the sacramental grace of the priesthood, the power of Holy Orders, to encounter Christ through a man who has become an efficacious sign that God will never abandon them." That feels an enormous burden, but the idea of representing Christ just as Stella is a bigger one.

Around my neck each Sunday I hang a stole, a rather beautiful coloured scarf. There are several interpretations of what this means – the symbol of being ordained, dignity, immortality, and, my favourite, the yoke of Christ.



Alb and stole

After I had been ordained deacon I made the mistake of putting my stole around my neck but was quickly told that I should wear it diagonally across me from the left shoulder to show that I was a deacon not a priest. The idea is that this would keep my right hand free for serving (not sure what happens if you are left-handed) and it is a sign that a deacon is a servant. However all priests, even bishops, remain deacons so the symbolism confuses me.

There is a bit of a tradition to give a white stole with decoration at ordination and I have a beautiful one with rainbows

Priestly Vestments

on it, designed and created by the artist Dave Walker.

Over the top of everything, at least at communion services, is the chasuble, the usually colourful poncho-like vestment which is put on over the head as it doesn't have a front or back opening. It symbolises charity or, another favourite of mine, the cloak of the Holy Spirit.

The colour of the stole, the chasuble and the altar frontal – the large, embroidered piece of cloth in front of the altar, changes according to season of the church year.

So we begin with purple or blue in Advent, and either purple or sepia in Lent. Easter, Christmas, major feast days and weddings are white, and white is also used at funerals to symbolise the hope of resurrection. However, a purple stole or a plain black scarf are also used for funerals, and I wear my white stole with the rainbows for Pride services.

Green is worn during Trinity (aka



Anglican priest in an alb, cincture and purple stole

Ordinary Time) and for Epiphany and Red is for the Day of Pentecost, Saints' Days, Confirmations, and Ordinations (though again white may be worn).

Simple, eh? Of course, lots of Church of England clergy do not wear vestments, preferring to wear everyday clothes. But I find vestments helpful. They enable me to feel more part of something far greater than I am, they remind me that I am taking part in God's work, not my own. The idea is that the congregation should look beyond the priest to what the priest is pointing to – that is, God.

Also, I love the colours.



Green chasuble for Ordinary Time

Stella Wiseman, curate



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07842761919

The bishop and the rugby club



Farnham Rugby Club logo

Has anyone ever noticed the similarity between the Farnham Rugby Club badge and the bishop's mitre, made of metal, on the wall above the bishop's chair by The Ark in St John's?

There is a reason they look so alike as Richard Kennedy, an Englishman living in France, told us.

"My late father, Patrick Kennedy, was a founder member of Farnham Rugby Club, and designed the mitre that is their club badge.

"I seem to remember him telling me that he based the design on a mitre he saw in St John the Evangelist church on the Hale road - we lived in Heath End at the time."

We were able to send him a picture of



Bishop's chair and mitre

the St John's mitre and he confirmed that this was almost certainly the one his father based his design on. He concluded: "If that is the case, it is a nice coincidence that the rugby club is now based so near to where the badge originated."

The Indian Diaspora talk

Hale WI will be meeting on the second Wednesday of the month, October 9th from 1.45pm in Village Institute in Wings Road. The speaker will be Jay Woogara who will be taking on 'The Indian Diaspora – Sugarcane to Surrey'.

Visitors are welcome for a charge of £5.

The talk will be followed by tea and cake and, of course, a lot of chat. For more information, call 01252 722817 or 01252 714363.

Lantern workshop

Shine a light for the Lantern Parade

The parish is taking part in Farnham's Lantern Parade, on October 31st. There will be a demonstration of how to make the lanterns at the Arts at St Mark's meeting on Thursday, October 17th at 10.30am. The kits will be available to you there. If you have a pair of secateurs that will cut through willow sticks, please bring them with you.

St John's Tower

Help restore St John's tower

St John's is 180 years old this year and it is showing its age. The tower is falling down and we need to repair it, but it is going to cost us at least £50,000. The top of the tower in particular needs a lot of work and this will involve high scaffolding, so we need to do all the work in one go to avoid further scaffolding costs.

We need everyone's help to raise the money. Anything you can spare will be much appreciated. You can give money directly to the parish, but please mark donations 'St John's', or you can give via two fundraising pages: [GoFundMe](#) or [JustGiving](#). The information is on our website, badshotleaandhale.org or ask your churchwarden or revd.stella@badshotleaandhale.org for details.



The tower

Clothing Giveaway



We're delighted to report that our new Clothing Giveaway, which takes place every Monday morning at St Mark's, has got off to an excellent start.

Every Monday we open the doors to the church at 9am for people who would like to select some clothes for them and/or their families, totally free of charge. We also serve coffee, tea, squash, cake or similar in a café in the Community Centre part of the church, again free of charge.

The Clothing Giveaway is not just for people who are struggling financially, but for anyone, regardless of economic status. We want to encourage people not to spend so much on new clothes but instead to fill their wardrobes with good-quality second-hand clothing. We are also trying to encourage recycling so that old clothes do not end up in landfill (at the moment

around 350,000 tonnes, that's around £140 million worth of used but still wearable clothing, goes to landfill in the UK every year).

We take donations of old, good-quality clothes, shoes and baby equipment and are always happy to welcome volunteers to sort out the clothes. We usually sort on a Sunday afternoon.

The Clothing Giveaway is being run in conjunction with the Hale Community Centre and is open at St Mark's on Monday mornings 9-11am.

Please look out your old, good-quality clothes and shoes for children and adults. You can bring them to church (in bags/boxes please) or bring them to St Mark's on a Monday morning, or let Stella Wiseman know if you need them to be picked up: revd.stella@badshotleaandhale.org or calling 07842761919.



CLOTHING GIVEAWAY

9am - 11am Mondays

St Mark's Community Centre

St Mark's Church

Upper Hale, Farnham GU9 0LT

**Good condition clothing
donations received.**

**All clothing for free to our
community for personal use.**



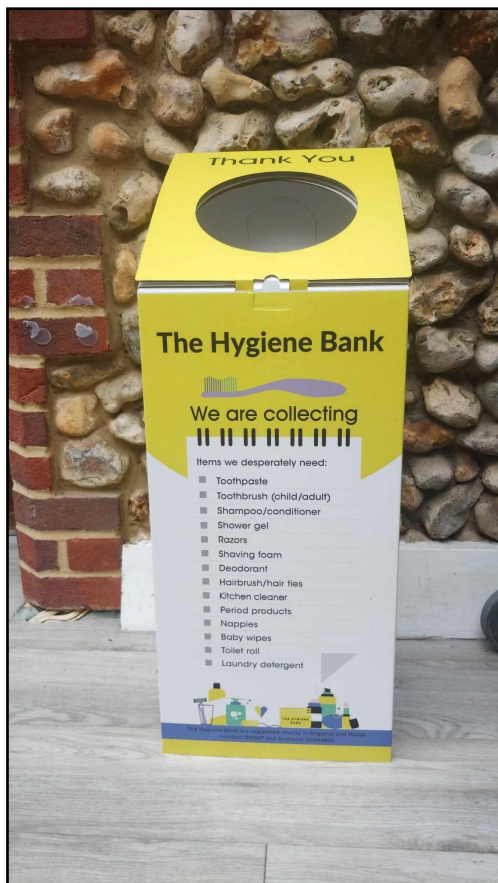
**For donation drop-offs and enquiries please contact
Rev'd Stella Wiseman 07842 761919**

Hygiene Bank

We have a new collection point at St Mark's for the Hygiene Bank. This provides toiletries and household cleaning items for people who are struggling financially and may have to choose between food and cleaning products. Please bring new, unused, in-date personal care and household cleaning essentials - including deodorant, shower gel, shampoo, make-up, nappies, toilet roll, laundry detergent and surface cleaner. Simply leave it in the box in the church.

The Hygiene Bank is a charity formed around the belief that being clean should not be a luxury or a privilege for anyone in society, yet many are living in poverty and cannot afford to stay clean. This is not only unjust but can have far-reaching consequences. Not being able to stay clean can lead to shame, exclusion and social isolation. In turn it can lead to low self-esteem and poor physical and mental health and can have an impact on early childhood development, learning, employability and social interaction.

The products you give will be distributed to community partners - a mix of organisations, charities and schools - who support those of us who have found ourselves in poverty.



Join the Choir for Christmas

Do you enjoy singing Christmas carols? If so, then why not come and join our very enthusiastic parish choir for Christmas?

We practise every Monday evening at 6pm for an hour and a quarter at St. George's church.

Very soon we will begin preparing for the traditional carol services in our churches and other venues in the parish. We will be singing the well loved carols and some less well known songs too.

No need to be able to read music and no audition required. Seasonal good cheer, however, is compulsory!

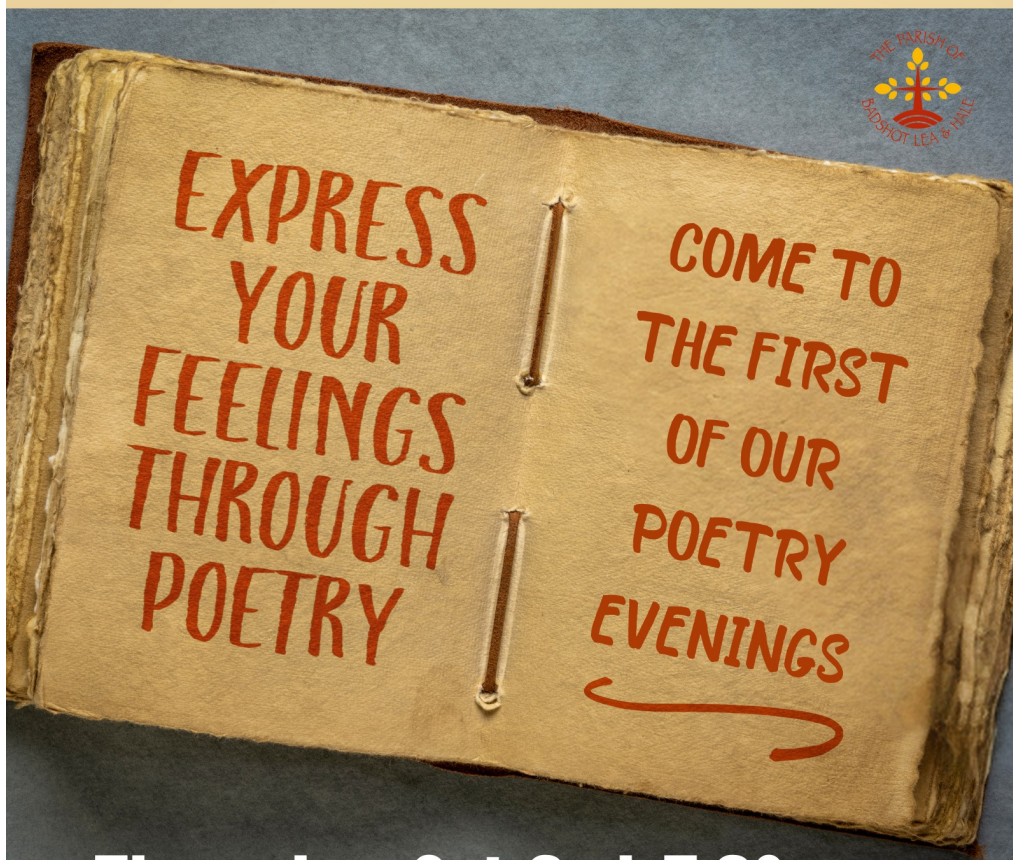
You can phone me on 01252 409124, or email or chat to one of the choir.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Margaret Emberson.



Poetry evening



Thursday, Oct 3rd, 7.30pm.

**St Mark's Church, Upper Hale,
GU9 0LT**

Open mic and time to chat about poetry
poetry@badshotleaandhale.org 07842761919

Poetry Please

The poetry evening which was postponed in June has been rearranged for Thursday, October 3rd at St Mark's, starting at 7.30pm.

There will be an open mic and a chance to chat about poetry. Refreshments will be served or bring your own.

Whether you are a budding poet or a practiced professional, or you just like to listen to poetry, come and join us at St Mark's for a friendly, inclusive evening. There will be no pressure to read anything out, but you will be welcome to if you wish.

Admission is free but donations will be welcome. To find out more, contact poetry@badshotleaandhale.org or call 07842761919.



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CLIENT TESTIMONIAL

'Hamilton George are not 'just a safe pair of hands', they are proactive rather than reactive. They balance a professional level of care with the inherent empathy needed that has become a rare commodity. Cannot recommend highly enough.'



Pet Blessing Service



Sunday, October 6

9.30am St John's

11am St Mark's

Bring your pets for a blessing

admin@badshotleaandhale.org 07842 761919

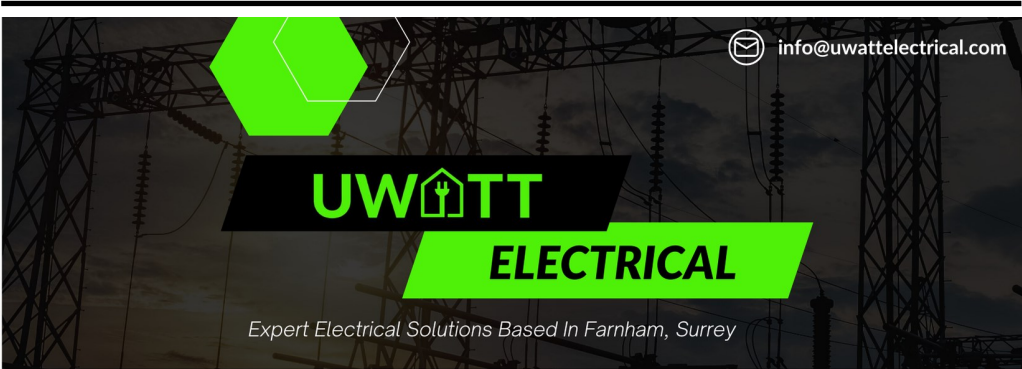

All God’s creatures got a place in the choir


It’s time to bring your dogs, cats (maybe not), guinea pigs, rabbits, hamsters, geckos, pet spiders, snakes, stick insects and any other animals you have living at home to church for our annual pet services.

Pets are a wonderful blessing to many of us and can help our mental and physical health. So let’s give thanks for them in all their shapes and sizes and bring them for a blessing at St John’s and St Mark’s on October 6th at 9.30am and 11am respectively.

If your pet is too large or too nervous to come to church, you can bring a picture of them instead. And if you don’t have a pet, why not bring a favourite soft toy instead? Or dress up as an animal?

After all, all God’s creatures got a place in the choir!



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Meditations on joy

My cousin/half-sister (it's complicated) is not well. She is, the curate tells me, on her last legs, or paws so, while I am as sprightly as a kitten, she has to conserve her energy. And, according to the vet, she has to have whatever food she wants, whenever she wants it.

Since eating whenever and whatever she fancies has been her desire all her life, it seems she has reached the pinnacle of existence and is living a life of joy in the moment.

In fact, I am suspicious of her – did she bribe the vet? Maybe she is just a very good actor and I will one day observe her leaping like a small hare in the garden.

But, as I am a compassionate and caring cat (*shurely shome mishtake, Ed*), I don't begrudge her the food and am happy when the curate puts down a bowl in front of her (this has nothing to do with my being an opportunist and trying to grab some off her). My compassion and care extend to you humans too and I have been thinking about how you do not tend to live life in the moment or do the things that give you joy. Instead, you worry away about the next day or what you said to someone yesterday, or how to do something today.

Someone in the curate's family isn't too well at the moment and his wife has told him to focus on the



This gives me joy. I am eating, my cousin/sister is not.

things that give him joy. I have considered this in the way that only a cat can – sensibly and with my eyes shut – and I think: 'Why not?'. Why not be like him and like my sister/cousin, and look for the joy in life? At the end of a day think about all the good things which have gone on. And at any given moment, look for something that gives you joy – maybe the colour of the autumn leaves, or a picture of someone you love, or, best of all, the chance to sit down and stroke a cat. I thoroughly recommend that.

You can also find joy in serving me food.

Purrs
The Church Cat





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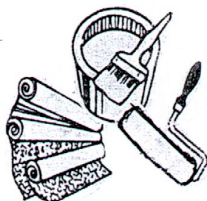
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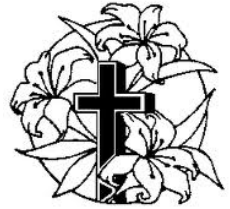
From the Church Registers

Funerals

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

11th September at St Mark's Church and Hale Cemetery
Harriet Rose-Boulton

12th September at St Mark's Church + Redan Road
Chapels
Robert George Jervis



Memorial + Burial of Ashes

We commend to God the following whose memorial took place:

14th September at St John's Church
Judith Kathleen Hunt

Our regular church services are:

Every Sunday: 9.30am St John's;

10am St George's;

11am St Mark's.

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

Online: www.badshotleaandhale.org

Who's Who

Ministry Team

Clergy

John Evans
01252 710594
johnjune@btinternet.com

Stella Wiseman
07842 761919
revd.stella@badshotle-aandhale.org

Youth Minister

Michelle Chapman
youth@badshotle-aandhale.org
07876 115458

The Church Cat

Sprout
slashermcgoogs@gmail.com

Churchwardens

Kris Lawrence
warden.stgeorges@badshotle-aandhale.org

Sarah Kay
warden.stmarks@badshotle-aandhale.org
Pamela Marsham
warden.stjohns@badshotle-aandhale.org

PCC Lay Vice-chair

Dave Walter
pcc.layvicechair@badshotle-aandhale.org

PCC Treasurer

Richard Myers
Treasurer@badshotle-aandhale.org
07752 665155

Safeguarding Officer

Jo Taylor
safeguarding@badshotle-aandhale.org

07910 275792

PCC Secretary

June Jasper
pcc.secretary@badshotle-aandhale.org

Choir Leader

Margaret Emberson,
embersonmargaret@gmail.com
01252 409124

Administration and Hall Bookings

Stella Wiseman:
admin@badshotle-aandhale.org

Magazine

Editor, Website & Advertising

Stella Wiseman
editor@badshotle-aandhale.org
07842 761919



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