

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.
289

**September
2025**

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Magazine subscription and deadline

Subscriptions to the magazine are a minimum of £10 for the year, suggested price £15. Contact 07842 761919 or email editor@badshotleaandhale.org. *Front cover picture by Dagmara Dombrowska on Pexels.*

The deadline for the October issue of the magazine is **Sunday 14th September**

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. If you would like to advertise please call 07842761919 or email editor@badshotleandhale.org.

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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 September

Regular Events Across the Parish **Mondays, except bank holidays - 09:00 -11:00**

Clothing Giveaway & Café at St Marks

Our weekly clothing giveaway and café at St Mark's. There are free clothes for anyone who would like to come and take some.

Café serves tea, coffee, cake, pastries and biscuits.

Mondays - 18:00 to 19:00

Parish Choir

The Parish Choir practises on Monday evenings at St George's. Please speak to Margaret Emberson if you would like more information.

Alternate Tuesdays - 10:00 to 11:30 - 2nd, 16th and 30th September

FREE Craft Café

FREE Craft Café run by Farnham Maltings at St George's. Come along and learn a new craft or bring your own. It's every fortnight and absolutely free.

Alternate Tuesdays - 10:00 to 11:30 - 9th and 23rd September

Connections

A group for the over-50s meeting at St George's every fortnight. Just come along and enjoy a cup of coffee, some cake and various activities.

Wednesdays - 15:00 to 16:00

Contemplative Prayer

Our weekly Contemplative Prayer group meets at St Mark's. Please do join us to sit quietly before God. This is followed by tea and chat!

1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month - 10:00 to 12:00

Coffee and Art at St Mark's (Artz 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. No artistic skills needed!

Thursdays - 14:00 to 15:30

Home Groups

Join us for Bible reading and discussion, prayer and chat. For more details con-

Our regular church services are:

Every Sunday (except when there is a united parish service, eg on September 21st)

9.30am St John's;

10am St George's;

11am St Mark's.

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

tact Richard Myers.

**2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month -
10:00 to 12:00**

St John's Thursday Café

Drop-in coffee morning taking place on the second and fourth Thursday of the month in the Sumner Room at 10am. There is tea, coffee, cake and biscuits and a chance to meet and chat with other people.

**Every Friday in term time - 10:00 to
11:30 Starts again on 5th September
Little Bees**

Stay and play toddler group for children from birth to 4 years old. St George's hall. Toys, craft, singing, tea and coffee and chat. FREE entry. All welcome – come and join our friendly group.

**Friday Night Games Night is postponed
until October.**

**Special events across the Parish
Tuesday 2nd September – 10am-12pm
Coffee morning**

Sorrel Price is holding a coffee morning and bring-and-sale at her home in Folly Hill in aid of the tower fund. Ask Sorrel for more details or call 07842761919.

Sunday 7th September

Pride services

9:30 at St John's, 10:00 at St George's, 11:00 at St Mark's. Come and celebrate and reflect upon Pride and God's love for all. See pages 10-11.

**Saturday 13th September – 11am-4pm
Sandy Hill Fun Day**

The Parish will be running a stall at the

Sandy Hill Fun Day. See page 15.

**Saturday 13th September— all day
Ride & Stride**

See page 16.

**Friday 19th September – 11am and Sat-
urday 20th September – 3pm (after the
Craft Market)**

Heritage Open Day

St Mark's. View and learn about the Kitty Milroy murals. No need to book. See page 26.

**Saturday 20th September – 10:00 –
14:00**

Craft Market at St Mark's

Craft market and café at St Mark's. See page 29.

Sunday 21st September – 11:00

All-parish Pet Blessing Service

St Mark's. Bring your pet, or a photo of your pet, to this special pet blessing service. Please note there will be no services at St John's or St George's today. See page 17.

**Saturday 27th September – 14:00-17:00
Sounds of the 60s**

St George's. An afternoon of music from 60's tribute band, Out of the Shadows. This will be followed by tea and cake. Tickets are £10 in advance from 07596953138 or on the door. Money raised will be used to fund the tower repairs at St John's. See page 44.

Sunday 28th September

Harvest Festival

9:30 at St John's, 10:00 at St George's, 11:00 at St Mark's. There will be Harvest Services at each church. See page 20.

When the news is grim

The news is grim at the moment, isn't it? Some of it is unbearable and, I confess, I sometimes skim past it. Partly I feel helpless. What can I do to alleviate suffering? There are families starving to death, there are people terrified by constant bombing, there are groups shut away by harsh regimes, there are families who have lost homes, friends, relatives in flooding or other natural or human-made disaster. It feels too much.

Nearer home people shout at each other, either on social media, or across the street. Face-to-face we are often politer, but once we have turned our backs on each other that politeness may quickly drop away. Everyone is shoring up their positions and ideas, and often misinformation, are spreading fast and furiously on social media.

What do we do? We are called to be the hands, the feet, the mouthpiece of Jesus here on earth; we are called to share God's love wherever we are, but it feels too much. Where is God in the bombardments, the famine, the hatred, the despair?

For me, God is there in the people trying to help, in healthworkers binding wounds and trying to alleviate pain, in aid workers and rescuers, in carers, in



Stella Wiseman

peacemakers. And God, our suffering God, is there in the starving child, the desperate mother, the injured teenager, the father grieving for his family, the grandmother who prayed that this would never happen again.

God, also, is there – and this feels hard – in our enemies; in the people who hold different views; in those who do harm. I don't like to think of that, but I know it must be true. If we are made in the likeness of God, and if Jesus told us to pray for our enemies, then God must be in everyone.

When it all becomes too much we can do what Jesus so often did: remove ourselves from the crazy business of the world and go somewhere quiet, even if that quiet place is in our head

only. If we can, get out into the natural world, or look at through the window. Then we pray.

I don't know how Jesus prayed when he was alone but one way that you may find helpful is to pause, take deep breaths, and tell God what is going on. God knows, but it can help us. Next, breathe slowly and steadily and ask God

to help you know what steps you might take. Then, if you can, try to release all the feelings gently. Observe them, acknowledge them, but let them go, let them go to God. God is with you and God has this. I don't know how God has this but somehow it is true.

Stella Wiseman

Hygiene Bank



Help fight hygiene poverty

Hygiene poverty is a serious problem in the UK. An estimated 4.2 million adults in the UK are living in poverty and cannot afford to stay clean. This is why the Hygiene Bank exists and why we have a collection point at St Mark's.

The Hygiene Bank is a network of projects across the country which give people access to the basics they need.

However, donations have decreased locally while demand has increased because of economic hardship and because another local Hygiene Bank project has closed meaning more people are coming to the Farnham one.

Please consider buying a few extra items when you shop and putting them in the Hygiene Bank bin at St Mark's. The bank needs new, unused, in-date personal care and household cleaning

essentials. For health and safety reasons, they cannot accept opened, half-used or products past their best-before date. There is a list of products needed at thehygienebank.com, but in short, they need any personal care or cleaning products that most of us take for granted—soap, shampoo, tampons, washing liquid, nappies, continence pads, deodorant and the like.

Imagine being too embarrassed to go out because you can't afford detergent so your clothes are dirty, or missing school because you have your period and can't afford pads or tampons. That is the reality for people in hygiene poverty so please help by donating. If you can't get to St Mark's, let Stella know on 07342508164.

The doors are open— all are welcome

It might seem unusual to be reading an article about Pride in September, since June is known as the official Pride Month around the world. The date June 28th, 1969 marks the anniversary of the very first Pride event.

Did you know that Pride began as a riot? At a time when it was illegal to be gay, police raided the Stonewall Inn in New York - one of the few safe spaces where LGBTQIA+ people could gather. In response, several spontaneous protests broke out, with members of

the queer community standing up for their basic human rights: the right to exist without fear of arrest. From those early days grew an annual gathering where LGBTQIA+ people would protest for equal rights while also celebrating their diversity.

Today, Pride events often take place at different times of the year depending on logistics, council permissions, and local organisers. This year, Pride in Surrey will be held on September 6th, with our annual Pride services taking place on 7th.



Pride can also mean different things to different people. For me, as an openly gay, Christian woman, Pride reflects the richness of human diversity. It is a safe space, where everyone is welcome - regardless of skin colour, background, sexuality, gender identity, financial situation, body shape or size. Pride is not only a place of welcome, but a place where people are celebrated for who they truly are. It also holds space for important discussion, and drawing attention to injustices that LGBTQIA+ people still face.

Does that sounds familiar? A place of welcome, for important discussions, celebration of our diverse gifts, of supporting one another in times of hardship? I hope that our churches in the parish of Badshot Lea and Hale reflect these same values of sanctuary, celebration and fellowship. My prayer is that we continue to grow in God's love: extending welcome to those who may feel unwelcome, enthusiastically celebrate the reflection of God's image in each and every one of us, and prayerfully working against social injustice for the last, the least and the lost.

I believe with all my heart that God loves us all. We are each fearful-

PRIDE SERVICES

Sunday, September 7th



9:30 St John's, Hale	
10:00 St George's, Badshot Lea	
11:00 St Mark's, Upper Hale	

All are welcome

CONTACT US - REV. LEXI RUSSELL 07792233477
 REV.LEXI@BADSHOTLEAANDHALE.ORG
 BADSHOTLEAANDHALE.ORG



THE PARISH OF
 BADSHOT LEA & HALE

ly and wonderfully made, created with purpose, in this place and this time. Our differences are not mistakes, they are gifts to be embraced, and I believe God rejoices in it with us.

So I warmly invite you to join us as we celebrate Pride. Come and give thanks for how God has created us all: beautifully unique. You are welcome. There is space for you at the table. The doors are open - so come in, and join the celebration.

Rev'd Lexi Russell

Pam the LAM

Age is no barrier to ministry. That is the message from Pamela Marsham who was licensed by the Bishop of Guildford at Guildford Cathedral to serve in the parish as a Lay Associate Minister (LAM).

Pamela celebrated a significant birthday on the last day of her course. She believes that people should not let when they were born influence what they can do and is firmly against the pigeon-holing that often happens to older people.

“Every one of us has God-given potential. If you don’t use that potential to the full you lose it and that is such a waste.”



Pamela at Guildford Cathedral

“I don’t want to be thought of as a something-year-old woman but as Pamela. I am me. I want to be me not what someone thinks I ought to be because they have attached a number to me.

“Every one of us has God-given potential, and even if you are retired you still have that potential. If you don’t use that potential to the full

you lose it and that is such a waste.”

Pamela’s two-year course focused on preaching, teaching and discipleship. Much of this training was during her parish’s vacancy which gave her the opportunity to lead services, something that is important to her.

She found meeting other people on the course rewarding. “We were all on the same path, wanting to serve more and to be equipped to do that. It was exciting as we didn’t really know exactly where it would lead us. Some will go on to train to be Licensed Lay Ministers or even become ordained which I can’t do – here age is against me – but I can lead worship and that is a privilege. And I am showing that age is not a barrier to service.”

Dear God, grant me the serenity
to accept the things
I cannot change,
Courage to change
the things I can,
and wisdom
to know the difference.
Amen



PRAYER FOR TODAY

Lord,

It's me again.

Thank you for helping me sleep through the night
and waking me up to this beautiful morning.

Lord, I pray that you teach me to love my life with
each passing day.

Fill my heart with joy and gladness and remind me of
all the things in my life to be thankful for.

When thoughts of negativity begin to fill my mind,
please remind me that you love me.

When I begin to feel helpless and hopeless, please
remind me that you've got me.

When I feel like I hate my life, please remind me
that you created me for a purpose.

Mold and guide me to your purpose for me, because
I trust that your plans for me are better than
anything I could ever ask for.

In Jesus' name, I pray,

Amen

THE GRACEFUL CHAPTER

Thank you to Gillian Geraghty for sending this prayer.

Thank you

Thank you for the raffle prizes

Thank you to those who donated Grand Raffle prizes at the Summer Fete:



**Pimms Hair and Beauty, Aldershot
Beagleys Bakery, Weybourne
Service Plus, Farnham
Badshot Lea Tennis Club
nce Fit with Sue Craggs, Badshot Lea
quire's Garden Centre, Badshot Lea
Vale Furnishers, Ash Vale
Mark Turner Butchers, Aldershot
Nuffield Health, Weybourne
Sally's Tea Room, Badshot Lea
Pilates with Judy McDougall, Badshot Lea
The Cricketers, Badshot Lea
Susie Lidstone, Farnham Artist
Aldershot FC
Kids Symphonic Sundays
Farnham Dance
Georgie's 'Wellyfish Crafts'**

And generous members of the Parish of Badshot Lea and Hale

Tricia Carter

Sandy Hill Fun Day

Fill those jam jars again!

We are taking part in the Sandy Hill Fun Day in Upper Hale, on Saturday, September 13th, 11am-4pm, and need your help. Remember the very popular 'Jam Jar' stall at the fete? We are having a stall like that at the fun day and we'd love it if you could provide a jam jar or two with a surprise inside and decorated to hide it. If possible mark your jar 'Adult' or 'Child'. Proceeds will go to the Sandy Hill Community Centre which works tirelessly to support the community.

We also need help on the day. If you can help, even for an hour or two, let Lexi know on 07792233477 or by emailing rev.lexi@badshotleaandhale.org.

Step, cycle and sip to save Surrey's churches

The Surrey Churches Preservation Trust (SCPT) invites everyone to join the annual **Ride & Stride on Saturday, September 13.**

This annual event is open to all: keen cyclists, casual walkers or simply anyone who enjoys a good coffee morning with friends.

The aim is simple: raise money to protect Surrey's historic churches. Half of what each person raises goes straight to their chosen churches and the rest helps fund repair and conservation grants across the county.

Since it began, Ride & Stride has raised more than £500,000, directly supporting church buildings at the heart of communities.

This year, SCPT has more grant funding available than ever before—up to £3,000 per church—but to benefit, each church's supporters must take part. Even the smallest event can unlock vital funding.



So step out, cycle on, or put the kettle on—every effort counts.

More information is available at: www.surreychurchespreservationtrust.org/ride-stride/

PET BLESSING SERVICE

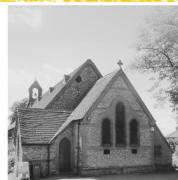
UNITED PARISH
SERVICE

SUNDAY 21ST
SEPTEMBER
11 AM



People, please bring your pets and
assistance animals. Animals, please bring
your people.

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



CONTACT US - REV. LEXI RUSSELL 07792233477
REV.LEXI@BADSHOTLEAANDHALE.ORG
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And in at number one...

Kris Lawrence reports on a happy August evening

When we ran a 'Top Ten Worship Songs' back in March, Vicky said: "We should run another one of these in the summer and hold it outdoors with a barbecue." So, when I heard that we had a group of pilgrims visiting St George's Church and sleeping overnight it seemed like to perfect opportunity.

The pilgrims were all from the Church of St George the Martyr in Wash Common, Newbury (part of the Oxford diocese) and they set out on Thursday from St Swithun-upon-Kingsgate, Winchester – total distance walked 45 miles.

At one point I was worried that we were going to outnumbered by our pilgrim visitors, but suddenly the numbers kept going up and I had to keep calling the butchers to order more burgers!

On the barbecue were hot dogs, beefburgers, sweet potatoes and sweetcorn, with plenty of salads alongside. Our visitors offered to provide desserts which was very kind of them but with

the extra numbers we did do an emergency run to Costco!

After everyone had eaten their fill, we cracked on with the Top Ten Summer Hymns. Conscious that the evening was drawing in, we rattled through the singing rather quickly, and found blankets for those that felt the chill in the air. But it was only for number one that people seemed to need their phone torches! We drew the attention of the Working Men's Club, some of whom came to watch and listen from the 'safety' of their side of the fence!

The final run down of the was done using the *Pick of the Pops* theme tune in

the background, which I noticed Stella was recording. A little concerned when she might decide to show that! (*Ha, ha, just you wait, Kris...*)

What a successful evening we had! And our visitors have sent their thanks for us being so hospitable – they thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

The pilgrims



*Right: Matt Brown and
Kris at the barbecue*



were up bright and early on Sunday morning on their final leg to Guildford Cathedral. We were so lucky to have shared this special evening with them. They walked to Puttenham church on Sunday morning where a pilgrims' service had been put on for them, and were provided with scalloped shaped biscuits after the service. They even sang one of our top ten hymns.

With Sunday being so hot, they were fortunate that there was quite a bit of walking through woodland which shaded them. They arrived at Guildford Cathedral at 3.30pm and, after a short celebration service and some bubbly, returned to Newbury at 6pm.

They reported that there was a lot of overnight snoring, so not a lot of sleep, and are grateful to be home in their own beds.

I am not going to name those who need thanking as I'm bound to miss someone – but, as always, with brilliant teamwork everything ran really well. I was astounded at the end of the evening to see all the washing up had been done and

cleared away; I was expecting to find the kitchen buried under dirty crockery!

We had music, good food, good company, great hospitality, some laughs and some great singing. I am sure God was right in there enjoying every moment. A lovely evening topped by a great result on our fundraising for the parish - £485.

Now ... what's next to plan? Oh, the Harvest Supper!

TOP OF THE POPS

1 TEN THOUSAND REASONS

2 THIS IS THE DAY THAT THE LORD HAS MADE
2 JOY TO THE WORLD

4 O LORD, MY GOD (HOW GREAT THOU ART)
5 THINE BE THE GLORY

5 OH JESUS I HAVE PROMISED

2 WHEN THE ROLL IS CALLED UP YONDER

2 THE STORY THAT MATTERS MOST

2 WE ARE MARCHING IN THE LIGHT OF GOD
10 GUIDE ME OH THOU GREAT REDEEMER
10 LORD OF ALL HOPEFULNESS

AND AS A WARM-UP WE SANG:

11 FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH
11 ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL

Harvest Festival

Come and join us as we celebrate our
HARVEST FESTIVAL

Sunday 28th September

St John's Church – 9:30am

St George's Church – 10:00am

St Mark's Church – 11:00am



Let us praise God for the harvest and
share our blessings with those more in need.

Non-perishable food donations welcome,
they will be given to a local foodbank.





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The Badshot Leader

September 2025

Green Flag Awards

It is pleasing to read in the *Farnham Herald*, that of only 11 of Waverley's parks and green spaces which have been awarded the prestigious Green Flag Awards, two are in our area. The scheme is managed by the charity Keep Britain Tidy.

One site is Badshot Lea Village Pond, where regular parties of volunteers have assisted Nick Macfarlane, Park Ranger, to manage the vegetation to maximise wildlife diversity. The other is the important area of residual wet grassland at Weybourne Nature Reserve, which is cut annually to encourage the large assemblage of wild flowers present and the insects they support. The upper reaches of the Weyburn, a tributary of the River Wey, flows through the reserve, which also has a pond (pictured above).



Farnham Road Closures

You have probably heard this before, but I thought it worth reminding readers that Surrey County Council has announced some major road works in Farnham town centre. Downing Street is closed to traffic until November 1st. More details are at www.surreycc.gov.uk/farnhamworks, or call 0300 200 1003. In view of congestion at unexpected times, it is probably easiest from our side of town to park in Riverside long-stay car park and walk in.

Farnham Wastewater Treatment Works

Have you noticed odour issues associated with the Farnham Wastewater Treatment Works on Monkton Lane? Have you ever reported these odour issues? Reporting them is the only way that some of the current problems are going to be resolved, so please can I encourage everyone to report issues to Thames Water using this email: customer.feedback@thameswater.co.uk. Please include:

- Date and time you noticed the odour;
- Where you were when you noticed the odour;
- What you were doing when you noticed the odour and how it impacted on you.

Catherine Powell catherine.powell@surreycc.gov.uk

The Badshot Leader

Early Education in Badshot Lea

Until the 1870s it is unlikely that the poorer classes of our area had even the basic education, but by then the churches were taking positive steps to set up schools. The first school in the village was recorded by Monica Jones in her 1953 history of the church. Teeler (Eli) Newell, who was born in St George's Road in 1870, began his education, learning 'pot-hooks and hangers' (letters) from Mrs Rose, the first schoolteacher in the village in a small room in one of the Ebeneza Cottages which were connected to the Primitive Methodist Chapel.



In 1876 a National (Church of England) School was built in St Georges Road on land provided by John Henry Knight, and it was transferred to: "the Archdeaconary of Surrey and the Vicar of the District of Tongham in the Parish of Seale, for the education of children and adults, or children only, of the labouring, manufacturing or other poorer classes of the district". It seems Mrs Sarah Rose, whom the 1881 census said had been born in Tonbridge, Devon in 1841, transferred her little school to the new building. This remained the village school unit 1895, when the Council School opened. It subsequently served as a Church Mission Room, and later as St George's Hall. It was demolished in 1988. It is pictured above right.

The Board School

During the 1890s the population in the area around Badshot Lea had increased considerably and the National School became too small. The Farnham Local Board set about building schools to meet new requirements. In Badshot Lea a new school was built by Messrs Kemp and Sons of Aldershot on a plot of land at the crossroads. It was declared open on November 9th 1895 when the Mixed School log book records: *"This School was formally opened by Mrs W A Chapman this afternoon in the presence of about 150 visitors. The Meeting was presided over by A J Chapman J P, Mr J C Colvill, Her Majesty's Inspector, delivered an address on educational matters."*

The first headmaster was Mr Charles Mancell, who wrote on November 11th: *"63 admissions were made today in the mixed school and 70 in the infants. No blackboards have yet arrived. The infants are being taught under my supervision until the arrival of Miss Emmerson"*. Sarah Jane Emmerson started on November 25th and she taught here until just before her death in 1905. There is a memorial to her in the church.

Mr Mancell's entries in the log book throw some insight into the conditions in the village at the end of Victoria's reign.

December 18th 1895. *"The attendance suffered considerably through the wet weather. The children from Runfold and Weybourne were absent in great numbers."*

Cont. on page 22.

The Badshot Leader

Cont. from page 21

March 24th 1896. *"Owing to the spirit of gambling and frequent quarrelling caused by playing marbles, I have banned it in the playground."*

March 27th 1899. *"Annual Report Mixed School a very well conducted school. The methods are generally good and much careful supervision is exercised by the head."*

May 21st 1900. *"News having been received that Mafeking has been relieved, the Board gave the children a holiday to celebrate. Children assembled at 9am, sang the National Anthem and gave cheers for Col Baden Powell."*

October 26th 1900. *"Attendance suffering from absence of older boys engaged in field work."*

April 8th 1902 *"A fatal case of smallpox in the village. Victim 10 weeks old."*

December 1903 *"S E C issued new orders that a corporal punishment book be kept. Only heads can administer it."*

July 13th 1906 *"Saw Charman about nuisance created by dumping sewage on a field to rear of school."*

October 6th 1906 *"Closed for 3 weeks-diphtheria." Such closures happened regularly.*

On April 23rd 1911, Charles Mancell completed 15 years as headteacher and he moved to East Street Council School. The new head was Mr W F (Billy) Rankine.



Mr Mancell and pupils



With Aldershot so close, soldiers were often seen in the village. The picture, left, dated 11/8/04, shows a group of officers, including General French and the Prince of Teck, on manoeuvres at the crossroads. Almost certainly it was taken by Jimmy Rawlins from outside his front door in 'Cross Roads Cottages'.

Maurice Hewins

The Badshot Leader

My Memories of Jean Deeks

We moved into our new house on Badshot Park in 1971. For Maurice it was something of a homecoming. His parents and grandparents have all been part of the Badshot Lea community for 146 years and the village school had been a central part of their lives. His grandfather went to the National School in St. George's Road, which later became the Mission Room and there are now houses on the site. By the time his parents started school, the present school was built and Maurice and his brother went there too. Little did I know it then, but it was to become an important part of my life too.

Sally, our eldest, started at the school in 1974 and Eleanor, her sister, followed in her footsteps four years later. They both have special memories of their time there. Jean Deeks was head teacher and they both remember the 'Mrs Deeks stare'. She had this look with wide open, persistent, staring eyes and whatever your misbehaviour you would stop immediately. There was no need for words. Another deterrent was to be sent to the bottom of 'her' stairs. At that time the headteacher's office was upstairs and the child standing by the stairs was fearful she might come down and rebuke them.

The PTA was as strong then as it is now, and they organised a fashion show in 1978. The young model is Sally Hewins (pictured above).

The school became part of my life too as I worked there on two occasions: first part-time when our children were younger and later as a classroom teacher. Some of the children I taught are still in the village today. I even remember their names!



Anne Budd, Victoria Lambert, Eve Price, Jenny Dickinson, Jean Mansbridge. Front: Majorie Dodd, Ruth Wilcox, Rose Hand, Jean Deeks, Pat Grant, Margaret Sewell.

Jean was a gracious lady and a very good leader. She was very understanding and was especially kind to families who had problems. I learnt a great deal from her that I utilised later in my career. After I left, I kept in contact with Jean and the good friends I had made there. It was a time of my life remembered with great fondness.

Pictured in the staff photograph from 1983 are Back row: Margaret Dyer, Judy Hewins,

Judy Hewins

Have you an issue you would like to raise, or something or a memory about Badshot Lea? If so please contact me on tinaron@tinyworld.co.uk Maurice Hewins (Editor)

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Kitty Milroy

Heritage on our doorstep

St Mark's is taking part in the 2025 Heritage Open Days this year and welcoming people to the church on Friday, September 19th at 11am and Saturday, September 20th at 3pm, to see the Kitty Milroy murals and have all their questions answered by Nick Seversway who is an expert on the subject.

This is an ideal opportunity for anyone who hasn't yet seen the murals, or would like to find out more, to come along and have a detailed look.

The murals, which are of significant national importance in the development of 20th-century mural painting, were painted between 1911 and 1920 by local woman Eleanor Catherine Wallace Milroy ('Kitty') using other local people as models.

They blend influences from European Symbolist painting and the Arts and Crafts Movement and have been featured in the national media. Comparisons have



been made with pictures in The Watts Chapel and it is known that Mary Watts visited the area.

The murals are a celebration of faith, seen through the natural world, and include the words 'O, all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord' (*The Benedicite*, a canticle taken from 'The Song of the Three Holy Children' from the apocryphal parts of the Book of Daniel) and 'O give thanks unto the Lord' (from Psalm 136).

They had deteriorated significantly over the years and in 2021 were restored by internationally renowned mural conservationists Stephen Rickerby and Lisa Shekede.

There is no need to book, so please come along on September 19th or 20th. Refreshments will be served.

For more on Heritage Open Days, visit farnhamsociety.org.uk/2025/05/21/hods2025/.





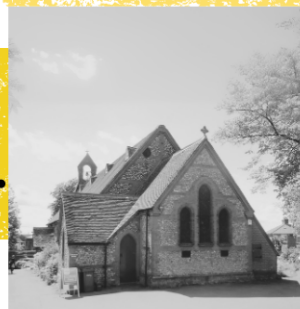
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Walking through the fire

In the last issue of the magazine we reported that Stella Wiseman was to take part in a firewalk for the charity Dementia Adventure.

Well, it happened and her feet remained unburnt, despite walking over hot ash twice—yes, she and the others in the team went back for a second go!

Stella was part of a team of 21 people, most of them carers with Right at Home, an agency which looks after people in their own homes. The team had an hour-long training session with a professional firewalk instructor which helped them all build confidence and focus on their mental attitude.

Stella said: “It was not nearly as scary as I thought and it didn’t hurt.

There was brilliant camaraderie among the team and Blaze, the firewalk company, were superb. What’s more, between us we raised almost £3,000 for Dementia Adventure, a charity which creates holidays for people living with dementia and also provides training and support for families and other carers. It’s an excellent charity.

“I am hugely grateful to everyone who sponsored me to do this. People have been very generous—thank you all— and thank you too, Right at Home who invited me to be part of this and also put on a wonderful party and barbecue.”

For more about Dementia Adventure visit dementiaadventure.org



Happy First Birthday to the Clothing Giveaway!

A year ago the parish got together with the Hale Community Centre to start a new project—the weekly Clothing Giveaway and Café on Monday mornings at St Mark's.

We didn't know how it would work out but, 12 months down the line, we have queues at the door every Monday before 9am and several hundred free items of clothing or shoes go out of that same door before 11am. In fact, we are so pleased that we will be celebrating on September 8th with birthday cake!



The idea of the Clothing Giveaway is to encourage people not just to throw out their old clothes but to



Pictured here and page 27: all set up for a Monday

donate them—as long as they are in good condition and clean—and to fill the spaces in their wardrobe with clothes which may have been worn but still have plenty of life left in them. The current preferred expression for this is 'pre-loved' which probably appeals more than 'second-hand'.

This has a two-fold goal: to help people save money and to help save the planet. Many of us are struggling economically after years of austerity and the fashion industry has a serious and growing impact on the environment in terms of wa-

ter-use, emissions and landfill, as well as the human cost of poor working conditions (see, for example earth.org/fast-fashions-detrimental-effect-on-the-environment/). We are doing just a little bit towards protecting the planet and its inhabitants, but the more people who do their bit, the more impact we all have.

The Clothing Giveaway has been able to have this successful first year thanks to a lot of hard work and generosity. Farnham Lions and Voluntary Action South West Surrey gave us grants; clothes, shoes, sheets, towels, and baby gear have poured in from donors; the Community Centre designed flyers and banners and keeps spreading the news; and St Mark's congregation has shown a wealth of forbearance about having a section of the church permanently filled with clothes as well as putting



out tables every Sunday for setting-up later.

Most of all, I want to thank the volunteers who work tirelessly every week, sorting, folding, hanging and even ironing clothes; laying them out in a far more appealing way than I could ever manage; coming up with themes; taking bags of unusable clothes to be recycled; serving tea, coffee, cakes and pastries; chatting to those who come in; and generally keeping the show on the road.

Amanda, Anne, Kay, Mandy, Sonia, Steph and Sylvie are there week by week with others dipping in and out when they can. Thank you all!

We could do with some more help, especially in clearing up at 11am on a Monday so if you think you could help, even occasionally, let us know. Email me at rev.stella@badshotleaandhale.org or call me on 07342508164 which is my number for curacy matters.

Come and see us on September 8th for cake and clothes, or any other Monday you fancy. We are open every Monday morning, 9-11am, apart from Bank Holidays and we will close over Christmas and New Year.

Stella Wiseman

On safari!

Pollinator Patch with Juliet from Hive Helpers



It's been a good year for pollinators...so far

I am writing this during the fourth heatwave of the summer. My garden has been sadly neglected as I cower indoors in the heat of the day. The early mornings, though, are glorious, and I'm out trying to catch up on garden jobs before even the bees are up.

Many pollinators have been faring well this summer, unlike last year. Blossom was early and plentiful, and there was plenty of good forage for all. Record numbers of butterflies have been recorded, and I have seen many red-tailed bumblebees, which tailed off alarmingly in 2024.

The downside for bumbles is that they do not like it too hot (like me), being robust and hairy (not like me). I also worry that flowers which have come earlier than usual will be dying off long before they should, leaving late-season nectar supplies

dangerously low. Honey bees will have been building up stores of honey for the winter (some of which will hopefully be left by the beekeeper), but bumblebee queens will need to keep feeding until they hibernate.

Pollinator plant of the month – ivy

Our native common ivy (*Hedera helix*) comes into its own at this time of year, flowering from September to November. Provided you have left ivy to mature, the yellow-green flowers are produced in small rounded clusters, providing plentiful pollen and nectar for a range of insects, including honey bees, hoverflies and the specialist ivy mining bee (see page 29). Once these insects have pollinated the flowers, ivy berries provide a good source of food for birds later in the year, as well as shelter and nesting sites.

Bee of the month – the ivy mining bee

The ivy mining bee (*Colletes hederæ*) is distinguishable from the honey bee by the smart black and yellow stripes on its abdomen. This is the last of the solitary bees to emerge, timing its arrival to coincide with the ivy flowering season, on which it relies for pollen. It nests below ground in sparsely vegetated patches including lawns – a good excuse for a bare patch! Although solitary, in that it does not form a colony like honey bees and bumblebees, you will often see large numbers of these bees in a small area (called aggregations). Interestingly, this bee was spotted in 2001 in Dorset only, since when it has spread through most of southern Britain.

Other September plants for pollinators

Salvias should be faring well in this hot weather. Salvias come in all shapes and sizes, including the well-known herb sage, the Russian sage (*Perovskia atriplicifolia*), and the beautiful salvia 'Amistad' with its purple, long tubular flowers which I have seen in many gardens teeming with bees, but it stubbornly refuses to grow in mine! Sedums, too, are drought resistant with their fleshy leaves and are great for pollinators



The ivy mining bee (Picture: Alex Potts)

with their flat, nectar-rich flower-heads. Easy to grow in a sunny, well-drained border.

For a comprehensive list of plants for pollinators, visit www.rhs.org.uk/science/conservation-biodiversity/wildlife/plants-for-pollinators and download the garden plants list.

STOP PRESS: We will be running the last of our popular free Bee Safaris for this year on Thursday, September 25th, at 2pm, meeting at Gostrey Meadow bandstand. This will take in most of the Farnham Bee Trail.

For more information about Hive Helpers, visit our website www.hivehelpers.co.uk, or email us on office@hivehelpers.co.uk or phone us on 07895 547637.

A good example (apparently)

It's Creationtide again. It comes round, well, once a year (odd that), reminding us to take a look at the world around us, to be thankful and to look after it.

We cats are a good example of the way to appreciate and take care of the world. The Curate's eyebrows have headed towards the ceiling for some reason.

First, we know we have to observe what is around us. We use our not just our eyes, but our ears, our whiskers, our noses, our tongues, every part of us, to become more aware of our surroundings. Is that the sweet scent of a small rodent? Is that the joyful tweet of a bird or the satisfying clank of a can of tuna being opened? Is that a warm patch of sunlight to

settle in and appreciate? Yes, we observe the world and appreciate what it has to offer.

And we care for it. We know that we must live in harmony with the world if we are to survive and prosper. The world and we non-human animals know that there is a gentle balance to be maintained. So we tread softly through the grass, we leap silently on-to unsuspecting laps.

The only time we make a loud noise is when something is not right. Then we yowl until it is put right. After that we purr, a gentle thrumming sound which harmonises with the universe.

Try copying us. You will find life easier and creation will flourish.

Purrs,

The Church Cat



The Church Cat is very observant as she seeks the whereabouts of all other creatures.



Snacks and walks and rests? Bugsy holy approves

Dear Purrs,

I find that we agree on more than may be expected from a cat and dog duo! Perhaps penpal relationships are the answer to the lore of cat and dog enemies?

In recent paw-rish news, we have welcomed pilgrims at St George's. If going to church is about long walks and biscuit breaks then I reckon they're doing things right! Humans should really take our advice more often. Snacks and walks are a good place to start, and have they learnt yet that rest is holy?

Welcome, too, to Hale-lea. As a one-eyed dog who has used up a few of his nine lives (do dogs have nine



Bugsy

too?), I can echo the sentiment that our individuality is something to be celebrated. From my prime sermon writing companion spot in Rev. Lexi's office, I have learnt the importance of celebrating and looking after God's world, and of all creatures great and small. Perhaps I should have voted for *All Things Bright and Beautiful* at the parish 'Top 10 Summer Hymns'!

I thank you for your kind welcome to my pack and I, and hope you have many tuna dinners and catnaps until I hear from you again.

Bugsy 

St John's Tower

Tower fund update

We have now been promised sufficient money to do the initial work on the tower at St John's, but we are aware that there may be extra work required so we haven't closed the fund and are grateful for all continued fundraising. If we do receive more money than we need, even after additional costs, the extra will be spent on St John's Church.

The work will now begin this month.



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From the parish registers

Baptisms

We welcome into the Church those whose baptisms have recently taken place:

27th July at St George's Church

Amelia-Rose Petherick and Alfie John Petherick.



Weddings

We celebrate and pray for those whose weddings have recently taken place:

8th August at St John's Church

Laura Osborne and Matthew Taylor-Firth.



Funerals

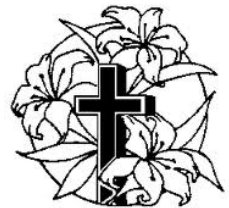
We commend to God those whose funerals have recently taken place:

7th August at St George's Church and Badshot Lea Cemetery.

Helga Armonies.

12th August at St George's Church

Margaret Louise Dyer.



Burial of Ashes

We also commend to God those whose ashes have been buried recently:

23rd August at St John's Churchyard

Alan Danieli.

Correction

In the July/August magazine's parish registers section we erroneously stated that on 30 May Dorothy Jean Pharo's funeral took place at St John's Church and Churchyard. In fact the funeral took place at St George's Church and the burial at the cemetery in Badshot Lea. We apologise for the error.



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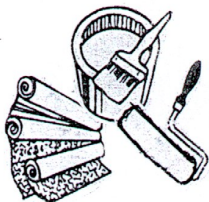
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