

THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF BADSHOT LEA AND HALE



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

BUBBLE CHURCH

“It’s nice at Church” – quote from a Bubble Church child.

2nd and 4th Sunday monthly
St George’s Church - 9:30am

Come and join us!
Everyone welcome!

The churches of St George’s, St John’s and St Mark’s

Issue no.
293

**Spring
2026**

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Magazine subscription and deadline

Subscriptions to the magazine is £10 for the year, paid to your distributor or electronically to **40-52-40 00025717** with **Mag: your name** as a reference. Contact **07792 233477** or email editor@badshotleaandhale.org.

The deadline for the Summer issue of the magazine is **Sunday, Apr 12th**.

WHEN DO YOU TRULY KNOW SOMEWHERE?

You can only truly know somewhere if you've experienced all of the seasons there.

When we arrived back in May, we were fortunate to land at the beginning of such a glorious summer. It made exploring the local area a delight. We discovered the beauty of Farnham Park, felt the buzz around Gostrey Meadow, and quickly fell in love with living in leafy Surrey.

As quickly as it came, summer soon turned into autumn, bringing with it mild, cosy nights and more new things to experience. The beginning of a new academic year also brought the celebrations of harvest. I visited several of the local schools to sit in on their harvest assemblies, while also taking part in our own harvest celebrations. A particular highlight was the Harvest Supper, with fantastic entertainment and wonderful company. For us, it was the moment we really felt part of the parish and wider church family. From that point on, we knew for sure that this is exactly the place God has called us to be.

In what felt like a flash, we entered December and the season of Advent, a time of



waiting, hope, longing, and lots of purple! Advent truly came alive with the Carols at St Mark's. Due to the weather, we moved indoors, but it made for a jolly couple of hours singing those timeless classics. Joined by people from across the community, it was refreshing to meet so many friendly faces.

Running alongside this was the Christmas Tree Festival, and my goodness, what a festival it was. I've never seen anything quite like it. Seeing so many people from all across the community come together to support such a great cause was emotional at times. There was a real sense of camaraderie, and what a privilege it was to be hosted by the parish. Watching members from all three congregations come together

brought such a sense of pride. It was truly a whole-parish effort, and I'm already very excited for this year's festival!

Christmas itself was brilliantly busy. After numerous carol services, crib services, and Midnight Mass, I crashed around 12:30pm on Christmas Day! My first Christmas in the parish was certainly one to remember. The relief of knowing the waiting was over, the Messiah born, the marathon of Advent completed and it was surprisingly anticlimactic. I wasn't too sure what to do with myself.

That feeling didn't last long, because as soon as the New Year arrived, we launched our new Bubble Church service! It feels as though I've been talking about Bubble Church for centuries, but I promise it hasn't been that long. It was a bold step for us, to trust that God would provide the resources, people, and funding to set up this new service. Thankfully, God showed up, as God always does, and Bubble Church is going incredibly well. We are seeing new families engage with church, and excitement continues to build around this service. The last time we ran it (8th Feb), we had the biggest congregation across all our churches.

We are now about to enter the season of Lent, another time of waiting, longing, and hoping. A time when we prepare our hearts to meet the risen Lord: the one who has overcome all darkness, defeated death, and calls each and every one of us by name.

This year, I want to be intentional about not rushing through Lent to get to the greatest day in history, when Christ defeated death. Instead, I want to take time to reflect on what it means to be transformed by the love God has for us all. I want to give time and space for God's love to work within me, and to continue growing in my understanding of who God is and what God's love offers to everyone.

Soon, I will have experienced all the seasons within this parish. I will know exactly what grows in my garden each year and how each main festival is celebrated here. I'm sure I will continue to be pleasantly surprised by the significantly better weather down this end of the country.

It has been a pleasure so far getting to know the parish, and I am looking forward to what this final season of the year will bring, before we start it all over again.

Please pray for each of our churches as we do our best to serve and love our local communities. And I pray that you have a blessed Lent and Easter.

Rev'd Lexi

Quarterly Magazine

From 202 we are moving to a quarterly magazine with issues published as follows:

Spring (March)

Summer (June)

Autumn (September)

Winter (December)

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 07792233477 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.



Regular Events Across the Parish

We have lots of fun FREE regular groups that meet across the parish. You'll spot a common theme of tea, coffee and cake at most of them! All welcome!

Day, Time & venue	Event	Details
Mondays 9am-11am St Mark's	 FREE Clothing giveaway and café	There are free clothes for anyone who would like to come and take some. The café serves tea, coffee, cakes and biscuits.
Mondays 6pm-7pm St George's	 Parish Choir	The Parish Choir supports our church worship but also learns musical pieces to perform at parish events – or just for fun!! Anyone is welcome to join us.
Alternate Tuesdays 10am-11:30am St George's	 Connections	A group for the over 50s. Come along and enjoy a cup of coffee, cake, various activities and a good natter! 10 th , 24 th Mar , 7 th , 21 st Apr , 5 th , 19 th May
Alternate Tuesdays 10am-12pm St George's	 Craft Café	Run by the Farnham Maltings. Come along and learn a new craft or bring your own with you. 3 rd , 17 th , 31 st Mar , 14 th , 28 th Apr , 12 th , 26 th May
Wednesdays 3pm-4pm St Mark's	 Contemplative Prayer	Sit quietly with God for about 20 minutes. This is followed by tea and chat!
Monthly - 4 th Wednesday 7pm-8pm St Mark's 1 st & 3 rd	 Pray with us	Join us to pray for our parish, or world or anything else that is on your mind.
Thursdays 10am-12pm St Mark's 2 nd & 4 th	 Coffee & Arts @ St Mark's	No artistic skills needed – come and join us for art, coffee and cake!
Thursdays 10am-12pm St John's	 St John's Café	Drop-in coffee morning in the Sumner Room. There <u>is</u> tea, coffee, cake and biscuits and a chance to meet and chat with other people.
Thursdays 2pm-3:30pm	 Home group	Join us for Bible reading and discussion, prayer and chat. For more details inc. venue contact Richard Myers.
Fridays 10am-11:30am Term time St George's	 Little Bees	Stay-and-play toddler group for children from birth to 4 years old. Toys, crafts singing, tea, coffee and chat. All welcome – <u>come</u> and join our friendly group!
Fridays 6pm-8pm St Mark's & Hale Youth Cntr.	 Friday Night Games	Alternating between 2 venues, at St Mark's (from 6 th Mar) we welcome all ages, or at the Youth Centre (from 13 th Mar) 11-18 yr olds. Various activities and a free meal.

Parish Community Fete

This is an event in the planning stages, but please reserve the date: Sat 13th June, 12noon – 3pm at St George's.

The success of the fete relies on the generosity of people in the parish and the wider community, so please do consider what you can do to help. On the day – it's all about 'all hands on deck', but even if you are unable to help, please do come along and have fun.

It may seem a long way ahead, but there will be the usual ask for donations if you are able (bottles, tombola gifts etc), raffle tickets to sell and we will be running the very popular 'Jam Jar' stall again, so start collecting jars and thinking about what small gift you may be able to pop inside them.

Questions please contact Kris: warden.stgeorges@badshotleaandhale.org

Let's make it another community success!

Musical Afternoon in Tribute to Carolyn Weston

This is another event in the planning stages. But please get the date in the diary: Sat 11th July, 2pm – 4pm at St John's Church.

Any queries / offers of help, please email June at:

pcc.secretary@badshotleaandhale.org.

Revision of Church Electoral Roll

Anyone who is not on the Church Electoral Roll is invited to make an application. Forms are to be found in each church and a copy of the current Roll should be displayed somewhere near the back of the church. Please ask a Warden or Gemma Brown the Electoral Roll Officer if you are unsure what to do. Electronic Forms are acceptable.

This is a revision not a new Roll so there is no need to complete a form if your name is on the Roll already.

All new forms are to be delivered to the Electoral Roll Officer Gemma Brown by Sunday 5th April at the latest.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

St George's church was sparkling with both lights and creativity over the first weekend of December when the parish's inaugural Christmas Tree Festival took place, raising around £4,000 for charity.

An estimated 2,000 visitors came to see the 48 trees entered by individuals and organisations, most of whom had taken an imaginative approach to the invitation to create a tree reflecting something about them. The results ranged from a tepee to a tutu, from living flowers to cans of soup, copper pipes to industrial bearings and seemingly everything in between.



Christine Brown, one of the organisers, said she could not choose a favourite: "They all reflect really well the organisations which created them; they are all totally original." She continued: "It was such an amazing event that has brought the whole community together! I'm incredibly proud of the whole parish and can't wait to do it all again next year."

Visitors voted for their favourite trees and the overall winner was announced at the carol service on Sunday, December 7. when the raffle was also drawn. The winner was the Tice's Meadow tree which was made entirely of materials found in the nature reserve with decorations created by children from Hawley Woods School.

There was an excellent café running all weekend, proving to be very popular with the visitors, and on the Saturday there were craft stalls and live music.



CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL—cont

Jackstraws Morris didn't just submit a tree to the festival, but they also came along to entertain with their dancing.

Father Christmas made a most dramatic entrance in the sidecar of a motorbike after his sleigh malfunctioned.



Having toured the trees, he then settled down and delighted the children by talking with them and receiving their wish lists for Christmas.

He had his 'Naughty' and 'Nice' lists with him – Lexi managed to get back into his nice books, but not so Darth Vader!



Overall, the festival raised around £4,000 which has been divided between the parish and Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice Care.

There were many stand-out moments over the weekend. Among the favourites for Kris Lawrence were: "On Thursday, after setting up when it was just the organisers left, we switched off all the church lights and just soaked up the atmosphere. Similarly, the choir sang *Oh Holy Night* at the end of the carol service with just the tree lights switched on – it was a very special moment. And I loved the children dancing in the aisles in the Carol Service.

Rev'd Lexi Russell added: 'In all my years of going to church this has to be the best event hosted by a parish. The community spirit throughout the festival has been amazing, with lots of people coming together to make each tree so individual and unique. It was clear to see the time, effort and creativity that had gone into each tree and it was a reflection of what can happen when a community comes together for a great cause.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL—cont

“Of course, with a festival of this scale there has been a team of dedicated volunteers, who have been planning this for months, as well as those who came to lend a hand throughout the weekend – from the bottom of my heart, thank you. Without them, none of this would have been possible. And of course, I must thank those who gave their time to provide entertainment throughout the festival too.

“I’m so proud to have been part of such a brilliant event and I’m looking forward to see how what may happen next year!”

Plans are already in place for another festival this year. Meanwhile, here is a further glimpse of last year’s one:



THANK YOU TO SQUIRE'S GARDEN CENTRE

Squire's generously donated a tree to St George's Church again this year. The tree was decorated with images from across the parish in time for our Christmas Tree Festival.

The tree stood then in pride of place throughout our Christmas celebrations and kept its greenery throughout.

Thank you!



Contemplative prayer – what and why?

Prayer is a relationship – a being together with God who knows us, our needs, our fears, and who loves us. Prayer doesn't need to be a struggle or a list of requests. It is much simpler. It can be simply sitting silently with God.

This is what we seek to do in the contemplative prayer group meeting which takes place every Wednesday at St Mark's Church at 3pm.



Contemplative/centring prayer is a silent form of prayer which can take place alone or in a group. The person or people praying remain silent and usually repeat in the mind a word or phrase such as 'Maranatha', an Aramaic word which means 'our Lord, come', or 'our Lord has come', depending on where the emphasis is placed. Some people prefer to use an image rather than a word.

Photo by [Milada Vigerova](#) on [Unsplash](#)

The idea is that the word or image centres the mind and encourages it not to wander or flit from thought to thought, as human minds usually do, but instead just to be as we are in front of God. We don't ask anything of God, we simply are there. On Wednesday afternoons a group of us sit together in St Mark's and spend 20 minutes in this form of silent prayer. We then drink tea, eat biscuits and chat. It is relaxing, refreshing and a highlight of my week. Anyone is welcome to join us.

Stella Wiseman

BUBBLE CHURCH



Bubble Church has officially launched in the Parish of Badshot Lea and Hale. It's a 30-minute service that includes action songs, puppets, craft activities and bible stories, all aimed at young children and their grown-ups. Families are invited to arrive early to pick up that all important coffee and pastry, before sitting down together on their own bubble as they wait for the service to begin.

A countdown on the screen begins as the excitement builds waiting for the service to start...

It's been incredible to see how the children have been engaging with the service, specifically the Bible reading, where they go so quiet, you can hear a pin drop!

Bubble Church is specifically designed with young children in mind, and it really works. They are able to follow along easily to the action songs, and there are plenty of places in the service for them to get involved and join in.

We are so excited to see where Bubble Church will lead us, and how God's love will shine through it all.

So you are invited to come and join us and see what it's all about. This is the perfect opportunity to introduce young children to Church and give them a foundation upon which they are able to build up their own faith. We can't wait to see you there. If you've got any questions about Bubble Church, please email:

rev.lexi@badshotleaandhale.org

Trinity Service

Trinity at Three

You are invited to our new Trinity service which takes place on the first and third Sunday of the month at St George's at 3pm.

Trinity is an informal, contemporary service offering a space for anyone and everyone to come and explore what it means to be a follower of Jesus, look at the Bible, pray and worship together.

To find out more, email rev.lexi@badshotleaandhale.org or call her on 07792233477. Alternatively, just turn up. Everyone is welcome

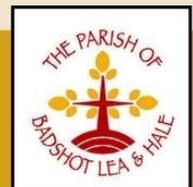
TRINITY

3pm St George's
Badshot Lea
1st and 3rd Sundays
of the month



Join us for our new contemporary informal service.
All are welcome

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

Our Christingle services this year were celebrated at St George's and St Mark's Churches at Candlemas. Candlemas is a time in the Christian calendar when we remember Mary and Joseph bringing the baby Jesus to be presented to God in the temple. Here, they met Anna and Simeon. Simeon held up the baby Jesus and named him, 'the Light to the World'. So, 'our worship was full of light – the light of Christ!



At St George's we heard a story of a poor family who, when tasked with bringing a gift to the Christ child, looked around their home and found items to bring a fitting gift. When presented to the priest, he declared it the most precious gift because of its symbolism:

- The orange – representing the world in which we live and our responsibility to care for it.
- The red ribbon encircling the orange – reminding us of the love of Christ, that love wrapping itself around the whole world.
- The 4 cocktail sticks – reminding us of the 4 seasons which are essential for a healthy growing season. Also the sticks pointing out in 4 different directions reminding us that the gifts of God go out to all four corners of the world.
- The sweets and fruits on the ends of the sticks remind us of God's gifts – the food we eat, the water we drink, but also the things that make us who we are; our talents, the things that we are good at, like dancing and singing and playing football and playing the organ as well as Barry does (we thank Barry Hall for coming along again to play the organ once more).
- Then the a candle in the top of the orange – representing the Light of Christ – a light that is always there to lead us and keep us away from danger.

We also considered the tin foil, a modern invention for health and safety to catch any dripping candle wax. This can be seen as representing us; just as the tin foil will reflect a light from a candle, we are called to reflect the light of Christ into the world.

There was a buzz of activity as everyone of all ages created their own Christingle.

Then that magical moment as the candles were lit and we were reminded to take that light into the world, back to our own homes and to keep a light in our hearts.



The Christingle Services are certainly very special occasions.

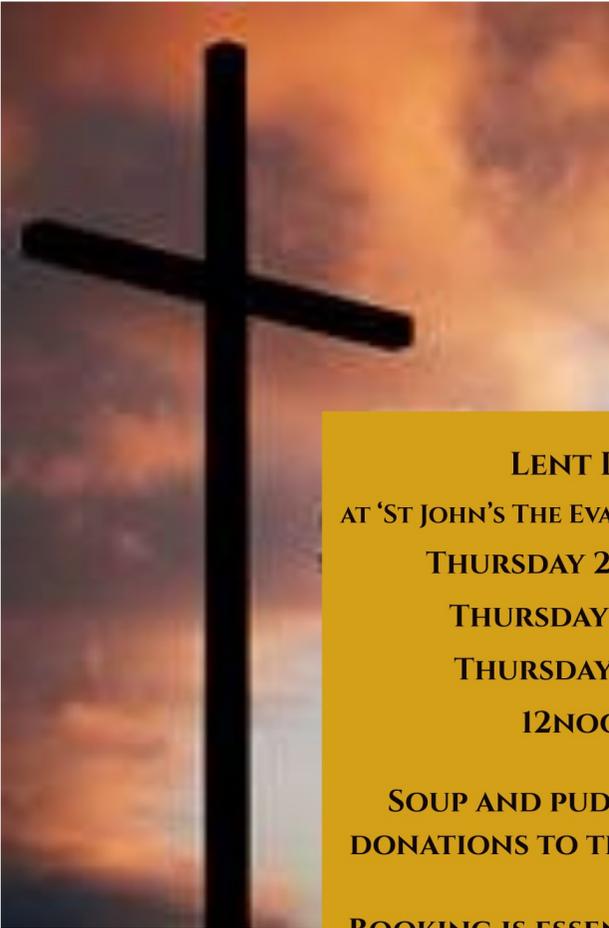
The Children’s Society has adopted the Christingle. If you would like to support their life-changing work with children and young people, please donate:

<https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/how-you-can-help/donate>

Kris Lawrence

Let there be light

None of us can live without light. No wonder light has been such an important symbol throughout history and such an inspiration for creative works of all types. In the still dark days of winter it was wonderful to have the beautiful little Christingle service with its readily accessible symbolism, placed at the start of February. Similarly, the wonderfully approachable poet Lemn Sissay recently published “let the light pour in”; four-line poems on the theme of opposites (mostly darkness/light) which he has chosen from the thousands he has composed over the last decade each day as dawn breaks. I have a different favourite daily it seems. Very readily available and on-shelf currently at several Surrey Libraries branches.



LENT LUNCHES
AT 'ST JOHN'S THE EVANGELIST CHURCH', HALE
THURSDAY 26TH FEBRUARY
THURSDAY 12TH MARCH
THURSDAY 26TH MARCH
12NOON - 2PM

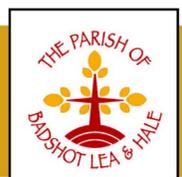
**SOUP AND PUDDING LUNCH FOR
DONATIONS TO THE 'ST JOHN'S FUND'**

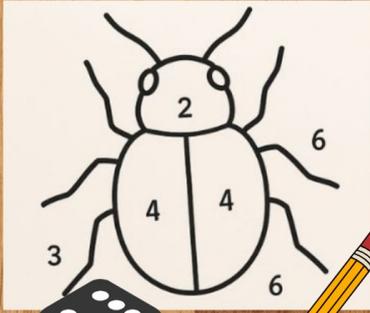
**BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL AS SPACES ARE
LIMITED, PLEASE BOOK BY EMAILING:
PCC.SECRETARY@BADSHOTLEAANDHALE.ORG**

**PLEASE INFORM US IN ADVANCE IF YOU HAVE
ANY DIETARY REQUIREMENTS**



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JOIN US FOR A TRADITIONAL
BEETLE DRIVE
FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY!

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH
FRIDAY 6TH MARCH
6PM

TICKETS: ADULTS £5, CHILDREN £2:50

BYO FOOD OR PRE-ORDER:

FISH & CHIPS: £10

CHICKEN & CHIPS: £9

BATTERED SAUSAGE & CHIPS: £6

VEGGIE BURGER & CHIPS: £8

TO BOOK AND/OR ORDER FOOD, CONTACT KRIS:
WARDEN.STGEORGES@BADSHOTLEAANDHALE.ORG
BY SUNDAY 1ST MARCH

CONTACT US - REV. LEXI RUSSELL 07792233477
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Mothering Sunday

15th March

A special service to celebrate mothers and those that provide motherly care.

St John's Church : 9:30am

St George's Church : 10:30am

St Mark's Church : 11:00am



With posies for all.

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EASTER CRAFT MARKET

SATURDAY, MARCH 21
10AM - 2PM

Plus Easter Egg Hunt!

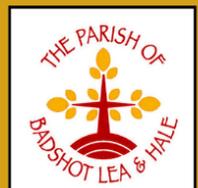


Gorgeous handmade gifts and cards, live music, café. Free entry.

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



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Twelfth Night at St John's

We gathered at St John's on Saturday 3rd January to celebrate 'Twelfth Night' and to raise much-needed funds for our parish. A couple of days early maybe but.....

The afternoon started with an hour of entertainment followed by our Christmas Party. Despite the cold weather 31 people joined us to share music, listen to poetry, pull crackers and enjoy the traditional party fare.

The afternoon finished with a 'sing along' of Christmas tunes and fun was had by all!

£270 was raised in total. A big thank-you to all who sang, recited poetry, made party food and helped with the clearing up!

I would like to thank everyone who joined us to make it an enjoyable, social event and we look forward to welcoming you at St John's Church for our 'Lent Lunches'.



From the parish registers

Funerals

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

20th January at Aldershot Crematorium

Patricia Janet Catherine Elsmore

23rd January at St John's Church

Catherine Mavis Leach

3rd February at Aldershot Crematorium

Hazell Mitchell

20th February at St Mark's Church

Margaret Frances Kate Varney



Palm Sunday

29TH MARCH

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week and commemorates the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. Our service will include a procession with palm branches. Please join us at one of our churches.



ST JOHN'S CHURCH : 9:30AM

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH : 10:30AM

ST MARK'S CHURCH : 11:00AM

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REV.LEXI@BADSHOTLEAANDHALE.ORG
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Peace, poetry and an expression of God

Once again St Mark's is hosting the final of the Farnham Poetry Competition, a popular part of the Farnham Literary Festival. The final will be held at the church on Saturday, March 14, starting at 5.30pm.

This year we haven't run the competition as we no longer have the resources to do so, but Farnham Lions have taken it on. However, we are running the final and it looks set to be a lovely evening as ever, with the church buzzing with creativity and good humour.

The theme of this year's competition is 'Peace' and poets young and old have been expressing their sentiments about peace through poetry. The competition closed on February 20th.

All the entrants will have been invited to the final on 14th, and the winners and runners-up will be announced during the evening. There will also be an open mic so anyone who wants to can read their poetry, regardless of whether or not they entered the competition.

During the first part of the evening the results of the under-18 categories will be announced by poet Coral Rumble and the young people will be encouraged to read out their entries. There will then be an interval so that younger members of the audience can go home if they wish. The adult winning entries will be announced by poet Linda Daruvala and the winners will also will be encouraged to read their poems. The open mic will follow.

Please do come to the evening. It is always a wonderful expression of creativity, a creativity which I believe is itself an expression of God.

Stella Wiseman

Picture: Dolcie, one of the winners, with her mother (left) and Coral Rumble, at last year's poetry final.



Easter Sunday

5th April

St John's Church 9:30am

St George's Church 10:30am

St Mark's Church 11:00am

Have a Blessed Easter!



Easter egg hunts
after the services

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The parish is now part of the Hygiene Bank

Keeping clean shouldn't be a luxury should it?

If you, or anyone you know, are struggling to afford vital items such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste, washing powder, tampons, nappies and the like, let us know. We can help as we are now an outlet for the Hygiene Bank.

It should not be the case that, in the 21st century, people are living in hygiene poverty, so that they do not have the money for a tube of toothpaste or a bar of soap, or have to choose between buying food and sanitary towels. Yet this is the reality for around 4.2 million adults in and 1.1m children who are living in hygiene poverty in Britain. That's four children in every classroom. The number is rising too: a report by the charity [In Kind Direct](#) reported that 46% of teachers have now seen children

bullied because of their hygiene issues.

That's why the Hygiene Bank exists – to support those who, for whatever reason, cannot afford vital items such as soap, shampoo, nappies, tampons, sanitary towels, nappies, washing-up liquid, and the like.



Picture by [Babak Eshaghian](#) on [Unsplash](#)

We have supported the Hygiene Bank for a long time – the bank used to store things in the garage at The Rectory, before the garage was deemed unsafe and knocked down – and we have a collection bin at St Mark's. Now we have a supply of items to give away to anyone who needs them.

Having access to hygiene products can be life-changing. The Hygiene Bank reports on children who can return to school because they now have deodorant and clean clothes thanks to washing detergent; and adults who had become isolated because of not being able to wash who are now regaining a social life and are able to apply for work.

People needing products may fall into one of several categories. The Hygiene Bank lists these as:

Those who are already vulnerable under the statutory duties of health, social care, housing, emergencies, etc – eg an elderly person in need of social care to live at home.

Those who are at immediate risk of moving into one of those statutory categories – eg a person experiencing domestic abuse who might become homeless, or the victim of a crime.

Those who are at risk of wider types of vulnerability where preventative activity might stop them becoming vulnerable in the statutory sense – eg older people currently in good health, but socially isolated; people on low incomes who might be at risk of household or food insecurity.

There are a lot of vulnerable or potentially vulnerable people in and around Farnham. However prosperous an area might seem appearances can be deceptive.

Please do let people know that they can come to us in confidence for items they need. Please also donate by putting items in the yellow bin at St Mark's or leaving them at the back of the other churches, clearly marked 'Hygiene Bank'. You can also donate or ask for help contacting Stella via the details at the end of the article.



What you can give: new, unused, in-date personal care and household cleaning essentials. These include toilet rolls, sanitary wear, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, washing-up liquid, j-cloths, disinfectant, body wash, hairbrushes, tissues, nappies, continence wear, hair ties, razors, sponges, make-up. We can also accept hairdryers, electric styling products and shavers, but they must be brand new, in their original packaging and pre-fitted with a UK plug.

We can accept open packs of nappies and individual or open packs of period pads as long as the pads are wrapped. We can accept cloth nappies and period pads.

What you can't give: For health and safety reasons, we cannot accept opened, half-used or products past their best-before date. We also can't accept health supplements and vitamins; body slimming and weight loss/gain products; over-the-counter medical creams, ointments or products. A good rule of thumb is: if you use something in your own personal hygiene or home-cleaning routine, chances are someone living in hygiene poverty will appreciate it too.

To find out more or to offer or ask for help for yourself or someone else, contact Stella on revd.stella@badshotleaandhale.org or 07342508164.

For details of the Hygiene Bank, visit thehygienebank.com

The Badshot Leader

March 2026

Badshot Lea Community Association AGM

Origin and legacy of the Badshot Leader

The original Badshot Leader was produced as a simple news sheet by the committee empowered to raise money to buy and convert Tice's hop kiln into the village hall that we have today. It was edited by John Boas and delivered by volunteers free of charge to every house in Badshot Lea. He produced 27 issues between February 1977 and September 1980. After a gap, a new series was produced between 1983 and 1985. A full set is kept in the office at the Village Hall.

These news letters gave me the opportunity to publish a series of historical articles about the village, and these were latter expanded into my books, "Between Four Bridges", 1979 and "Badshot People", 1981. Both these, long out-of-print, are available on the Community Association website, under history.

Since then, I have continued to research the history of the area, and deposited written copies of most of it in the Museum of Farnham and Surrey History Centre. If anybody is particularly interested, I am happy to put my work onto a memory stick if you provide one. Don't all rush!

Which brings me to the recently revived Badshot Leader. This was dreamed up by someone in the Community Association, in conjunction with the Parish Church. The plan was to produce four pages of village news each month. This involved an on-line version on the Community Association website and an insert in the printed Parish Magazine. This has worked well.

Now however, the Parish Magazine has gone quarterly, and I am trying to keep the online version going monthly. As this is not limited in size, I have been able to work with Kris Lawrence to include church news. Perhaps more church members could see it online. Even if you are not familiar with computers, (and I am not too good myself), you may have a friend who is.

Maurice Hewins



FUN QUIZ NIGHT

SAT 18TH APRIL - 7PM
ST MARK'S CHURCH

Come as a Team or on your own and we'll make teams up on the night. Just come and join the Fun!

£5 entry (under 16's £2.50). All ages welcome!

Please BYO snacks & drinks

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



Badshot Lea Tennis Club is now in its 90th year.

Located at the Badshot Lea recreation ground, the club was founded in 1936 by a few keen tennis players. Like a lot of clubs, it has grown and shrunk over the years with people moving and appetite for the sport waxing and waning.

The club is currently proving very successful, with LTA coaching for juniors and adults provided by Return Tennis, a local tennis-coaching company. The junior coaching sessions are after school Mondays and Wednesdays. The adult coaching is on Thursday evenings, and club sessions Thursday evening and Saturday morning. The club now has six teams in the local Aldershot and District LTA leagues, all doing well against stiff opposition from other local clubs.

The club welcomes prospective new members to come along to any club session or contact the Chair, Gillian on 0794 1099268.

The club's committee plan to hold a 90th celebration event later in the year - do check out happenings on their website www.badshotleatennisclub.org.uk

Gillian Hyman

John Lanaway of Barlings in Lower Weybourne Lane

The house known as Barlings in Lower Weybourne Lane is probably the best example of a Tudor yeoman's house in the Parish, and through researches of Pat Heather and others, we know a lot about its early occupants. In 1566 the owner of the freehold property, William Maunt, having no son, left the house and farm to his son-in-law, John Lanaway.

William, however wished to provide for his widow, Agnes, and a condition in the will stated that John should build her a chamber upon the same ground. This he did by building the two-story extension seen on the left of the house.

By 1581, seven years before the troubled time when the Spanish Armada was defeated, a John Lanaway was selected as an archer in the Surrey Trained Band (militia), and he was probably in Elizabeth's Army at Tilbury. The butts, where the archers practiced, was on the present Green.

At the time, John was an important farmer in Badshot, who may have been slow or economical with the truth about his tithe returns (payment due to the church). An agent of Sir William More, of Loseley, was sent over to value his farm produce for the year 1581. He was very thorough.

Loving Creator

**Fill my heart with compassion
for all those I meet.**

**May I speak with kindness to everyone
and keep giving love when all seems bleak.**

**May my hands be ready to help
my eyes quick to notice need
and my spirit open to every soul I meet.**

Amen

The Badshot Leader—cont

He said John had; - Ten milk cows, producing 1300 gallons of milk (which cost £10-16-9) and ten calves, (£10-15-0) He had 50 ewes, which produced 50 lambs (£6-5-0). Besides the ewes, John had 100 wether sheep and the total of 150 fleeces was worth £12-10-0.



The farm obviously had extensive orchards, which the agent estimated produced 80 bushels of apples, three bushels of warden (baking pears), 12 bushels of other pears, as well as any nuts, damsons and other fruit to be sold (£5-8-60) These figures are obviously high rounded up estimates, and the agent was only doing his job by claiming as much money as possible.

It did not stop there. John was expected to pay the value of one tenth of the onions, garlic and beans growing in his garden. His three sows were said to have produced 60 pigs bringing in £2-10-0. When his hops, geese, eggs, honey and firewood were counted in, John's income was assessed at £43-6-10 and he was being asked to pay one-tenth to the church. Poor John must have been protesting at some of the figures.

PLANT SALE

St George's Church, Badshot Lea
Saturday 9th May
10am-12noon

- ✔ Refreshments available
- ✔ Children's potting activity
- ✔ donations of plants welcome



CONTACT US - REV. LEXI RUSSELL 07792233477
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BUNTING MAKING WORKSHOP

SATURDAY 9TH MAY

7pm at St George's Church

Bring your creativity, scissors, fabric
(old colourful duvet covers etc).

BYO drinks & snacks.

everyone welcome for a fun social and,
hopefully, productive evening!

CONTACT US - REV. LEXI RUSSELL 07792233477
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ASCENSION DAY BBQ

Thursday 14th May - St George's Church

BBQ from 6pm

Communion Service
from 7:30pm

All welcome.

Please BYO own meat and drinks.

Some salads and bread will be provided



CONTACT US - REV. LEXI RUSSELL 07792233477
REV.LEXI@BADSHOTLEAANDHALE.ORG
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The Churches in Badshot Lea.

During John Lanaway's life there was only one church, but its relationship with the Pope in Rome changed several times, and to be known as a Catholic, (or Protestant), could at times be a matter of life or death. However, by the time the Victorian village of Badshot Lea was being built after the 1857 enclosure, there was freedom for all in religious matters.

By 1860 a congregation of Primitive Methodists had built a small chapel in Badshot Lea Road, but for Anglicans their Parish Church was some way off at Hale and later Tongham. When the Board School opened in 1895, the little National School then in St George's Road, became an Anglican Mission Room. (This was demolished in 1988 to be replaced by three houses).

There was then a race to build bigger Methodist and Anglican Churches. The Methodists just won and their "Big Chapel", which cost £940, was consecrated on 24th September 1902. (it is now a house). St George's Church followed, being opened on 24th October 1903 at cost of £3,000. There was another building, where services were also held. This was the Temperance Hall on the first floor above the present super market. The Chinese takeaway housed a "Coffee Tavern". The man behind this was My Hyde, a business man from Tongham. For a time the hall was used by the Salvation Army and the "Band of Hope". By and large, the denominations got along most of the time, but there was a major dispute over the siting of the war memorial.



This photo from the early 1900s shows the Coffee Tavern. The sign in the window advertises "good beds". The entrance to the Abstainer's Hall is on the right under an ornamental facade.

It's Something I Can Do

The mighty organ thundered, the church chock full to bust,
Row on row of polished seats and not a speck of dust,
I praised the cleaning lady for the shine on chair and pew,
Embarrassed, she said quietly, "It's something I can do."

The speakers on the platform, men and women of repute
Made speeches and great oratory, smart in skirt and suit.
We left behind our hymn books and our service papers too.
A bent old man collected them. "It's something I can do."

We streamed into the hall behind to have some welcome tea,
With sandwiches and home-made cake, all absolutely free!
But backways, in the kitchen, just beyond the ladies' loo,
A smiling soul was washing up. "It's something I can do."

We made our way to find our cars, our homeward way to wend,
our hearts full of service that we didn't want to end,
A lady with a walking stick, a flask, a bun or two,
Was talking with two homeless lads. "It's something I can do."

I made my way back home that night much chastened, I admit
and thought of all those humble souls who did their little bit.
Unsung, unseen (except by God), who sees the sparrow too.
and says "Go out and feed my sheep, it's something you can do."

We do not have to change the world or be on centre stage.
We do not have to make a noise or headlines on front page.
Importance doesn't matter, there's a job for me and you,
God's service includes everyone. "There's something we can do."

David Baldock

*(Inspired by Sister Marian's sermon at Tilehurst on 7th July 2002
when she mentioned a nervous lady named Edith Wagstaff whom she
met at the Diaconal Ordination Service in Wolverhampton and who
had started a weekly service with a few others at a Drop-in Centre
near her home in Cheshire because "It's something I can do".*

This Month's Topic: How to Get Meaningful Quotes (Not Just Prices)

If you're planning a home project this spring, getting clear, comparable quotes is the most important first step. Here's a simple method to ensure you're comparing apples to apples, not just looking at the cheapest price.

1. Write a Simple, Shared Brief

Before you invite anyone round, write down exactly what you want. Include dimensions, materials, and specific tasks. Send this same brief to every tradesperson you contact. This ensures everyone is pricing for the same job.

2. The "Three-Quote Rule" is About Quality, Not Just Quantity

Aim for at least three quotes. The goal isn't just to find the middle price, but to find the person who asks the most questions, shows genuine interest in your brief, and suggests thoughtful solutions.

3. Look Beyond the Bottom Line

When quotes arrive, check what's included. A proper quote should detail:

- *Labour costs per stage.*
- *A clear list of materials.*
- *A projected timeline.*
- *The terms of their guarantee or warranty. A surprisingly low quote often means something important has been omitted.*

4. Trust Your Instincts

Finally, the quote is only part of the picture. Do they communicate clearly and on time? Did they show respect for your home when they visited? A good working relationship is as valuable as the price.

Taking this structured approach removes much of the stress from planning and helps you choose a tradesperson you can trust for the long term.

This advice is provided by www.qwote.uk, a free service for Surrey & Hampshire homeowners.

Next month in The Homeowner's Notebook: Hiring the Right Tradesperson – The 5 Essential Checks. We'll guide you through the final vetting steps, from references to insurance, so you can appoint with confidence.



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Marjorie Nora Potterton (Madge) - 31st Oct 1923 - 7th Dec 2025

Madge died in December, aged 102yrs. She has been a friend and neighbour for almost 50years, and recipient of the parish magazine. She has told me many wonderful stories of growing up in Heath End, where her father was the village baker and her mother ran a shop and tearoom next door. Wigmores Bakery was on the site of the present Co-op, but after it was demolished in the mid-1930s, moved to almost opposite the Wellington (now Londis) where it continued until the mid 1960s.



Madge spoke of a happy childhood, a few animals outside and playing with her siblings in fields behind - now the Avenues. She left school aged 15 and went to work in the glove department of a store in Aldershot.

When war broke out, her dad told her to leave her job and work for him, as her brothers had gone off to fight. So she delivered bread all around the area, firstly by bike and then learned to drive the baker's van. She often told me how shocked she was when she realised how poor people were. Her dad would say 'if they have no money, and there are children, leave them a loaf'.



Madge married Fred Potterton and with two young children, moved into a brand new house in Alma Way in

1963 - and where she died just before Christmas.

With her love of children, she helped at the baby clinic in Hale Institute, receiving an award from Frimley Park Hospital for 27-years service. She was also a lunchtime helper at Hale School. Her love of baking meant always homemade cakes in the house. When I was enjoying a cuppa with her, aged 100, she apologised for shop-bought cake, saying first time ever she had bought one!!

Madge's Christian faith always shone through. Loved people, never a bad word to say about anyone, always positive. Dear Madge, very much missed.

Gillian Geraghty

On the Banks of Green Willow

Pollinator Patch with Juliet from Hive Helpers



I wanted to talk this month about willow in all its forms because it holds such value for pollinators, and I remembered George Butterworth's wonderful elegiac piece *On the Banks of Green Willow* which is playing as I write this. Butterworth was an English composer who died during the Battle of the Somme in 1916 and was awarded the MC for gallantry. I have an abiding memory of him in an early black-and-white film, showing him doing a Morris dance and waving a white hanky in more peaceful times. It seemed to sum up all that was lost in that awful conflict. Butterworth would have had the weeping willow (*Salix babylonica*) in mind, but all willows have the wonderful catkins that provide our pollinators with the valuable pollen with which they feed their brood.

Willows are famously water-loving

and we've certainly had plenty of that this year! They're also very easy to propagate: simply stick a bit in the ground and it will start to sprout. Osier willow (*Salix viminalis*) is widely used to make living structures such as arches, arbours and windbreaks, as the 'withies' (strong, flexible willow stems) very quickly green up and can be woven together. We use willow at the farm as a screen for our apiary. Willow is also great for basketry and wreaths, as the withies come in a variety of colours.

Pollinator plant of the month – Willow

There are many different species of willow (*Salix*), and one of the best willows for pollinators is the goat willow (*Salix caprea*) because it is such an early source of pollen. It is

Environment

often found in native hedgerows. The male catkins look like cat's paws (it is also known as pussy willow) which become yellow when ripe with pollen; the female catkins (on a separate tree) are longer and green, and when pollinated, the flowers turn into woolly seeds which you can often see littering the ground around the tree. It is invaluable for bees of all types, as well as being the main food plant for the beautiful purple emperor butterfly. Interestingly, willow is pollinated by the wind, not by the many insects which visit it for its pollen!

Wild bee of the month – Red mason bee

The Red mason bee (*Osmia bicornis*) is a solitary bee species, and gets its name from its habit of nesting in



cavities in masonry and using mud to construct its nest.

Picture—Alex Potts

Red mason bees will also readily use bee hotels, and are commonly found in urban areas, especially gardens and parks on south-facing locations. They are active from late

March until June, when the females lay their eggs in single cells, provision with pollen and nectar, and seal each cell with mud where they develop and emerge the following spring. These bees are quite easy to identify, especially the females as they have black boxy heads and inward curving horns to help them manipulate the mud, and dense ginger-red hair. Red mason bees are excellent pollinators, especially in orchards, and they also love willow!

Other March plants for pollinators

Our native primrose (*Primula vulgaris*) is loved by long-tongued insects such as butterflies and bee flies, which can reach the nectar at the base of the flower tube. They self-seed, or you can dig up clumps and divide them, so you always have a supply. Spring-flowering hellebores including the native stinking hellebore (*Helleborus foetidus*) are also good sources of early nectar and pollen – and don't forget to leave your dandelions to flower!

For more information about Hive Helpers, please visit www.hivehelpers.co.uk, email: office@hivehelpers.co.uk phone 07895 547637.

Sabbath Rest

It has been a long time since I put paws to keyboard and wrote a column for the magazine. You have had a break and I understand that my missives will be needed but four times a year from now on as the magazine has gone quarterly. The idea is that those who produce the magazine will be under less pressure.

I approve of reducing pressure. Cats do not like pressure. We like naps, being stroked just the right amount and good food. We like to take life at a sensible pace (unless



Pic: Resting with my teddy bear.

we are two annoying kittens, one black, one ginger). We approve of the Sabbath.

A Sabbath is designed for rest and recuperation which is something

humans (especially The Curate) are not good at.

As a good Church Cat I have been reading and reflecting and agree with someone called Cindy Lee who wrote: “The Western church has taught Sabbath keeping as an individual practice of taking a day off and missed the understanding of Sabbath as a collective posture that orients us toward a just society where all can find rest... Keeping the Sabbath rhythm requires everyone in the community, including those with privilege and power, to participate so that all can rest.”

Humans, you all buy into the idea of a busy society which must produce all the time. It’s time to copy the cats occasionally. But don’t stop producing food for us of course.

Cindy, I hope you have a cat. You sound like a good human being.

**Purrs
The Church Cat**



Spring has Sprung

Spring has sprung - and although the spring in my step is more of a toddle nowadays, I can still find a bounce if there is a carrot, squirrel, or postman! At this time of year, the bunnies, lambs and chicks usually get the limelight. Although these images seem to have distanced very far from our Christian faith, and are primarily found on supermarket aisles and chocolate wrappers, the original sentiment still stands. There is new life in Spring, the light has returned, and the dormant bulbs are in bloom. God's creation is mirroring the promise that death is not the end. Being aware of the new life in our gardens, Churches and communities brings hope! These everlasting cycles reflect God's endless promise of refreshment and renewal: his creation is deeply loved even when it may not be visible until the new buds of spring emerge.

Now one of a dog's best traits is his loyalty. Mine does sway when there are snacks involved - but



that's past the point. Many Christians have had a loyalty to nature as part of their faith, and I have recently been reading about Saint Cuthbert of Lindisfarne whose Saint's day falls on the 20th March. The legend goes that he would pray in the cold sea, and otters would come and warm and dry his feet. Now if it wasn't documented by St Bede, I would still believe this - as otters are very much 'sea dogs' in my eyes, and warming feet is what we do best!



Bugsy

The Road of Life

At first, I saw God as my observer, my judge, keeping track of the things I did wrong, so as to know whether I merited heaven or hell when I die. He was out there sort of like a president. I recognised his picture when I saw it, but I really didn't know him.

But later on when I met Christ, it seemed as though life were rather like a bike ride, but it was a tandem bike, and I noticed that Christ was in the back helping me pedal. I don't know just when it was that he suggested we change places, but life has not been the same since.

When I had control, I knew the way. It was rather boring, but predictable. It was the shortest distance between two points. But when He took the lead, He knew delightful long cuts, up mountains, and through rocky places at breakneck speeds. It was all I could do to hang on.

Even though it looked like madness, He said, "Pedal!". I worried and was anxious and asked, "Where are you taking me?". He laughed and didn't answer, and I started to learn to trust.

I forgot my boring life and entered into the adventure, and when I'd say, "I'm scared", He'd lean back and touch my hand. I gained love, peace, acceptance and joy; gifts to take on my journey, my Lord's and mine. And we were off again.

He said, "Give the gifts away. They're extra baggage, too much weight." So I did, to the people we met, and I found that in giving I received, and still our burden was light.

I did not trust him, at first, in control of my life. I thought He'd wreck it; but he knows bike secrets, knows how to make it bend to take sharp corners, knows how to jump to clear high rocks, know how to fly shorten, scary passages.

And I am learning to shut up and pedal in the strangest place, and I'm beginning to enjoy the view and the cool breeze on my face with my delightful constant companion, Jesus Christ.

And when I'm sure I just can't do it anymore, He just smiles and says "Pedal".



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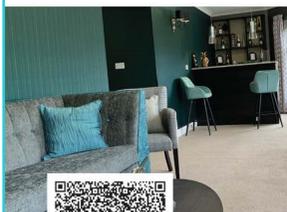
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Luminosa Music at St Lawrence Church in Alton

Luminosa is delighted to announce it will be performing on Saturday, 21st March at St Lawrence Church, Alton. Starting at 7pm, Luminosa will be performing a vibrant performance of excerpts from Haydn's *The Seasons*. Luminosa will also be performing Joanna Forbes L'Estrange's beautiful work *A Season to Sing*, a reimagining of Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*. This will be Luminosa's second performance of Joanna's work after the choir premiered this at a sell-out evening in March 2025 at St Bartholomew the Great Church in London, as one of the commissioning choirs.

The evening features soloists from the acclaimed Trinity Laban Conservatoire and with soprano solos from Rebekah Abbott. Co-conducted by Luminosa's Assistant Director Adam Blossie and accompanied by Gavin Roberts at the superb St Lawrence Organ and on piano, this promises to be an evening not to miss.

Known for imaginative programming and high-quality performances, the acclaimed and 90-strong Luminosa continues to champion choral music that connects audiences with both the classical canon and contemporary works. Luminosa's concerts always sell out, so early booking is essential. Tickets are priced at £16 for adults and £9 for children.

For tickets and more information, visit www.luminosamusic.com.

SAXOOMA



Saxophone Quartet for any occasion

Contact pcc.layvicechair@badshotleaandhale.org

Baby & Me

What is Baby and Me?

It is an 4 week course that explores thoughts and feelings around anxiety, low mood and wellbeing and feeling alone in a safe environment, allowing space to have special time with your baby.

For you to get the best out of the group, we ask that you commit to the full 4 weeks.

If you feel this is for you, please speak to your health visitor.

Who is this course for?

New mums registered with a Farnham GP

Where is the course taking place?

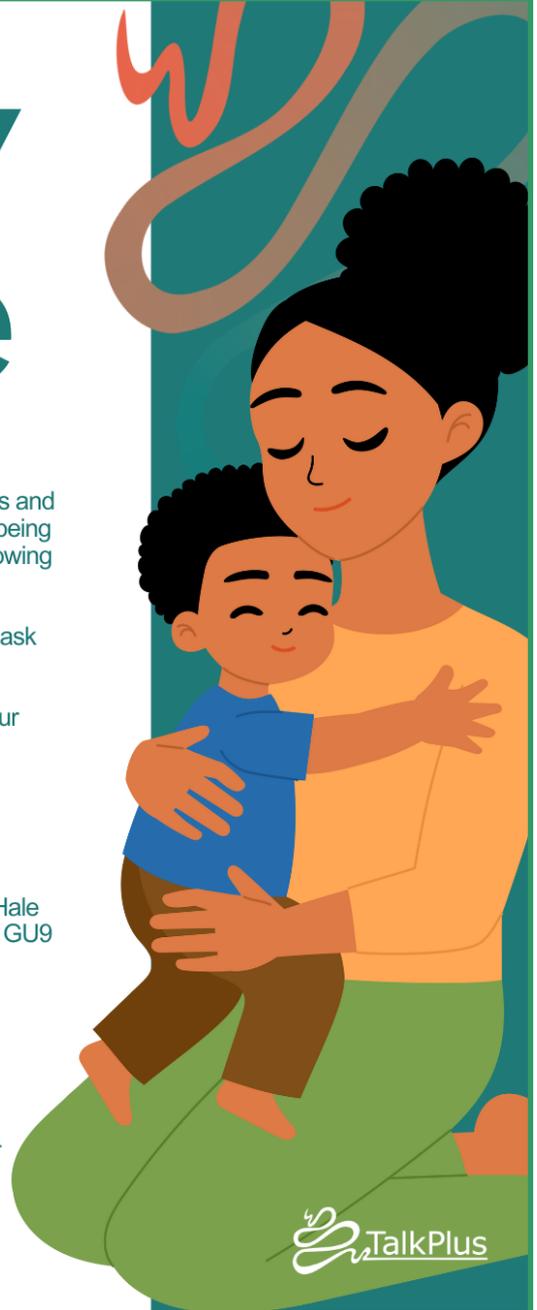
This is an in-person course taking place at Hale Family Centre, Upper Hale Road, Farnham GU9 0LR.

Can I bring my baby?

Yes

How do I book a place?

Speak to your health visitor or self-refer (mentioning baby & me course) through our website www.talkplus.org.uk or by calling TalkPlus on **01252 533 355**





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Sunflower Cafe | Thursday | Spire Church Hall

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Support



Waverley Family Centre

Mondays, 9.15 to 11.15am
Hale Family Centre
(Term time only)

**Everyone
Welcome!**

Community Hub for Parents and Carers

Are you a parent or carer who is finding things challenging? Would you like to chat with other people who are experiencing similar issues? Join us for a coffee and a natter, in a safe and welcoming setting. This is a peer run support group, run by parents, for parents. Children are welcome. Family centre staff are available for support if needed.

**For more information scan the
QR code or call: 01483 417157**



**Waverley Family Centre, Green Lane, Binscombe, Godalming, Surrey, GU7
3TB and Upper Hale Road, Farnham GU9 0LR**

BARNARDOS

**Changing childhoods.
Changing lives.**



Who's Who

Ministry Team

Clergy

Rev'd Alexa Russell
(Rector)

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Fr. John Evans
(Retired priest)

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johnjune@btinternet.com

Rev'd Stella Wiseman (Curate)

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Youth Minister

Vacant

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Churchwardens

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Pamela Marsham
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PCC Lay Vice-chair

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PCC Treasurer

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The Church Cat

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The Church Dog

Bugsy
rev.lexi@badshotleaandhale.org

HOLY WEEK



MAR 29 PALM SUNDAY
 St John's Church 9:30am
 St George's Church 10:30am
 St Mark's Church 11:00am

MAR 30,31 & APR 1 HOLY WEEK MEDITATIONS
 St John's Church 7:30pm
7:30pm not 7:3pm

APR 2 MAUNDY THURSDAY
 St John's Church 7:30pm
 St George's Church 7:30pm

APR 3 GOOD FRIDAY
 St John's Church 9:30am
 St Mark's Church 11:00am
 with crafts at 10am

APR 5 EASTER SUNDAY
 St John's Church 9:30am
 St George's Church 10:30am
 St Mark's Church 11:00am

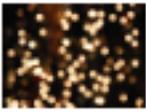
CONTACT US - REV. LEXI RUSSELL 07792233477
 REV.LEXI@BADSHOTLEAANDHALE.ORG
 BADSHOTLEAANDHALE.ORG



Social events - Dates for the diary

We have lots of fun stuff happening in the parish in 2026, as well as 3 Craft Fairs at St Mark's Church. Please get the dates in your diary and come along and enjoy!! If you can offer any help with running any of the events, please let Kris know:

warden.stgeorges@badshotleaandhale.org

Date	Event	Date	Event
Sat 14 th Feb St George's	 Valentine themed party	Thurs 26 th Feb, 12 th & 26 th March St John's	 Lent Lunches
Fri 6 th March St George's	 Beetle Drive & Fish & Chip supper	Sat 18 th April St Mark's	 Quiz – accessible to all!
Sat 9 th May St George's	 Plant Sale	Sat 9 th May St George's	 Bunting making social evening
Sat 13 th June St George's	 Parish Fete	Sat Aug Date TBC St George's	 BBQ and some sort of Top 10 (school day favourites?)
Sat 11 th July St John's	 Musical afternoon in tribute to Carolyn Weston. Funds to Christian Aid	Sun 23 rd Aug Badshot Lea	 Service at the Kiln rounders and picnic after the service
Sat 12 th Sept St George's	 Autumn Craft afternoon	Sat 3 rd Oct St George's	 Harvest Supper
Mon Nov Date TBC St George's	 Badshot Lea Light Switch-on	Fri – Sun 4 th – 6 th Dec St George's	 Christmas Tree Festival

CONTACT US - REV. LEXI RUSSELL 07792233477
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Services Across the Parish

In addition to our weekly communion services held on Sunday mornings, we have the following services that you might like to come and enjoy.

Regular Sunday communion (with occasional Service of the Word (no communion)):

St John's Church, 9:30am

St George's Church, 10:30am

St Mark's Church, 11am

Date	Event	Details
3pm 1 st and 3 rd Sundays monthly		<p>Trinity – at St George's Church A more informal and contemporary form of worship with modern worship music. Everyone is welcome to come and join us!</p>
9:30am 2 nd & 4 th Sundays monthly		<p>Bubble Church – at St George's Church A short 30-minute service especially for families with young children, but everyone is very welcome. Come and join us for a puppet packed, Jesus centred, coffee and food fuelled service!</p>
12noon Wednesdays		<p>Midweek communion – at St Mark's Church Take some time out in the middle of the week for a communion service.</p>
4 th Sunday monthly		<p>United Parish Service Celebrating communion together as a whole parish once a month in place of our individual church services. March 22nd at St John's Church April 26th at St Mark's Church May 24th at St George's Church</p>

YOUR CROSS

Whatever your cross
Whatever your pain
There will always be sunshine
After the rain

Perhaps you may stumble
Perhaps even fall
But God's always there
To help you through it all