

THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF BADSHOT LEA AND HALE



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



**Opening
Wed, Sept
16, 9.15am
St Mark's**

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

Issue no.
295

**Autumn
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 Winter issue of the magazine is **Sunday, Nov 10th.**

From the ministry team

Welcome to our Autumn edition of the Parish Magazine. I hope you have all managed to stay cool during these heatwaves! I naively thought that things would quieten down over the summer period, but things have been just as busy as ever.

Back in June we had another successful Parish fete. It is always amazing to see the whole parish join together to put on such a wonderful event for the whole community to enjoy. There was plenty for all to enjoy, and many activities to engage in. I know the 'Pony Pals' were a particular highlight for many.

In July there was a beautiful afternoon of music in memory of Carolyn Weston. Our own parish choir featured, alongside 'In Accord' and Olivia Jasper. The singing was beautiful and was interspersed with some poetry, all topped off with delicious homemade scones for afternoon tea.

Over the summer we have been running our 'Stay and Play' sessions at St George's. We have been using the soft play equipment from the party packages and having themes every week. It's given local parents



something cheap and cheerful to do and it's been great having new families coming through the doors of the church each week. There have been lots of opportunity to build relationships with new people and serve our local community. There was a target of £500 to be raised over the course of the summer and we are well on our way to making that. Thank you to all those who have given their time to volunteer and help out. A special thank you goes to our parish administrator Emma, whose idea it was to run these. Her hard work and creativity have added so much value to our Parish!

With so much that's happened over the summer, there has been no time to slow down as there are lots of exciting things being planned for the Autumn.

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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 50's. Come along and enjoy a cup of coffee, cake, various activities and a good natter! 8 th , 22 nd , Sept , 6 th , 20 th Oct , 3 rd , 17 th Nov
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. 15 th , 29 th Sept , 13 th , 27 th , Oct , 10 th , 24 th Nov
Wednesdays 9:15-11:15am St Mark's	 Little Lions	New for September for children 0-5yrs With Musical Beats and refreshments
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	 Pray with us	Join us to pray for our parish, or world or anything else that is on your mind.
1 st & 3 rd Thursdays 10am-12pm St Mark's	 Coffee & Arts @ St Mark's	No artistic skills needed – come and join us for art, coffee and cake!
2 nd , 4 th & 5 th Thursdays 10.30-12.30pm St John's	 Knitting for a good cause	Use your skills or learn new ones to produce a variety of useful items. With 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 – come and join our friendly group!

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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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.



From the ministry team—cont

St Mark's, in collaboration with Hale Community Centre, Waverley Home-Start and Hale Family Centre are going to be launching a new toddler group called Little Lions in September. It's going to run during term time from 9.15am-11.15am, starting Wednesday 16th September.

There are also plans in the pipeline to refurbish the kitchen at St Mark's with the intention of starting a community café. There is increasing need for there to be safe and accessible spaces for the community to be able to meet and socialise. It is hoped that the café will compliment the amazing work that already goes on at the community centre. Keep an eye out for opportunities to get involved.

With so much excitement and talk of the future, I'm currently reflecting a lot about how we make sure our parish and Churches remain standing not only for us, but also the generations who will come after us. We are called to not just be a church for the present, but also make sure we are a Church that will be there in the future.

In 1 Corinthians 4:1 Paul speaks about how as servants of Christ, we are entrusted with the mysteries God has revealed to us. Not only are we

called to spread the good news of God's love for us all, but we must make sure there will always be somewhere for followers of Jesus to meet and worship God.

The PCC have commissioned a project, where we are going to look at all three churches and dream big about the future. We are going to be reflecting on how God is at work in the parish, the communities we serve, our congregations and worship and pray about where we might see growth and how that might happen.

There's also a practical side to the project, and the question of how we make sure our church buildings are looked after and well maintained. I want us to think about more eco-friendly and efficient ways of running our buildings, that will consider the long-term impact on the environment.

That's a snapshot into what I am hoping to do. Please pray for us as we undertake such a project and let me know if you'd like to get involved.

As we cosy up ready for the darker nights to draw in, may we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the mission of the Church and the love that we are called to share.

Rev'd Lexi

Hale Little Lions Play Den

Watch out! There are lions about

Hale Little Lions' Play Den open on Wednesday, September 16, at 9.15am at St Mark's. This is the new stay-and-play group which will run every Wednesday morning in term time as a joint venture between the parish, Hale Community Centre, Waveley Home-Start and Hale Family Centre, giving families with children from birth to school age a welcoming place to go, meet others and play.

The parish and the three organisations will take turns to run an activity among which will be craft, messy play, music (Musical Beats will come once a month to run a session) and books. Home-Start has 30 new book packs to start us off.

Light refreshments will be available and, while we will share the responsibility for running the group between the four of us, someone from the parish will be there every week.

Outdoor play is a key part of early childhood development, so we are planning a fence in the garden at St Mark's with access to the garden from the back of the church

When the St Mark's toddler group closed because of Covid, we gave away most of the toys, so if you have any sturdy toys suitable for 0-5s, please let us know. And don't forget to tell people about Little Lions. We're hoping it will be a roaring success. (Ouch! Sorry!)

Any questions, contact Stella: revd.stella@badshotleaandhale.org or 07342508164.



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ST GEORGE'S STAY & PLAY:

St George's Stay & Play: A Summer of Community, Laughter and Little Seeds Sown

What a summer it has been for St George's Stay & Play!

When we started planning our Summer sessions, we set ourselves a fundraising target of £500 over the summer break. On our very first session Johanna reminded me that it's not about the funds we raise but the mustard seed. Before each session I have reminded myself of this. I have been delighted by the success both financially and as a community project.

Like I said, whilst the funds raised are a wonderful achievement, the real success of Stay & Play has been found in something much more meaningful — the people, the friendships, the laughter and the opportunity to open the doors of our beautiful church to families in our community.

We have now welcomed new faces, familiar faces and regulars each week, and every session has brought its own special atmosphere. The children have enjoyed a whole range of different themes and activities, and it has been wonderful to watch them explore, play, create and simply have fun together.

Most importantly, we have been able to provide families with a warm, welcoming and positive experience of our church.

That sentiment has stayed with us throughout the summer.

A small seed can grow into something far greater than we ever imagined. By simply providing a positive experience, a friendly face and a welcoming space within our church, we have the opportunity to reach people in ways that go far beyond the here and now.

Perhaps a family who visits Stay & Play will return for another event. Perhaps a child will grow up remembering the church as somewhere happy, safe and welcoming. Perhaps a conversation over a cup of coffee will lead to a new friendship or connection.

Those things are impossible to put a price on.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the incredible people who have given up their time to volunteer.

I want to say a truly enormous thank you to everyone who has volunteered their time this summer. Whether you have helped set up, tidy away, run an activity, serve in the café, welcome families, supervise the children or simply stepped in wherever you were needed — thank you.

Every person who has contributed has played a part in making Stay & Play the success it has become.

I am incredibly proud of what has been achieved and incredibly grateful to everyone who has helped make it happen. My hope and prayer is that Stay and Play continues to grow over the coming years, for our community and in the number of families we welcome, friendships we create and little seeds we plant along the way.

Thank you to everyone who has supported St George's Stay & Play.

Here's to the rest of this summer and future sessions — and to watching those little mustard seeds grow..

Emma
Parish Administrator

PARISH PLANT SALE

The Plant Sale is always a bit hard to predict as we rely purely on donations of plants to sell. The plants all arrive on the day with no clue about what they will be. But, as always, there was no disappointment this year about the variety of plants we were given, and our resident gardener Keith was on hand to give people advice about how to best look after the plants and where best to grow them.

The weather was perfect on the day and people were happy to pass the morning enjoying their shopping followed by the tea, coffee and cake refreshments on offer.

This has become a lovely family event also. We have sunflower seeds for the children to pot up and enjoy watch grow on – it would be lovely to see some photos of the flowering results! And it's great to see how the children like to select their own plant from the variety on offer to take home with them.

We did have a few plants left over at the end and these were donated to the community garden – so there was nothing that went to waste at the end of the day. We are very grateful for the support this event attracts as it helps so much with much needed church funds. So, thank you to all who helped with the many aspects that make this such a success.



Kris Lawrence
Churchwarden

2026 Community Summer Fete; Saturday 13th June

The Community Fete held at St George's Church run by the churches of the Parish of Badshot Lea and Hale was another successful event. I believe God had a hand in the success of the day – despite the rain the day before, the weather could not have been better! So many people of all ages came along to have a fun time – it was so lovely to see everyone enjoying themselves.

The fete was opened at 11am by the Farnham Mayor Councillor Graham White and Town Cryer Michael Stephens.



Caroline came along with her 'Pony Pals' and was tremendously popular. A great variety of trained therapy animals that were happy to be groomed and cuddled. Pony, goat, sheep, hamsters, chickens and more! We hope to welcome Caroline back again next year.

News of the Pet Show (which was new in 2025) must have spread as we had more entries this year, including our Bubble Church puppets who were also delighted to get an outing – two of them were even awarded prizes! 'Best in Show' was awarded to both Annie and Maggie who, with one owner, were happy to share.



I believe this is the biggest and best fete we have run for several years. There was great food on offer from the café and the BBQ which were both constantly busy. The bar was very popular, offering Pimms, beer and lagers.



We had a children's soft play area – a great safe place for the little ones to enjoy. Our new 'Party Packages' include access to the equipment you see here – soft play, ball pool, roller coaster etc, plus a bouncy castle.

Please contact bookings@badshotleaandhale.org for more information.

Also new this year was the Community Art Project run by Johanna, from our parish, who explains it: "Thank you to all those at the Parish Fete who contributed to this collaborative piece of art. The aim of this project was to create an accessible art piece, which demonstrates how many people making a small contribution can create something big and beautiful. Each artist, some as young as two, copied a small, simple piece of the picture. When combined, these pieces created a large abstract image of baby Jesus and mother Mary. This image will be put onto Christmas Cards to be sold in aid of the Parish of Badshot Lea & Hale, keep an eye out for these at our Christmas Tree Festival! (weekend of 4th – 6th December).



I was delighted to see the amazing projects a group of young entrepreneurs from Hale Community Centre had produced. These students are taking part in a Young Enterprise Challenge and should be proud of what they have done.

We had lots of craft stall to browse and a variety of stalls that were run by church members including an amazing Grand Prize Draw. These church stalls were stocked full of items very generously donated by church and community people. Without their generosity none of this would be possible.



We were entertained by the Vivaldi singers who put together a medley of Disney tunes, the Farnham and Aldershot Karate Club and The Badshot Lea Village Infant School with their wonderful maypole dancing.

And it wouldn't be a community event with our friends, the Bloomers from the Community Garden who had a great selection of plants on sale.

I want to thank everyone that played a part in the event, no matter how big or small – you are all stars! Events like this rely heavily on our volunteers that give up their time so generously. If you would like to help out at our fete in 2027, please contact Kris at warden.stgeorges@badshotleaandhale.org

Kris Lawrence
Churchwarden

A Musical Afternoon in Memory of Carolyn Weston

Our dear friend Carolyn Weston was sadly taken from us in 2025. Carolyn was a great supporter of Christian Aid and worked hard to raise funds for the charity in her lifetime.



In her memory we held an afternoon of the music she loved on the 11th July, at St John's Church, which included her favourite hymns and music of the Beatles as she was a huge fan!



Poetry was also read which had a personal meaning to Carolyn and her lovely family.

Musicians and singers who included Mary Klymenko our organist, 'In Accord', Olivia Jasper, The Parish Choir and 'Rocking Rev' Lexi donated their time to make it a very memorable occasion and following the music we served our guests a cream tea of homemade scones, jam and clotted cream of course! Plenty of tea was poured out to go with it.

There was no charge for the afternoon event and no expenses were claimed by the musicians, bakers of scones and jam makers. The clotted cream was kindly donated.

A retiring collection was made in aid of 'Christian Aid'.

Thank you all those who donated your talents of baking, making music and all those who attended the 'Concert for Carolyn'. I can confirm that I have sent Christian Aid £490.54!

A fantastic result in memory of our dear Carolyn and for the charity she worked hard to support.

Carolyn certainly would have loved the music and was no doubt looking down on us with her lovely smile! It was a great afternoon in her memory. I think she would have been very pleased with us all.



MONDAY AT 3

A new home group is starting in September, kicking off at 3pm on Monday, September 21 at St Mark's.

The Monday Group is a home group meeting in a church, with all the normal home group aspects: reading the Bible or a particular spiritual book, discussion, prayer, tea, coffee and biscuits, and, hopefully, deeper friendships and deeper faith.

It will be run by Violet Wood with support from Stella Wiseman, and everyone is welcome.

To find out more, contact

revd.stella@badshotleaandhale.org, or call 07342508164.



Stella Wiseman

SAXOOMA



Saxophone Quartet for any occasion

pcc.layvicechair@badshotleaandhale.org

Trinity Service – 3pm 1st & 3rd Sunday Monthly

At 3pm on a Sunday afternoon I often think, 'can I be bothered to go to Trinity', but I do go and am always so grateful for God leading me there. Every service is a bit unique, today's was particularly bonkers from the start; but it was refreshing, very spiritual and just what I needed.

There's something about children's worship that makes everything come together in a beautifully chaotic way.

Before we had hardly started, construction materials were being brought in to create a giant marble run which was fuelled by the ball pool at the front of the church (every church should have one!)



Notice, in the background, someone is sneaking a vehicle out of the pool, having been told 'no'! But he got away with it!

Whilst serious and very meaningful conversations about trust and faith and what those things really mean to us were going on, a train trundled around its track,

A Bubble Church mat was relocated and one small child stare at his Bubble board.

Fancy dress memorabilia visits, snacks costumes, from holiday (and nappy changing) all featured in this once-in-a-lifetime, never-to-be-repeated hour of time spent with God in fellowship with one another.



Don't get me wrong, this is not a service just for children, but it is a service that accepts anyone and everyone, just as they are. (I just love that children can be themselves).

Was I glad I attended - Absolutely!! That time of heartfelt prayer, discussion, laughter, love and fellowship was exactly what I needed. A beautiful expression of worship, where everyone can feel free to be just as they are.

See you there on the first Sunday in September (6th Sept) – I do hope so!

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

A poster for the Trinity Service. The background is dark green with silhouettes of people in a church, some with their hands raised. The word "Trinity" is written in a large, white, cursive script. Below it, the text "1st and 3rd Sunday of the month" and "3pm" are displayed. Further down, "St George's, Badshot Lea" and "All are welcome" are written. At the bottom, there is a yellow banner with contact information and two logos: a green circular logo with a white church icon and a red circular logo with a white cross and the text "THE PARISH OF BADSHOT LEA & HALE".

Trinity

1st and 3rd Sunday of the month
3pm
St George's, Badshot Lea
All are welcome

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





Autumn Craft Afternoon

Sat 12th September, 2pm

St George's Church, GU9 9LD



Make your own pumpkin.

Just £20 for all materials, equipment
& instructions.

Please email Kris to register by 5th Sept:
warden.stgeorges@badshotleaandhale.org



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



A sizzling summer success

As the sun beat down outside the interior of St Mark's was both cool and sizzling on Saturday, July 25th for our Sizzling Summer Clothing Giveaway.

The Clothing Giveaway is usually on a Monday but not everyone can get there then so we decided to open on the last Saturday of July between 10am and 3pm in order to give away as many summer clothes as we could before closing during August.

There was a queue outside the church before 9.30am and during the course of the morning so many people came and went that someone even rang the admin number to ask what was going on.



By early afternoon many of the tables and rails were almost empty and by 3pm we had cleared the majority of our summer stock. There was just enough left to open at our normal time, 9-11am, on Monday, 27th and we saw a steady flow of visitors that morning who went away happy, many with large bags of clothes.

The Giveaway exists to encourage people to reuse clothes which might otherwise be thrown out, and to help people financially. It celebrates its second birthday in September and is becoming increasingly popular.

We plan to open from time to time on a Saturday and, from September 7th we will be back on Mondays again. Please come and join us and also spread the word. And if you have any good quality clothes to give away, we will be pleased to have them. We need autumn and winter clothes now.

We couldn't do this without the amazing volunteers who give so much time to the Clothing Giveaway. Thank you all.

If you'd like to know more, donate, or volunteer, contact Stella on 07342508164 or revd.stella@badshotleaandhale.org

BUBBLE CHURCH



Well – who would have known it!!

When we launched Bubble Church at St George's Church in January, I said we need to give this time - at least two years to see whether or not it is going to be a success. Well, within seven months the congregation had reached 40 and attendance remains high, so I can say this was most definitely a brilliant decision! A space where young children can start to build their foundation in faith whilst also providing for their parents is just so satisfying.



At the start I was afraid that the team was not big enough to hold things together (Bubble church takes A LOT of preparation, rehearsal, set up and pack away) but the team has doubled in size and we have all thrown ourselves into making this a priority. The energy and enthusiasm is infectious! If you would like to join the team, we would love to talk to you!!

We are learning and improving what we do all the time. The puppets that tell the Bible Stories even have their very own wardrobe to keep their costumes clean and tidy! We are constantly thinking ahead to plan our themed services. We will be celebrating Creation, Harvest and, of course, Christmas



Bubble church is aimed at young children and their grown-ups, anyone and everyone is welcome to come along – as was portrayed in a recent Bubble Church activity where paper cut out people of every colour linked together in a circle of unity.



Please come along and see what all of this is about – we'd love to meet you! If you want to know more, please contact

rev.lexi@badshotleaandhale.org



AUTUMN CRAFT MARKET

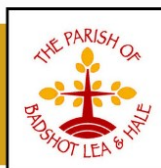
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER
19TH, 10AM - 2PM**

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

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



CONTACT US: REV STELLA WISEMAN 07342508164
CRAFT@BADSHOTLEAANDHALE.ORG
BADSHOTLEAANDHALE.ORG



Pride Services

Sunday 20th September

St John's Church - 9:30am

St George's Church - 10:30am

St Mark's Church - 11:00am

ALL WELCOME

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





PET SERVICE



Sunday 4th October – 11:00am
United Parish Service
at St Mark's Church



**All pets
and their owners
welcome**



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

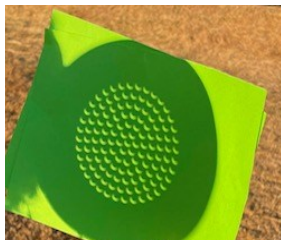


Watching the eclipse

I was sorry to hear that some people were not inspired by the partial eclipse this week. I can accept that it could easily have passed you by as the effects were possibly not as striking as you might have anticipated. The sky may not have turned as dark as night as the moon made its pass over the sun, but doesn't this just show the awesome strength of the sun – with something like 93% of the sun's light being covered over by the moon the sun's light is still so strong as for the block to go almost unnoticed.

I loved the fact that this became a real community event. I opted to merely step out onto the Green near my house whilst others gathered on hilltops. But wherever you went there were groups of people gathering to share in something quite unique together. So, there I was with my colander in one hand and piece of paper at arm's length stretched ahead, excited to see what would be revealed.

And over the next half hour I saw the evidence of the moon moving across the sun by the shape of the crescent displayed in multiple by each of the colander's holes.



And at the peak, the light did indeed dim, there was a chill in the air and the earth felt very still. But what particularly caught my attention was the shadows cast by a tree on a nearby white van. These pictures do not



give any merit, but we saw an almost silver crescent which moved from right to left as the moon



made it's journey.



Well! It got me excited!!

Happy Eclipse Day!

Kris Lawrence - Churchwarden

Harvest Supper
Sat 3rd October
6pm at St George's Church

Tickets £10, £5 for under 16's
Sharing together our appreciation of God's
wonderful harvest.

Offers of entertainment items welcome.
Contact Kris for tickets/offers of help etc:
warden.stgeorges@badshotleaandhale.org.

Raffle
BYO alcohol



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



Top Ten Assembly Bangers with BBQ

Hearing a government alarm the night before the parish BBQ advising against such things, sent us all into some resourceful thinking! But cooking burgers in the oven, sausages on the stove and keeping cooked items warm by wrapping in tin foil and placing in a cool box worked a treat!!

There was plenty of food for all and once we were well fed, we turned our minds to our singing of the 'Top Ten Assembly Bangers' – those songs that brought back memories from times gone by, to more recent memories of our younger church members.

The votes brought in a really interesting mix of hymns, some well known and some not so, but all a joy to sing!

One of my favourites has to have been 'Bread and Fishes' – a delightful folk song with a tune that has become a real 'earworm' for me. I vaguely recalled this from my youth – maybe this was the start of my journey into the folk world which has remained such an important part of my life. And how lovely to see our youngest members having a go at singing the words.



Ten Thousand Reasons was also in the Top Ten – a great favourite with many, including the children. They have taken to doing some very expressive dance movements. In the chorus; 'Bless the Lord Oh my Soul', while we all sang, they worshipped God with their whole bodies in dance.

You will see from the list below that we actually sang 12 hymns, not just a Top Ten, as three tied in 10th position, but it would have been a shame for any of these to have been missed out.



We were very grateful for the loan of gazebos so we could huddle underneath them, although fortunately the weather was decidedly cooler than that of late. And you may not be able to tell from this photo, but it was truly an all-age event – possibly a range of 90 years represented between us.

The musicians chose a wise position, keeping themselves in the shade of the church throughout!





How fitting, with the introduction of our new Bubble Church Service that the Number 1 song was 'Our God is a Great Big God'. We have been singing this regularly at Bubble Church and it really is a great favourite! Everyone joined in with the actions, brilliantly led by the children.

This was such a lovely event! I am so sorry for those that missed it, but so pleased that putting it on at lunchtime made it accessible to our newest church members. And I don't know how, but we also seem to have raised about £400 for parish funds – thank you everyone for your generosity!!

Kris Lawrence
Churchwarden

TOP TEN ASSEMBLY BANGERS RESULTS



1	OUR GOD IS A GREAT BIG GOD
2	IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE
3	JESUS BIDS US SHINE
4	WHEN A KNIGHT WON HIS SPURS
5	JESUS LOVES ME
5	TEN THOUSAND REASONS
5	THESE ARE THE DAYS OF ELIJAH
8	KUMBAYA
9	MORNING HAS BROKEN
10	SHINE JESUS SHINE
10	BREAD AND FISHES
10	WILL YOUR ANCHOR HOLD

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



Harvest Festival

Sunday 18th October

St John's Church - 9:30am

St George's Church - 10:30am

St Mark's Church - 11:00am



Let us praise God for our many blessings and share our good fortune with others less fortunate.

Non-perishable food items welcome - they will be donated to a local food bank.

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



Badshot Lea Ladies Group

You are cordially invited to join the Badshot Lea Ladies at our bi-weekly meetings. The group has been meeting for 60 years and is open to ladies 18+! We are a very friendly welcoming group. We have guest speakers who whet our appetites with topics from cake decoration to local history. A raffle and refreshments are provided at each meeting.

**Venue: St George's Church room, alternate
(2nd/4th) Mondays at 7:30 for 7:45pm.**

The next few meetings for your diaries are:

14 Sep	Welcome to new and returning members – cheese and wine, quiz, time for a chat.
28 Sep	Soundbath Relaxation Therapy
12 Oct	Games and chat
26 Oct	Dance Fit! The benefit of Movement
9 Nov	Games and chat
23 Nov	Lost Dog Tracking Network
7 Dec	Xmas Meal
14 Dec	Carol singing

For further details please contact
Gillian – 07941 099268

Only £5 for visitors, membership available.

We look forward to seeing you.

From the parish registers

Baptisms

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

21st June at St John's Church

Enzo-Blu Lloyd Bridger

12th July at St George's Church

Sonny Peters



Weddings

6th June at St John the Evangelist's Church

Tabitha Price and Joshua Packer



Funerals

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

11th May at Basingstoke, Crematorium

Peter Wood

1st July at St John the Evangelist's Church

Myrtle Rae Anker

7th July at St John the Evangelist's Church

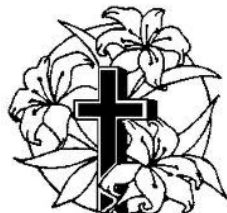
Ronald Michael Cooper

8th July at St John the Evangelist's Church

Neil Ingram

24th August at St George's Church

Peter Valler



November - times for reflection and remembrance

All Saints' Day - 1st November

10:30am - St George's Church

A united service for the whole parish to recall and celebrate all saints and martyrs, known and unknown

All Souls' Services

31st October - 4:30pm - St John's Church

1st November - 5:30pm - St George's Church

Light a candle and call to mind loved ones that have left this earthly life

Remembrance Services - 8th Nov

9:30am - St John's Church

11:10am approx- St George's Church (after Act of Remembrance)

11:00am - St Mark's Church

Acts of Remembrance - 8th Nov

11:00am - Hale War Memorial

11:00am - Badshot Lea War Memorial

4:00pm - Weybourne War Memorial

Remember the service and sacrifice of all those that have defended our freedoms and protected our way of life



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this QR, or email
johanna.e.russell@gmail.com. Cards
will also be available at Church
Events in the lead up to Christmas.



About the Artwork



At this year's Summer Fete, we invited people from across our parish to contribute to this collaborative piece. Artists of all ages, some as young as two, painted a small section of a larger abstract image of Mary and Jesus.

The vision was to create an accessible community art project that celebrates how many individual contributions can come together to make something big and beautiful.

Thank you to everyone who took part!

The Badshot Leader

Badshot Lea Community Garden.

Phyllis Tuckwell Open Day.



On Sunday 5th July Badshot Lea Bloomers opened the Community Garden as part of the Phyllis Tuckwell Open Gardens programme. This was a successful money raising event with profits shared between the garden and local hospice.

When visitors arrived, they found a flourishing garden with vegetables, fruit and herbs. There was a wildlife pond teeming with wildlife and areas for biodiversity. A special feature was the White Bine Heritage Hops grown most appropriately because the garden is situated on a once unloved patch of land behind the Village Hall, a former hop kiln.

Because it was a money raising event there were several stalls, including a popular Tombola with plentiful prizes. As it was a glorious sunny day the refreshments served at shady tables, in an oasis of peace and calm, were most welcome.



This community event was organised by John Martin, who was supported by a team of hard-working volunteers. If you missed the event the garden is open on Wednesdays and Sundays and visitors are always welcome.



Judy Hewins

O God of heaven and earth,
whose Son commanded the elements
at the sea of Galilee,
we pray to you now as we witness weather
that threatens the land,
the plants and animals we share it with
and depend upon for our food.
Send us, we ask you, in this time of need,
such moderate rain and showers
that the land may recover
and we with all creation
may enjoy the fruits of the earth,
to our comfort and to your praise,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Prayer: Cofe, Photo: LMS

Community Garden News

Despite the continuing hot weather, the garden has remained open three mornings a week.



We had a visit from the S & S.E. In Bloom judge for our yearly entry into 'In Your Neighbourhood' competition on Thursday 9th July. Children from Badshot Lea Infant School were there to show the judge the lavender bags they were making and the bug hotel they had built. We hear the result in September 👍

We also had a visit by a group of 10 Heath End School children, offering to do some community service. They did a great job of litter picking the village in

the midday heat. Then helping out with some jobs at the garden. Thank you, great job, well done.

What you really want to know is how much did we make on our Phyllis Tuckwell open garden day? The final count was £1046 which we had agreed to split 50/50 between us and the hospice, but at a meeting the Bloomers agreed unanimously to donate £1000 to Phyllis Tuckwell. The presentation was made at the garden on Tuesday 14th July. Thank you all for your support.

Things are quietening down for a while but our next event is a visit by Hive Helpers on 5th August for children aged 4 to 11 years.



John Martin



Burns Night Supper & Ceilidh

St George's Church

Badshot Lea

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN ATTENDING
A BURN'S SUPPER AND CEILIDH?

22 . 01 . 2027

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helen.walter@ntlworld.com

WE ARE ESTIMATING TICKETS TO COST APPROX £35 A HEAD

The Badshot Leader—cont

Tribute to a village character.

In years gone by villages seem to be full of individuals recognised for some odd or particular characteristic that sticks in the mind. One such a person was May Small. May lived in Hyde's Cottages, the long terrace,

which joined the old post office. I remember her scurrying round the village. May had a hard life, living with her husband and son, Peter. Her husband, known as "Yogger" suffered from Parkinsons and was unable to work, but May always seemed to keep cheerful. She is seen here in the white coat with friends from the Darby and Joan Club. When She died my uncle



Did you know May Small as I did ?
Her speech was direct and candid,
Her troubles were her own
She had no time to moan
Things just had to be done.

She loved village life as I did
Volunteered for jobs others hid
She won great applause
Sold tickets for draws
Things just had to be done.

She loved the Lord as I did -
Her flowers not always splendid
She gave with a smile
Life seemed so worth while
Things just had to be done.

May loved all humans as we should
Lighted church fires with her own wood
No set time to clean the church
But nothing left in the lurch
Things just had to be done.

May believed in the Lord as we should
She tried all her life to do good
The angels will smile
As she walks her last mile
Things just have to be done.

Nobody, nobody knew as I did
Her spiritual life so splendid
She once said to me :
"In heaven we'll be free"
God's will just had to be done.

JACK HEWINS, remembering May Small who died on Thursday,
8 May 1986.

Jack Hewins wrote the poem above for the parish magazine.



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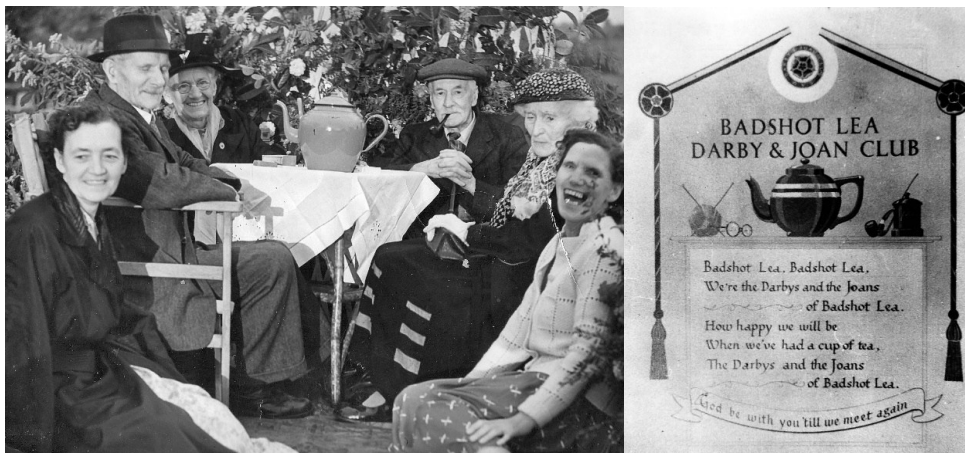
To make an appointment please call Lisa on

0781 2662575 or 01252 724460

www.farnhamfoothealth.com

The Badshot Leader—cont

The Badshot Lea Darby and Joan Club was popular with the ladies but my grandfather, Henry Pearl, Bill Wilkinson and “Tealer” Newell were three of the very few men. It is probable that they found it patronising, However, their meetings in the little chapel provided companionship over a cup of tea. The teapot was their logo, and they used to sing a little jingle at each meeting.



A Darby and Joan Club Carnival float from the 1960's Dolly Ellis is on the left, and Henry Pearl 3rd from right. The Darby and Joan Club Song

The Current Hot Weather

Although some people may be enjoying the hot weather, there is no doubt that gardens and wildlife are beginning to suffer. In particular trees are becoming stressed, with leaves browning and there is a risk of branches falling without warning. At the village pond water levels are falling and exposing mudbanks in places. With the continuing drought it looks as if it may dry right out. Some of us can remember the time in the 1970's when the pond last ran dry, and the fish had to be rescued. We even had a Minister for drought! **Drill Baby Drill!**



Maurice Hewins

The Bishop Sumner Educational Foundation

Bishop Sumner was Bishop of Winchester from 1827 until 1869. As was his wish, after his death in 1874, he was buried in the churchyard at St John's. He is remembered especially for his interest in education.

The Bishop Sumner Educational Foundation (BSEF) was established by the investment of the parish share of the proceeds from the sale of the local church school. The fund is intended to assist with the education of individual students under the age of 25 whose residence is within the bounds of the ancient parish of Farnham, with priority for the ecclesiastical parish of Hale.

Previous grants have assisted young people with academic, sporting, musical and organisational pursuits.

Inevitably the purchasing power of grants able to be made each year has diminished, and the trustees suggest that successful recipients of help, who have become established in a career or others in the community, may wish to assist the fund.

Donations to the BSEF would be especially welcome and would enable the board to help future students who will face ever-increasing costs.

For further information follow the link below

<https://badshotleaandhale.org/the-bishop-sumner-educational-foundation/>

Email: bishop.sumner@gmail.com

Telephone: 07807 881311

Thank you— June Jasper— Secretary to the trustees

Quarterly Magazine

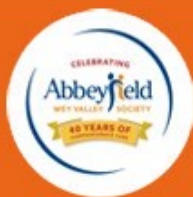
This year we have moved to a quarterly magazine with issues published approximately as follows:

Spring (March)

Summer (June)

Autumn (September)

Winter (December)



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underneath



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Date: **19 September 12.00-5.00pm**

Venue: **Gostrey Meadows Farnham GU9 7RH**



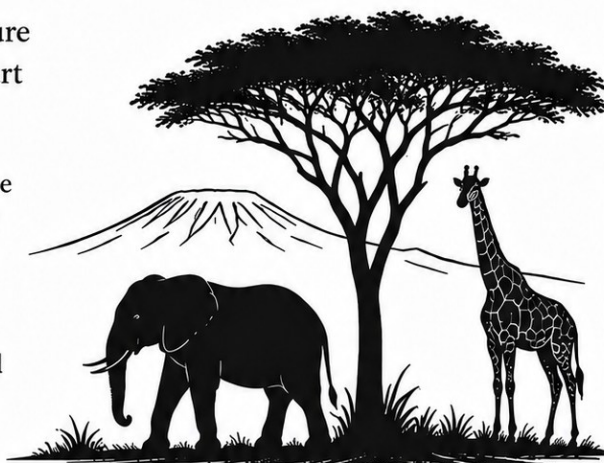
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Heatwaves: winners and losers

Pollinator Patch with Juliet from Hive Helpers

At the time of writing this, we have had four heatwaves in as many months, and another one is on its way. Drought has been declared in many parts of England, and there are widespread hosepipe bans. The bees are undoubtedly the losers in these extreme weather conditions, bumblebees in particular. Bumbles are robust and furry, and can withstand cold temperatures much better than hot, so risk overheating in the high temperatures we've been experiencing. Unlike honey bees, they do not drink water, getting most of the liquid they need from nectar, as well as the pollen with which they feed their young. I'm trying to keep the flowers going which I know they like to forage on - salvias, echinops and agastache in particular - luckily these are all drought-tolerant but even these plants have needed my help this



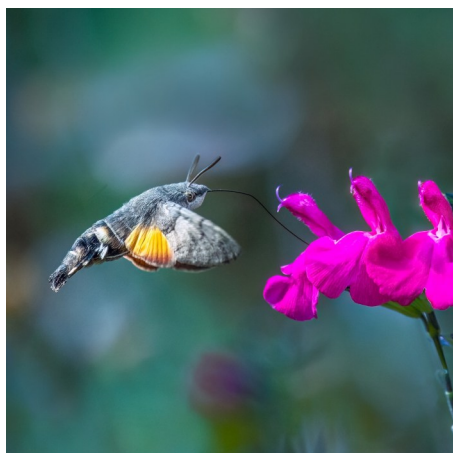
summer. I'm also going to start planting more flowers in the margins of my pond, as flowers growing near water tend to produce wetter nectar.

There have been some winners this summer – lots of butterflies and huge numbers of Jersey tiger moths! In the garden, my roses have done very well – their deep roots can obviously reach moisture that other plants cannot. Hard to believe now that we had a very wet winter! Sunflowers (*Helianthus annuus*) too, as their name suggests, love the sun one farmer in Dorset reported his were planted in April when there was just enough moisture for them to get established, and now many are 6ft tall, with no irrigation!

Environment

Pollinator plant of the month – *Salvia Cerro Potosi*

OK, so this plant is not a native (it hails from the slopes of Cerro Potosi in Mexico) but it attracts so many pollinators, is drought-tolerant (as you would expect), and so ridiculously easy to propagate that I wouldn't be without it. I would never have contemplated *Salvias* in my heavy clay soil but I now have a bed devoted them! They have been flowering for months, and when they get a bit top-heavy, I just cut them back a bit and use the material to make semi-ripe cuttings in late summer – just sticking them round the side of a pot of gritty



compost. My reward was seeing the exotic humming-bird hawkmoth visiting them in the early evening.

Image credit Alex Potts

Pollinator of the month – Hummingbird hawk-moth

The hummingbird hawk-moth (*Macroglossum stellatarum*) is a day-flying hawk-moth, and is a summer visitor to our shores, migrating from Southern Europe in variable numbers each year – this year is a good year! It is greyish-brown with bright orange hindwings, but its most distinctive feature is its hovering flight, just like a hummingbird. As well as my *salvia*, it feeds on the nectar of honeysuckle and red valerian. The caterpillars feed on various species of bedstraw which is where the females lay their eggs. Moths are great pollinators, often overlooked because many fly at night, but there are also day-flying moths like this doing a great job!

STOP PRESS: Our last Bee Safari of the summer will take place on Wednesday 9 September. We will be walking the Farnham Bee Trail. Meet at Gostrey Meadow bandstand at 2pm, no need to book.

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

Listen to the little ones

I hear that some Big Cats are coming to town. I'm not sure what I think about this. Rumour has it that 'Hale's Little Lions' will be having a Play Den at St Mark's from the middle of this September.

I, of course, am a big cat in many ways. I am The Church Cat after all, but I am physically smaller than my cousins *Panthera leo*, and they tend to have bigger teeth and claws than I do. Even little ones do.

I did watch a video of a domestic cat seeing off a tiger which impressed me until I realised that it was AI slop. There's a lot of that about and we'd do well not to trust what we see on the internet as well as what we read. Check and check again. And if in doubt, ask a cat; we are wise.

I was wise enough to check what the Little Lions rumour was all about and it turns out it is a group for small children. That's a relief, though I tend to keep my distance from these creatures as well. But it did make me think about who you should listen to and trust and



I have concluded that, on the whole, the smaller and more vulnerable the person – or cat – is, the more you should listen to them.

For most of history might has been right and quiet voices have been silenced or ignored. But that isn't what the Giver of Greatest Scratches to Cats and Kindest Man (ie Jesus) said. He told us to look after the weak and vulnerable. He welcomed children too, even though lots of people wanted to push them out the way.

So, these Little Lions may be OK after all. We should listen to them and to the most vulnerable around us.

Mind you, I'd be glad if everyone kept the noise down. I'm trying to nap.



Purrs

The Church Cat

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Harlow Hall

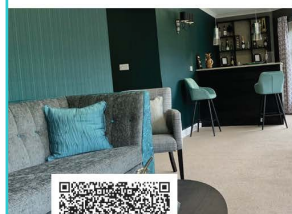
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**Mondays, 9.15 to 11.15am
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(Term time only)**

**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

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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?

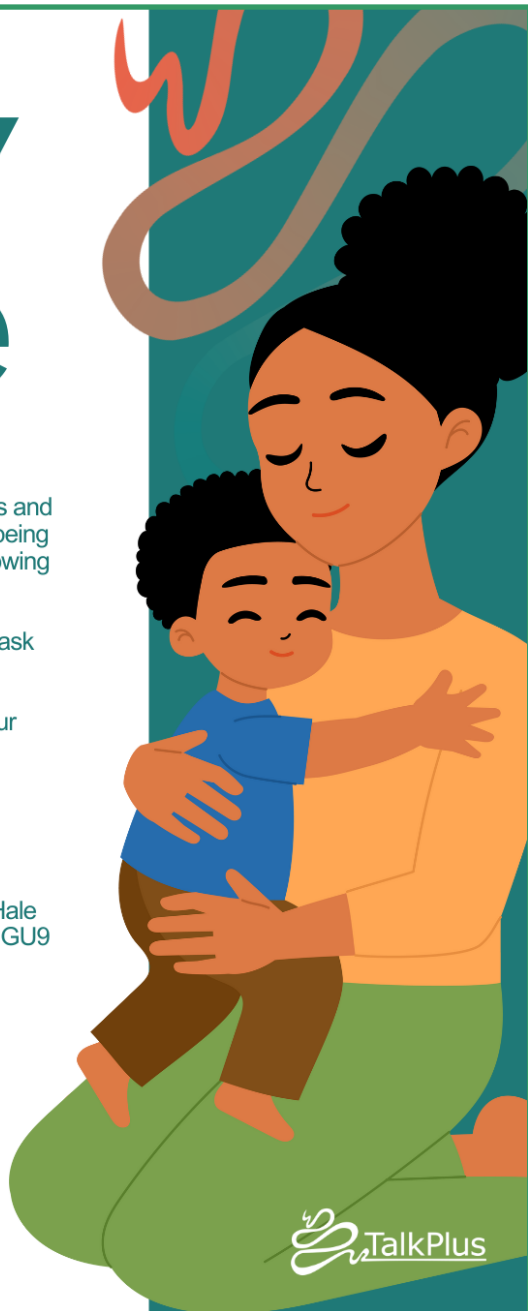
This is an in-person course taking place at Hale Family Centre, Upper Hale Road, Farnham GU9 0LR.

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





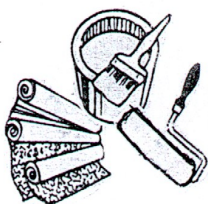
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Community Events

Love 2 Move | Tuesday | Farnham Memorial Hall
Singing for The Mind | Tuesday | Holy Trinity & Our Lady
Inclusive Cricket | Wednesday | Farnham Leisure Centre
Sunflower Cafe | Thursday | Spire Church Hall

*please contact for more details

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Who's Who

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rev.lexi@badshotleaandhale.org

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(Retired priest)

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(Associate Minister)

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editor@badshotleaandhale.org
07792233477

The Church Cat

Sprout
slashermcgoogs@gmail.com

Social events - Dates for the diary

We still have lots of fun stuff happening in the parish in 2026, as well as the Christmas Craft Fair on Sat 21st Nov 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 12th Sept Autumn Craft afternoon		Sat 3rd Oct Harvest Supper	
Mon 16th Nov Badshot Lea Light Switch-on		Fri – Sun 4th – 6th Dec Christmas Tree Festival	

Plans for Christmas to add to your diary

Due to heating issues, St John's Church will only hold a Christmas Carol Service this year, as well as usual Sunday morning worship.

Date	Time	Church	Service/event
13 th Dec	6:00pm	St John's	Carol Service
27 th Dec	9:30am	St John's	United Parish Service – Patronal Festival
21 st Nov	10am-4pm	St Mark's	Christmas Craft Market
11 th Dec	6:00pm	St Mark's	Carols at Hale Cemetery
20 th Dec	11:00am	St Mark's	Christingle Service
24 th Dec	5:00pm	St Mark's	Scratch Nativity
25 th Dec	11:00am	St Mark's	Christmas Morning Family Eucharist
17 th Nov	5:00pm	St George's	BLVIS Christmas Light Switch-On
4 th – 6 th Dec	Various	St George's	Christmas Tree Festival
6 th Dec	6:00pm	St George's	Carol Service
20 th Dec	10:30am	St George's	Christingle Service
21 st Dec	6:00pm	St George's	Carols around the Tree (outdoors)
24 th Dec	3:00pm	St George's	Toddler Crib Bubble Church Service
24 th Dec	5:30pm	St George's	All Age Interactive Crib Service
24 th Dec	11:30pm	St George's	Midnight Mass
25 th Dec	10:30am	St George's	Christmas Morning Family Eucharist

Services Across the Parish

Regular Sunday communion

Normally communion services with occasional no-communion Service of the Word:

St John's Church, 9:30am
St George's Church, 10:30am
St Mark's Church, 11:00am

Except the monthly United Parish Service (See details below)

Date	Event	Details
1 st Sunday monthly		United Parish Service Celebrating communion together as a whole parish once a month. Sept 6 th at St John's Church Oct 4 th at St Mark's Church – Pet Service Nov 1 st at St George's Church – All Saints
3pm 1 st and 3 rd Sundays monthly		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!
9:30am 2 nd & 4 th Sundays monthly		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!
12noon Wednesdays		Midweek communion – at St Mark's Church Take some time out in the middle of the week for a communion service.