

PARISH MAGAZINE



St. Mary's, Herriard



All Saints', Turworth



St. Lawrence, Westcott Parvich



St. Mary's, Upton Grey

**August
2025**

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BENEFICE MAGAZINE – August 2025
Edition for the Parishes of Herriard with Winslade, Tunworth,
Upton Grey and Weston Patrick

Letter from the Benefice Ministry Team

Dear Friends,

This is my first editorial for the parish magazines and, although a real pleasure, I am aware of the big shoes I am trying to walk in!

By way of introduction to those I have not yet met in person, I am Luke Augustyn, Assistant Curate in the North Hampshire Downs Benefice. My family and I arrived in July last year, and it is my joy to serve specifically our congregations and communities in Greywell, Up Nately and Mapledurwell.



I was ordained Deacon at the end of June 2024 and just recently, ordained Priest. During one of our pre-priesting retreat reflections, we mused on what it means to be a good pastor...

As I sit down now to write, I have just moments ago come away from putting our sons to bed, and our sofa cushions have only just been re-assembled by my ever-sprinting-around-the-house wife after the boys' trapeze antics of earlier. My daughter was complaining that her favourite snacks have run out, but she has now settled down after she discovered there is still plenty until the next shopping trip before dawn tomorrow morning... Organised chaos.

So, now returning to the image of a good pastor and that well-loved parable of the lost sheep. Jesus tells the story of the shepherd who leaves the ninety-nine to find the one that wandered off. It's a tale of relentless grace, unexpected priorities, and – if I may say – a slightly questionable sheep management strategy at first sight. But it certainly drives home Jesus' incomprehensible and divine delight in every soul.

It's a comfort to know that God seeks us even when we've strayed, paused for snacks, or nodded off mid-sermon. Church life, too, is made of such wandering and welcoming; of saints and seekers and small children who ask whether Jesus liked jam and whether they will be forgiven for accidentally painting a precious icon during messy church. (A mercy indeed that all paint is water based and easily cleanable!)

So whether you are one of the faithful ninety-nine, or the one that strays off from time to time, know this: you are seen, loved and included in the heavenly headcount.

May this month bring you unexpected joy, holy laughter and perhaps a rediscovered treasure of a snack or two when least expecting it!

With every blessing,

Rev. Luke Augustyn

FROM THE REGISTERS

Wedding: Alan Goodyear and Annie Kearns at St Mary's Upton Grey on 1st July

Interment of Ashes: John Howard Littler at St Mary's Herriard on 3rd July

Baptism: Osian Halford at St Mary's Upton Grey on 13th July

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 3rd August

9.00am Tunworth – BCP Holy Communion

10.00am Upton Grey – CW Holy Communion

5.00pm Herriard – Evensong

Sunday 10th August

10.00am Herriard – BCP Holy Communion (said)

10.00am Upton Grey – Morning Worship

10.00am Weston Patrick – Patronal Morning Worship (with Baptism)

6.00pm Tunworth – Evensong

Thursday 14th August

10.00am Upton Grey – BCP Holy Communion (said)

Sunday 17th August

9.00am Tunworth – 1662 Morning Prayer

10.00am Herriard – VJ Day Commemoration Service

10.00am Upton Grey – CW Holy Communion

Thursday 21st August

10.00am Herriard – BCP Holy Communion (said)

Sunday 24th August

9.00am Tunworth – Family Service

10.00am Herriard – Family Service

10.00am Upton Grey – Morning Worship

5.00pm Weston Patrick – Hymns & Pimms

Sunday 31st August

10.00am Odiham – Benefice CW Holy Communion

CHURCH NEWS

Coffee & Cake

All Saints Tunworth, St Mary's Upton Grey and St Lawrence Weston Patrick are continuing with their regular coffee/cake sessions. The August events are:

- Coffee and cake in the church porch, **All Saints Tunworth**, at 10.30am on **Thursday August 7th**
- Coffee and cake drop-in at **Upton Grey Village Hall**, 11.00am–1.00pm on **Monday August 11th & 25th**
- Coffee morning at **Weston Patrick Village Hall**, 11.00am–12.30pm on **Wednesday August 27th**

Tea or coffee, slice of cake, chat. Open to all, very informal, no need to book, just turn up. All ages welcome!

Parenting Teens

STARTS 16TH SEPTEMBER - 7.30 - 9.00PM

All Saints Church, Odiham



Are you navigating the ups and downs of raising a teen?

Whether you're cruising or just hanging on, this 6-week course, starting 16th September, is here to support you.

Join us in a relaxed and friendly setting, with food and drinks provided, as we share wisdom, practical experiences, and real conversations.



Let's help each other be the parents our teenagers need in today's world—while staying sane!

Explore ways to connect, learn from our teens, and grow in confidence through the joys and challenges of parenting.

Come along, be part of the conversation, and let's do this together!

Sign up here



**Contact Simon or Cat
for more information**

**simon@moretolife.church
cat@moretolife.church**

Holiday Club, 4th–7th August, All Saints Odiham



This year we have exciting news! We are moving to a new location – All Saints, Odiham. This will allow us to cater for more children, including children with additional needs, have better accessibility to catering and toilet facilities and protection from the elements. But don't worry – we are collaborating with local sports clubs and schools to allow the children amazing access to an even more varied selection of outdoor spaces and sporting opportunities.

The times have not changed (Monday–Thursday, 1.00–4.30), and we will still be looking into offering a football camp before we start, for those who want to (more details to follow). And the price still hasn't changed, it remains £20 for the week, payable in advance.



Our theme is 'The Guardians of Ancora', a popular Christian computer game from Scripture Union, and the children will be learning about Jesus' life through loads of different media and exciting activities.

Please use the QR code. Or the link to book is:
<https://allsaintsodiham.churchsuite.com/events/c1tguulg>

NEWS FROM THE VILLAGES

Farming News

July has rolled round and brought some seriously hot weather with it. Following a particularly warm and dry June as well, this has had an effect on the crops. However, this is not just regional, it has been the same across the country, with farmers praying for rain that never seemed to show up. The farmers that rely on grass to feed their livestock are particularly desperate for a change in weather.

Our winter sown crops have fared well as they already have a deep root system established. The spring sown crops have suffered more, as they are fast growing, and need the weather conditions to be just right for them to reach their full potential. I was looking back through my rainfall records, in particular the summer of 2022 when we were getting scorched by 40-degree heat. In the months leading up to this we had good amounts of rain from March to early June. As for this year, we had a wet January and February but following this nothing major which is why there are some very thirsty looking crops. Having said this, apart from grass land, a rain now isn't going to do any good. The damage has been done, and crops have raced through their growth stages and have started to ripen early.

We started harvest with our hybrid rye which was forage harvested in the middle of June. As I wrote in my last article, this crop has struggled the whole way through the winter, so expectations were low, but we were pleasantly surprised to see that the yields weren't disastrous but were still below average. We were glad to get it harvested and will try again next year.

As I write this, we have just finished harvesting our oilseed rape. With the extremely hot dry weather, we have been having to harvest in the early mornings to try and cut the crop whilst there is still enough moisture in the grain. This sounds ridiculous as it seems we are usually waiting for the crop to dry out but with oilseed rape, if the moisture content is below 6% the pressing plant cannot extract the oil from the grain, and they will reject it. Yields have been around average for this as well which gives an indication of what to expect for the remaining crops. The oilseed rape is sent off on lorries straight away to make room for our next crops to harvest. This will go to an oil pressing plant just outside London to supply various outlets from bio diesel to cooking oil.

We are planning to make a start on harvesting wheat this week as well, which in the middle of July is very unusual. The wheat has turned quickly with the heat waves drying it out. The varieties of wheat we have grown this year are grown for milling. Depending on the quality it will either be for bread making, top quality or for flour, low quality. We managed to get a dose of liquid digestate (slurry) applied to all the wheats in the spring which we have noticed a benefit from, especially in a dry spring. This will help gain us our higher quality grain as well as the organic fertiliser is slower releasing meaning it will last longer in the crop. So, fingers crossed for bread making wheat.

The chickens have enjoyed the weather about as much as we have. Luckily, they are in well insulated houses with an unlimited supply of water. We also put up some extra shades in the run, so they have outdoor shade as well. Those muddy months of January and February seem a distant memory now. Fingers crossed for kinder weather to allow the harvest to be gathered safely. As always, thank you to all the villagers for being patient with us harvesting late into the evenings and early mornings.

Will Cheyney

UPTON GREY NEWS
www.uptongreychurch.co.uk
www.uptongreyparishcouncil.co.uk
facebook.com/uptongreyvillagecommunity

Upton Grey Village Hall 100 Club Winners

Congratulations to our July winners:

1st Prize (£100) Jules Swaine

2nd Prize (£40) Tony Faulkner

It's never too late to join - please ask Sam Clough or Wendy Stanway for details at UGVH100@gmail.com

Junior Tennis Coaching: Monday 4th – Thursday 7th August

Sessions start from 9.00am and are 45 minutes long. The coach will be Andrew Ridgers, who has been leading the tennis coaching for many years. He is very experienced and makes the sessions fun for all.

The youngest children have the first session, which is 45 minutes, and then there are several more groups, largely grouped together by age. The age range is roughly 3.5 up to 16/17-year-olds.

The cost is £16.00 per child, whether your child is able to attend all the days or not. We are able to keep this low due to the continued and much appreciated support from the Upton Grey Educational Trust.

In the event of bad weather, the sessions will be cancelled. Please email Susannah Livingston Booth: slivingstonbooth@gmail.com with your child/children's name(s), age(s), and your contact details.

Payment should be made by the 1st August 2025 by Bank Transfer to Upton Grey Village Tennis Court. Bank Details are Sort Code 30-93-32, Account No: 02410908 or alternatively you can pay by cash to:

**Susannah Livingston Booth at
 Redwing House, Cemetery Lane, Upton Grey, RG25 2RD**

T@3

Our next T@3 is on **Thursday 21st August**, when we are invited to Pond House by Sarah Barnes. Lifts can be arranged for any of these occasions – please ring me, **Jill Lestrille**, on 862131.



Presents...

**Rain or Shine Theatre
Company's production of
Sheridan's The Rivals**

"A complete and utter delight"

We are lucky to again have the Rain or Shine professional theatre company perform for us on **Sunday August 10th**. Gates open at 3.30pm for the 4.30pm performance.

When fashionable 18th century London society comes to take the waters in the spa-town of Bath, comic confusion, daring duels and romantic entanglements abound. Come and sample the sparkling wit and whirlwind plot of 'The Rivals', a Restoration Comedy which has delighted audiences for over 250 years with its collection of comic characters, including the formidable Mrs Malaprop!

One of the comments on this year's production: *"Thank you, thank you, thank you for a perfect evening. It was just wonderful - so slick, so clever, so joyful. A complete and utter delight."*

Come with your hamper and chairs at 3.30pm on Sunday August 10th for an afternoon of fabulous entertainment! Tickets for adults and children over 11 years are just £15 and are available from www.bit.ly/Rivals-Upton

Coffee and Cake drop in

Upton Grey Village Hall

Monday

11th & 25th August

11.00-1.00

All welcome



St Mary's Upton Grey
www.moretolife.church



Harvest Supper and Celebration

Join us for the annual **Upton Grey Harvest Supper** on Saturday 11th October, 7.00pm in the Village Hall - *Tickets £12.50 each from the Village Shop*

And for our **Harvest Celebration Service** at St Mary's Church on Sunday 12th October, 10.00am. Please bring harvest gifts for our local Odiham food bank.

The service will be followed by a **Harvest bring and share lunch** at mid-day in the village hall. All welcome.

For more info email: simon@moretolife.church



HERRIARD AND WINSLADE NEWS

www.herriard-pc.gov.uk

www.herriardvillagehub.co.uk

Herriard Village Group on <http://www.Facebook.com>

Folk Music Nights Cancelled!

The Herriard Village Hub wishes to inform you that the Folk Music Nights scheduled for August and September have been cancelled.

We are excited to announce that these events will resume at the end of October with a brand-new line-up. For further details, please visit the Calendar and Event Info pages on our website at www.herriardvillagehub.co.uk as the date approaches.

In the meantime, we warmly invite you to join us every Thursday morning for Coffee, Tea and Cake at the Hub. Don't forget to keep an eye on our website for future events, and we would be delighted to host your bookings for any upcoming gatherings. Have a wonderful summer!

The Herriard Hub Committee

Herriard and Tunworth Lunch Group

The Lunch Group usually meets once a month on a Friday from 12.00 to 1.30pm at the Herriard Hub, to look at a Bible passage with a focus on practical Christianity. **The August date is the 22nd.**

North Hampshire Downs Churches – Herriard Youth Hub

The Youth Hub usually meets from 6.30 to 8.00pm on the 1st & 3rd Sundays, at The Herriard Hub. However, **in August, when the wonderful Holiday Club takes place in Odiham, there is no Herriard Youth Hub.** For more information, contact Helen Chatfield, youth@moretolife.church

Picnic with Gilbert & Sullivan and My Fair Lady in the garden at Brick Kiln Cottage - Saturday 21st September 12.30 to 4.00pm

Featuring Anthony Edwards and Singers.

Brick Kiln Cottage, The Avenue, Herriard.

Tickets £15 including a complimentary glass of wine on arrival. Payment please on booking.

Bring your own Picnic (and gazebo if you have one). Tables and chairs will be provided. Tea/coffee available.

Please book your tickets either with Gemma (01256 381354) or by email: fiona@ashmeadow.co.uk

In aid of St Mary's Church Herriard with Winslade.

St Mary's Church Herriard with Winslade

Sunday 17th August – 10.00am

80th Anniversary of Victory in Japan (VJ) Day

A service to remember the events of August 1945.

Please join us to honour the sacrifices made during World War II by people across the nations. This will be a service of commemoration but also a service for peace and for hope.

After the service refreshments will be served.



more⁺

St Mary's Herriard and Winslade

Herriard Prayer Group

If you or anyone you know would like to be included in our prayers, please contact suzanne@moretolife.church or fiona@ashmeadow.co.uk.

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Sunday 29th June - Ordination Service at Winchester Cathedral

A good contingent from St Mary's Herriard were very fortunate indeed to attend the Ordination of Deacons at Winchester Cathedral - it was a very special occasion for those being ordained, which included our Suzanne Newcombe, and for the whole Church. The Bishop of Winchester, the Right Reverend Philip Mounstephen, ordained 12 men and women that morning and it was a wonderfully joyful and equally a very moving service. We were all very fortunate indeed to be there to support, and to celebrate with, Suzanne, and her family and friends and with all the other Deacons and Church Communities from across the Diocese.



WEEKLY COFFEE MORNING IN HERRIARD

Weekly every Thursday at the Village Hub

Open any time between 10.00 and 12.00

Good coffee and fresh baked cakes

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Do come and join us - everyone welcome !

Foodbank at St Mary's Herriard with Winslade

We have a box in the Church for any food donations you would like to contribute. If you can't make our Sunday service, you can always leave donations on a Saturday/Sunday at the vestry door at the back of the Church. If you would like to sign up for the Camrose Centre's newsletter to keep up to date with the work the centre is doing and get an updated list of the many items they so desperately need, please visit www.thecamrosecentre.org. They also have an Amazon Wishlist – the list is regularly updated:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/printview/FY45O4AC8JKM?target=_blank&ref_=lv_pv&filter=persistent_all&sort=default

The Camrose Centre is a drop-in centre for anyone who is sleeping rough, homeless or vulnerably housed within Basingstoke and Deane.

Donations to St Mary's

THANK YOU to everyone who donates monies to help the running costs of St Mary's – we are so grateful to you.

It is possible to donate to our Church using a Standing Order or through a Gift Aid envelope, but we also have our Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) which has been set up to help us best manage regular donations. Donations can be made on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis, using a Direct Debit instruction. Even though donations are made to the Parish Giving Scheme, they are restricted to our parish, and the PGS claims the eligible gift aid element immediately which comes back into the PCC bank account as soon as it is received from HMRC. There is also a voluntary decision to increase your gift annually in line with inflation.

Please do consider the Parish Giving Scheme – it is secure, confidential and easy to use, supporting our church today and for the future. There are two ways to sign up to the scheme:

- Firstly, the dedicated direct debit telephone number 0333 002 1271. You will need your bank account details, the Church/Parish name (St Mary's Herriard with Winslade) and the PGS Parish code for St Mary's (410641122)
- The second way is to register via the paper donor packs (available in Church or by contacting Fiona below).

If you would like further details, please contact Fiona:
fiona@ashmeadow.co.uk or phone 07867 973266.

TUNWORTH NEWS**Tunworth Flower Festival, July 13th 2025**

We thank Rebecca Caplan for being the inspiration behind our inaugural Flower Festival.

The church was transformed into an English garden, adorned with trees, magnificent floral displays and fabulous arches by Rebecca and our wonderful team of flower arrangers who collectively wowed the visitors

with their creativity. Rebecca also led a most informative and enjoyable flower workshop, teaching how to construct decorative crowns, buttonholes, corsages and posies. Arn was a pillar of strength with his popular pebble painting stall and the refreshment stall was laden with delicious homemade cakes - many thanks to all the cooks. Emma from Winslade won the Decorate the Welly competition - congratulations!

The day finished with a well attended Floral Evensong led by Mark Ruffell with Linda Scard preaching.

Our gratitude to all for contributing to a very memorable day.

Tunworth Home Group

The Tunworth Home Group usually meets once or twice a month on Wednesdays from 7.00 to 8.00pm at The Orangery, Hackwood Park, to study Bible passages and Biblical themes. However, **as usual there is no meeting in August**. If you would like to know more about the group, or to join, please contact Gabrielle.

Prayer Hour: Thursday August 7th 9.30am

The monthly Prayer Hour, which used to be held on the first Saturday of the month, is now on the first Thursday. We meet and pray in the church for everyone in the parish.

Coffee & Cake: Thursday August 7th 10.30am

On the first Thursday of the month, we meet for Coffee and Cake in the church porch. Please do join us if you are at home and fancy taking a break from online work.

Herriard & Tunworth Lunch Group: Friday August 22nd 12.00–1.30

The Lunch Group usually meets once a month on a Friday from 12.00 to 1.30pm at the Herriard Hub, to look at a Bible passage with a focus on practical Christianity. **The August date is the 22nd.**

WESTON PATRICK & WESTON CORBETT NEWS

We will be holding a **Hymns and Pimms** service at St. Lawrence on **Sunday 24th August** at 5.00 pm. Please do come along and join in as all are extremely welcome. We would love to hear which favourite hymn you would like to sing and why you love it so much. Please start sending your hymn choices to linda@moretolife.church or to lesleydon6@gmail.com

Our next **Morning Worship service** will include a Baptism on **Sunday 10th August** at 10.00 am and then Hymns and Pimms on Sunday 24th August at 5.00pm as mentioned above.

Reverend Linda Scard will be praying for our community in our church at 9.00am on the first Friday of every month and will be there on Friday 1st August. All are very welcome to join her but if you are unable to attend personally and would like her to pray for someone specific please contact her: Rev. Linda Scard on 01256 703294 / 07801 039717 or linda@moretolife.church

Our **Village Coffee morning** will be held on the fourth Wednesday of the month, on **27th August** at 11.00 am in the Village Hall. Everybody (and your dog) is welcome to pop in.

Weston Patrick and Weston Corbett's Women's Home Group welcomes any women who would like to come along. This is an informal fellowship group exploring faith and how faith relates to our daily lives. For more details or if you would like to join us, please contact Rev. Linda Scard on 01256 703294 / 07801 039717 or linda@moretolife.church

The Annual **Ride and Stride for Churches** will take place on **Saturday 13th September 2025** and St. Lawrence will be open for any visitors passing by plus the use of the loo in the Village Hall.

OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

Vox Populi Singers – To the Wild

On **Saturday 2nd August** at 7.30pm, Vox Populi return to All Saints Church, Odiham, to present their new programme – a wonderful celebration of the natural world in choral music featuring works by Byrd, Finzi, Gibbons, McDowell, Stanford and Tarney. Tickets £15, under 18s free. Available from www.voxpopulisingers.co.uk or at the door on the evening

North Warnborough & District Garden Club

We do not have a meeting in August. We look forward to welcoming members and visitors to our September meeting. For further information view our website at <https://www.nwdgc.org.uk>

Upcoming Event for all Art Lovers

August 16th-25th sees the return of the popular annual Hampshire Open Studios (HOS). During this county-wide event, over 300 artists and creators will open the doors to their workshops, studios and galleries to welcome visitors. This is an opportunity for you to see these artisans at work and learn about their creative processes, whilst admiring their original artwork and even purchasing a unique gift. In addition, some locations will be offering workshops for you to try your hand at their chosen specialism, plus refreshments.

The local area is a hub for creativity, including, but not limited to, specialists in ceramics, stained glass, fused glass, mosaics, paintings, textiles, photography, art groups and more traditional artists. The details of all these artists and their opening times can be found on the HOS app or their website www.HampshireOpenStudios.org.uk

For those wishing to visit a variety of local artists, you can follow the Odiham Villages Art Trail, which covers the picturesque villages of Odiham, Long Sutton, South Warnborough, North Warnborough and Rotherwick. Following this trail is a good opportunity to visit a number of artists within easy reach of each other. The artists involved in the Odiham Villages Art Trail are listed on the website from Venue 181 to Venue 190. In addition to these, there are a few participants within the Basingstoke and Deane area, so why not make a day of it.

Samantha Stanley, Woodpecker Glass, Venue 181



Dogs n Homes update

Fostering

At the start of the year, we wanted to recruit some more fosterers to join our fabulous community. Having such an incredible network of fosterers means that we can ensure that any puppies that arrive and are unable to join their forever home immediately, are given a safe and loving start to their lives in the UK. We decided to launch 'Fostering February' and our Fostering Information Evening was a huge success: we had several applications, some of whom have already started to foster for us. If you are interested in fostering, details are on our website – at www.dogsnhomes.org.uk

Ukraine

Much of our energy is also focused on helping support the dogs and cats in Ukraine and we continue to do this by sending over supplies kindly donated by individuals and companies. To date we have shipped 266,500kg which is quite incredible – www.facebook.com/DnH.Ukraine. Our JustGiving appeal to fund transport is: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/fuel4food>

Storage

We are continually looking for storage to help us continue with this part of our work and BIG YELLOW STORAGE very kindly offered us free non-food storage. We still need storage where we can keep animal food so if you have an empty garage/container please contact our Community Liaison sharon.w@dogsnhomes.org.uk

Mill House Monthly Walk

We truly love seeing so many of our Dogs n Homes pooches in their new lives. It's such a unique opportunity to meet other adopters (and fosterers) and we're so grateful to the Mill House, North Warnborough, for allowing us to enjoy refreshments before the walk and to host the event. Join us on the 3rd Saturday of each month but please remember you must book in advance. All dogs and walkers welcome!

www.brunningandprice.co.uk/millhouse

Dogs n Homes Rescue, Fleet, Hampshire Registered Charity 1183775

Foodbank

The Basingstoke Foodbank, together with Trussell, provides free emergency food and toiletries to local people in crisis within the Basingstoke and Deane area. Established in 2012, the foodbank operates through a voucher system with referrals from local agencies. It has

multiple distribution points in Basingstoke and offers opportunities to donate food, volunteer, or contribute financially. For more details, visit <https://basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk/> Every egg counts.



National Garden Scheme – Hampshire

This Summer the National Garden Scheme celebrates ten years of support and partnership with Horatio's Gardens. To mark the occasion a tea party was held on Wednesday 11th June at Horatio's Garden Stoke Mandeville. Over this time more than £670,000 has been donated to the charity Horatio's Garden, enabling them to continue with their pledge to create and care for accessible gardens at all the eleven NHS regional spinal units. We are proud to be Horatio's Garden's largest single funder.

The charity is named after Horatio Chapple. Horatio volunteered at the spinal centre in Salisbury and had the vision of a garden for all those connected to the centre. Horatio's life was cut short in 2011 at the age of 17. For Horatio's family, friends and those touched by his life, these evolving gardens, which offer sanctuary, improve wellbeing and become so significant to those affected by spinal cord injury, are his legacy. Dedicated head gardeners, staff and volunteers ensure the gardens look incredible all year round as well as organising activities and events, including garden and art therapy, music concerts and plenty of tea and homemade cake.

Horatio's Garden is just one of the charities benefiting from all the money raised by visits to the NGS's Open Gardens. It simply takes one visit (such as below) to help us raise these vital funds for our deserving charities.

Bramdean House, Bramdean, Alresford SO24 0JU

Opening Sunday 14th September 1.30-3.30pm. Admission £6.50, children free. Cashless Payments available.

Refreshments: Tea, Coffee and Cake (Donation to Bramdean Church)

Beautiful 5-acre garden best known for its mirror image herbaceous borders, and its 1-acre walled garden, and a large and unusual collection of plants and shrubs giving year-round interest. To the north of the house, five acres of garden slope up through the exemplary mirror-image herbaceous borders, planted with over one hundred genera and reaching their peak in June with nepetas, geraniums, tradescantias, Clematis x diversifolia 'Hendersonii' and galegas, followed by yellows and then the russets of late summer.

This I'm afraid brings us to the end of our Open Gardens from Hampshire for 2025, so I will sign off for a few months and be back again for 2026. Many thanks to all those of you who have visited any of our gardens in 2025, thus helping us raise much needed funds for our beneficiaries.

Now that Autumn is just round the corner, don't forget we give talks about the NGS - evenings or afternoons - so if you belong to a Group who would like to learn more about what we do, simply contact me and I will send all the details.

Pat Beagley (Head of Publicity), NGS Hampshire



Your personal invitation

Dear Reader,

You probably know a little about the u3a here in Odiham & Hook already, but you might not know we have added over 15 groups since last year, with more to come. Once again, we are running our Open Day, to welcome you all and to keep you informed.

Our Open Day is a unique opportunity for members and non-members alike to come and see what our u3a is all about, to see the wide range of activities we offer, and to meet socially over tea and cakes. Odiham District u3a is holding an Open Day at Robert Mays School on **Wednesday 13th August** from 2.00-4.00pm. We would love you to come along. (No booking required)

We have over 70 groups, which are the 'beating heart of our u3' and they will all be there with stalls, which will both showcase their activities and, above all, provide an opportunity for you to talk to group members and learn about what they do. So, if you are interested in getting more exercise, or satisfying your creative talents, or discovering new interests, or exploring literature or politics, or just want to socialise, there could well be something which catches your eye. Our u3a covers Odiham, Hook and the surrounding villages and is open to everyone of any age who has the time and interest in staying active and engaged. It's an organisation run for its members, by its members, and so you will have the opportunity to meet many new faces, as well as old friends.



Please accept our invitation and just come along and bring a friend perhaps. We look forward to welcoming you on August 13th. If you would like to know more, please visit our website. www.odihamu3a.org.uk

Ian Green, Chairman, Odiham District u3a

The Dummer Fair 2025 Wednesday 8th & Thursday 9th October 2025

The Dummer Fair returns for 2025, one of the most successful charity fairs in Hampshire!

Taking place at Dummer Cricket Centre in Basingstoke on Wednesday 8th October and Thursday 9th October, the fair features over 90 stalls and a delicious café with lunchtime favourites. There is also plenty of parking on-site. As one of Hampshire's most successful charity fairs, every purchase makes a direct contribution to charity, helping to change the lives of disabled children and young people.

Our stallholders have a huge variety of items to discover, including natural skincare, high-end clothing, stylish homewares and delicious drinks and artisanal foods. With such an array of items, we are sure that you'll find something to kick off your Christmas shopping or treat a loved one (or yourself)!

Join us on Wednesday 8th October for a special preview night and a complimentary drink on entry.

Location: The Dummer Cricket Centre, Dummer, Basingstoke, RG25 2AR

Date and time: Wednesday 8th October 2025: 6.00-9.00pm

Thursday 9th October 2025: 9:30am-3:30pm

Pre-book tickets: www.dummerfair.org.uk

For more information, please contact The Treloar's Events Team: events@treloar.org.uk or see the website: www.dummerfair.org.uk

Art meets conservation

Hampshire artist raises funds for wildlife through nationwide art project

A nationwide art initiative led by Hampshire-based artist Cy Baker has raised an impressive £8,511 so far, with proceeds directly supporting nature recovery efforts at Wildlife Trusts across the UK, including Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust.

Cy, who lives in Netley, created a unique collection of detailed pen-and-ink drawings inspired by 53 Wildlife Trust nature reserves he visited across the UK. These include five sites in Hampshire and on the Isle of Wight: Copythorne Common, Alverstone Mead, St Catherine's Hill, Deacon Hill, and Swanwick Lakes.

Partnering with The Wildlife Trusts, Cy used his intricate artwork and accompanying detailed diary entries to raise awareness of British wildlife. The stunning collection captures the sights and sounds of each reserve, offering a powerful and personal celebration of UK wildlife and habitats.

Cy said: “Despite so much nature loss in the UK, much remains, particularly on The Wildlife Trust reserves. I'm over the moon to share that with people through my art and to help in some small way. All the pieces completed for this project only show the habitats and species that I have seen on my visits, so the artworks really are a reflection of what people might experience if they visit these special places.”

The collection includes original artworks and sketches featuring species such as the iconic red squirrel, a regular visitor to Alverstone Mead Nature Reserve. The pieces were auctioned on 24 April 2025, drawing enthusiastic bids from both nature lovers and art collectors. All 53 sketches created during Cy's visits to the reserves were sold, with just two original artworks still available for purchase. The project is on track to raise a total of £13,000 for The Wildlife Trusts.

Cy adds: “I'm absolutely delighted with the response to the auction. It's incredibly rewarding to know that these pieces - which reflect what I actually saw at each site - will now help fund the protection of those same places. Despite the challenges our wildlife faces, there is still so much beauty out there, and I wanted to shine a light on that.”

Elenya Lendon, Marketing and Communications Manager at Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust added: “Cy's artistic talent and his deep connection to Hampshire's landscapes have provided a unique way to raise both awareness and funds for conservation. The auction's success highlights the power of community and creativity in driving action to protect local wildlife. We are thrilled with the response and grateful for the funds raised, which will directly support The Wildlife Trusts' mission to safeguard these irreplaceable habitats.”

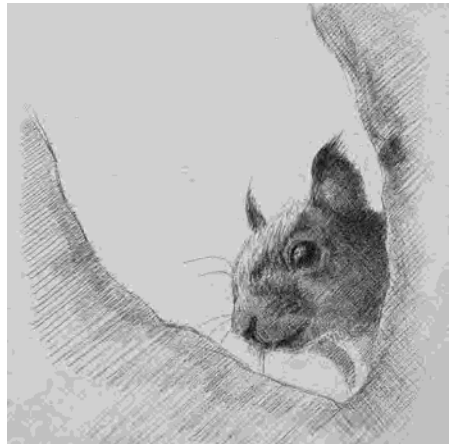


Image: Cy Baker Red Squirrel Alverstone Mead Nature Reserve

For more information about the auction please visit wildlifetrusts.org/cy-baker

Helen Skelton Smith, Communications Officer
Helen.Skelton.Smith@hiwwt.org.uk

SMALL ADS

Hayward Glass and Glazing: Work undertaken - broken windows, wood frame putty work, leaded glass, heritage glazing, Misted Double glazing, fitted mirrors, coloured/mirror splashbacks, glass for furniture/tabletops. References available. Contact Mark Hayward 07868703983. Find us on Facebook.

Cheam School: Co-Educational Day, Flexi and Weekly Boarding Prep School for ages 3–13. Open Morning Friday 10th October 2025, 9.45am to 12pm. Cheam School, Headley, Newbury, Berkshire, RG19 8LD 01635 267822 registrar@cheamschool.co.uk www.cheamschool.co.uk

HALLS FOR HIRE

Upton Grey Village Hall can be hired at a basic rate of £14 per hour. Tables and chairs are also available to hire. There are kitchen facilities, including china, cutlery & glasses, central heating, sound system, stage and disabled access. If you don't know the hall, we would be happy to show you round. To book, or if you have any questions, please contact Jane Hanbury on 01256 862681 or email bookings@uptongreyvillagehall.co.uk or visit our new website www.uptongreyvillagehall.co.uk.

The Herriard Village Hub, Herriard, available for hire: wedding receptions, functions, parties, meetings, and events. Fully licensed bar, full kitchen facilities, garden, tables, chairs, sound system, disabled access, central heating, pool table and darts. To reserve, please see booking form found at www.herriardvillagehub.co.uk or email bookings@herriardvillagehub.co.uk.

Disclaimer: Please note that the views expressed in this magazine are the contributors' personal opinions and do not necessarily represent the views of the editors.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – AUGUST 2025

NB: All Church Services are listed under CHURCH NEWS near the front of the magazine

AUGUST DATES

2nd Aug	Sat	Vox Populi concert, All Saints, Odiham	7.30pm
4th-7th Aug		UG Junior Tennis	9.00am-12.45pm
4th-7th Aug		Holiday Club 2025, All Saints Church, Odiham	1.00-4.00pm
10th Aug	Sun	Comedy Theatre, Church Meadow, Upton Grey	4.30pm
13th Aug	Wed	u3a Open Day, Robert May's School, Odiham	2.00pm
16th-25th Aug		Hampshire Open Studios	
17th Aug	Sun	VJ Day Commemoration, Herriard Church	10.00am
21st Aug	Thur	Tea@3, Pond House, Upton Grey	3.00pm
24th Aug	Sun	Hymns and Pimms service, St Lawrence, WP	5.00pm

ADVANCE DATES

21st Sep	Sat	Picnic & Concert, Brick Kiln Cottage, Herriard	12.30-4.00pm
8th Oct	Wed	Dummer Christmas Fair Preview, Dummer	6.00-9.00pm
9th Oct	Thur	Dummer Christmas Fair, Dummer	9.30am-3.30pm
11th Oct	Sat	Upton Grey Harvest Supper, UG Village Hall	7.00pm
12th Oct	Sun	Harvest Festival, Upton Grey Church	10.00am
12th Oct	Sun	Harvest Bring & Share lunch, UG Village Hall	12.00noon
25th Oct	Sat	Upton Grey Autumn Festival	6.00pm

REGULAR EVENTS

Each Mon/Thu	Odiham book exchange, Bridewell, Odiham	2.00pm
Each Sat	Odiham book exchange, Bridewell, Odiham	10.00am
Each Mon	Prayer group, 4 Little Hoddington	9.30–10.15am
Each Thurs	Prayer group, 4 Little Hoddington	5.00–5.45pm
Each Thurs	Coffee, Tea & Cake Morning, Hub, Herriard	10.00am
Every 1st Thurs	Prayer Hour, All Saints Tunworth	9.30am
Every 1st Thurs	Coffee & Cake, Tunworth church porch	10.30am
2nd & 4th Mon	Coffee Morning, Upton Grey Village Hall	11.00am
2nd & 4th Tues	Upton Grey 'Get OWT', UG Churchyard	10.00am
Every 4th Wed	Coffee Morning, Weston Patrick Village Hall	11.00am

PARISH MAGAZINE COPY DEADLINE

The copy deadline for the September issue is 15th August 2025.

Please send news and contributions to uptongreymagazine@gmail.com. Your editors for August were Sheila Stranks and Nick Willmer. The editor for August will be Sheila Stranks with Nick Willmer.

UPTON GREY VILLAGE SHOP AND CAFE

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